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WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2010

No. 51

House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
April 13, 2010.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JESSE L. JACKSON, Jr. to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Reverend Dr. Alan Keiran, Office of the Chaplain, United States Senate, offered the following prayer:

Lord of the nations and King of all kings, You alone deserve our worship, You alone are the most high God. Heavenly Father, You ask us to trust in You with all our heart and lean not on our own understanding; and in all our ways to acknowledge You. And in so doing, You promise to make our paths straight. That is why we call on Your Mighty Name today, Lord God.

Many are looking for straight paths but cannot find them. Grant them grace to seek and find Your path to a meaningful life. Show right paths to Your every Member of this body so they may skillfully and cheerfully labor for the good of all.

May You, Lord, have mercy on those in harm's way and their families. Meet those in lonely places and comfort them with Your amazing grace.

I pray in the Name that is above all names. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the

last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. CHU 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.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 26, 2010.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in clause 2(h) of rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on March 26, 2010 at 12:30 p.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4957.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 26, 2010.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on March 26, 2010 at 4:09 p.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4621.

That the Senate passed with amendments H.R. 4573.

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H.J. Res. 80.

That the Senate passed S. 3162.

That the Senate passed S. 3191.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 12, 2010.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on April 12, 2010 at 3:11 p.m.:

Notifying the House of the filing of the answer by G. Thomas Porteous Jr., District Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana, and providing a copy of his answer to the House of Representatives.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

□ 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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COMMUNICATION FROM THE
CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 13, 2010.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on April 13, 2010 at 9:50 a.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4887.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bills and joint resolution were signed by the Speaker on Friday, March 26, 2010:

H.R. 4872, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to Title II of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2010 (S. Con. Res. 13);

H.R. 4957, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend authorizations for the airport improvement program, and for other purposes;

H.R. 4938, to permit the use of previously appropriated funds to extend the Small Business Loan Guarantee Program, and for other purposes;

S. 3186, to reauthorize the Satellite Home Viewer Extension and Reauthorization Act of 2004 through April 30, 2010, and for other purposes;
and the Speaker signed on Thursday, March 29, 2010:

H.J. Res. 80, recognizing and honoring the Blinded Veterans Association on its 65th anniversary of representing blinded veterans and their families;

H.R. 4621, to protect the integrity of the constitutionally mandated United States census and prohibit deceptive mail practices that attempt to exploit the decennial census.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HONORABLE GREGORY W. MEEKS,
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable GREGORY W. MEEKS, Member of Congress:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 30, 2010.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that

my district office has been served with a subpoena for documents issued by the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York.

After consultation with counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

GREGORY W. MEEKS,
Member of Congress.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HONORABLE THOMAS J. ROONEY,
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable THOMAS J. ROONEY, Member of Congress:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 5, 2010.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a subpoena for documents issued by the Circuit Court for St. Lucie County, Florida, in connection with a civil case pending there.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

THOMAS J. ROONEY,
Member of Congress.

REPEAL AND REPLACE RALLIES

(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, over the past 2 weeks I have heard about the job-killing effect the recently passed government health care takeover will have from concerned citizens across South Carolina. I've heard from small business owners, the primary providers of jobs in America, how they will face a \$2,000 fine for each employee without insurance. I've heard from seniors who are afraid that their former employers will drop their drug benefits. I've heard from people currently looking for work that the creation of 16,500 new IRS agents isn't what they had in mind when it came to job creation. And I've heard from just about everyone about the concern that their insurance premiums will rise dramatically.

The message I bring back from South Carolinians is clear: repeal the job-killing takeover and replace it with an affordable solution that is centered around the patient and not the government, the SWAP bill.

In conclusion, God bless our troops and we will never forget September 11th in the Global War on Terrorism. Best wishes for the success of the Heritage Golf Classic at Hilton Head Island, South Carolina.

SUPPORT FOR HEALTH CARE
REFORM

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, during the recess, I spent 3 nights with residents of the Seventh Congressional District at three town hall meetings in Oak Park, Illinois; River Forest, Illinois; Forest Park, Illinois, and last evening, Westchester. Overwhelmingly, all of the individuals who were present extolled the virtues of the health reform legislation that was passed. And I was vindicated because I voted for it. So I want to thank the residents of my congressional district, because we were on the same page.

AMERICANS SAY MEDIA BIAS IS
BIGGER PROBLEM THAN CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Americans continue to see the national media as too biased, too liberal, and too powerful. By almost a two-to-one margin, Americans say that media bias is a bigger problem in politics today than big campaign contributions, according to a new Rasmussen public opinion poll. By a three-to-one margin, Americans describe the average reporter as more liberal than they are rather than more conservative. And almost seven out of ten Americans believe the news media have too much power and influence over government decisions. Other recent polls have shown similar results.

If the national media want to restore Americans' trust, they should report the facts, not tell the people what to think.

TAX FAIRNESS

(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, tax day is a dreaded deadline for millions of Americans. But according to the Associated Press, for nearly half of the U.S. households it is simply somebody else's problem. This April, 47 percent of Americans will pay no Federal income tax at all. According to a new report, the top 10 percent of earners will pay roughly 73 percent of the income taxes collected by the Federal Government. That is just not fair.

Being an American is a privilege, not a right. Out of fairness, everyone should have to pay some tax, even if it is just a buck a month, to help pay to live in this great democracy. By pushing more and more people off the tax rolls and having just a few foot the bill for the many, we are punishing hard work, thrift, and sacrifice.

This is America, where prosperity and helping your fellow man should mean more than just paying your neighbors' taxes. It's about fairness and freedom.

SYMPATHIES TO THE UPPER BIG BRANCH MINERS

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

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my deepest sympathies to the 29 victims of the Upper Big Branch mine explosion, their families, loved ones, and their community. Last Monday's tragedy occurred in Montcoal, West Virginia, and it was the worst mine disaster in over 40 years. It has been gut-wrenching for our entire State.

In the wake of this horrific tragedy, the citizens of West Virginia, including our outstanding emergency and rescue workers, and our Governor, pulled together to support the communities and families devastated by this explosion. As we grieve this loss of life, we must also honor the victims of the accident by taking the appropriate steps to ensure that this never happens again. Never again in West Virginia or in any other State can we let safety slip through the cracks. We will not let this happen again.

Now is the time to band together and do everything we can to protect our citizens. I hope you will join me in praising our miners for the difficult and dangerous work that they do, and I ask that you keep all of the workers, their families, and their communities in your thoughts and prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

SUPPORTING NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1222) supporting the goals and ideals of National Library Week.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1222

Whereas the Nation's school, academic, public, and special libraries make a difference in the lives of millions of people in the United States, today, more than ever;

Whereas librarians are trained professionals, helping people of all ages and back-

grounds find and interpret the information they need to live, learn, and work in a challenging economy;

Whereas libraries are part of the American Dream, places for opportunity, education, self-help, and lifelong learning;

Whereas according to a December 2008 National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) report, public library use increased to 1,400,000,000 visits nationwide during fiscal year 2006, among all types of library users, continuing a long term trend of increased library usage;

Whereas libraries play a vital role in supporting the quality of life in their communities;

Whereas libraries help people of all ages discover a world of knowledge, both in person and online, as well as provide personal service and assistance in finding needed information;

Whereas libraries are a key player in the national discourse on intellectual freedom and equity of access;

Whereas libraries are narrowing the "digital divide", by providing no-fee public computer and Internet access to accommodate the growing need for access to digital and online information, including e-government, continuing education, and employment opportunities;

Whereas in 71 percent of communities, libraries have the only no-fee public computers; and

Whereas libraries, librarians, library workers, and supporters across the United States will celebrate National Library Week, April 11-17, 2010: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Library Week;

(2) encourages all residents to visit a library to take advantage of the wonderful library resources available, and to thank their librarians and library workers for making information accessible to all who walk through the library's doors; and

(3) supports librarians' efforts to ensure that all Americans can continue to access 21st century library services in school, public, academic, and special libraries.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on House Resolution 1222 into the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of House Resolution 1222, which encourages all Americans to take advantage of the numerous resources libraries make available. Across the country, libraries help develop communities by bringing people of all nationalities, ages, and socioeconomic backgrounds together to enjoy the pleasures of literature, media, and new technology. Libraries foster national discourse on intellectual freedom, and provide informa-

tional equity across the Nation. Libraries not only provide free resources to adults and children, but they also preserve historical artifacts and information, highlighting societal achievements.

Today we have nearly 123,000 libraries nationwide playing a vital role in creating vibrant, energized communities. Our very own Library of Congress sponsors the annual National Book Festival. Authors, illustrators, and poets gather at the Nation's Capitol to promote reading and literacy in all 50 States.

□ 1415

In fact, President Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama helped sponsor this event as honorary chairs. Last September, the annual National Book Festival was a huge success. With 80 best-selling authors and over 1,000 volunteers, scores of people gathered to promote reading to children.

The Library of Congress is also a great resource for the public. As the largest library in the world, the Library of Congress holds more than 120 million items on approximately 530 miles of bookshelves. The collections include more than 18 million books, 2.5 million recordings, 12 million photographs, 4.5 million maps, and 54 million manuscripts.

National Library Week continues to commend librarians who help the public interpret the information they need to live, learn, and navigate their way into today's challenging and complicated economy. By providing free educational opportunities and a safe place for lifelong learning, libraries help people to explore their curiosities and to foster community involvement in education.

I want to thank Representative EHLERS for his leadership and for bringing this important resolution forward.

Again, I want to extend my gratitude towards libraries for their work in our communities, and I ask my colleagues to support this important resolution.

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

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1222, supporting the goals and ideals of National Library Week. I also would like to associate my remarks with the gentlewoman from California.

First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association and libraries across the country each year in April. It is a time to celebrate the contributions of our Nation's libraries and librarians and to promote library use and support.

In 1957, the National Book Committee developed a plan for National Library Week based on the idea that, once people were motivated to read, they would support and use libraries. With cooperation from various organizations, the first National Library

Week was observed in 1958 with the theme "Wake Up and Read!"

Libraries play a vital role in supporting the quality of life in their communities. The digital divide has narrowed because libraries provide no-fee public computer and Internet access to meet the growing need for access to digital and online information, including eGovernment, continuing education and employment opportunities. Libraries help us discover a world of knowledge, both in person and online, and are a key player in the national discourse on intellectual freedom and equity of access. According to the National Center for Education Statistics' December 2008 report, library use was up to 1.4 billion visits nationwide among all types of library users, continuing a long-term trend of increased library usage.

By recognizing National Library Week, we show our appreciation to libraries, librarians, and staff across America. I am honored to support this resolution, and I ask my colleagues to join me.

Just as an aside, Mr. Speaker, I would like to encourage everyone, whether they are parents, aunts, uncles, or just mentors, to take children to a library and to read and mentor them. It's a great place to do it. It's a great place to meet, to learn, and to educate yourself.

I would like to thank Congressman VERNON EHLERS for introducing this.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize for 3 minutes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS).

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. I want to thank the gentlewoman from California for yielding time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to express strong support for H. Res. 1222, supporting the goals and ideals of National Library Week.

The science fiction novelist Frank Herbert stated, "The beginning of knowledge is the discovery of something we do not understand." Our national libraries serve as a much needed conduit by which we, as American citizens, gain more understanding of the world around us.

First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association and libraries across the country each April. It is a time to celebrate the contributions of our Nation's libraries and librarians and to promote library use and support. All types of libraries—school, public, and academic—participate. The City of Chicago is home to exactly 79 public libraries and to many private libraries with information ranging from cultural specific research to academic.

In my congressional district, the Seventh Congressional District of Illinois, we serve as the home of the headquarters for the American Library Association. I am proud to have this great organization in my district, and I am pleased that many of its staff mem-

bers are my constituents. We have libraries that are renowned, both public and private, such as the Harold Washington Library and the Newberry Library.

Last evening, at a town hall meeting in Westchester, Illinois, one of the trustees of the library board made it known to everybody present that libraries are vitally important, and I was very pleased to agree with him.

I also want to congratulate Robert Morris College, one of the academic institutions in my congressional district, for their installation of a new library that recently opened. It is magnificent.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud the actions of the House of Representatives in recognizing the importance of National Library Week. I strongly support H. Res. 1222, which recognizes the significant contributions of libraries, librarians, and library workers to our nation's communities.

In my home state of Georgia, public library usage has increased more than 10 percent from 2008 to 2009. Libraries are narrowing the digital divide by providing no-fee public computer and Internet access to accommodate the growing need for access to digital and online information. In 2009, the number of public access computer sessions at Georgia libraries topped 15 million.

The services provided by public libraries are in greater demand in this economy. Americans use their public library's free Internet access to assist in their job search. When people economize, they check out books, magazines, and DVDs instead of buying them. In 2009, more than 68 percent of Americans had library cards, which is the greatest number of Americans with library cards since the American Library Association began measuring library card usage in 1990.

Libraries make a difference in the lives of millions of people in the United States. They are places for opportunity, education, and lifelong learning. Libraries allow those who may not be able to afford books to read and explore other cultures. Libraries are a key player in the national discourse on intellectual freedom and equity of access.

During the District Work Period, I was able to tour the Embury Hills Branch Library in Chamblee for the dedication ceremony. I also met with the DeKalb County Library Director, Darro Willey, and Ted Rinehart of the CEO's administration, to hear about the programs and educational activities that are taking place.

Libraries in the Fourth District are doing great work. The DeKalb County Library offers tax assistance. It also gets the community involved by using designs from DeKalb County residents for its library cards. The Gwinnett County Library allows patrons to improve their language skills by practicing conversational English.

Libraries are vital in helping their communities find and use information and are essential to supporting student achievement. They are essential institutions because they provide information that allows citizens to make informed decisions. They level the playing field by making the world of information available to anyone seeking it.

During National Library Week, I am especially pleased to celebrate the libraries, librarians, and library workers.

I will continue to encourage residents in the Fourth District of Georgia to take advantage of the tremendous public service libraries and librarians provide.

I strongly support H. Res. 1222 and urge my colleagues to do the same.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today in support of H. Res. 1222, Supporting the goals and ideals of National Library Week. I would like to thank my colleague, Rep. VERNON EHLERS, for introducing this resolution.

I support this legislation because on National Library Week, April 11th through the 17th, communities across the U.S. will recognize the contributions made by all library workers including librarians, support staff, and others who make library services possible. It also promotes increased public awareness of the significant contributions made by libraries to further the academic achievement and lifelong learning of our students. In addition National Library Week strengthens a belief in the value of libraries and positions librarianship as a desirable career opportunity.

This year's theme, "Communities thrive at your library," illustrates how the library is at the root of a thriving community, reminding individuals and informing others that the library is the place where people of all backgrounds learn and grow together. America's libraries and their workers remain valuable community assets during tough economic times. Also, with more businesses requiring online job applications, job-seeking resources are among the most critical and popular resources available in U.S. public libraries. Libraries provide not only the hardware and software applications, but they also offer skilled librarians who help teach people how to use the Internet and find the information they need quickly. As the wave of technology has changed the way we receive and transmit information, the Nation's libraries and their staffs have met those changes head on!

I would also like to take this time to emphasize the need for pay equity for library workers, even in this economy. Women librarian salaries continue to be lower than male library employees. The wage gap for the Nation remains with women earning 77 cents for every dollar a man earns. Library employees also continue to receive lower salaries in comparison with traditionally male occupations with comparable education requirements and job responsibilities.

In recognizing the valuable contributions to our Nation and citizens across this country, from libraries, we must not forget the hard-working individuals who provide such services. Such services will enable us to educate our citizens and bring them into the era of technology. This week will also bring to light the need to adequately compensate the staffers which provide these services.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of National Libraries Week. The foundation of our learning and literacy is based in books and the written word. Our Nation's libraries offer access to books, newspapers, magazines, the Internet and other informational materials. There is no other place where any individual who owns a library card can go in and access materials free of charge that promotes learning, discovery, opportunity, and self improvement. It is our libraries and librarians that provide this to millions of Americans each year.

While our libraries hold the materials, it is our librarians that often hold the key. Librarians are the caring and accessible individuals who lead us on that adventure to knowledge.

Lady Bird Johnson once said, "Perhaps no place in any community is so totally democratic as the town library. The only entrance requirement is interest." Libraries reach across barriers of age, ethnicity, and income to offer a world of learning, discovery and access to millions of Americans each year.

For those who are trapped in the digital divide, libraries are on the front line in providing computer and Internet access free of charge and the resources on how to properly use that technology.

I am especially proud of our many Dallas Public and School Libraries. In addition to standard library services they offer events to benefit the community, including everything from classes of song and reading for infants and their parents to tax preparation for senior citizens. They are truly committed to the people of Dallas, their well-being, and their access to learning, and I commend their service.

I am a proud supporter of National Libraries Week and thank all of those individuals who serve inquisitive minds both young and old in our nation's libraries.

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

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of House Resolution 1222.

I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1222.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

CONGRATULATING UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO FOOTBALL TEAM FOR WINNING HUMANITARIAN BOWL

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1041) congratulating and commending the University of Idaho's football team for winning the 2009 Humanitarian Bowl in Boise, Idaho.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1041

Whereas the University of Idaho's football team won the 2009 Humanitarian Bowl in Boise, Idaho, on December 30, 2009, its first bowl game in more than a decade;

Whereas Coach Robb Akey led the team to significantly improve its win-loss record to 8-5 this past season, the first winning record since 1999;

Whereas the University of Idaho beat Bowling Green University 43-42 after successfully executing a nail-biting 2-point play in the final seconds of the game;

Whereas senior guard Mike Lupati was named to the Senior Bowl and as an All-American and Outland Trophy finalist for best college football interior lineman;

Whereas teammates visited Saint Luke's Regional Medical Hospital to visit with children patients as part of the Humanitarian Bowl outreach; and

Whereas University of Idaho supporters look forward to seeing the team build its promising momentum next season: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) congratulates and commends the University of Idaho's football team for winning the 2009 Humanitarian Bowl in Boise, Idaho; and

(2) recognizes the achievements of the players, coaches, students, alumni, and staff who were instrumental in helping to secure the University of Idaho's Humanitarian Bowl win.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on House Resolution 1041 into the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the University of Idaho football team for their victory in the 2009 Humanitarian Bowl.

On December 30, football fans nationwide witnessed a thrilling game as the University of Idaho Vandals defeated the Bowling Green State University Falcons to win the Humanitarian Bowl title. Both teams showcased their offense talents, but when the final whistle blew, the University of Idaho edged out a victory over Bowling Green State University by a score of 43-42.

The bowl game featured plenty of offense as the two teams traded touchdowns in one of the most exciting bowl games of the season. The game was tied and less than a minute left when Bowling Green scored a go-ahead touchdown. With only 28 seconds left in the game, the University of Idaho pieced together a 66-yard game-winning drive, and capped it off with a dramatic two-point conversion, going for the win instead of a tie and overtime.

In the past 3 years, head coach Robb Akey has challenged his athletes to become better young men both on and off the field. In 2009, the University of Idaho earned a winning record for the first time in 10 years, along with a spot in the Humanitarian Bowl. The team closed the year with the second bowl victory in school history. The only other time they appeared at the bowl game, they defeated the Southern Mississippi Golden Eagles in the 1998 Humanitarian Bowl.

Congratulations to running back DeMaundray Woolridge, a senior, who was named a co-MVP of the game. Woolridge carried Idaho with 126 rushing yards and two third quarter touchdowns.

Congratulations are also due to wide receiver Max Komar for making the game-winning touchdown catch, which was his only reception of the game. Komar was the leading University of Idaho receiver and offensive player of the year during the regular season.

Congratulations to quarterback Nathan Enderle, a junior, who threw for 240 passing yards and four touchdowns, including the epic game winner. Enderle finished the season with the seventh best passer efficiency rating, and was named the team's most valuable player.

Last but not least, congratulations to offensive guard Mike Iupati, who was the team's offensive captain and a consensus All-American selection. He is the first University of Idaho player to receive this honor since 1957. Iupati is considered one of the top prospects available at his position in the 2010 NFL draft.

The outstanding players and coaches at the University of Idaho produced a great turnaround season, and their accomplishments are a testament to their skill and perseverance. The support of students, alumni, and fans helped bring great pride to the school. Finishing the season with a winning record and a bowl victory will only push the team further as fans look forward to a successful 2010 season.

Mr. Speaker, once again, I congratulate the University of Idaho football team for their success.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1041, congratulating and commending the University of Idaho's football team for winning the 2009 Humanitarian Bowl in Boise, Idaho.

On December 30, 2009, the University of Idaho's football team won the 2009 Humanitarian Bowl in Boise. The University of Idaho Vandals ended their outstanding season with a victory over Bowling Green State University. The Vandals won the game in the closing seconds to take a 43-42 victory for their second Humanitarian Bowl.

Head coach Robb Akey led the team to victory and to its first winning season since 1999. Senior guard Mike Iupati—and Mike, I apologize if I mess that up since he is an Outland Trophy finalist—was named to the Senior Bowl and was named an All-American and Outland Trophy finalist. The contributions of this outstanding player and coach were a large part of the Vandals' success this past season. While athletic success is what brings us here today, we should take time to highlight academics as well.

The University of Idaho was founded in 1889, and it is the State of Idaho's

flagship institution. Located in Moscow, Idaho, it is the State's oldest public university and the State's land-grant university. University programs are organized into 10 different colleges, which have graduated Olympic medalists, NFL coaches, CEOs of Fortune 500 companies, and, of course, Congressmen.

I extend my congratulations to University of Idaho president Duane Nellis, athletic director Dr. Rob Spear, head coach Robb Akey and his staff, the hardworking players, and the fans. I wish all continued success, and I ask my colleagues to support this resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize for 3 minutes the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. MINNICK).

Mr. MINNICK. I am delighted that my colleagues from the States of Tennessee and California recognize that we do play football in Idaho and at a rather outstanding level, and I would ask that they might take back, particularly the gentlewoman from California, that word to the Pac-10 Conference commissioners, and both of you might mention our strong performance to the BCS, which currently grants teams from my State second-class status.

The University of Idaho, in particular, is the turnaround story of the year in football in my part of the country. What coach Robb Akey has done is taken a mediocre team and, through superior recruiting and force of leadership, has turned it into its first winning season and its first Humanitarian Bowl victory in many years.

It's fair to say, with the strong leadership of the coach in his producing outstanding student athletes like Mike Iupati, who went from the WAC and this bowl to the Senior Bowl as an All-American, that there are great things ahead. This league is very competitive, and the word from Idaho to all of our colleagues in the other 49 States is: The Vandals are back.

□ 1430

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

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of House Resolution 1041, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1041.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

CONGRATULATING BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL TEAM FOR WINNING 2010 FIESTA BOWL

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1042) commending the Boise State University Broncos football team for winning the 2010 Fiesta Bowl.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1042

Whereas the Boise State University Broncos football team won the 2010 Tostitos Fiesta Bowl, defeating the Texas Christian University Horned Frogs by a score of 17-10 at the University of Phoenix Stadium in Glendale, Arizona, on January 4, 2010;

Whereas the Broncos finished their 2009 season with a flawless 14-0 record and have gone undefeated 3 of their last 4 regular seasons;

Whereas the Broncos' only loss in 2008 was against Texas Christian University in a 1-point nail-biter, making the 2010 Fiesta Bowl victory all the more gratifying for the team;

Whereas Broncos head coach Chris Petersen called for a courageous fake punt play with less than 10 minutes remaining in the game that led to the game-winning touchdown;

Whereas Broncos head coach Chris Petersen received the Paul "Bear" Bryant Award for the second time in just 4 years, which recognizes the best college football coach in the Nation;

Whereas sophomore quarterback Kellen Moore threw 39 touchdown passes this season, the most for a single season in school history;

Whereas the 2010 Fiesta Bowl victory comes just 3 years after the Broncos' historic Fiesta Bowl victory in 2007;

Whereas the entire Broncos team should be commended for its steadfast resolve, tireless work ethic, and solid sportsmanship;

Whereas the Broncos should be considered serious National Championship contenders next year with 21 of its 22 starters returning to the field, ready to pick up from where they left off; and

Whereas the Broncos have brought great honor to themselves, their university, the city of Boise, and the State of Idaho: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) commends the Boise State University Broncos football team for winning the 2010 Fiesta Bowl; and

(2) congratulates the team for completing an undefeated, 14-0 season.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on House Resolution 1042 into the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise today to congratulate the Boise State University football team for their victory in the 2010 Fiesta Bowl.

On January 4, football fans were treated to a much-anticipated game between the Boise State University Broncos and the Texas Christian University Horned Frogs. Boise State prevailed and narrowly defeated TCU by a score of 17-10 to win the Fiesta Bowl.

Both teams came into the Fiesta Bowl undefeated in the regular season; and this game was essentially a rematch of the 2008 Poinsettia Bowl, in which Boise State lost to TCU by just one point. The game featured two of the premier offensive teams in the country, as Boise State led the Nation in points per game while TCU finished fourth in the Nation in points per game. While many expected TCU's dominant defense to play the deciding role, Boise State's defense excelled when it mattered most. Boise State's defense only allowed one third down conversion while forcing three turnovers.

Congratulations to Head Coach Chris Petersen, who was the Conference Coach of the Year for the second year in a row and won the Paul "Bear" Bryant Award for National Coach of the Year for the second time. Since Coach Petersen took over the reins in 2006, Boise State has gone 49-4 with two perfect seasons and two Fiesta Bowl victories.

Congratulations to Kyle Efaw, a sophomore tight end, and Brandyn Thompson, a junior cornerback, who were named co-MVPs. Thompson had two interceptions in the game and one for a touchdown.

Congratulations to quarterback Kellen Moore, a sophomore, who broke the Boise State single-season touchdown pass record with 39 touchdowns and only three interceptions. Moore was also named the Western Athletic Conference Offensive Player of the Year.

Six Broncos were named to the all-conference first team, which included Moore, junior wide receivers Austin Pettis and Titus Young, sophomore offensive lineman Nate Potter, junior defensive end Ryan Winterswyk, senior defensive back Kyle Wilson. Young was honored on the first team for his special teams performance as well.

The extraordinary accomplishments by the Boise State Broncos are no doubt because of their tireless determination and outstanding work ethic. They have consistently been a formidable team over the last 4 years and have brought national acclaim and great pride to the school. The fans of the University will certainly look forward to another successful 2010 season as the Broncos continue to fight for a spot in the National Championship game.

Once again, I congratulate the Boise State football team for their success.

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

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1042, commending the Boise State University Broncos football team for winning the 2010 Fiesta Bowl.

The Boise State University Broncos won the 2010 Tostitos Fiesta Bowl against the Texas Christian University's Horned Frogs on January 4, 2010. The game was very competitive with a final score of 17–10. With less than 10 minutes left in the game, Head Coach Chris Petersen called a gutsy fake punt play that led to the game-winning touchdown. The Broncos finished their 2009 season with an undefeated 14–0 record. Sophomore quarterback Kellen Moore threw 39 total touchdown passes during the season, setting the single-season school record. Coach Petersen received the Paul "Bear" Bryant Award, recognizing the best college football coach in the Nation, for the second time in 4 years. The team could not have had such an outstanding season without his excellent coaching.

The Broncos football team has been a consistent winner, particularly on their signature home blue turf. In 2008, the Broncos' only loss was a one-point loss to Texas Christian University. In 2007, Boise State was victorious in the Fiesta Bowl with an historic 56–7 win.

I stand before the House today to recognize the significant achievements of the players, coaches, and students whose dedication and hard work have led to the success of the Boise State University Broncos football team and congratulate them on their victory in the 2010 Fiesta Bowl. I ask my colleagues to support this resolution.

Also, to my good friend Congressman MINNICK, being a huge SEC fan, you do play some football in Idaho now.

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

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. MINNICK).

Mr. MINNICK. Mr. Speaker, Idaho produced two outstanding football teams last year; and the premier one from national ratings comes from my hometown, Boise, Idaho.

As my colleague, the esteemed gentleman from Tennessee, recognizes, we do play national class football; and, as he also stated, we're not only good but we can be tricky when the circumstance requires.

Coach Petersen is a coach's coach. Not only did he produce three undefeated conference champions in the past 4 years, he did go to the Fiesta Bowl twice and on that national stage made Idaho proud. He is, in addition to being a skilled technician and student of the game, a superb leader in another sense as well. His students graduate from college. His students are properly disciplined, and he manages to go through a winning season hardly ever having to raise his voice. He is the epitome of the good things that college

athletics stand for, and I would like to salute him for his success in my State in bringing the Broncos among the top five rated preseason teams this year and a team that has an outstanding chance of becoming, even with the BCS rules, next year's national champion.

The success of Coach Petersen and the Boise State Broncos demonstrates why, above everything else, if we are going to be fair to schools that come from outside the major BCS conferences, we need to revise the way the BCS championship system works. We need a playoff system. We need to give every team, including the two from my home State, a fair opportunity to compete for and win the national championship.

I am proud of what Boise State has accomplished. It's an extraordinary tale of success, a tribute to an excellent coach, and I think it is clear to everyone in this country that the Broncos are a world-class football team. And for everyone in Idaho, I would say 2010 is going to be another spectacular year.

Go, Broncos, go.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Just a quick comment. We do these suspensions and we talk about them and vote on them and so forth, but there's a real lesson in college athletics that I think Congressman MINNICK brought up that's very important. Not just a resolution congratulating a football team but young athletes, and I know I certainly learned these lessons, as an athlete, you learn to show up on time, you learn to be a team player, and you learn to give your very best. And if you take those attributes into the world of business and your life, you are going to have a pretty successful life if you take those lessons that you have learned. So congratulations once again.

I would like to associate my comments. We just saw in the last week one of the greatest athletic events in this Nation, which was the NCAA basketball tournament. We saw what happened there, and a football team should be allowed the same opportunity.

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

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of House Resolution 1042, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1042.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further

proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

CONGRATULATING LOCK HAVEN UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA ON 140TH ANNIVERSARY

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1198) congratulating Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania for 140 years of excellence in higher education, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1198

Whereas Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania was founded in 1870 as Central State Normal School;

Whereas Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania, located in Lock Haven, Pennsylvania has 4,665 undergraduate students enrolled at the main campus and 440 students enrolled at the Clearfield campus;

Whereas Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania competes in 10 women's and 8 men's intercollegiate NCAA sports;

Whereas students attending Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania can obtain degrees and certificates from 60 different undergraduate programs and 3 different graduate programs;

Whereas Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania has 17,000 living alumni; and

Whereas 97 percent of recent Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania graduates are employed or continuing their education and 84 percent of employed graduates are working in their field of study or chosen field: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives congratulate Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania for 140 years of excellence in higher education.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on House Resolution 1198 into the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in support of House Resolution 1198, which celebrates Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania for 140 years of service and leadership.

Located along the Susquehanna River, Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania was founded in 1870 as the Central State Normal School. By 1983, the school joined the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education and was renamed Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania.

The University features a gorgeous 200-acre main campus in central Pennsylvania and an additional 13-acre

branch campus in Clearfield, Pennsylvania, which was established in 1989. Lock Haven offers a small college lifestyle to over 5,100 undergraduates, along with more than 60 undergraduate programs and three graduate programs.

The school has an outstanding athletic program, which offers 10 women's and eight men's NCAA teams, boasts 13 Division II championships, and has many active club sports teams. Students also have the opportunity to participate in over 120 clubs, activities, and organizations on and off campus.

Lock Haven demonstrates leadership in serving the community and was named to the Presidential Honor Roll for Community Service in 2009. Every year its students perform over 40,000 hours of community service through the Mountain Serve Center, focusing on programs for disadvantaged youth.

This year, Lock Haven will celebrate 140 years of broadening the minds and horizons of its students, and it will mark a significant milestone in the University's history.

Mr. Speaker, once again, I express my support for Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania and thank Representative THOMPSON for bringing this bill forward. I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this resolution.

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

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1198, congratulating Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania for 140 years of excellence in higher education.

On the banks of the Susquehanna River in central Pennsylvania is a university where students receive excellent career preparation, develop lifelong friendships, and never feel like they are just another number. Lock Haven University prides itself on having a small college lifestyle with a big university education. With an enrollment of 5,000 students, classes are student centered and there are unlimited opportunities to be become involved.

Lock Haven University was founded in 1870 as the Central State Normal School. By 1927, it was known as the State Teachers College of Lock Haven; and in 1960 the name was changed to Lock Haven State College. In 1983, the school joined with the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education and became known as Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania. The Clearfield campus in Clearfield, Pennsylvania, was established in 1989.

LHU has more than 60 undergraduate programs and three graduate programs. The student-to-faculty ratio is 19:1. Its athletics department offers eight women's Division II teams as well as seven men's Division II programs. Division I men's wrestling and women's field hockey programs round out the athletic offerings.

LHU has an outstanding international mission, offering exchange

programs on six continents. It has approximately 580 full-time employees, which includes 270 full-time instructional faculty.

□ 1445

There are more than 120 clubs, activities and organizations on campus. And it is also one of the few public institutions in the United States to require laptop computers of freshmen and transfer students. The requirement is complemented by a wireless technology infrastructure that will encompass virtually the entire campus in the near future.

LHU's students have numerous opportunities to learn outside of the classroom through internships and field placement. In addition, LHU students can study abroad a semester in England, France, Japan, Australia or one of 24 other countries. Armed with the tools to succeed, 97 percent of recent graduates are either employed or continuing their education.

Today, we honor Lock Haven University for 140 years of excellence in higher education. Congratulations to its president, Dr. Keith Miller, and the faculty of one of the most noble endeavors, preparing future leaders for every sector of our society. I would also like to congratulate the students and staff as well.

I support this resolution, and ask my colleagues to do the same.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. CHU. I urge passage of House Resolution 1198, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1198, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REMEMBERING VICTIMS OF OKLAHOMA CITY BOMBING

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1206) remembering the victims of the attack on the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and supporting the goals and ideals of the National Week of Hope, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1206

Whereas, on April 19, 1995, at 9:02 a.m., a terrorist detonated a truck bomb at the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma;

Whereas this was one of the worst terrorist attacks ever to occur on United States soil, taking the lives of 168 people and injuring

more than 850 others, many of them United States Government employees who worked in the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building;

Whereas this cowardly act of domestic terrorism directly affected thousands of families and horrified millions of people across the State of Oklahoma and the United States;

Whereas the people of Oklahoma and the United States responded to this tragedy through the remarkable efforts of local, State, and Federal law enforcement personnel, firefighters, search and rescue teams, public and private medical personnel, other emergency services personnel, and thousands of volunteers from the community who saved lives, assisted the injured and wounded, comforted the bereaved, and provided meals and support to those who came to Oklahoma City to offer assistance;

Whereas this courageous response set what has come to be known as the "Oklahoma Standard", which was later emulated by many Americans following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001;

Whereas, following the 1995 attack, the people of Oklahoma and the United States pledged to build and maintain a permanent national memorial to remember those who were killed, those who survived, and those changed forever;

Whereas this pledge was fulfilled by establishing the Oklahoma City National Memorial, which draws hundreds of thousands of visitors from around the world every year to the site of the attack;

Whereas the inscription on the wall of the Oklahoma City National Memorial reads: "We come here to remember those who were killed, those who survived, and those changed forever. May all who leave here know the impact of violence. May this memorial offer comfort, strength, peace, hope, and serenity.";

Whereas the National Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism was established to educate the Nation's emergency responders about preventing and mitigating the effects of terrorist attacks;

Whereas the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building has been replaced with a new, safe, secure, and functional Federal building in downtown Oklahoma City that houses many of the offices once housed in the Murrah Building, sending a message that the people and Government of the United States will not be cowed by terrorists; and

Whereas the 15th anniversary of the terrorist bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building is April 19, 2010: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) joins with the people of the United States in sending best wishes and prayers to the families, friends, and neighbors of the 168 people killed in the terrorist bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; and

(2) sends its best wishes and prayers to those injured in the bombing and expresses gratitude to the thousands of first responders, rescue workers, medical personnel, and volunteers from the community and across the Nation who answered the call for help on the morning of the attack and in the days and weeks thereafter.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that

all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend Congresswoman MARY FALLIN and our colleagues from Oklahoma for introducing this resolution. This resolution commemorates the lives of the Federal employees and other victims of this savage terrorist attack and reminds us of the ongoing terrorist threat in our borders.

House Resolution 1206 was introduced by the gentlewoman from Oklahoma, Representative MARY FALLIN, on March 23 of this year and was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. It comes to the floor today with the bipartisan support of over 50 cosponsors.

Over the last year, we've witnessed a rise in violent rhetoric by extremist groups in America. In the most recent incident, Andrew Joseph Stack intentionally crashed his small plane into a Federal building in Austin, Texas, that included offices of the Internal Revenue Service, among others.

According to the Southern Poverty Law Center, there have been over 75 violent attacks by domestic terrorists since 1995, Mr. Speaker. The resolution before us today is especially poignant because it is but the most destructive example of a recent frightening trend in domestic terrorism, that is to say, the incident in Oklahoma City.

At 9:02 a.m. on April 19, 1995, Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols used a truck full of explosives to attack the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City. Their vicious attack, conducted at a time when most of the building's employees were at work and their children at a day care center, killed 168 people and wounded 850 others. The explosion was so powerful it reduced much of the building to rubble and damaged at least six adjacent buildings, including an apartment building, a church, and a YMCA. Some of the victims of the Murrah Federal Building were children who were in the day care center for building employees.

McVeigh and Nichols appear to have been motivated by similar anti-government ideology as the dozens of domestic terrorist who have attacked America in 15 years subsequent to that bombing.

Seven emergency response crews responded to the attack after receiving a call reporting it in at 9:03 a.m., with Fire Station One's crew arriving first at the scene. Oklahoma City's police force set up an incident command system to manage a massive search and rescue operation. Average citizens, as well as the Civil Air Patrol, American Red Cross, and other organizations assisted with responses to the attack.

After the attack, Oklahomans and other Americans responded with generous offers of assistance. Immediately after McVeigh detonated the explosives in the truck, many bystanders ran to the building to try to save people who were still in it. Oklahoma City restaurant owners gave first responders free meals. Blood drives were so overwhelmed with volunteers that long lines forced the city to ask blood donors to wait for the next drive.

Workers actually left their boots on-site after response crews ran out of work boots. This collective sacrifice and outpouring of support earned the moniker "Oklahoma Standard," which describes an extraordinary, spontaneous outpouring of community support in times of tragedy.

Thank you again, Congresswoman FALLIN, our colleague, for introducing this legislation which I'm a proud cosponsor of.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1206, remembering the victims of the attack on the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Fifteen years ago, domestic terrorists set off a truck bomb in front of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City in what would become one of the worst terrorist attacks to happen on American soil. In a matter of moments, the lives of 168 people, including 19 children, were cruelly brought to an end. In the aftermath, we learned that more than 850 people were injured, and 30 children were orphaned; 219 children lost at least one parent in the tragedy.

To those there, it seemed as if no one in Oklahoma escaped unscathed. Indeed, it has been said that "at 9:02 a.m. on April 19, 1995, every American became an Oklahoman." The outpouring of support for the people of Oklahoma in the hours, days, weeks and months following this attack revealed the depth of character of the citizens of this great Nation.

Many of those killed and injured were Federal employees or the families of Federal employees. It is important that we take time to remember the civil servants who served our country honorably and perished in this tragedy. All of these employees' service to our country deserve recognition and distinction.

I want to extend my sincerest gratitude to local, State and Federal law enforcement, firefighters and emergency response teams from Oklahoma and across the United States; the servicemen and -women, the medical personnel, and the thousands of volunteers who donated their time to help save lives and assist the injured and provide meals to those that came to help the people of Oklahoma. Without these brave men and women, countless more lives may have been lost that day.

Oklahomans have demonstrated the depth of their own character by rebuilding in the wake of the bombing. This tragedy could have devastated the future of Oklahoma City; but in the 15 years since the bombing, the city and all Oklahomans have undergone profound healing. I commend them for their strength and for the continued commitment to triumph over such senseless violence, and I stand with them as they persevere.

Rather than allowing fear to hinder them, the people of Oklahoma City determined to continue the city's growth while keeping alive the memory of those lost.

Nowhere is that determination more beautifully exhibited than at the Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum. This facility has attracted hundreds of thousands of visitors from all over the world each year since its opening. It serves as a reminder of not only the tragic event that took place 15 years ago, but also the way that all Americans came together to pick up the pieces and move on. It provides Oklahomans and all Americans with a sense of hope that we truly are able to rise from the ashes of terrorism and come out a stronger community and Nation.

The Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism was also created to help educate the Nation's emergency responders and law enforcement about preventing and mitigating the effects of terrorist attacks.

Before I close, I will quote the inscription on the wall of the memorial which sums up the lessons learned from this senseless tragedy. It reads: "We come here to remember those who were killed, those who survived, and those who changed forever. May all who leave here know the impact of violence. May this memorial offer comfort, strength, peace, hope and serenity."

As we near the 15th anniversary of the bombing of the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, I hope we will keep those impacted by this in our minds and heed these important words.

I am proud to be a cosponsor of this resolution, and I urge all of my colleagues to support this resolution.

And, Mr. Speaker, I think this speaks volumes about what we are as a Nation. We're not a Nation of political parties. We're all Americans, and we come together in a tragedy like this to help heal. And I extend my condolences from the great State of Tennessee to Oklahoma. And I thank my friend from Virginia here today for helping us commemorate this.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. I thank my friend from Tennessee for his kind words. And now I am pleased to recognize our colleague and friend from Minnesota (Ms. MCCOLLUM) for 4 minutes.

(Ms. MCCOLLUM asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to remember the victims of the

1995 terrorist attack on Oklahoma City that killed 168 people. This act of terrorism was committed by a man who viewed the Federal Government as such a threat it justified mass murder.

I applaud my colleague from Oklahoma for her resolution because it serves as a reminder that right-wing anti-government extremist groups are on the rise today. Only 2 weeks ago, members of a so-called Christian militia in Michigan were arrested by the FBI for plotting to kill law enforcement officers in the hopes of inciting an anti-government uprising.

A national civil rights organization has documented a growing number of hate groups in America and states they are “driven largely by an angry backlash against non-white immigration, economic meltdown and the climb to power of an African American President.” In one word: racism.

Mark Potok of the Southern Poverty Law Center states: “Individuals associated with the Patriot movement during its heydays in the 1990s produced an enormous amount of violence, most dramatically the Oklahoma City bombing.”

Today Mr. Potok states: “As the movement has exploded, so has the reaches of its ideas, aided and abetted by commentators and politicians.”

Only last month a Fox News media commentator, with Members of Congress next to him, rallied a tea party crowd by disparaging Congress and calling the crowd “all these Tim McVeigh wannabes here.” To that, the crowds cheered and applauded.

When Members of Congress compare health care legislation to “government tyranny,” “socialism” or “totalitarianism” in the hopes of scoring political points, it’s like pouring gas on the fire of extremism.

Members of this House, Democrats and Republicans, have a duty and obligation to end the dangerous name-calling that can only inspire extremist militias and phony patriots. In the most free, prosperous and greatest democracy on Earth, it is time to return to civil, decent debate of public policy.

I don’t want another “Oklahoma City” to ever take place again. And just as we would not give aid and comfort to al Qaeda, let us not allow the words of elected leaders to give comfort and comfortable excuses to extremists bent on violence. Words have power for both good and evil, and I implore my colleagues to temper their rhetoric and not allow the words of a Member of Congress to ever be used by a violent militia or phony, hate-filled patriot to cause violence.

The victims of the Oklahoma City bombing were women at work, men in line for government services, and children in a day care center. And these families were torn apart, and they struggle to heal. A community was devastated, but it is again filled with hope and memories.

And I hope with this resolution every Member of Congress will reflect upon

the victims of Oklahoma City, as well as our duty as elected leaders in a proud and free country.

[From the Southern Poverty Law Center, Apr. 2010]

RAGE ON THE RIGHT—THE YEAR IN HATE AND EXTREMISM

(By Mark Potok)

The radical right caught fire last year, as broad-based populist anger at political, demographic and economic changes in America ignited an explosion of new extremist groups and activism across the nation.

Hate groups stayed at record levels—almost 1,000—despite the total collapse of the second largest neo-Nazi group in America. Furious anti-immigrant vigilante groups soared by nearly 80%, adding some 136 new groups during 2009. And, most remarkably of all, so-called “Patriot” groups—militias and other organizations that see the federal government as part of a plot to impose “one-world government” on liberty-loving Americans—came roaring back after years out of the limelight.

The anger seething across the American political landscape—over racial changes in the population, soaring public debt and the terrible economy, the bailouts of bankers and other elites, and an array of initiatives by the relatively liberal Obama Administration that are seen as “socialist” or even “fascist”—goes beyond the radical right. The “tea parties” and similar groups that have sprung up in recent months cannot fairly be considered extremist groups, but they are shot through with rich veins of radical ideas, conspiracy theories and racism.

“We are in the midst of one of the most significant right-wing populist rebellions in United States history,” Chip Berlet, a veteran analyst of the American radical right, wrote earlier this year. “We see around us a series of overlapping social and political movements populated by people [who are] angry, resentful, and full of anxiety. They are raging against the machinery of the federal bureaucracy and liberal government programs and policies including health care, reform of immigration and labor laws, abortion, and gay marriage.”

Sixty-one percent of Americans believe the country is in decline, according to a recent NBC News/Wall Street Journal poll. Just a quarter think the government can be trusted. And the anti-tax tea party movement is viewed in much more positive terms than either the Democratic or Republican parties, the poll found.

The signs of growing radicalization are everywhere. Armed men have come to Obama speeches bearing signs suggesting that the “tree of liberty” needs to be “watered” with “the blood of tyrants.” The Conservative Political Action Conference held this February was co-sponsored by groups like the John Birch Society, which believes President Eisenhower was a Communist agent, and Oath Keepers, a Patriot outfit formed last year that suggests, in thinly veiled language, that the government has secret plans to declare martial law and intern patriotic Americans in concentration camps. Politicians pandering to the antigovernment right in 37 states have introduced “Tenth Amendment Resolutions,” based on the constitutional provision keeping all powers not explicitly given to the federal government with the states. And, at the “A Well Regulated Militia” website, a recent discussion of how to build “clandestine safe houses” to stay clear of the federal government included a conversation about how mass murderers like Timothy McVeigh and Olympics bomber Eric Rudolph were supposedly betrayed at such houses.

DOING THE NUMBERS

The number of hate groups in America has been going up for years, rising 54% between 2000 and 2008 and driven largely by an angry backlash against non-white immigration and, starting in the last year of that period, the economic meltdown and the climb to power of an African American president.

According to the latest annual count by the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), these groups rose again slightly in 2009—from 926 in 2008 to 932 last year—despite the demise of a key neo-Nazi group. The American National Socialist Workers Party, which had 35 chapters in 28 states, imploded shortly after the October 2008 arrest of founder Bill White for making threats against his enemies.

At the same time, the number of what the SPLC designates as “nativist extremist” groups—organizations that go beyond mere advocacy of restrictive immigration policy to actually confront or harass suspected immigrants—jumped from 173 groups in 2008 to 309 last year. Virtually all of these vigilante groups have appeared since the spring of 2005.

But the most dramatic story by far has been with the antigovernment Patriots.

The militias and the larger Patriot movement first came to Americans’ attention in the mid-1990s, when they appeared as an angry reaction to what was seen as a tyrannical government bent on crushing all dissent. Sparked most dramatically by the death of 76 Branch Davidians during a 1993 law enforcement siege in Waco, Texas, those who joined the militias also railed against the Democratic Clinton Administration and initiatives like gun control and environmental regulation. Although the Patriot movement included people formerly associated with racially based hate groups, it was above all animated by a view of the federal government as the primary enemy, along with a fondness for antigovernment conspiracy theories. By early this decade, the groups had largely disappeared from public view.

But last year, as noted in the SPLC’s August report, “The Second Wave: Return of the Militias,” a dramatic resurgence in the Patriot movement and its paramilitary wing, the militias, began. Now, the latest SPLC count finds that an astonishing 363 new Patriot groups appeared in 2009, with the totals going from 149 groups (including 42 militias) to 512 (127 of them militias)—a 244% jump.

That is cause for grave concern. Individuals associated with the Patriot movement during its 1990s heyday produced an enormous amount of violence, most dramatically the Oklahoma City bombing that left 168 people dead.

Already there are signs of similar violence emanating from the radical right. Since the installation of Barack Obama, right-wing extremists have murdered six law enforcement officers. Racist skinheads and others have been arrested in alleged plots to assassinate the nation’s first black president. One man from Brockton, Mass.—who told police he had learned on white supremacist websites that a genocide was under way against whites—is charged with murdering two black people and planning to kill as many Jews as possible on the day after Obama’s inauguration. Most recently, a rash of individuals with antigovernment, survivalist or racist views have been arrested in a series of bomb cases.

As the movement has exploded, so has the reach of its ideas, aided and abetted by commentators and politicians in the ostensible mainstream. While in the 1990s, the movement got good reviews from a few lawmakers

and talk-radio hosts, some of its central ideas today are being plugged by people with far larger audiences like FOX News' Glenn Beck and U.S. Rep. Michele Bachmann (R-Minn). Beck, for instance, re-popularized a key Patriot conspiracy theory—the charge that FEMA is secretly running concentration camps—before finally “debunking” it.

Last year also experienced levels of cross-pollination between different sectors of the radical right not seen in years. Nativist activists increasingly adopted the ideas of the Patriots; racist rants against Obama and others coursed through the Patriot movement; and conspiracy theories involving the government appeared in all kinds of right-wing venues. A good example is the upcoming Second Amendment March in Washington, D.C. The website promoting the march is topped by a picture of a colonial militiaman, and key supporters include Larry Pratt, a long-time militia enthusiast with connections to white supremacists, and Richard Mack, a conspiracy-mongering former sheriff associated with the Patriot group Oath Keepers.

What may be most noteworthy about the march, however, is its date—April 19. That is the date of the first shots fired at Lexington in the Revolutionary War. And it is also the anniversary of the fiery end of the government siege in Waco and the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing.

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I again offer my deepest sympathies to the victims of the attack on the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building, as well as to the families and friends of those victims. Fifteen years later, we remember and mourn their tragic loss.

I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H. Res. 1206.

Ms. FALLIN. Mr. Speaker, fifteen years ago next Monday, America was shocked and saddened by a murderous attack in our heartland. 168 Oklahomans died and hundreds others injured when a homegrown terrorist detonated a bomb outside the Oklahoma City Federal Building.

Today I offer a resolution to commemorate that tragedy, but it is also a resolution of hope.

On April 19, 1995, Oklahoma City, the State of Oklahoma and our Nation saw the face of evil. But rather than cower in fear we came together. From the very first moments after the blast, neighbors rushed forward to help neighbors. They lined up around the block to give blood. They became volunteer rescuers—and one, a nurse, gave her life in that effort.

As our wounds began to heal, we vowed always to remember those we lost, those who were injured and those who were changed forever. Five years after the bombing, in 2000, a beautiful and peaceful outdoor memorial was dedicated on the same block that was once marked by blood and tears.

That memorial includes 168 empty chairs in memory of those who died—19 of them children. It contains a reflecting pool and a tough old tree that survived the blast. We call it the Survivor Tree, and it is the emblem of our memorial.

A year later, we added a museum where visitors come each day to learn more about the bombing, and to absorb the lesson that in our free Nation, free speech is honorable, but violence is not.

Those are the physical symbols of hope. There are others just as vital. Dozens of children lost one or more parent in the bombing, or were themselves injured. Today a special

fund is sending some of those children to college.

And each year, as we will next Monday, we gather again at the Oklahoma City National Memorial to pause for 168 seconds of silence, to honor memories, to see old friends with whom we share an unbreakable bond forged of both tragedy and hope. And we also come to renew that vow we made in 1995—we will never forget.

Fifteen years ago this Congress and the Clinton administration stepped forward to bring the help and the justice the events of that day demanded. Subsequent laws made it easier to prosecute terrorists and bring them to final justice.

This resolution continues the commitment of this Congress to stand with and for Oklahoma City. In memory of all those touched by the events of April 19, 1995, I urge its unanimous passage.”

Mr. BOREN. Mr. Speaker, at 9:02 a.m. on the morning of April 19th, 1995, a truck bomb detonated outside the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in downtown Oklahoma City killing 168 individuals—all of them unsuspecting women, children, and men—thereby becoming one of the most abhorrent acts of violence ever undertaken against the American people. Fifteen years after the bombing, we recognize on this day—April 19th, 2010—all those both in Oklahoma and across the United States who were touched by this inexplicable articulation of violence, violence which signaled an irrevocable act of domestic terrorism. Our recollections of that nascent dawn are consequently entombed within these words as a small yet vital elegy to the mid-April daylight a decade and a half ago when our world exploded.

We cannot and we must not allow the events from 15 years past to lapse in our memories. The actions of that day still scar the surrounding landscape like the ghosts of an enduring trauma, latent but ever present behind the unyielding advances of time. Within a 16-block radius of the blast site where 850 individuals were injured, where 19 of the 168 killed were under the age of 6, where 324 structures were either damaged or destroyed, where 86 cars were utterly incinerated and where the window panes of 258 buildings were thoroughly shattered, the scorched earth campaign of Tim McVeigh and Terry Nichols permanently impacted not only the existence of each and every Oklahoman but of all Americans. Yet, the remarkable efforts of local, State, and Federal law enforcement, fire and emergency services, search and rescue teams from near and far, medical personnel both public and private, as well as vast numbers of volunteers who willingly endangered themselves to save others, assist the injured, support the grieving, and provide amenities to those endangered or otherwise altered by this act of terrorism all attest to the irrepressible character of Oklahoma and of America as a whole.

Today, after the chaos of tragedy unexpected, after the initial anguish of the moment, after the exposure of a malice which rocked us to our very core, the Oklahoma City National Memorial stands resilient in the downtown area as a sobering reminder of the attack on America's heartland 15 years previous. The memorial itself—set on the grounds of the incendiary assault, in the solitary shadow of an elm known as the Survivor Tree—

bears the following inscription: “We come here to remember those who were killed, those who survived and those changed forever. May all who leave here know the impact of violence. May this memorial offer comfort, strength, peace, hope and serenity.” And, may we as Americans, never permit ourselves to forget the pilfered vitality those 168 empty chairs signify, especially the 16 smaller seats—each one a life, literally in its infancy, extinguished by the unmitigated cruelty of a terrorist plot planted and brought to fruition on American soil.

Moreover, we cannot dismiss the somber relevance the beloved departed lend to the grievous affairs of that morning. We cannot dismiss the 580 injured. Nor can we dismiss the countless number of volunteers from every corner of this country who came from near and far to aid in Oklahoma City's continued recovery. April 19th must remain firmly in our minds as the day America was altered permanently, as the day I urge us to recognize and to never forget.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 1206, “Remembering the victims of the attack on the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and supporting the goals and ideals of the National Week of Hope.”

Let me begin by thanking my colleague Representative MARY FALLIN for introducing this important piece of legislation into the House of Representatives as it is important that we always remember the men, women and children who lost their lives in the tragic bombing of the Oklahoma City Federal Building. I would also like to recognize Congresswoman FALLIN for her bravery and leadership in the aftermath of the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing.

Just four months after taking her initial oath of office as Lieutenant Governor of Oklahoma, Representative FALLIN was faced with this horrible attack. Through her courage and dedication to the people of Oklahoma however, Representative FALLIN successfully worked toward the recovery and reconstruction of ground-zero and also formed a task force to rebuild the childcare center lost in the disaster.

In one of the most shocking and horrifying terrorist attacks ever directed against the United States homeland, the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma was bombed by homegrown terrorist Timothy McVeigh, leading to the deaths of over one-hundred citizens and Federal employees.

Timothy McVeigh detonated his homemade bomb in front of the Federal building on the morning of April 19, 1995, just as employees and citizens were arriving at work for the day. The large explosion took the lives of 168 people and injured more than 850 others in the area around ground-zero.

I deplore in the strongest terms possible this cowardly act of terrorism against the men, women and children in a Federal building. This type of senseless violence is not welcome in our democratic society and we must work to see that this type of action is never allowed to take place again.

I would especially like to recognize the fine men and women of the police, fire department and other first responders who provided immediate assistance in the aftermath of the bombing. Because of their courageous actions that day, many lives were able to be saved.

As the Chairwoman of the Subcommittee on Transportation Security and Infrastructure protection I have consistently worked towards increasing the security in and around Federal buildings most notably through my sponsorship of H.R. 3225. I introduced H.R. 3225 right after 9/11 and pushed for the implementation of a uniform Federal alert standard that would go into effect in the event of an emergency or threat against a Federal or private facility.

We must always ensure that the safety of the American people remains our top priority. Furthermore it is vitally important that we continue to work together to protect Federal infrastructure from future attack. Through the passage of this bill, we will help to ensure that the horrible bombing on the Oklahoma City Federal building, and those lost in the attack are never forgotten. We will also ensure that a strong emphasis is put on the protection of Federal infrastructure across the nation and across the globe.

I would like to again thank my colleague Representative MARY FALLIN for introducing H. Res. 1206. I ask my colleagues for their support of this legislation as well as their continued support for the families of those lost in the Oklahoma City Bombing and other acts of terrorism.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support H. Res. 1206.

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1206, as amended.

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

The title was amended so as to read: "Resolution remembering the victims of the attack on the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 3 p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m.

□ 1831

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. HALVORSON) at 6 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

House Resolution 1222, by the yeas and nays;

House Resolution 1041, by the yeas and nays;

House Resolution 1042, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

SUPPORTING NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1222, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1222.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 397, nays 0, not voting 32, as follows:

[Roll No. 196]

YEAS—397

Ackerman
Aderholt
Adler (NJ)
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Austria
Baca
Bachmann
Bachus
Baird
Baldwin
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Bocieri
Boehner
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Bright
Broun (GA)
Brown (SC)
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Buyer
Calvert
Camp
Cantor
Cao
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza

Carnahan
Carson (IN)
Cassidy
Castle
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Childers
Chu
Clarke
Clay
Clever
Clyburn
Coble
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Dahlkemper
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis (TN)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Dreier
Driehaus
Duncan
Edwards (MD)
Edwards (TX)
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Farr

Fattah
Filner
Flake
Fleming
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxy
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Garamendi
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Giffords
Gingrey (GA)
Goodlatte
Gordon (TN)
Granger
Graves
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Guthrie
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Halvorson
Hare
Harman
Harper
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Heinrich
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Hunter
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Jenkins

Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick (MI)
Kilroy
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kirk
Kirkpatrick (AZ)
Kissell
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Kosmas
Kratovil
Kucinich
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebach
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel
E.
Lynch
Mack
Maffei
Maloney
Manzullo
Marchant
Markey (CO)
Markey (MA)
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McMahon
McMorris
Rodgers
McNerney
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)

Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Minnick
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (NY)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Myrick
Nadler (NY)
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Neugebauer
Nunes
Nye
Oberstar
Obey
Olson
Oliver
Ortiz
Owens
Pallone
Pascarelli
Pastor (AZ)
Paul
Paulsen
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Perriello
Peters
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Polis (CO)
Pomeroy
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Putnam
Quigley
Radanovich
Rahall
Rangel
Rehberg
Reichert
Reyes
Richardson
Rodriguez
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salazar
Sanchez, Linda
T.
Sanchez, Loretta

Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schauer
Schiff
Schmidt
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sestak
Shadegg
Shea-Porter
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Space
Speier
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Sullivan
Sutton
Tanner
Taylor
Teague
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walden
Walz
Wamp
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (OH)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Yarmuth
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—32

Barrett (SC)
Bilbray
Bishop (UT)
Blunt
Brown, Corrine
Brown-Waite,
Ginny
Campbell
Carney
Carter
Chaffetz

Davis (AL)
Delahunt
Fallin
Gallegly
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hoekstra
Inglis
Inslee

Jordan (OH)
Kingston
Lee (NY)
McKeon
Ruppersberger
Scott (GA)
Sherman
Souder
Stupak
Terry
Young (AK)

□ 1903

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE IN MEMORY
OF FORMER REPRESENTATIVE
BOB FRANKS OF NEW JERSEY**

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

Mr. LANCE. Madam Speaker, it is with deep regret that I inform the House of the passing of a former Member, Robert D. Franks of New Jersey. Bob Franks died late Friday at Memorial Sloan-Kettering in Manhattan at the age of 58.

His distinguished career of public service included membership in the New Jersey General Assembly, where we were colleagues, chairman of the State Republican Party, and from 1992 until 2000, as a Member of Congress from New Jersey's Seventh Congressional District where he was succeeded by Mike Ferguson.

In this decade, Bob has served extremely ably as the president of the Health Care Institute of New Jersey. A graduate of DePauw University in Green Castle, Indiana, and Southern Methodist University Law School in Dallas, he is survived by his wonderful wife, Fran, and their beautiful young daughters, Kelly, Sara and Abigail.

A devoted friend, colleague and mentor to me, Bob's passing at such a young age is particularly poignant, but his shining example as a public servant will burn brightly for decades and serve as an example to us all.

Mr. PASCRELL. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. LANCE. I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey.

Mr. PASCRELL. Bob Franks was a great friend. I served with him in the New Jersey legislature. We served on opposite sides, but it did not matter; he was a gentleman, a professional in every sense of the word. We are going to miss him. His beautiful wife and three young children are going to miss him. And the State of New Jersey will miss him.

This body was made better when Bob Franks walked through this Chamber, served on major committees, and contributed to the security of this Nation. May he rest in peace, and may we remember what he stood for as a model of civility and bipartisanship. God bless him.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE IN MEMORY
OF FORMER REPRESENTATIVE
STAN PARRIS OF VIRGINIA**

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

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor former Congressman Stan Parris, who passed away on March 27. Mr. Parris represented the Eighth District in Virginia in the House from 1973 to 1974, and then again throughout the 1980s, from 1981 to 1990.

He was a very hardworking advocate for Northern Virginia and his constituents. He was a fighter pilot, a veteran of the Korean War. He earned the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Purple Heart, and an Air Medal for his service.

He was known for giving out his home phone number, for listening to people regardless of their views; I'm not sure his successor has given out his home phone as often. Mr. Parris had a major impact on Northern Virginia by supporting flood control projects and bridges. He laid the groundwork for the Four Mile Run project. He put carpool lanes on Interstate 395. He transferred control of the airports from the Federal Aviation Administration to a regional airport authority. He led an effort to move the D.C. prison from Lorton. When the National Football League blacked out broadcasts of games that were sold out, he got the league to change its policy.

As a member of the Banking and Finance Committee, he proved prescient in cautioning about the looming savings and loan crisis in the 1980s. He graduated from George Washington University Law School. He owned several car dealerships. He was a State Delegate and was on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. He is survived by his wife of 28 years, Martha Harper Parris of Mathews, Virginia, his three children, and his two grandchildren.

I would now like to yield to my colleague, the dean of the Virginia delegation, Congressman FRANK WOLF.

Mr. WOLF. I thank the gentleman.

Madam Speaker, this is a sad occasion as we inform the House of the passing of a former colleague, Representative Stan Parris, who died on March 27 at the age of 80.

Stan loved the people's House and proudly served Virginia's Eighth District for six terms. I had the privilege of serving with Stan for 10 of those 12 years. He was a good friend. He had many legislative accomplishments for the people in northern Virginia, in addition to the ones my colleagues, Mr. MORAN, said. I think many would agree that one most significant accomplishment was the transfer of Dulles and National Airports from the FAA to a regional airports authority, an effort that consumed several years, but eventually led to two of the finest airports in the region.

He was not only an outstanding Member of Congress, but he was a Korean War hero. Someone said if you wanted to understand Stan Parris, you should read the book "The Right Stuff" because he had the right stuff. He was a pilot, had been shot down during the Korean War. His airplane landed on power lines, and he was later rescued in North Korea. He received a Distinguished Flying Cross, the Purple Heart and the Air Medal. He was also a State legislator and a local legislator, businessman and attorney. He recently had made his home in Mathews, Virginia, with his wife, Martie. And so to Martie and Stan's three children and

two grandchildren, we express our deepest sympathies.

Funeral services for Stan will be held in late June, I believe June 28, with a burial at Arlington National Cemetery. He was a good Member of Congress, and he loved this institution as much as anybody that I ever met.

[From the Washington Post, Mar. 29, 2010]

STANFORD E. PARRIS, 80, DIES; N. VA.

MEMBER OF CONGRESS

(By Matt Schudel)

Stanford E. Parris, 80, who served six terms in the U.S. House of Representatives as a Republican from Northern Virginia's Eighth District, died March 27 of heart disease at his home in Mathews County, Va.

Mr. Parris, who was a lawyer and car dealer before entering politics, was first elected in 1972, then returned to Congress from 1981 to 1991. A onetime Air Force fighter pilot, he survived several hard-fought campaigns and was among the first Republicans to gain a foothold in modern-day Virginia politics.

During his first term in Congress, he won the gratitude of football fans by introducing a bill prohibiting the National Football League from imposing television blackouts of sold-out games. He supported efforts to improve transportation in Northern Virginia, including carpool lanes on Interstate 395, and helped transfer control of Dulles and National airports from the Federal Aviation Administration to a regional airport authority.

As ranking Republican on the House District Committee, he was a persistent critic of the D.C. government and often quarreled with then-Mayor Marion Barry. Mr. Parris also led an effort to move the D.C. prison from Lorton, which was finally accomplished after he left Congress.

Mr. Parris possessed a blunt, direct style that served him well on the campaign trail. He had three epic electoral battles with Democratic Rep. Herbert E. Harris II, losing in 1974 before ousting Harris from Congress in 1980. Mr. Parris defeated Harris in a rematch in 1982, spending \$700,000 in Virginia's most expensive congressional campaign up to that point.

"They were tough campaigns," recalled U.S. Rep. Frank R. Wolf (R-Va.), who served in Congress with Mr. Parris. "They were almost like the Lincoln-Douglas debates."

Describing his political approach to The Washington Post in 1989, Mr. Parris said: "Somewhere along the line, I learned the best thing to do was to simply stand up and say what you mean, mean what you say, and do what you commit to."

Stanford Elmer Parris was born Sept. 9, 1929, in Champaign, Ill., and was a graduate of the University of Illinois.

During the Korean War, he piloted fighter jets and was once rescued after being shot down over North Korea. He received the Distinguished Flying Cross, Purple Heart and Air Medal.

He graduated from George Washington University law school in 1958, settled in Fairfax County and practiced law. He later owned car dealerships in Woodbridge and Manassas.

After serving on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, he was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates in 1969, as one of nine Republicans in the body. He was Virginia's secretary of the commonwealth in 1978.

Mr. Parris unsuccessfully sought the Republican nomination for governor in 1985 and 1989 and failed in a bid for the Virginia state Senate in 1995. After losing his congressional seat to James P. Moran Jr. (D) in 1990, he was administrator of the St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corp. and was of counsel to the law firm of Dickstein Shapiro.

He was also a founder of the Flying Circus Aerodrome in Bealeton, where he took part in aerobatic demonstrations.

In recent years, Mr. Parris lived in Matthews County and Melbourne, Fla.

His marriages to Jane McCullough Parris and Sonja Parris ended in divorce.

Survivors include his wife of 28 years, Martha Harper Parris of Mathews County and Melbourne; three children from his first marriage, Michael Parris of Los Angeles, Ann Parris of Culpeper and Susan Parris Littlewood of Mount Airy; and two grandsons.

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. I thank the gentleman. Perhaps now we could have a few moments of silence for both departed colleagues.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The House will observe a moment of silence in memory of our two former colleagues from New Jersey and Virginia.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, 5-minute voting will continue.

There was no objection.

CONGRATULATING UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO FOOTBALL TEAM FOR WINNING HUMANITARIAN BOWL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1041, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1041.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 394, nays 1, answered “present” 2, not voting 32, as follows:

[Roll No. 197]

YEAS—394

Ackerman	Bonner	Castle
Aderholt	Bono Mack	Castor (FL)
Adler (NJ)	Boozman	Chandler
Akin	Boren	Childers
Alexander	Boswell	Chu
Andrews	Boucher	Clarke
Arcuri	Boustany	Clay
Austria	Boyd	Cleaver
Baca	Brady (PA)	Clyburn
Bachmann	Brady (TX)	Coble
Bachus	Braley (IA)	Coffman (CO)
Baird	Bright	Cohen
Baldwin	Broun (GA)	Cole
Barrow	Brown (SC)	Conaway
Bartlett	Buchanan	Connolly (VA)
Barton (TX)	Burgess	Conyers
Bean	Burton (IN)	Cooper
Becerra	Butterfield	Costa
Berkley	Buyer	Costello
Berman	Calvert	Courtney
Berry	Camp	Crenshaw
Biggert	Cao	Crowley
Bilirakis	Capito	Cuellar
Bishop (GA)	Capps	Culberson
Bishop (NY)	Capuano	Cummings
Blackburn	Cardoza	Dahlkemper
Blumenauer	Carnahan	Davis (CA)
Bocieri	Carson (IN)	Davis (IL)
Boehner	Cassidy	Davis (KY)

Davis (TN)	Klein (FL)	Pingree (ME)
DeGette	Kline (MN)	Pitts
Delahunt	Kosmas	Platts
DeLauro	Kratovil	Poe (TX)
Dent	Kucinich	Polis (CO)
Diaz-Balart, L.	Lamborn	Pomeroy
Diaz-Balart, M.	Lance	Posey
Dicks	Langevin	Price (GA)
Dingell	Larsen (WA)	Price (NC)
Doggett	Larson (CT)	Putnam
Donnelly (IN)	Latham	Quigley
Doyle	LaTourette	Radanovich
Dreier	Latta	Rahall
Driehaus	Lee (CA)	Rangel
Duncan	Levin	Rehberg
Edwards (MD)	Lewis (CA)	Reichert
Ehlers	Lewis (GA)	Reyes
Ellison	Linder	Richardson
Ellsworth	Lipinski	Rodriguez
Emerson	LoBiondo	Roe (TN)
Engel	Loeb sack	Rogers (AL)
Eshoo	Lofgren, Zoe	Rogers (KY)
Etheridge	Lowey	Rogers (MI)
Farr	Lucas	Rohrabacher
Fattah	Luetkemeyer	Rooney
Filner	Lujan	Ros-Lehtinen
Flake	Lummis	Roskam
Fleming	Lungren, Daniel	Ross
Forbes	E.	Rothman (NJ)
Fortenberry	Lynch	Roybal-Allard
Foster	Mack	Royce
Fox	Maffei	Rush
Frank (MA)	Maloney	Ryan (OH)
Franks (AZ)	Manzullo	Ryan (WI)
Frelinghuysen	Marchant	Salazar
Fudge	Markey (CO)	Sanchez, Linda
Garamendi	Markey (MA)	T.
Garrett (NJ)	Marshall	Sanchez, Loretta
Gerlach	Matheson	Sarbanes
Giffords	Matsui	Scalise
Gingrey (GA)	McCarthy (CA)	Schakowsky
Goodlatte	McCarthy (NY)	Schauer
Gordon (TN)	McCaul	Schiff
Granger	McClintock	Schmidt
Graves	McCollum	Schock
Grayson	McCotter	Schrader
Green, Al	McDermott	Schwartz
Green, Gene	McGovern	Scott (VA)
Griffith	McHenry	Sensenbrenner
Guthrie	McIntyre	Serrano
Hall (NY)	McMahon	Sessions
Hall (TX)	McMorris	Sestak
Halvorson	Rodgers	Shadegg
Hare	McNerney	Shea-Porter
Harman	Meek (FL)	Shimkus
Harper	Meeks (NY)	Shuler
Hastings (FL)	Melancon	Shuster
Hastings (WA)	Mica	Simpson
Heinrich	Michaud	Sires
Heller	Miller (FL)	Skelton
Hensarling	Miller (MI)	Slaughter
Herger	Miller (NC)	Smith (NE)
Herseth Sandlin	Miller, Gary	Smith (NJ)
Higgins	Miller, George	Smith (TX)
Hill	Minnick	Smith (WA)
Himes	Mitchell	Snyder
Hinchoy	Mollohan	Space
Hinojosa	Moore (KS)	Speier
Hirono	Moore (WI)	Spratt
Hodes	Moran (KS)	Stark
Holden	Moran (VA)	Stearns
Holt	Murphy (CT)	Stupak
Honda	Murphy (NY)	Sullivan
Hoyer	Murphy, Patrick	Sutton
Hunter	Murphy, Tim	Tanner
Israel	Myrick	Taylor
Issa	Nadler (NY)	Teague
Jackson (IL)	Napolitano	Thompson (CA)
Jackson Lee	Neal (MA)	Thompson (MS)
(TX)	Neugebauer	Thompson (PA)
Jenkins	Nunes	Thornberry
Johnson (GA)	Nye	Tiahrt
Johnson (IL)	Obey	Tiberi
Johnson, E. B.	Olson	Tierney
Johnson, Sam	Olver	Titus
Jones	Ortiz	Tonko
Kagen	Owens	Towns
Kanjorski	Pallone	Tsongas
Kaptur	Pascarell	Turner
Kennedy	Pastor (AZ)	Upton
Kildee	Paul	Van Hollen
Kilpatrick (MI)	Paulsen	Velázquez
Kilroy	Payne	Visclosky
Kind	Pence	Walden
King (IA)	Perlmutter	Walz
King (NY)	Perriello	Wamp
Kirk	Peters	Wasserman
Kirkpatrick (AZ)	Peterson	Schultz
Kissell	Petri	Waters

Watson	Westmoreland	Wolf
Watt	Whitfield	Woolsey
Waxman	Wilson (OH)	Wu
Weiner	Wilson (SC)	Yarmuth
Welch	Wittman	Young (FL)

NAYS—1

Altmire

ANSWERED “PRESENT”—2

DeFazio Oberstar

NOT VOTING—32

Barrett (SC)	Chaffetz	Inslee
Bilbray	Davis (AL)	Jordan (OH)
Bishop (UT)	Edwards (TX)	Kingston
Blunt	Fallin	Lee (NY)
Brown, Corrine	Gallegly	McKeon
Brown-Waite,	Gohmert	Ruppersberger
Ginny	Gonzalez	Scott (GA)
Campbell	Grijalva	Sherman
Cantor	Gutierrez	Souder
Carney	Hoekstra	Terry
Carter	Inglis	Young (AK)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Less than 2 minutes remain in this vote.

□ 1918

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN MEMORY OF VICTIMS OF WEST VIRGINIA MINE DISASTER

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

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, it was 1 week and 1 day ago that a devastating blast in a coal mine outside of my hometown took the lives of 29 courageous coal miners. One more is hanging on in the hospital.

I ask that the House have a moment of silent prayer for those who have lost their lives in this tragedy.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The House will observe a moment of silence in respect of the memory of those victimized by the tragedy in West Virginia.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, 5-minute voting will continue.

There was no objection.

CONGRATULATING BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL TEAM FOR WINNING 2010 FIESTA BOWL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1042, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms.

CHU) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1042.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 385, nays 1, answered “present” 3, not voting 40, as follows:

[Roll No. 198]
YEAS—385

Ackerman	Davis (TN)	Kennedy
Aderholt	DeGette	Kildee
Adler (NJ)	Delahunt	Kilpatrick (MI)
Akin	DeLauro	Kilroy
Alexander	Dent	Kind
Andrews	Diaz-Balart, L.	King (IA)
Arcuri	Diaz-Balart, M.	King (NY)
Austria	Dicks	Kirk
Baca	Dingell	Kirkpatrick (AZ)
Bachmann	Doggett	Kissell
Bachus	Donnelly (IN)	Klein (FL)
Baird	Doyle	Kline (MN)
Baldwin	Dreier	Kosmas
Barrow	Driehaus	Kratovil
Bartlett	Duncan	Kucinich
Barton (TX)	Edwards (MD)	Lamborn
Bean	Ehlers	Lance
Becerra	Ellison	Langevin
Berkley	Ellsworth	Larson (CT)
Berman	Emerson	Latham
Berry	Engel	Latta
Biggert	Eshoo	Lee (CA)
Bilirakis	Etheridge	Levin
Bishop (GA)	Farr	Lewis (CA)
Bishop (NY)	Fattah	Lewis (GA)
Blackburn	Filner	Lipinski
Blumenauer	Flake	LoBiondo
Boccieri	Fleming	Loeb sack
Bonner	Forbes	Lofgren, Zoe
Bono Mack	Fortenberry	Lowe y
Boozman	Foster	Lucas
Boren	Fox x	Luetkemeyer
Boswell	Frank (MA)	Lujan
Boucher	Franks (AZ)	Lummis
Boustany	Frelinghuysen	Lungren, Daniel
Boyd	Fudge	E.
Brady (PA)	Garamendi	Lynch
Brady (TX)	Garrett (NJ)	Mack
Braley (IA)	Gerlach	Maffei
Bright	Giffords	Maloney
Broun (GA)	Gingrey (GA)	Manzullo
Brown (SC)	Goodlatte	Marchant
Buchanan	Graves	Markey (CO)
Burgess	Grayson	Markey (MA)
Burton (IN)	Green, Al	Marshall
Butterfield	Green, Gene	Matheson
Buyer	Griffith	Matsui
Calvert	Guthrie	McCarthy (CA)
Camp	Hall (NY)	McCarthy (NY)
Cao	Hall (TX)	McCaul
Capito	Halvorson	McClintock
Capps	Hare	McCollum
Capuano	Harman	McCotter
Cardoza	Harper	McDermott
Carahan	Hastings (FL)	McGovern
Carson (IN)	Hastings (WA)	McHenry
Cassidy	Heinrich	McIntyre
Castle	Heller	McMahon
Castor (FL)	Hensarling	McMorris
Chandler	Herger	Rodgers
Childers	Herseth Sandlin	McNerney
Chu	Higgins	Meek (FL)
Clarke	Hill	Meeks (NY)
Clay	Himes	Melancon
Cleaver	Hinche y	Mica
Clyburn	Hinojosa	Michaud
Coble	Hirono	Miller (FL)
Coffman (CO)	Holden	Miller (MI)
Cohen	Holt	Miller (NC)
Cole	Honda	Miller, Gary
Conaway	Hoyer	Miller, George
Connolly (VA)	Hunter	Minnick
Conyers	Israel	Mitchell
Cooper	Issa	Mollohan
Costa	Jackson (IL)	Moore (KS)
Costello	Jackson Lee	Moore (WI)
Courtney	(TX)	Moran (KS)
Crenshaw	Jenkins	Moran (VA)
Crowley	Johnson (GA)	Murphy (CT)
Cuellar	Johnson (IL)	Murphy (NY)
Culberson	Johnson, E. B.	Murphy, Patrick
Cummings	Johnson, Sam	Murphy, Tim
Dahlkemper	Jones	Myrick
Davis (CA)	Kagen	Nadler (NY)
Davis (IL)	Kanjorski	Napolitano
Davis (KY)	Kaptur	Neal (MA)

Neugebauer	Ros-Lehtinen	Stearns
Nunes	Roskam	Stupak
Nye	Ross	Sullivan
Obey	Rothman (NJ)	Sutton
Olson	Roybal-Allard	Tanner
Oliver	Royce	Taylor
Ortiz	Rush	Teague
Owens	Ryan (OH)	Thompson (CA)
Pallone	Ryan (WI)	Thompson (MS)
Pastor (AZ)	Salazar	Thompson (PA)
Paul	Sánchez, Linda	Thornberry
Paulsen	T.	Tiahrt
Payne	Sanchez, Loretta	Tiberi
Pence	Sarbanes	Tierney
Perlmutter	Scalise	Titus
Perriello	Schakowsky	Tonko
Peters	Schauer	Towns
Peterson	Schiff	Tsongas
Petri	Schmidt	Turner
Pingree (ME)	Schock	Upton
Pitts	Schrader	Van Hollen
Platts	Schwartz	Velázquez
Poe (TX)	Scott (VA)	Visclosky
Kissell	Sensenbrenner	Walden
Polis (CO)	Serrano	Walz
Pomeroy	Sessions	Wamp
Posey	Sestak	Wasserman
Price (GA)	Shadegg	Schultz
Price (NC)	Shea-Porter	Waters
Putnam	Shimkus	Watson
Quigley	Shuler	Watt
Radanovich	Shuster	Waxman
Rahall	Simpson	Weiner
Rangel	Sires	Welch
Rehberg	Skelton	Westmoreland
Reichert	Slaughter	Whitfield
Reyes	Smith (NE)	Wilson (OH)
Richardson	Smith (NJ)	Wilson (SC)
Rodriguez	Smith (TX)	Wittman
Roe (TN)	Snyder	Wolf
Rogers (AL)	Space	Woolsey
Rogers (KY)	Speier	Wu
Rogers (MI)	Spratt	Yarmuth
Rohrabacher	Stark	Young (FL)
Rooney		

NAYS—1

Altmire

ANSWERED “PRESENT”—3

DeFazio	Granger	Oberstar
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NOT VOTING—40

Barrett (SC)	Edwards (TX)	Larsen (WA)
Bilbray	Fallin	LaTourette
Bishop (UT)	Gallegly	Lee (NY)
Blunt	Gohmert	Linder
Boehner	Gonzalez	McKeon
Brown, Corrine	Gordon (TN)	Pascrell
Brown-Waite,	Grijalva	Ruppersberger
Ginny	Gutierrez	Scott (GA)
Campbell	Hodes	Sherman
Cantor	Hoekstra	Smith (WA)
Carney	Inglis	Souder
Carter	Inslee	Terry
Chaffetz	Jordan (OH)	Young (AK)
Davis (AL)	Kingston	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Less than 2 minutes remain in this vote.

□ 1927

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, today, I was attending to official business in my district, and missed votes on the following three bills considered under suspension of the rules: H. Res. 1222, H. Res. 1041, and H. Res. 1042.

On H. Res. 1222, supporting the goals and ideals of National Library Week, I would have voted “aye.”

On H. Res. 1041, congratulating and commending the University of Idaho’s football

team for winning the 2009 Humanitarian Bowl in Boise, Idaho, I would have voted “aye.”

On H. Res. 1042, commending the Boise State University Broncos football team for winning the 2010 Fiesta Bowl, I would have voted “aye.”

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 413

Mr. WAMP. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 413.

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

There was no objection.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 13, 2010.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on Tuesday, April 13, 2010 at 3:24 p.m., and said to contain a message from the President whereby he submits to the Congress a copy of an Executive Order, with an annex attached, he has issued with respect to Somalia.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

EXECUTIVE ORDER WITH RESPECT TO SOMALIA—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 111-103)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Consistent with subsection 204(b) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(b) (IEEPA), and section 301 of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1631 (NEA), I hereby report that I have issued an Executive Order (the “order”) blocking the property of certain persons contributing to the conflict in Somalia. In that order, I declared a national emergency to deal with the unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States posed by that conflict, as described below.

The United Nations Security Council, in Resolution 1844 of November 20, 2008, reaffirmed its condemnation of all acts of violence in Somalia and incitement

to violence inside Somalia, and expressed its concern at all acts intended to prevent or block a peaceful political process. United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1844 also expressed grave concern over the recent increase in acts of piracy and armed robbery at sea against vessels off the coast of Somalia, and noted the role piracy may play in financing violations of the arms embargo on Somalia imposed by UNSCR 733 of January 23, 1992. In UNSCR 1844, the United Nations Security Council determined that the situation in Somalia poses a threat to international peace and security in the region and called on member States to apply certain measures against persons responsible for the continuing conflict. The United Nations Security Council has continued to express grave concern about the crisis in Somalia in UNSCR 1846 of December 2, 2008, UNSCR 1851 of December 16, 2008, and UNSCR 1872 of May 26, 2009.

Pursuant to the IEEPA and the NEA, I have determined that the deterioration of the security situation and the persistence of violence in Somalia, and acts of piracy and armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia, constitute an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. The order declares a national emergency to deal with this threat.

The order is not targeted at the entire country of Somalia, but rather is intended to target those who threaten peace and stability in Somalia, who inhibit the delivery of humanitarian assistance to Somalia or the distribution of such assistance in Somalia, or who supply arms or related materiel in violation of the arms embargo. The order blocks the property and interests in property in the United States, or in the possession or control of United States persons, of the persons listed in the Annex to the order, as well as of any person determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State:

to have engaged in acts that directly or indirectly threaten the peace, security, or stability of Somalia, including but not limited to (1) acts that threaten the Djibouti Agreement of August 18, 2008, or the political process, or (2) acts that threaten the Transitional Federal Institutions, the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), or other international peacekeeping operations related to Somalia;

to have obstructed the delivery of humanitarian assistance to Somalia, or access to, or distribution of, humanitarian assistance in Somalia; or

to have directly or indirectly supplied, sold, or transferred to Somalia, or to have been the recipient in the territory of Somalia of, arms or any related materiel, or any technical advice, training, or assistance, including financing and financial assistance, related to military activities.

The designation criteria will be applied in accordance with applicable

Federal law including, where appropriate, the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. The designation criteria will also be applied taking into consideration the arms embargo on Somalia imposed by UNSCR 733 of January 23, 1992, as elaborated upon and amended by subsequent resolutions.

The order also authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to designate for blocking any person determined to have materially assisted, sponsored, or provided financial, material, logistical, or technical support for, or goods or services in support of, the activities described above or any person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to the order. I determined that, among other threats to the peace, security, or stability of Somalia, acts of piracy or armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia threaten the peace, security, or stability of Somalia. I further authorized the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to designate for blocking any person (defined as an individual or entity) determined to be owned or controlled by, or to have acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, any person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to the order.

I delegated to the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, the authority to take such actions, including the promulgation of rules and regulations, and to employ all powers granted to the President by IEEPA and the United Nations Participation Act, as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of the order. All executive agencies are directed to take all appropriate measures within their authority to carry out the provisions of the order.

The order, a copy of which is enclosed, became effective at 12:01 a.m. eastern daylight time on April 13, 2010.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, April 13, 2010.

CONDOLENCES FOR POLAND

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I stand here today to join my Polish American constituents, the Polish nation, and the world in mourning those who perished in this weekend's tragic plane crash. The crash that killed President Lech Kaczynski of Poland, his First Lady, and many ranking military and civilian officers was aptly described by one paper as "literally a nation colliding with its past."

Poland is and has been a true friend and ally of the United States. Our two nations just recently celebrated 90 years of diplomatic relations. The contributions of Polish Americans to the United States are numerous. From the families who lost loved ones in the

plane crash to the nation of Poland and to Chicago's own shaken Polish American community, this loss will be felt around the world for years to come.

We will stand with our friends as they find the resilience to emerge stronger, as they have before, following this unimaginable tragedy. I look forward to Poland's recovery and reemergence as a country that can and will overcome.

REMARKS ON TOM OOSTERHOUDT'S 60TH BIRTHDAY

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I am delighted to wish a happy birthday to my good friend and Key West community leader Tom Oosterhoudt. This Thursday night, the 15th, Tom will be surrounded by many community activists from the Keys to celebrate. Tom will be turning 60. He has done so much to improve the Keys way of life. He is always a positive and an energetic person. He is a wonderful part of Keys life.

He is the editor and publisher of Conch Color, a magazine for the Florida Keys. Tom covers a multitude of events going on every day in the Keys, like the annual Ernest Hemingway look-alike contest, the Harry Truman Symposium at the Little White House.

Tom, thanks for covering all the many positive folks who work every day to improve the daily woes that Keys residents face: the housing shortage, the high cost of living, the unemployment problem, downstairs enclosures, high insurance rates. But with your help, with working together with leaders like Tom, we can work to improve paradise every day.

Tom, I hope you have a great celebration. I wish that I could be with your many friends and family members. You are an outstanding part of what makes the Florida Keys such an incredible place. Congratulations.

INTRODUCING THE CARRY-ON FAIRNESS ACT

(Mr. BISHOP of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, flying the friendly skies for a commercial passenger is about to get even more expensive. Adding insult to travel delays, fees for checked-in luggage, and taxes already added to airfares, Spirit Airlines announced last week that it will be the first to charge fees for carry-on bags.

I am introducing a bill this evening to block Spirit and any other airline from ever being allowed to impose this unfair and completely unnecessary carry-on tax. If Spirit has its way, this fee could cost every passenger up to \$45 per item. Such nickel-and-diming the flying public has got to stop.

America should know that this tax would not pay for airport security or better infrastructure. One hundred percent of it would be kept by the airlines. If you are a family with young children or a senior who puts your medicine in a carry-on, this fee will hit you the hardest.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this bill to spare Americans from yet another tax on flying and discourage other airlines from ever considering charging it.

WE ALL GRIEVE WITH THE PEOPLE OF POLAND

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

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Speaker, this past Saturday, April 10, 2010, the people of Poland suffered an unspeakable tragedy. The world lost a great leader and the United States lost a true friend with the death of Polish President Lech Kaczynski, and much of the Polish leadership as well, that died in that plane crash in Russia.

President Kaczynski was a staunch supporter of freedom. Early in his life, he was a leader in the fight against communism. As a lawyer in Gdansk, he became an adviser to the Solidarity movement in the late 1970s. During martial law in 1981, he was jailed because the government thought he was an antisocialist element.

When Poland shed the yoke of communism, Lech Kaczynski continued to serve Poland until his death. He served as a senator, as the vice chair of Solidarity, as a member of Parliament, as the mayor of Warsaw, as the Minister of Justice, and Attorney General, and finally as President of Poland for the last 5 years.

He was a true friend of America, Madam Speaker. He fought corruption because he believed it was an impediment to justice and freedom. And we all mourn with the people of Poland at the loss of this true Polish patriot. May our great friend rest in peace.

EIGHTEEN STATES SAY "NO" TO THE FEDS

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, the States are fighting back and saying "no" to the government's oppressive takeover of health care. Eighteen States, including Texas, have joined in suing the government. Never before in American history have so many States banded together to claim a Federal law is unconstitutional.

The Constitution does not permit the Federal Government to force citizens to buy a government-ordained product like health insurance or face a penalty. The unconstitutional law also hires 16,000 more IRS agents to rifle through the financial records of citizens to

make sure they are buying that mandated government product. Now, isn't that lovely?

Madam Speaker, the 10th Amendment states, in part, the powers not delegated to the United States are reserved to the States or the people. An objective reading of the Constitution seems to indicate the States have a legitimate complaint. These 18 States should be commended for protecting their citizens from the Federal Government's unlawful, unwarranted intrusion into the private lives of the citizens.

And that's just the way it is.

RED BULLS WELCOME HOME CEREMONY

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Madam Speaker, this past weekend, Minnesota officially said "Welcome Home" to over 1,000 citizen soldiers who had been serving in Iraq. Today, I ask Congress to join me in also saying thank you to these men and women of the Minnesota National Guard's 34th Infantry Division, also known as the Red Bulls.

These brave servicemembers were among the longest-serving National Guard units in all of Iraq. They endured long deployments away from family, away from friends, and they even faced bureaucratic delays in receiving the bonus pay that they had been promised and earned, an unacceptable mistake that was finally addressed in recent weeks. All the while, they did what they always do: they fulfilled their mission to the very best of their abilities. The Red Bulls' accomplishments have been vital to ensuring safety for both Iraqis and Americans serving.

And on behalf of a grateful station and a grateful Nation, I say thank you for a job well done.

HEALTH CARE REFORM AND SOCIALISM

(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. Madam Speaker, a lot of people in this country thought that the health care bill was a move toward socialism, toward government control over the entire health care industry. But, you know, we went ahead and passed it anyhow, even though probably 60-some percent of the American people opposed it.

But I just want to say tonight to my Democratic colleagues who pushed so hard for it, who said it wasn't a move toward government control and socialism, there is one foreign leader who really thinks it was a great move in the right direction, and that is the Communist leader from Cuba, Fidel Castro, who contacted the President of the United States and said it was a

giant step in the right direction. That ought to tell us something.

□ 1945

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF ELYRIA POLICE OFFICER JAMES KERSTETTER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. SUTTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. SUTTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the life and service of Elyria Police Officer James Kerstetter.

On March 15, Officer Kerstetter was tragically shot and killed in the line of duty while responding to a domestic call. He made the ultimate sacrifice, putting his life on the line to protect another.

Officer Kerstetter was a committed public servant. He was a member of the department for 15 years. He was a member of the SWAT team and taught the rookie officers at the department. He was the lead crash investigator, and prior to joining the police force he served with the Lorain County Sheriff's Department.

But even more importantly, he was the loving and devoted husband of wife Tammy and the proud father of three daughters—Misty, Shelby, and Bailey.

James Kerstetter was known as "Sponge" to his fellow officers and was affectionately called "Jimmy" by his family. Jimmy was a humble family man, a loving husband, father, son, brother, and uncle. He never wished for the spotlight, but he touched the lives of people all across the community with his outgoing spirit. His death has been a shock to his family, the city of Elyria, and numerous communities throughout Ohio.

Over the past weeks, we have seen just how much he meant to so very many. Jimmy knew that his family and the city of Elyria are worth the service that he dedicated himself to, a community he grew up in, he served in, and he embraced. His memory will live on in the hearts of family, friends, and the community of Elyria that he touched so very deeply. He is and always will be a community hero, a national hero.

RECOGNIZING FRED S. ZEIDMAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. NEUGEBAUER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Fred Zeidman. Fred is a man of remarkable character

and passion who has dedicated his work to remembering the Holocaust and educating future generations on the many lessons learned from this tragedy.

In March, 2002, Fred was appointed chairman of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council by President George W. Bush. The museum is a living memorial to the Holocaust and serves as a point of inspiration for countless numbers worldwide to promote human dignity, confront hatred, and prevent genocide. Since 1993, the museum has welcomed nearly 30 million visitors.

As chairman, Fred is leading the museum's plans for a promising future, including building the institution's endowment campaign and increasing educational opportunities for students. He has worked tirelessly at the helm of the museum to broaden the focus beyond just telling the story of the Holocaust to thoroughly examining the tragedy's lessons and legacy. One of Fred's greatest accomplishments as chairman of the museum has been developing the profile and influence of the Committee on Conscience and, in turn, calling increased attention to genocide around the world.

This week, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum is honoring Fred at its National Tribute Dinner. I can't think of anybody that deserves this any more. Fred is a dedicated and visionary leader who has guided the transformation of the museum into a global institution that challenges people everywhere to remember, to learn, and to act. Inspired by the survivors and their legacy, Fred has helped place the museum at the forefront of Holocaust education and worked tirelessly to empower leaders and citizens alike to create a more just world. The Holocaust Museum today is stronger because of his leadership and dedication.

Not only is Fred Zeidman known for his work here in Washington but also he's a fellow Texan and a leader in the business and Jewish communities in Houston.

I have had the great opportunity of working with Fred through AIPAC for several years now and have seen firsthand his tireless devotion to this great American institution. Today, I am proud to honor Fred upon his recognition at the National Tribute Dinner and the many successes the Holocaust Museum has seen in recent years.

Fred, thank you for your service as chairman of the Holocaust Museum. I look forward to your continued leadership in the future.

RECOGNIZING VIRGINIA SHELTON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HARE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HARE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize my chief caseworker, Virginia Shelton, who will retire at the end of this month after 25 years of service to the Illinois 17th Congressional District and our Nation.

Ginny, as she is known by her friends and colleagues, handled one of the most important jobs in any congressional office: outreach to veterans.

My predecessor, Lane Evans, had a great reputation for fighting for our Nation's heroes. I have sought to continue that legacy. But the constant behind both of our efforts has always been Ginny, who has dedicated not just her career but her entire life to the men and women who served our Nation in uniform. She is known for spending countless hours explaining each and every right to veterans who are looking to exercise them. She built invaluable relationships with VA staff, putting herself in the best position to advocate for the constituents who sought her help. She studied hard and made herself an expert on VA disability, health care, and other crucial benefits.

For Ginny, serving our veterans was a labor of love. Whether it was on the phone or over a drink at a VFW, Ginny listened and learned about the lives of our veterans. She knew them personally. She was not only an advocate, she was their friend. Their struggle was her struggle. She recognized that behind every case file was a human being, and she understood that when it comes to our veterans, justice delayed is justice denied.

Ginny was passionate about the issues of veterans' homelessness. Each and every year, she was active in the local Stand Down, an event where our homeless heroes are provided haircuts, food, medical care, a place to stay for the night, and counseling. She believed that our Nation should have a Stand Down 365 days a year. Inspired by her efforts, I introduced a bill last year to reduce veterans' homelessness.

Ginny was instrumental in helping me secure a VA outpatient clinic for Whiteside County. The VA predicts approximately 2,500 veterans will use this facility during its first year of operation. Thanks to Ginny, many veterans will no longer have to travel hours upon hours just to receive basic care.

Ginny also managed my nominations to America's service academies, fully investing herself in the process to ensure our young people get the best opportunities possible. She always made sure students filled out their applications fully and got them in on time. She treated each applicant as if they were one of her own kids. I know one of her favorite things to do is visit the academies and see firsthand the young men and women who will be our future warriors.

Ginny has been a wonderful friend to my wife, Beckie, and me for many years. I know her late husband, Jack, himself a Marine, is very proud of her today. There are many things I will miss about Ginny: her sense of humor, that unmistakable voice, her invaluable advice and guidance. But it is our veterans who will miss her the most. Her retirement is the end of an era, but I know she will continue her great work going forward. She leaves a leg-

acy marked by selfless service to our Nation and its heroes. And for all the work she has done for our veterans, Ginny Shelton is a hero in her own right.

Ginny, thank you. Thank you so much for 25 years of wonderful work.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

MEDICARE FRAUD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, this morning, my good friend and Florida colleague Congressman RON KLEIN and I held a press conference at the Little Havana Activity and Nutrition Center where we unveiled our bipartisan anti-Medicare fraud bill.

Medicare fraud is a problem that hurts our most vulnerable citizens. Our South Florida community knows firsthand the hardship that it creates. In 2008, approximately \$703 million in false Medicare claims originated from South Florida. Last year, that figure rose to \$952 million from South Florida.

Our community needs to say in no uncertain terms that fraud and abuse in Medicare will not be tolerated and that our seniors will not be preyed upon by opportunistic vandals. That is why Congressman RON KLEIN and I filed the Medicare Fraud Enforcement and Prevention Act. This legislation will help curb the fraud in the Medicare system. It will not only toughen the penalties on those individuals who engage in fraud but it will also help implement new screening procedures and biometric checks for all Medicare claims and services.

Medicare fraud is not isolated to cases that involve rogue individuals. Unfortunately, the reality is that more and more Medicare fraud is being perpetrated by groups that are organized and are sophisticated in their technique. This bipartisan bill will help catch up existing rules and regulations with the reality of today's threats.

Fraud and abuse costs the Medicare system billions of dollars each year. It costs the system, in fact, \$60 billion every year. It harms the health care industry as a whole, and it undermines the market for legitimate health care products. It hurts legitimate suppliers who cannot compete with illegitimate suppliers who pad their income by billing for services that they never rendered. Fraud undermines public confidence in health care providers.

The Klein-Ros-Lehtinen bill will create a strong deterrent for would-be

criminals by doubling the fines and jail time for those convicted of scamming the Medicare system. It creates a new offense for illegally distributing a Medicare or Medicaid beneficiary ID and establishes a penalty of 3 years in prison and a fine equivalent to the dollar amount stolen from Medicare. The Klein-Ros-Lehtinen bill doubles the criminal penalty for making false statements and for violating the anti-kickback statute from 5 to 10 years in prison and from \$25,000 to a \$50,000 fine. The Klein-Ros-Lehtinen bill will also create a pilot program that will implement biometric technology to ensure that Medicare beneficiaries are physically present to receive those services. This bill mandates strict background checks for Medicare suppliers that would be carried out before they start cashing those taxpayer checks.

Since its inception in the year 2007, Miami-Dade County's interagency Medicare Strike Force has helped stem the tide of Medicare fraud in our South Florida community. It has gotten more than \$220 million in court-ordered restitution to Medicare from defendants in 87 separate cases. The task force has saved Medicare approximately \$1.75 billion in phony claim submissions. But, Madam Speaker, lamentably there is so much more that needs to be done.

The bill that RON KLEIN and I have filed today will help give law enforcement the tools necessary to make even more arrests and to crack down on fraud in a more efficient and effective manner. It will direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to provide real-time access to data regarding fraud that will then be given to local law enforcement officials. The Klein-Ros-Lehtinen bill also directs the GAO, the Government Accountability Office, to follow up with Medicare contractors and report back to us in Congress with recommendations to make this system work even better for seniors all across the country.

STOP THE FREELANCE SPYING AT THE PENTAGON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, a war that is illegitimate with no continued justification inevitably will be managed irresponsibly. But sometimes the excesses and the incompetence continue to shock me.

The Pentagon is now investigating a rogue spy operation that allegedly used private contractors to carry out attacks on militants and paid them inappropriately using a legitimate information-gathering program as a cover. It seems a Pentagon official named Michael Furlong was hiring private firms to gather intelligence about the whereabouts of top insurgents with the goal of hunting them down and killing them.

□ 2000

And the whole time he was claiming simply to be involved in an above-board project to give us a better understanding of Afghan society and culture.

The CIA, the United States Government's legitimate intelligence-gathering agency, felt that its work was undermined by Mr. Furlong's freelance shenanigans. And it was the CIA's complaints that finally shut Mr. Furlong down and prompted the investigation. You know you've gone off the deep end when the CIA thinks your covert operation is beyond the pale.

No one can say for sure who was supervising or approving Mr. Furlong's operation, and apparently some of the money he was given control over has gone missing.

Mr. Furlong was something of a cowboy, actually. According to news accounts, he liked to brag about having a notorious Iran Contra figure on the payroll, and he likened his contractors to fictional movie assassins.

But this isn't a movie, Madam Speaker. It's not like we can all go home with a clear conscience after the lights come up and the credits roll. There are grave life-and-death consequences to the decisions made inside the Pentagon. And while a movie costs us maybe \$12, this war in Afghanistan is costing us millions every single day.

It's bad enough that this Congress is repeatedly asked to sign another check to pay for a war that is bankrupting our country and failing to advance our national security interests. But then we learn that the money being authorized, which I have consistently voted against, is being used on secret and illegal operations for which there is no transparency or accountability. And this is just the latest example of private contractors being used to carry out questionable wartime activities to get around the rules governing military operations.

It's an encouraging sign, however, that the Pentagon has begun to look into Furlong's operation, and this episode has prompted Secretary Gates to order a review of all the military's information operations programs to make sure everything is on the up-and-up. I'm expecting the oversight committee of this body to ask some tough questions. I can't imagine how we can debate another supplemental unless we've demanded and received answers about Mr. Furlong's spy ring and other possible wrongdoing.

It has to stop, Madam Speaker. It's time to rein in the contractors, and it's time to bring our valiant troops home.

We know there is a better way to fight terrorism and rebuild Afghanistan. It's time to turn our approach to national security upside down. We need a smarter strategy. We need to show American compassion, not American aggression.

We need a humanitarian surge, not a military surge. Instead of troops, we need to send aid workers and other civilian experts. That is the best coun-

terterrorism approach of all. That is what will give Afghan people hope for a better life. That is what will build a durable peace.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

THE THIRD FRONT—PAGE II

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I bring you news from the third front, and that's the war for this Nation's national security on our southern border with Mexico.

We are engaged in three conflicts, three wars: the one in Afghanistan, the one in Iraq, and the border war on our southern border.

The \$40 billion a year illicit drug trade in Mexico has resulted in a vicious wave of violence in northern Mexico. Over 18,000 Mexican nationals have been killed in recent years by the criminal drug cartels, most of those, innocent civilians; but also many of them are the competition among the drug cartels. And they're fighting for control of the routes that lead into the United States where those drug cartels can sell their wares.

Just a few days ago there was a bombing at the United States Embassy in Nuevo Laredo, just on the border. Recently, a pregnant U.S. Embassy employee and her husband were murdered in Juarez, Mexico, right in front of their young daughter and other witnesses.

And in 2008 there were 1,500 murders in Juarez, Mexico alone; and this year, over 500 people have been killed. To put it in perspective, in 2008 there were only 300 murders in all of Houston, a city that dwarfs the size of Juarez, Mexico. And the violence is escalating.

Good people are abandoning the border cities in Mexico and fleeing further into the interior, and some are fleeing to the United States to stay with relatives, all because of the violence on the U.S.-Mexico border.

And people in this country who say that the violence on the border won't come into the United States live in blissful ignorance of reality. It's already here.

In the El Paso sector of the Border Patrol in Texas, our agents are being targeted by the Azteca hitmen for the Juarez drug cartel. The Azteca gang is a group of individuals who work for the drug cartel, the Juarez drug cartel, and their primary mission is to enforce the ability to bring drugs into the United States. And now we understand our Border Patrol agents in the El Paso sector are being targeted to be shot

and kidnapped and murdered by these hitmen. They're after our Border Patrol agents.

And recently, as recently as today, we've learned that there is a \$250,000 bounty on our Border Patrol agents for their murder and for their kidnapping. The drug cartels are putting out these hits on our Border Patrol agents because they are enforcing the rule of law and keeping the drug cartels out of this country to the best of their ability.

This is serious. This is violence. And it's being perpetrated by the drug cartels against Americans, both in Mexico, Mexicans in Mexico, and Americans in the United States.

Unfortunately, too many people in Washington, D.C. are closing their eyes to reality. They don't see that the violence has already spread into the United States.

Madam Speaker, there are 14 counties in Texas that border Mexico. And recently I called each of those 14 sheriffs and asked them this question: How many people in your county jail are foreign nationals charged with crimes in the United States, other than immigration violations? How many are charged with felonies, misdemeanors, crimes of violence? And they told me that 37 percent of the people in the border county jails in Texas are foreign nationals charged with crimes, not immigration violations. So we see that the crime in Mexico on the border is coming into the United States and affecting our border counties.

And these counties are not rich, wealthy counties. They don't have the money to try, prosecute and house these individuals.

We shouldn't wait till something tragic happens before we do something about it. There are border incursions every day by these criminal drug cartels, and now there are reports that the drug cartels are cloning Border Patrol vehicles so that they can bring drugs into the United States. Recently, there were two incursions by Mexican military helicopters across the Texas-Mexico border into the United States, and their intentions are still unknown.

So it's important, Madam Speaker, that we do what is necessary to protect the dignity of our Nation. The first duty of government is the national security to protect the people.

The Texas Governor and other Governors asked for the National Guard to go to the border to help secure and protect the dignity of our Nation. I think we should send the National Guard to the border. We need to do what is necessary because it is the duty of government to protect the people. And that protection starts at the border. And it's time we wake up to the reality of the way the world is, that the drug cartels are serious about being violent and about being criminals.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING THE LEADERS OF POLAND KILLED IN THE PLANE CRASH OF APRIL 10, 2010

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, this past Saturday, one of America's longest and strongest allies, the Republic of Poland, suffered a horrendous loss. A plane carrying 97 passengers crashed in Russia, including Polish President Lech Kaczynski; First Lady Maria Kaczynski; Ryszard Kaczorowski, who led a government in exile during the Communist era; Jerzy Szmajdzinski, the Deputy Speaker of Poland's Parliament; Aleksander Szczygło, the head of the National Security Bureau; Andrzej Kremer, the Deputy Minister of foreign affairs; Franciszek Gągor, the Army Chief of Staff; along with the president of Poland's National Bank, and a host of other public servants, including Anna Walentynowicz, the brave worker and opposition activist whose dismissal at the Gdansk shipyard in 1980 started the strike that led to the formation of solidarity.

All modern leaders of the Polish nation, they were mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters, sons and daughters, proud Poles all, now lost to this life but not to history.

But yet again, the Katyn forest embraces the collective tragedy of Poland's precious leaders. In the most morbid of ironies, the doomed plane was flying to Russia to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Katyn massacre, when more than 22,000 Polish officers and leaders were murdered at the hands of Joseph Stalin and the Soviet Army in and around that forest during World War II. Their bodies were buried and the truth hidden for seven decades. That is the truth of their slaughter. That history still must be made whole.

As the former President of Poland, Lech Walesa, stated, the crash marked "the second disaster after Katyn. They wanted to cut off our head there, and here the flower of our nation has already perished," he said.

"Buttons," a poem by Polish poet Zbigniew Herbert, written in memoriam of the Katyn massacre, contains one stanza which captures this modern-day tragedy as it does this Polish tragedy of 70 years ago for which it was originally penned.

"When only the metal buttons of the soldiers remain as they work their way to the Earth's surface from below, after decades where history has been masked. Now again a bird flew over, a cloud is passing, a leaf is dropping, a mallow grows, heavens above are filled with silence; the Katyn forest smokes with fog."

However, as the smoke and fog clears the Katyn forest this time, Poland will stand and prevail as a stable democracy. After this tragedy, Poland again will be led by valiant Poles and will not be occupied by foreign nations.

After an unimaginable loss of leadership such as this, a lesser country

would crumble, but not Poland. As the Polish expression reminds us, "So long as we are alive, there will be a Poland."

The nation of Poland is free and strong today. Against a backdrop of oppression, partition and heartbreak, it has emerged as one of the most freedom-loving, vibrant countries in Europe.

The United States stands in solidarity and support of her ally during this time of sorrow and mourning. The House of Representatives will honor the souls who were lost last week and remember those who were killed 70 years ago with a Special Order tomorrow.

We extend our condolences to the friends and families of those who perished, to the people of Poland, to the nation of Poland, and to the people of Polish heritage throughout the world.

This is a terrible catastrophe that brings to mind the many tragedies that have befallen Poland in the past. Yet, as we mourn, we must remember and honor what the Polish people have endured and overcome. They will do so again. We hold them in highest respect. And even through our tears, we can see clearly that Poland's best days are still ahead.

HONORING TARA SCHIPHOF, JUNIOR MISS NORTH CAROLINA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the hard work and dedication of a young woman I recently met back home in North Carolina. Tara Schiphof was crowned the 2009/2010 Junior Miss North Carolina last summer at the age of 11.

When I met Tara over the Easter break, I was impressed by her poise, intelligence, and talent. Tara's a sixth-grader at Chestnut Grove Middle School in Stokes County and a student at the University of the North Carolina School of the Arts in the preparatory dance program.

What impressed me most about Tara was that in the midst of her busy life of dancing festivals, volunteering and giving back to her community, she remains dedicated to her studies and being a strong positive role model to her classmates.

So not only is Tara an award-winning competitive dancer; this sixth-grade girl is a real North Carolina role model.

□ 2015

She's very committed to her studies and is an honor student at Chestnut Grove. She's also raised money and volunteered for many organizations, including the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford, North Carolina, the Stokes County Arts Council, and the American Heart Association.

I'm proud to represent a fine citizen like Tara. Tara's family and friends

should be proud of her hard work and accomplishments. I salute her today for working so hard at making her life about serving others and working in her community.

TAX CUTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, thank you so very much for the opportunity to address the House on a rather important matter.

I got a call from my accountant, and he said, Are you going to get your tax information in so we can actually get you filed by the 15th? I said, I will do my best.

So we're in the process of doing that. So I suspect most Americans are also thinking seriously about taxes. And what I want to talk about tonight and share with my colleagues from Wisconsin, Ohio, and New York is the tax issues that have come about over these last 15 months.

I left California this morning to fly here to Washington, D.C., and this session, and as I picked up the Sacramento Bee, on the front page was a headline that said, Tax refunds the largest ever, 2,600 and some dollars per family in California. I said, Whoa, how did that happen? I thought taxes had gone up. I looked into it and asked my staff to dig out some information, and, in fact, taxes have actually gone down in a very, very serious way here as a result of the stimulus bill that was passed.

Now, one of my, I guess, sad situations is I wasn't here to vote for the stimulus bill. I was just elected in November of 2009, so I didn't have the opportunity to really vote for what turns out to be one of the largest middle class tax cuts in American history. So when I arrived here in Washington, I asked some of my friends and colleagues help me understand and explain how it came to be that these incredible and important tax cuts actually happened.

The first thing they said was, Yes, the stimulus bill did it. We voted for these tax cuts, I think over \$300 billion, and not one Republican voted for the tax cuts. I'm going, That is not true. All they talk about is tax cuts. You mean they didn't vote for the tax cuts?

No. Not one Republican voted for the tax cuts.

I asked my colleague, Dr. KAGEN from Wisconsin, to share his insights and his perspective on what took place with the stimulus bill, which was 14 months ago.

Dr. KAGEN.

Mr. KAGEN. Thank you for yielding and thank you for bringing up this subject about tax cuts. But really the American people have to pay attention, because they have to ask the question,

Whose side are you on? Whose side are we on, and how did we get into this mess?

We fell into an economic ditch. We were driven into it by a number of different factors, but, first and foremost, it was a failed economic policy. It was a policy wherein we had two wars at the same time and haven't paid a single dime for them. We have had two tax cuts to the very rich; haven't paid a penny for those either. We also had, in the last administration, a \$400 billion handout to big drug companies, not paying for a penny of that either. All deficit spending, not paying our way.

And then we fell into this terrible situation of the mortgage fiasco where people were buying things that didn't really exist. Fell into another \$10 trillion hole. And at the tail end of the last administration, their friends asked them, in the administration, to open up the door to the Treasury, and the Wall Street banks looted our Treasury for nearly a trillion dollars. Again, we haven't paid a dime for that.

And then came a great recession. Not just here in the United States, but this great recession took us all the way around the globe. It wasn't just the United States that began to see the tremendous loss of jobs. Last year, January, over 700,000 people lost their job. This year, much less.

So we're beginning to move up, but we are moving up, first and foremost, by living within our means. We didn't have, during the Bush administration, the laws we did have on the books during President Clinton. We handed over to the Republican Party a surplus, a budget surplus that would amount to over \$5 trillion. And what did they do? They spent us into a ditch. We have re-instated pay-as-you-go rules so we can't bring a bill to the House floor and consider it for anything unless we show how we're going to pay for it by either raising revenue or reducing other programs.

So along came the Recovery Act, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, and in February, we passed it through the House, the Senate, and the President signed it. And this \$787 billion investment in America was aimed at providing middle class families—the hardworking people who have really created prosperity in the past—the biggest tax cut in American history. And I thought tonight we should have a conversation about eight of these tax cuts that are available right here and right now giving the American people an opportunity to see that we are on their side.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Let's do that. We will go through those eight specific tax cuts that really helped American families, middle class families. And I would like to have our colleague from New York, Mr. PAUL TONKO, take up and tell us the New York piece of it. And then in a few minutes, our colleague from Ohio, BETTY SUTTON, will join us.

So, Mr. TONKO.

Mr. TONKO. I think the important thing here with the tax situation is

that, you know, Representative KAGEN is exactly right. What we were targeting, what we were focusing, is the bulk of American workers out there, middle-income Americans who were requiring some kind of relief. And as we made it our task in a laser-sharp, focused way to stop the bleeding of this recession, we wanted to make certain that there was some more purchase power for America's working families.

And one of the very first measures was the Making Work Pay tax credit, which we will speak to, at least a \$400 benefit for an individual or, for those filing jointly as a couple, \$800. Now, this an incremental benefit that began in 2009 and continues through 2010. And I think it's important for us so as to get that buying power out there to encourage people to perhaps pick up some of the purchasing that they wanted to do that they were not able to do.

It's important for us to make certain that if you've done your taxes, if you missed this opportunity in 2009, make certain you're asking those who may prepare these taxes for you to check out these benefits. You should file under Schedule M of the 1090 form to make certain that this particular credit is taken advantage of. It is putting a great benefit out there for some 110 million working families.

And I believe that the working Americans who are going to be benefiting from this, the dollars that are saved, the benefit that is provided here, was nearly a hundred billion dollars into the pockets of our Americans that are of that category. So I think this is an important benefit that comes at a time when we needed to strengthen that purchase power.

And I think that you're absolutely right that we need to share this message with Americans out there, especially as they come to the close of their tax prep work. Be mindful also that you can further amend if you miss some of these benefits, because they were geared specifically for those categories of individuals we address here this evening.

Mr. GARAMENDI. There's a heads-up for all of the taxpayers, all the working men and women out there that may not have taken advantage of this \$400 per person or \$800 per family, to make sure that in their tax return they actually reach out and get that benefit. So that's a significant reduction in their taxes.

Mr. TONKO. Absolutely. And Representative GARAMENDI, I would commend you for bringing us together tonight so as to alert people to these benefits. They are part of the Recovery Act. The Recovery Act has been, you know, driving a very strong outcome for so many American families out there, and we just want them to know of the benefits associated with the act.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Thank you, Mr. TONKO.

I know the normal greeting on the floor is "the gentlewoman from Ohio," but I've watched this Representative

work on the floor and on the committees, and while she's extraordinarily polite, I'm not sure that—well, let's just say tenacious and determined.

Thank you for joining us, Representative SUTTON from Ohio.

Ms. SUTTON. Thank you very much, Mr. GARAMENDI, and thank you for leading us here on the floor tonight to talk about such important things, you know, what we're doing to help the American people in this time of challenge as we pull together and pull forward.

And I guess I appreciate that introduction. I think that the point is I, like you, my colleagues who are here on the floor tonight, am willing to do what it takes to make things work for the people I'm honored to represent in the 13th Congressional District of Ohio.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Would that be the Cleveland area?

Ms. SUTTON. Well, it's outside of Cleveland. I represent Lorain County, Summit County, Medina County and part of Cuyahoga County as well. So it is the salt of the Earth.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Now, there's a piece of information I'm going to carry with me the rest of my life, four counties.

Ms. SUTTON. That's right. And you should visit. We'd love to have you. Come out and see all of the great things and all of the potential that those who I am so privileged to serve have and what our area has to offer.

But thank you for bringing us to the floor tonight to talk a little bit about some of the tax benefits that exist in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and just in general to talk about the American Recovery Act, because we all know that it was critically important at the time it was passed back in the early part of last year, that all the economists from across the board were saying that we have to keep our economy from going off of the edge, and we stepped up to the plate and we acted. And it's really important that people understand what it is that this bill actually did.

You know, it was all about fostering our Nation's economic recovery, creating and saving jobs, providing services to people affected by the recession. And, of course, as you point out, part of that was about these tax credits and these tax benefits. And we all know that this was a huge middle class tax cut, families getting up to \$800.

Certainly in Ohio, I would just share with you in the 13th Congressional District, many of our families were beneficiaries of these tax cuts. So the mission to improve the lives of the families in northeast Ohio who I serve during these challenging times continues.

But it is worth noting that the Council of Economic Advisers has reported that the Recovery Act created or saved as many as 2.4 million jobs nationally and up to 79,000 in Ohio. And for me, probably like all of you here tonight, jobs, jobs, jobs is what I am most interested in delivering to the American

people and facilitating opportunity for them to go to work and be able to raise a family and have the kind of life that makes this country so very great.

So I know we're just getting started in our discussion. I look forward to talking more about the tax benefits and the other great things that were in this bill and all of the other pieces along the way that we are putting into place for the near term and to generate that sustainable growth that we need in both our economy and in the job market out there, because far too many people are, unfortunately, still hurting.

Mr. GARAMENDI. I want to come back to you in a few moments and pick up something that really did stimulate the American economy, not directly on tax policy but something that was very, very important. And we'll just let people be curious about what it was that created the highest monthly volume of automobile sales in the most recent years.

Mr. KAGEN, we were talking earlier about some of these eight principal things, and I know you wanted to pick up another one. We started to talk about the Making Work Pay, \$400 per person and \$800 per couple.

Why don't you talk about another one and carry it for a while.

Mr. KAGEN. Aside from Making Work Pay, which really focuses on middle class families, let me step back a little bit and remind everybody that back in Wisconsin we don't call it the Recovery Act. We call it the stimulus bill. That is just the slang of where we are in northeast Wisconsin. But we look at the stimulus bill, it didn't meet everybody's expectations in terms of all of the jobs we were hoping to see because we were in such a deep economic hole, but we focused on those people who needed help the most, in particular, the unemployed.

□ 2030

Now, today, in northeast Wisconsin, there are about 35,000 people who are underemployed and unemployed. They are looking for work. We are hard-working people. Give us a level playing field. We can compete and outwork anybody anywhere in the world.

For unemployed workers, immediately the Recovery Act gave \$25 a week in additional spending power to help them get through the week. We also covered 65 percent of COBRA, which is when you fall out of work, you now need some insurance, but you get COBRA insurance. And the Federal Government stepped up to cover 65 percent of that cost of guaranteeing you have got insurance.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Everybody that I talk to about COBRA says, well, wait a minute, nobody can afford COBRA. They are unemployed. How could they possibly afford COBRA? And you are telling us that in the stimulus bill, in the Recovery Act, that 55 percent of the cost of COBRA—you lose your job, you want to continue your health insurance, that is covered?

Mr. KAGEN. Sixty-five percent is covered by the Federal Government. We went beyond that, because we made sure that there was money there for stabilization of State governments. So we helped the States to stabilize their State governments, help unemployed and made sure that people had their own money that they have earned in their own pockets. You know, the old idea is, you have earned the money. It ought to be yours. Keep it in your pocket. You are going to be a better investor of that revenue than the Federal Government. Well, we have done that.

We also did it for students in the American Opportunity Credit Act, where we gave up to \$2,500 back to the parent or parents or to the student for their educational expenses.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Now, that's a very important one. All of the economists that look to the future of this Nation and our ability to compete say that we have to have a well-educated workforce. And so in the stimulus bill there is a \$2,500 tax credit for the family or for the student.

Mr. KAGEN. That wasn't in the stimulus bill. That was in the American Opportunity Act. In the stimulus bill for students, we had tax credits of up to \$2,500 for 25,000 students in my district. So 25,000 students benefited from having that tax credit immediately available.

We also increased the Pell Grant amounts up to \$5,350 in the stimulus bill. Stafford loans were increased to \$2,000. So we made it possible for students who want to move up to have that higher education become more affordable. The best time to be in college or technical school is during an economic slowdown or a recession, because then, when the jobs are available, you will have moved up and can step out into a higher payment level.

Mr. GARAMENDI. This is a very, very important piece of getting ready for the recovery and preparing our students and our workers for the opportunities out ahead.

Mr. TONKO, you wanted to pick up another piece of this, so have at it.

Mr. TONKO. Yes. Well, one of my favorite topics is energy. No matter where we live, whether it's California, Ohio, Wisconsin, those representatives hear what I hear, that we need to understand that we can control our destiny when it comes to energy as consumers. We are the most gluttonous in the world. And whether that resource is developed here in a domestic fashion, which I believe ought to be our thrust, or whether it's done through imports that are just not, I think, the choice for Americans as we move forward. But, regardless, whatever that base of supply is, we need to strive for energy efficiency and conservation.

And what I like about a number of the tax situations that we are doing in the Recovery Act or in general policy format is that we are looking at the big picture. We are putting it into a context that promotes sound policy.

So as we expand or continue tax credits for renewables, we make certain that we are providing that production tax credit that really ignites the efforts to build our supply here domestically. I think that is so critically important to not only our energy independence and our energy security but our national security.

Just recently I hosted, during our recess for Passover and Easter, the only stop in the State of New York made by the bus tour with Veterans for American Power. And three veterans just recently doing a tour in Iraq and Afghanistan spoke at that event. They call it Operation FREE, and they talk about the wisdom of transitioning our energy needs to domestic produced, American power. They call this Veterans for American Power. They talked about the ravaging on our troops done by dollars sent to the treasuries of those unfriendly nations that are supplying our fossil-based needs.

So this production tax credit will take us along the message that the veterans are sharing. Veterans who have served us in uniform, in Iraq and Afghanistan, have said we are not doing the right energy policy. This will encourage it with these production tax credits.

Then we provide households—American residents will be benefited by these tax credits that will enable them to get as much as 30 percent of a tax credit up to \$1,500 based on the work that they have done on their homes with energy efficient furnaces, with the replacement of windows or doors, with insulation. This will be a smart move that will enable them through the years to reduce the cost of operating that home.

I think this is wise policy and a great tax benefit for our American taxpayers.

Mr. GARAMENDI. So for somebody that goes into their home and puts in energy efficient windows or a solar system or solar hot water, they can get 30 percent tax credit on that.

It is very interesting that, again, during the recess, the number of new businesses that come about as a direct result of that tax credit, advertising all over the radio about this company or that company going to be putting in new windows or a solar system, so businesses are actually coming about because of the tax credit that's available to homeowners.

Mr. TONKO. I would also mention, if I might, the jobs associated with the production tax credit, be it wind or solar or geothermal, waste energy projects. All of these efforts are critically important to providing that capacity that we need as a Nation and providing for that capacity with American jobs. As we transition to these renewables, I think that this is a great way to grow jobs and to strengthen our energy security in the process.

Mr. GARAMENDI. So here is a tax credit, part of the stimulus bill, that actually provides up to 30 percent cred-

it on the cost of one of these new energy systems, windows or solar.

Mr. TONKO. Furnaces.

Mr. GARAMENDI. And, at the same time, it creates new businesses. That's a win/win in a green economy if there ever was one.

I am looking over here at our representative from those four marvelous counties outside of Cleveland, and I was thinking about the automobile industry and the energy that is, I think, some 80 percent of our oil is actually consumed in automobiles. You have had a great deal to do with the automobile industry, Representative SUTTON. Could you share with us some of your experience and some of what was in this tax bill?

Ms. SUTTON. Absolutely, I will be honored to do so; and I appreciate, Representative TONKO, your bringing up the tax credit. I want to point back, before I get to what we have teased about a little bit here—

Mr. GARAMENDI. Go anywhere you would like.

Ms. SUTTON. We are not going there quite yet, but what I want to talk about first is that, in the recovery stimulus bill, one of the things that was put to use where I live in Elyria, Ohio, was a Department of Energy investment to create a BASF catalyst plant. So we are now creating the largest lithium ion facility in North America right in that district outside of Cleveland, Ohio, in Elyria, Ohio, positioning Ohio to be a leader as we move to the next generation of vehicles powered by lithium ion batteries, because that's the biggest market for the future.

So we get the jobs to build the factory, then we get the jobs to work in the factory, and then we get all the jobs down the road that are sustainable as we develop this. And we, in the meantime, of course, are producing cars. They were going to produce these batteries that are going to be good for consumers because they are going to be more cost-effective and efficient for them.

It's going to improve, obviously, our environment, but it puts us ahead. This is what America is about. It's about innovation. It's about moving forward with new products and ways but powered by American workers.

So I definitely come from a part of the country where the domestic auto industry is a very important piece of our puzzle. We have a lot of families that depend upon the domestic auto and related industries for their livelihood, and, okay, we will finally get to it. One of the things that I was so proud of and that was actually in some ways funded in part, at least, by the recovery stimulus bill was the CARS Act, more commonly referred to as the Cash for Clunkers Program.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Whoa, the Cash for Clunkers, I thought you might want to talk about that. You were the author of that piece of legislation.

Ms. SUTTON. I was indeed. And, as I indicated, it was called the CARS pro-

gram, but it was really about people. It was about our friends and our neighbors that number in the tens of thousands in every State, not just Ohio or Michigan but across the country, those people who rely upon the auto and related industries for their livelihood, to put food on the table, to reach the middle class and stay in the middle class.

With the CARS Act, the Cash for Clunkers Program, the goal was multiple, the goals were multiple. What we did was, obviously, the results are in. We have seen study after study. What we did is we put about 60,000 or so people back to work because of the CARS Act, because of Cash for Clunkers in the auto and related industries. We moved the GDP as a result of the program from a range of \$3.8 billion to \$6.8 billion, an increase in GDP just due to that one very limited program of less than a month, less than a month.

What we also did, we just got another study back with the program that provided incentives to consumers to, of course, trade in their old gas-guzzling cars, to get more fuel-efficient cars, gave them incentives to do that, helping them in this time of need to get something they needed but couldn't afford, get those jobs shored up, get the improvements in the environment.

We saw an environmental gain in the cars turned in from the ones that were turned in to purchase of 60 percent. So those consumers are going to continue to save for years to come, somewhere in the neighborhood of a thousand dollars a year. Seven hundred to a thousand dollars a year is the estimate. So this was a program that was win/win/win.

And we saw a recent study, if that wasn't good enough.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Well, I am going to interrupt you for a moment. Because I wasn't yet in Congress when this piece of legislation went into law. So I immediately started looking around and seeing about the clunkers that I have on my ranch. And I have this old beat-up Bronco, and I thought, oh, oh, there is my clunker. I am going to trade that thing in for a new efficient model.

And it turned out because it wasn't running, I had it on the not-for-the-highway license, in other words, it was just on storage, and your bill was written in such a way that I couldn't take advantage of this. So I have got a little problem with the way in which you wrote that bill, but for the rest of America it was a great idea.

Mr. KAGEN. Well, from the people of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin auto dealers want to thank Representative SUTTON and the House of Representatives dominated by the Democrats at the current time, because you emptied half of the inventory of all of our sales lots. Not only did we empty the inventory, because of that we started several steel plants up and going. So we generated jobs.

The whole idea of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the

stimulus act, was to do what? It was to stabilize State governments, provide the biggest tax cut in American history, and save or create millions of jobs. By that measure, it was a success. Yes, we would like it to have done more. We think we need to do more now. That's what we are working on.

But let me bring your attention back away from the cars to the homebuyers. The First-Time Homebuyers Tax Credit, which expires in a few days, if you are thinking about getting a home, you can get an \$8,000 tax credit back. We have just lowered the cost of getting into your first home. If you have been in a home for a while, I think it's 5 years, you get \$6,500 back by getting into another home.

You don't have a lot of time left. Get the paperwork going. Visit your real estate office in Wisconsin. Look, come to live in northeast Wisconsin. You don't have to go to California. We have got a lower overhead there, lower cost of living.

Mr. GARAMENDI. We want those homes bought in California.

Mr. KAGEN. Well, the whole idea is this is not just a stand-alone. This is a whole cadre, a whole way in which we are trying to lower your cost of doing business to keep you in your home. Whether it's the making work pay, whether it's American Opportunity Tax Credit or the First-Time Homebuyer Tax Credit, the Democrats are on your side helping you to stay in your home, helping you to get employed at that higher-wage job, to make sure we can work our way through this recession back into prosperity.

□ 2045

The First-Time Home Buyers Tax Credit is soon to expire, so I would urge everyone listening, talk to your family, maybe this is the time you want to move into your first home.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Once again, most of these tax reductions came about through the stimulus bill, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which was February of 2009. And I will point out, as I did at the opening, that not one Republican voted for these extraordinarily important tax reductions that are great for individuals, for families, for working men and women, for middle class America, and at the same time, are creating new jobs in the green economy and the automobile industry, and even for those folks that are selling cars in Wisconsin.

Mr. TONKO, you had something you wanted to add here?

Mr. TONKO. Yes. I was just going to indicate that when we look at the impact of the Recovery Act, the stimulus package on our State economies, Dr. KAGEN, Representative KAGEN, is very correct that the whole effort here was to provide that job growth, it was to provide stability, it was to really boost the buying power of the American public. That largest tax cut in American history for working families is something that has obviously worked.

When we look at the record now in New York State, 98 percent of working families in New York were benefited in 2009. They were getting, on average, a benefit of \$1,340—nearly \$1,340. That's a tremendous boost to the economy of our State. And there are public efforts that were made for education and relief to government so that we would not see additional cuts; we could retain jobs along with create jobs.

We are also benefited by the fact that just about all income levels receive some sort of tax relief. There are those from the administration of Ronald Reagan, very conservative thinkers, who are saying this is a very good outcome that we're looking at now with the Obama administration. This was a great bit of leadership that saved us from this ever-deep, ever-long recession.

It was pointed out by my colleague, Representative SUTTON, that this stimulus package enabled the growth of jobs that came via factory manufacturing. Well, in my district in Schenectady, which is the birthplace of electricity with GE's headquarters, we are now transitioning into something different than a lithium ion battery. And the diversity that we're encouraging here is important. They're looking at a sodium-based battery that will enable us not only to utilize that innovation for the generation of energy and for heavy vehicle fleets, heavy-weighted vehicle fleets, but also for the storage of intermittent power. Now, there is the lynchpin; the battery is that lynchpin that takes us to a new realm, a new plateau in job creation with an innovation economy.

And, again, what I like about the focus here is that we look at the big picture. We don't thrust throw a tax cut for the sake of a tax cut, but we incorporate the thinking of how it ripples into the economy with the policy impact that it makes. And if we can invest in a way that finds us growing jobs with technology with the innovation economy, we are then creating that smart outcome that will allow our industries here that are American based and our businesses to compete effectively and to win those contracts in a global marketplace. It doesn't have to be cheaper; it needs to be smarter.

And while I have the mic here, I just have to mention to Representative SUTTON that repeatedly, as Representative KAGEN indicated, I will have people ask me if I was part of that effort promoted by Representative SUTTON. And I said, look, she's not only a colleague, she's a friend. And I appreciate the fact that as we strengthen the American auto industry we are able to, again, see all the subcontracting that is part of that. It has a way of spreading the concentric circles out; it is the pebble-and-the-pond outcome. And we have all been made stronger because of that investment through the auto industry that came through Cash for Clunkers that again triggered a lot of reaction.

Mr. GARAMENDI. I'd call it a boulder that she threw into the pond, and the ripples that came from that actually touched a family that my wife works with. She was at the California State fair, and this lady works with her at the State fair. The lady's husband is a salesman. In the fall, or in August, he was about to lose his job, but then the Cash for Clunkers came along, and sales shot up at his shop. And he was able to sustain his employment and continues to this day to continue to be employed. It got him past that hurdle.

Representative KAGEN, surely there are things going on in Wisconsin that you're going to share with us here in the next few moments about these tax cuts and the way in which they work.

Mr. KAGEN. I would put it into two categories. When we talk about restoring our economy—or to use a medical phrase, “resuscitating our economy”—it will be small business owners that drive the job creation. Small businesses are 93 percent of all employers in the country. When we do create jobs, eight out of 10 new jobs are coming from small business owners. And we produce, in small business, 52 percent of our Nation's gross domestic product.

So take a look just for a moment at what the Recovery Act, the stimulus bill, did for small business. First, we had the Small Business Administration, section 7A and 504 loans, where the guarantee by the Federal Government moved up from 75 to 90 percent. That 90 percent guarantee made it possible for many small businesses to get access to credit that they needed to continue to survive.

Another small business advantage was a 3-year extension to the production tax credit, the PTC. Thirty percent investment tax credit, or ITC, for renewable energy, helping our wind, our non-fossil fuel base, non-Saudi Arabian outside-of-our-country energy. Renewable energy bonds, which are now becoming available, extension of depreciation loans, 50 percent of the purchase price expensed right away; 5-year carryback net operating loss. For a small business operator, this is a tremendous boom. You can survive this economy recession by this—

Mr. GARAMENDI. That is actually a tax reduction in the early years in allowing those expenses to be spread out.

Mr. KAGEN. And you can allow up to \$250,000 of depreciation on something you've invested in right away.

So we understand the importance of small business. Now, I'm co-chairperson of the Congressional Business Owners Caucus. We came up with some wonderful ways in which the President could begin to lower the cost of labor. Lowered cost of labor means we can compete on a better playing field with our foreign competition. We had come up with a very simple way to do it on form 940 by reducing the amount of taxes you will pay. We give you a tax credit back if you simply increase the amount of money that you're paying to

your employees, whether you hire more people, rehire people that have been laid off, or simply pay your existing workforce more money. That was converted into the Hiring Act. So the Hiring Act now and the HIRE Act really has a tax credit available for small business. So we're helping small business and we've got to do more.

What we've done so far has got us to this point, but we've got to do more. And we are working with the SBA Director, Karen Mills, to do just that. That's on the business end of it. But right now, in northeast Wisconsin, business owners are telling me, KAGEN, we don't want more credit necessarily; we need more customers coming in the door, we need more contracts. Then we can really go to the bank and say we've got somebody here that wants us to produce something for them. That's why we focused not only on small business, but on tax cuts for working families.

The next one I would mention is the residential energy tax credit, up to \$1,500 for weatherization improvements on your home that you did in 2009. You still have a few days to claim that credit on your tax return for 2009. Take advantage of that opportunity. Take a look with your tax preparer or your accountant if you have one. Talk to somebody who is in your family that is preparing your taxes. Take a look at what you've done for your home, because you can get up to \$1,500 back in your pocket straightaway.

The other one I'd like you to take advantage of is the sales tax deduction for vehicle purchases.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Maybe we will pass that to Representative SUTTON.

Ms. SUTTON. Sure. Absolutely. Part of the recovery stimulus act also provided that taxpayers can deduct the State and local sales tax they paid for new vehicles purchased from February 17 of 2009 all the way through December 31 of 2009 under the vehicle sales tax deduction. And then in those States that don't have a sales tax, there are other taxes and fees that may be deducted. So you have to ask your tax preparer or look into that if you're in a State that doesn't have sales tax.

So not only did we offer the incentives that were very effective in shoring up jobs, improving our environment, getting older, unsafe cars off the road; we also provided the opportunity to deduct that sales tax.

And I just can't let this go, Representative GARAMENDI, because a moment ago when you were talking about going to the dealership and trying to trade in your car and it wouldn't qualify—

Mr. GARAMENDI. Well, it just wasn't running, that was the problem. It was a real clunker.

Ms. SUTTON. But what we did find out—and this is really welcome news and it's pretty recent, and I'm not sure that all of you have had a chance to look at it—but according to the Maritz Automotive Research Group, they con-

cluded that Cash for Clunkers created significantly more incremental car sales than previously estimated—and this is the important part—without negatively impacting future automotive sales. About 90 percent of the cars purchased under the program, about 542,000 consumers bought vehicles specifically because of the program. And, further, they reported that people like you, perhaps, another 223,000 people came to dealerships after hearing about the program to see if they qualified. They discovered they didn't qualify, and they bought cars anyway, sending those ripple effects out there to the benefit of us all.

Mr. GARAMENDI. You said 213,000?

Ms. SUTTON. 223,000.

Mr. GARAMENDI. And one. That one was my wife and I.

Ms. SUTTON. Well, thank you for supporting the economy.

Mr. GARAMENDI. We couldn't get rid of that old, broken-down Bronco, but we were in the market for a new car and we did buy one.

We've gone through several parts of the tax policy and the stimulus program. And a lot of folks out there think the stimulus program didn't do any good. Well, we know that in terms of the macroeconomics of the Nation, that it actually did. Together with the bank bailout—which I've got a lot of problems about the way that was done, and that was in the previous administration, in the years of the Bush administration—but together it stopped the collapse. Other nations did their piece of it too, but it stopped the collapse. And just this last month in March we actually saw job growth in America; we actually saw jobs growing, net increase in the number of employed people. Whether that's going to continue month to month in the future, we hope so, but the stimulus program actually has worked. It has reduced the tax burden for American families, for the middle class, the largest middle class tax cut in anybody's memory, and at the same time has created a lot of new jobs.

Mr. TONKO, you talked about the holistic approach, that this wasn't just about tax cuts for this and tax cuts for that, but there was a larger program that was envisioned here.

Mr. TONKO. Well, I think in New York, obviously, the benefit that comes via the child tax credit or the earned income tax credit is something that needs to be paid strict attention to. We are helping, we are empowering some of the—well, in this case, the poorest three-fifths of taxpayers out. The tax credit for children is stretched to at least \$1,000—up to \$1,000. The earned income tax credit—

Mr. GARAMENDI. That's \$1,000 per child. That is the child tax credit.

Mr. TONKO. Exactly. And then with the earned income tax credit we stretch the eligibility, and we further reduce the marriage penalty. And so there is an awful lot here that speaks to many, many people who have bene-

fited. That's why it is historic in nature. It's the largest such tax cut for working families in America. And this is a major plus. This is an empowerment to these families that when given this opportunity were able to make these purchases out there from American businesses that then called in more people, were beginning to see the job count rise.

We have to remember the last 4 or 5 months of the previous administration was recording somewhere between a 700,000 and 800,000 job loss per month, per month. Now we saw in January, was it 22,000, climbed a little with the tough weather and climate and impacts out there across the country to some 36,000 in February, and now in March we see this 126,000-plus job count. We are seeing the swing go upward.

Representative KAGEN and I talked earlier this evening about that graph, that linear graph that was just plummeting downward for several months and hit its lowest point in December of 2008 and then began to swing up so that we dropped, was it 17? The American families' wealth dropped by some \$16 trillion. Now it's swinging up beyond \$5 trillion, \$6 trillion as we climb upward. Is it going to happen overnight? Not necessarily. It most likely won't. But this was coming for a long time. It was failed economic policies that were driving down this country's economy that impacted the world economy. And the question here is, do we want to go back to those failed policies or do we advance the agenda of progressive policies that will now make us join together in that climb upward where we're seeing the wealth of American families beginning to crawl back, climb back? We're on a good course, and we need to stay the course. And the four of us here this evening are on that message of looking at what's happening here, tax credits that will benefit, investment in job creation, and a turning around of the economy.

And Representative GARAMENDI, for bringing us together I say thank you again because this message needs to be heard.

□ 2100

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. KAGEN, I think you want to have some final words here, and then the remaining two of us, and then we will wrap this up.

Mr. KAGEN. Well, when it comes to asking the question who is on your side, the answer is clearly we are on your side. We are delivering tax cuts to the middle class like never before. We are making certain that you will be in your house if you get sick, not the poorhouse. We are delivering earned income tax credits. In northeast Wisconsin, 61,500 people benefited from that.

With regard to the stimulus bill, in my home county of Outagamie County, we delivered \$50 million of tax cuts and millions more in educational support. Without that life's breath, we wouldn't

have an economy to talk about any longer.

Mr. GARAMENDI. You were telling me earlier that you have some 50,000 college students in your district?

Mr. KAGEN. Exactly. We have got 53,000 college students who can take advantage—

Mr. GARAMENDI. So this tax credit for families and students—

Mr. KAGEN. Is very significant. We really do believe in higher education in northeast Wisconsin. All of Wisconsin is progressive-minded socially and fiscally responsible, just like this House of Representatives is today.

Mr. GARAMENDI. And we have seen the advantage of these tax credits in the stimulus bill in the manufacturing heart of America, which is just outside Cleveland, represented by Congresswoman SUTTON.

Congresswoman?

Ms. SUTTON. Thank you, Representative GARAMENDI, and thank you for getting us down here to the floor to talk about these important points.

The question really is do we want to continue that path towards positive job growth. We started last year. Eight hundred thousand jobs a month we were bleeding because of the failed economic policies of the past administration, but now we are at a place where we are seeing that positive growth. We also saw a headline today in our local paper entitled “Deficit Falls Dramatically in March.”

So the bottom line is this. We have to act responsibly to take us from those failed policies to a place of renewal and an economy that doesn't just work for the privileged few who enjoyed those tax cuts, the top 2 percent who enjoyed those deficit-funded tax cuts under the Bush era. We have to take us to a place where it is an economy that the folks that I am proud to represent in Lorain and Akron and Barberton will indeed join in the vitality of this Nation, of our communities, of our economy, of the opportunity, all that we have to represent in this country.

So I am glad to be here. I am glad to do the work that it takes every day to put one foot in front of the other and fight with the spirit of the people that I represent to take us responsibly to a place that is positive not just for us here in the Capitol, but most importantly, for them at their homes.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Thank you very, very much.

For me, having arrived just 3 months ago in a special election and not being able to vote on this extraordinary stimulus bill as the three of you did, I really want to congratulate you and thank you for the work that you have done here. And to be able to join in the continuing process of growing the American economy, using very wise and targeted tax cuts to help working men and women, working families and middle class, focusing there, which is really the heart of America, and to see what you have done and then the new

follow-up legislation that we worked on in December, January, and February and through the rest of this year, it is a great privilege for me to be able to work with you on that.

Then to find that these tax cuts are actually creating new businesses. The green economy, it is actually happening. I hear the advertisements on the radio in California and in the newspaper, new businesses starting up to install the solar panels, to do the caulking, to do the windows, to move us into energy independence. This is really a great moment in which we are transitioning the American economy, and, frankly, it is the Democrats that are doing that.

Most of the work, the heavy lifting this last year was done without any Republican support. It was done by the Democrats. We don't want to be too partisan here, but we also need to point out the real facts of who it is that voted for \$300 billion of tax cuts for middle-income Americans. It was the Democrats. We need to understand who it is that's moving forward with the green economy. It was the Democrats that did that. And we have got more to do.

And we are going to come back on the floor in the days ahead and we are going to talk about some of the specific tax cuts that went to businesses to stimulate the small businesses—we covered mostly working families today, but we need to do that—and then the jobs bills that have been passed.

It is a great privilege to work with you, and I want to thank you for the opportunity to share this evening. Thank you very much.

Madam Speaker, I yield back my time.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. PINGREE of Maine). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I thank my leadership for allowing me to speak to my colleagues over the next hour in regard to guess what? Health care reform, Madam Speaker. And I am going to be joined by several colleagues on the Republican side of the aisle who are physician Members, as I am, as you know, Madam Speaker, a physician Member.

And we are all just returning to Washington after the 2-week Easter recess, a time that I think Members on both sides of the aisle hopefully enjoyed with their constituents. I know certainly that I did. Also a little bit of family time celebrating Easter and the Passover. And now we are, of course, back here in Washington inside the beltway, and the wars, as we say, begin again.

But the time that I spent, these 2 weeks, in my district, the 11th of Geor-

gia, northwest Georgia, in my nine counties that I represented, gave me, once again, an opportunity to meet with my constituents. We did that in a one-on-one format, and we did it in a town hall meeting format, several of those, and we did the tele-town hall meetings, I think a couple of those.

But I can tell you, Madam Speaker, the people in my district, the 11th of Georgia and the State of Georgia, are not happy. They are not happy with the Health Care Reform Act, the patient, whatever the acronym is for this bill. The people didn't want it. They made that very clear in every poll taken over the past year as we led up to the unfortunate passage of this massive takeover of one-sixth of our economy. Folks did not want that, and they still don't. And I think they're expressing that to Members on both sides of the aisle as they go home, and Members are going to be held accountable. I know, Madam Speaker, that Members on both sides of the aisle understood that when they either voted for or against this bill. And the American people are no happier today than they were 3 weeks ago.

I would like, at this point, to yield to my colleague from Tennessee, Dr. PHIL ROE, a fellow physician and also a fellow OB/GYN specialist. Dr. ROE, being from Tennessee and practicing a number of years and delivering a lot of babies there in that State, knows all too well what happened with TennCare and had said the whole time that he has been in this 111th Congress—this is his first term—that you had the perfect pilot program for this bill that the Democratic majority insisted on passing against the will of the American people right in his home State of Tennessee.

And I would like to yield to him now, Madam Speaker. And maybe he can yield some light on what that experiment showed over an 8- or 10-year period in the Volunteer State.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Dr. GINGREY, thank you, and it is good to be back.

I, as you, enjoyed being with family, as I am sure most of our Members on both sides of the aisle did. And I also got the opportunity to view one of the greatest basketball games that has ever been, which is the Final Four in Indianapolis, and my hat's off to the Duke Blue Devils and to the Butler team that played such a great basketball game.

□ 2110

One of the reasons I had for running for Congress, I was very happy in a medical practice in Tennessee. I was mayor of our local community, the largest one, Johnson City, Tennessee, the largest community in our district. But I knew that this health care debate was going to occur, and I wanted to be part of that debate.

Unfortunately, none of us on the Republican side were consulted, so we were only in the debate in a peripheral way. And the reason that I wanted to

be a part of the debate was to share some experiences that we had had in Tennessee over the past 17 years or so in our attempt to not only manage health care costs but to cover more of our people.

Tennessee is not a wealthy State. We certainly have one of the lower per capita incomes in the country, and we have a lot of uninsured people. So there was a good reason to try to do something for this.

We have several major medical centers in our State both in Memphis and Nashville, Knoxville, and the Tri-Cities area, where I live; and the idea was that we were going to have a plan in Tennessee that was going to have a competition, much like we heard in the public option, which this plan does not have, where various insurance companies would compete for your business, and when they would compete for your business, this would help drive costs down.

Well, what we did was we actually provided a massive expansion of a Medicaid plan. TennCare is our exemption for Medicaid. What this current health care bill does is massively expand Medicaid.

Now, remember, Medicare is a plan that has premiums which fund it. So there are premium dollars that a recipient gets now who has paid in just like you would for any other insurance plan, whereas Medicaid is not. It's an entitlement. So we massively expanded our entitlements. And how did we do that?

We had about eight plans that would compete for your business. In 1993, we had about a \$2.6 billion program in our State. Ten budget years later, that has exploded to an \$8 billion program; and in our State that was at that point taking up in 2004 about 35 percent of the State budget. Now, since that time, everyone realized that we couldn't continue on this pathway. Here we were in a plan that we would have been happy with 17 percent of our budget. It was 35 percent of our State budget.

So what did the governor and the legislature do?

And, by the way, our governor is Governor Phil Bredesen, who is a Democrat. He has dealt with this. He has a business background and also has been in the health care business himself.

What we did initially was cut the rolls. We cut about 200,000 people from the rolls of TennCare. And when that didn't prove enough, this particular year during this recession, we have had to resort to some more drastic measures. It hasn't been completely worked out yet.

But we also found out, Dr. GINGREY, that during this time—and I am going to, during this hour, predict what I believe will happen with this plan that we've just passed. I have seen it happen in Tennessee, and I believe it will happen again with this plan. What happened was 45 percent of the people who ended up on TennCare had private health care insurance and dropped it

and got on TennCare. Why did they do that? Why did they go on the government entitlement?

Well, it was a perfectly logical reason why they did that. They did it because it was cheaper and it offered first-dollar coverage. It offered prescription drug coverage, unlimited doctor visits.

And what did we get for spending this much money? We got the highest prescription drug use in America, number one in prescription drugs and 47th in health outcomes. So if we had spent the money and had gotten better health outcomes and better usage of those dollars, I would have supported it in a heartbeat.

The other thing that's not known and never discussed, you never hear it discussed on this House floor, are the payors. And as you as a physician know this, and we're willing to do this especially in OBGYN because pregnancy is one of those things that you either are or you're not. So we accepted TennCare in our practice and always did because the patients needed the care and had to go somewhere.

What happened was that at the point that it started, it paid the providers, that is, the hospitals and the doctors, about 60 percent of the cost of actually providing the care. So those other costs, that other 40 percent was shifted to private insurers.

An example I will give you is, I don't know, 8 or 10, 12 years ago, our local hospital put an implantable defibrillator in. You know that's where if you have a heart irregularity and you have an arrest, this will restart your heart. The TennCare plan paid, I think, \$800 to the hospital, and the device costs \$40,000, just the piece itself, not the care to put it in, the doctors and so forth. So those costs were shifted.

What I predict will happen with this plan when you massively expand the Medicaid entitlement and those costs are not paid, those costs are going to be shifted to private insurers, and over time those costs will be so expensive that the private insurers are going to say, look, we can't pay that, we're going to have to drop it, drop private health insurance. And you're going to hear the other side say, see, we told you so. We need to take over the whole plan. That is exactly what is going to happen. This particular plan right here is designed to fail, and it will fail financially.

Now, will there be some good out of it? Sure, there will be. I mean, you can't spend a trillion dollars and not do some good. The question is, is this the right way to do it? And I believe that is the discussion that we have had this year.

And as you well know, the bipartisan vote on this bill was "no." There were 34 of our Democratic colleagues who elected to vote against this bill and all of the Republicans voted against this bill. And it's not that Republicans don't have ideas. I came here, you came here, Dr. BROWN, who has joined

us, came with numerous ideas. The problem was we never got to share those ideas with anyone.

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. I thank the gentleman from Tennessee, and I think he brought up some extremely good points. And, Madam Speaker, I agree completely with what he said in regard to this system, this health care reform act, being designed to fail. I think it was.

I think that from the very beginning—Madam Speaker, I serve on the Energy and Commerce Committee; and, as you know, that is the committee that has so much jurisdiction over health care, all of Medicaid, which the gentleman from Tennessee was just speaking of, and part B of Medicare, the Children's Health Insurance Program. So it is one of three committees in the House that has jurisdiction over health care but probably the most important committee.

The committee, Madam Speaker, as you and all of my colleagues know, has been chaired for many years in the past by the distinguished gentleman from Michigan, the Honorable JOHN DINGELL, a great Member, but a Member who for years and years, as his father also before him, was pushing and has continued to push for a single-payer national health insurance plan for this country, not unlike what exists in some Western European countries and other countries around the world, but certainly Canada and the U.K. are two very good examples of how national health insurance works.

But I truly believe, Madam Speaker, and I am basing this not just on my belief but on comments that were made in the Energy and Commerce Committee, as this original bill that was called H.R. 3200 at the time—and this was before the August recess of last summer, and when that bill was marked up in committee and amendments were submitted, there were so many amendments, Madam Speaker, from your side of the aisle, the majority side, that would ask to make this a national health insurance plan, a single payer, as it's described. And in that bill, of course, was a robust—that's the way the progressive wing of the Democratic Caucus described it—a robust public option.

Madam Speaker, just as the Democratic majority when President Clinton was the President of this country with the HillaryCare, they weren't able to get that bill passed. And this administration under President Obama and this Democratic majority realized that they could not initially get a single-payer plan through this Congress and past the American people, but they felt that they could get so close, one step away, by having this robust public option to compete with the private market and virtually squeeze the private market out of any hope of profitability such that eventually everybody would be in the public plan and eventually they would take that one additional

step in maybe the 112th or 113th Congress, if the Democratic majority continued and President Obama sought and got a second term, that they would get to that goal that so many Members on the Democratic side of the aisle who have been here for years and years and years, the ultimate goal of passing a single-payer national health insurance plan.

□ 2120

And so I think the gentleman from Tennessee is absolutely right in regard to what the overall plan was to accomplish, and that's a great fear that we continue to have.

I want to yield back to the gentleman from Tennessee. I know we've been joined by my colleague from the State of Georgia, family practitioner PAUL BROWN, and I'll call on him in just a few minutes for his comments as well. I yield back to the gentleman from Tennessee at this point.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. I thank the gentleman for yielding. And I think what we need to do, Dr. GINGREY and Dr. BROWN, is, why is that a concern? You formed this very well. Why are we concerned about this?

And as I said, I believe this is designed to fail because we saw what it did to our local private insurers in the State of Tennessee, where we had about \$1,800 per year shifted in costs. So those costs, it's a hidden tax.

What will happen is businesses now are struggling. And you know that the number one issue in this Nation right now should be jobs; number two, jobs; and, number three, jobs. Everywhere I went in the district this weekend people were fearful and worried about losing their jobs. They were underemployed or either not employed whatsoever.

So we have a system, when this Medicaid expansion occurs, what will happen is private businesses will get, not in addition to all of the taxes that are in here we'll talk about later; but this is absolutely designed to fail. And we're worried about it for what reason?

As physicians we're worried about rationing care.

I attended a conference at East Tennessee State University College of Medicine while I was home, and we had a look at the Canadian health care system, we had a look at the English health care system, we had a look at the VA, and we had a look at our system. All have plusses, all have minuses, all have problems.

One of the things that I listened and summarized in that is that our concern as a physician is that you will eventually, when you have this many dollars and you have more demand for services than you have dollars to pay for it, there is no other option but rationing care. It's happened in every system around the world, and it will happen here.

And my prediction is by 2020 is when we're going to really hit, about 10 years because this plan is phased in, if

we don't repeal it and replace it, it's phased in over a period of years. And the reason I believe this is that's what I've seen in Tennessee.

The other part of this plan that's so similar that we've tried also is in Massachusetts. We have no preexisting conditions, and the Republicans had a perfectly good way to solve that problem. It isn't even difficult if you do this. Preexisting conditions are only a problem for the small group market, small business market and an individual.

And when I retired from my medical practice, I had a single insurance plan. If it had been tax deductible, it would have been 35 percent cheaper for me to own health insurance coverage; and high-risk pools, and let you go across State lines and form large groups. You can solve the preexisting conditions without mandates.

In Massachusetts they have a mandate, and there's a tax for a fine if you don't purchase health insurance. And without subsidies, without Federal subsidies, that plan in Massachusetts would be in terrible problems, terrible shape.

So what have we done? We have taken the Tennessee plan, which hasn't worked. And by the way, this year, Dr. GINGREY, we're going to limit patient visits to eight doctor visits per year in the State because that's all we can pay for. And all the TennCare plan will pay for your hospitalization is \$10,000. I don't care what the bill is.

So you've got both. We're already rationing care with that system. You've got the Massachusetts plan that's also doing exactly the same thing. And those two together.

One other thing I want to mention before we get Dr. BROWN in, actually two things—

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. If the gentleman will yield back to me, and I will yield back to you before, we, Madam Speaker, call on Dr. BROWN.

But you know, you mentioned about jobs. And certainly, I felt very strongly. I've said it from this dais on this House floor, I say it back in the district every opportunity I can, that the number one priority, the number one priority when President Obama was inaugurated last January, over a year ago now, was the creation of jobs.

Now, you know, I heard our colleagues that were on the floor in the previous hour, Madam Speaker, Democratic Members from California, Wisconsin, Ohio and New York, touting the economic stimulus package, ARRA, the acronym, and how wonderful it was, and how—

And the gentleman from California said, I think he, Madam Speaker, he said coming from California back to Washington today he picked up the Sacramento Bee and the newspaper, his newspaper said that the average tax refund for this year was going to be \$2,400 a family. And the group of Members went on to explain, well, that was because of the economic stimulus pack-

age, and that these people were going to get this nice tax return.

Madam Speaker, I would suggest that it's very likely that the average tax return out there in Sacramento, California, is because maybe during the last calendar year, that many of these people only got to work 6 or 7 months, and then they joined the ranks of the unemployed. They had filled out a W-9 at the beginning of the year, and so much money was taken out of their pay check to pay their estimated Federal income tax, if they had been employed for a full year and, God help them, they weren't employed, they lost their jobs, they joined the ranks of the 16 million, they became part of the 10 percent in this country of unemployed. And whoopie doo, they got a \$2,400 tax return. Now, isn't that great?

And, Madam Speaker, I heard these same colleagues talk about, I think it was the gentlewoman maybe from Ohio, talking about all the jobs that were saved. Well, it must have been a heck of a lot of them. I think she said 2.5 million, because 3.3 million were lost. Maybe they saved 5 million. I don't know how you figure that.

But I do know, Madam Speaker, that when that bill was passed, the pledge to the American people for borrowing \$787 billion worth of additional, I guess, borrowed money from China that we will use to stimulate the economy, the pledge was that the unemployment rate, which was 7.6 percent at the time, was not going to go above 8 percent and we were going to save all these jobs.

And no matter what the group said, and all the things that they tried to tout in regard to the economic stimulus package, I feel, Madam Speaker, and the American people feel it was a dismal failure. I guarantee you those 16 million that have been out of work for six or more months feel like it was a dismal failure.

And so, you know, here again, somebody, one of the other Members said, hopefully the American people understand who's on your side. I think that was a quote from the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Well, I would suggest the American people ought to think, well, who's your nanny? Who's creating the nanny state? Who's building your hammock that much bigger so that you depend on the Federal Government?

So as we talk about our concerns about the health care reform act with the Federal Government taking over one-sixth of our economy, it's not just about health care. We're pretty passionate about it, Madam Speaker, because the three Members on the floor on the Republican side of the aisle tonight are members of the Doctors Caucus, the GOP House Doctors Caucus. We're physicians.

In the aggregate, I bet you the three of us, Madam Speaker, have spent 75 or 80 years practicing medicine. So we're very passionate about that, the government taking over; not just the fact

that it's one-sixth of the economy, but coming between us and our patients, the doctor-patient relationship.

But it's a much bigger issue than that, Madam Speaker. And the gentleman from Tennessee referred to it. I know the gentleman from Georgia, my colleague from the great district that he represents in Georgia, including the University of Georgia and Athens and my hometown of Augusta, they're going to talk about that.

But we're concerned about much more than this egregious health care reform bill. We're concerned about the Federal Government taking over every aspect of our lives.

And, Madam Speaker, I will just make this comment before yielding to Dr. ROE: the bigger the nanny gets, the smaller we get.

□ 2130

The bigger the Federal Government becomes, the smaller each individual becomes, and our rights are eroded inevitably.

And I will yield back to the gentleman from Tennessee.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I think the comment is a government large enough to give you anything you want is powerful enough to take away everything you have.

Just briefly on jobs before I go on with health care, three counties at least in my district of 12 have unemployment rates of 16 percent. I left one yesterday, spending the day there before I came back last night. And 87 percent of the people in the First Congressional District of Tennessee don't think the stimulus package has done them any good, and the reason they don't think it's done them any good is it hasn't done them any good. Their own view of it is it hasn't helped them, and I think they're right.

I know that we had a lot of discussions and a lot of jokes were made about death panels and so on. There is a provision—I would encourage my colleagues to read this bill, and I've already introduced legislation already. There is a panel. In this Senate bill—not in the House bill. The House did not pass this. But the Senate bill did in reconciliation. It's basically the Senate bill with a few tweaks is what got to the President for his signature.

There is a panel in Medicare called an Independent Payment Advisory Board. And before—you know, in this particular plan, the way we fund this, we're cutting \$500 billion out of the Medicare plan over the next 10 years. And during the next 10 years, beginning next year, the baby boomers hit Medicare age. We're going to add 3 million baby boomers per year for the next 20 years. Actually, 78 million are estimated to be at Medicare age in the next 20 years. So in 10 years, about 35 million people will reach that age with 500 billion less dollars. And what we did as a Congress was we gave up our purse strings, our control of the purse strings

on how Medicare dollars are spent for this Independent Payment Advisory Board.

Well, let me tell you what happens. When you have 35 million more people chasing 500 billion less dollars, this panel will use something called comparative effectiveness research. And we know what that is. We've already seen just the beginnings of it when we talk about, Well, you really don't need to have your mammogram until age 50.

Let me look the camera in the eye and tell people, Dr. GINGREY—and Dr. BROWN knows this very well—I cannot tell you how many patients I have seen over the past years less than 40 years of age with no family history with breast cancer. And right now we begin screening mammograms at age 35, and almost every insurance company in the world pays for screening mammograms at age 35 and repeated at 40 and so on. If you have a family history, you get them more than that.

That's what they're going to begin using, and that's what's done in England right now, because they can't afford to pay for the screening mammograms. And you and I both know that we can feel a lump in a breast when it gets about 2 centimeters. And for those of you who don't deal in metric, that is about three-fourths of an inch. You can palpate that. Once a lump gets that big, some of those have actually spread.

So that's a panel that will decide whether you get a hip replacement, whether you have heart bypass surgery when you reach a certain age. We need to relook at that very seriously. And that's something that's not known to almost anyone, but I've already introduced legislation to repeal this.

And, by the way, there was a letter with 50 Democrats on this that also agreed with this before this bill was passed, and I urge my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to help us to replace this current piece of legislation.

I yield back.

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. The gentleman from Tennessee, Madam Speaker, talking about this preventative services task force that came out with this recommendation, their timing couldn't have been worse, I think, in regard to the Democratic majority wanting to get this health care reform bill passed. But this was several months ago, and they actually came before the Energy and Commerce Committee and testified and said, Well, you know, we're just an advisory committee. I mean, this doesn't have the force of law, this preventative services task force. It's just making recommendations of what preventive services are good for patients and, indeed, are cost effective.

And, Madam Speaker, that's what Dr. ROE, the OB/GYN from Tri-Cities, Tennessee, is talking about. They came out and said that it was not necessary; in fact, indeed, it was a waste of money to do a mammogram screening for breast cancer in women during their

forties. And then they went on to say it was really questionable whether it was cost effective or beneficial to do them in women over 65 and scared the bejesus out of all of our moms and grandmoms and sisters and, in some cases, daughters of this country.

And the scary thing about this, Madam Speaker, is this will become, this preventative services task force that's an advisory group will become part of this massive bureaucracy of the new health care delivery system, and what they say will be law and will be gospel.

Now, a physician who is advised by his specialty—so, say like mine and Dr. ROE, the American College of OB/GYN, we're both proud Fellows, and we get these best practices clinical bulletins on a monthly basis in regard to what is the best care. They continue to recommend that screening and the importance of that screening during the decade of the forties.

So, Madam Speaker, we're in a situation now where the OB/GYN doctors decide, I don't care what ObamaCare says, I'm going to continue to do those self-breast exams and I am going to look for that 2-centimeter lump that the patient is unlikely to find herself, and I'm going to do that screening mammogram. And let's say the screening mammogram shows something, something a little suspicious. And then the doctor takes the next step, the next logical and recommended step by the ACOG, and orders a needle biopsy. And maybe, Madam Speaker, that needle biopsy, thank God, comes back benign and it comes back not to be a malignancy. It was suspicious but turned out not to be a malignancy.

But lo and behold, that patient develops an abscess, an infection from that needle biopsy—which is certainly a risk, a very low risk that that could occur. That doctor would probably—he or she would be sued out of their practice for doing the right thing. But yet the provision of ObamaCare would allow this preventative services task force to make it appear that they had done the wrong thing and they would not be able to defend themselves.

So these are just some of the things that I guess Madam Speaker was talking about, the Speaker—Madam Speaker, I know you are the Speaker pro tem, as it were, tonight. But Speaker PELOSI was quoted as saying, I don't know, just maybe a week or so before the bill passed, that we need to hurry up and pass this bill so people can find out what's in it. Well, people indeed, Madam Speaker, are finding out what's in it, and it's not pretty. It's not pretty.

I think the gentleman from Tennessee wants to make one more point, and then I will quickly refer to Dr. BROWN. And also Dr. CASSIDY has joined us, and I look forward the yielding to him as well.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Just some real-world experience, not textbook and not in academia. I'm

talking about out in my office practicing. The last year I was in practice—and something strange happened over 31 years. My patients got older with me, and they started developing things. I saw 15 breast cancers myself the last year I was in my medical practice. I could feel one of them. The rest of them were picked up on. I could not palpate the mass. They were picked up on screening mammograms. Now, that's something that will be done—and you know if you find that disease that early—it's one of the great stories, Dr. GINGREY, that I like to tell.

When I began practice—and all of us here are pretty close to the same vintage. When I began practice, 50 percent of the patients with breast cancer had a 50 percent 5-year survival rate.

□ 2140

Today, an early diagnosed breast cancer like that has a 95 percent survival rate. It's a wonderful story to tell. There is no reason for us to go backwards. I mean, it would be a tragedy of unbelievable proportions if we did that.

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Thank you, Dr. ROE.

I now yield to Dr. PAUL BROWN from Athens and Augusta.

Mr. BROWN of Georgia. Thank you.

I am asked frequently by my constituents, Dr. BROWN, what does ObamaCare mean for me? And what I explain to my constituents that ask that is that, number one, if they have private health insurance today they can't keep it because it's going to change. In fact, I will respectfully disagree with my learned colleague from Tennessee really on the semantics of what Dr. ROE was saying when he said this bill was designed to fail.

Well, actually, it's designed to fail for what it was promoted to be, and that's to provide free health care for people all over this country. Well, some people are going to get free health care, but the reality is it was designed so that we wouldn't stay in this current system. So it, according to the designers, it's going to be successful, because it's going to push everybody out of private insurance onto one single government policy.

So it is designed to be successful in what this President and what the leadership here in Congress wanted it to do, and that's to go to what President Obama said during his dog-and-pony show at the Blair House just a few weeks ago. He said he wanted everybody in this country under one pool, one insurance plan administered by the Federal Government, which means every American citizen is going to have socialized medicine, everybody.

That's what their plan is. That's what it was designed to do. So it won't fail in the respect of what they designed the plan to do, because it's going to be very successful. If it stays in place, everybody in this country is going to be under a socialized medicine system.

The second thing we were told that it was going to lower the cost of health care. But American citizens need to know it's not going to lower the cost to anybody. In fact, private health insurance is going to go up.

We are told by our Democrat colleagues that the doctor-patient relationship is going to be maintained. But that's hogwash. A Federal bureaucrat, as Dr. ROE was just talking about, about preventive care but really for all care, there is going to be a bureaucrat in Washington, D.C., that's going to be making decisions for every single patient, for every single doctor in this country.

So the American citizens need to know that if you want to make health care decisions, and what I tell them, is if you want to make health care decisions with you and your doctor making those decisions, you are not going to be able to do that anymore, and there is going to be ration of care for everybody, whether you are currently under private insurance or whether you are under the government insurance program.

If you have that card, if you are given free insurance, even under this plan, given that free health care insurance card or if you are on Medicare or Medicaid, you may have the card in your pocket, but there aren't going to be any doctors that are going to accept it because they can't from a financial perspective.

Another thing the American people need to understand, that I keep telling my patients, is that, particularly in small rural communities, there won't be any hospitals and doctors there anymore because they can't afford to stay in business. They are just going to be some huge regional hospitals that eventually are going to be government hospitals like the VA.

Now, there are some good VA hospitals. We have the luxury of having a great VA health care center in Augusta, Georgia, the Charlie Norwood VA Medical Center, which actually has two hospitals there. And the veterans are very fortunate, blessed, to have Rebecca Wiley in the VA system there in Augusta. But even there, there is ration of care and there are a lot of problems.

It's going to get worse at the Charlie Norwood VA Medical Center for the veterans that are there, but it's going to get worse for everybody. So the quality of health care is going to go down for everybody in this country. The cost is going to go up.

One other thing I tell my constituents, when they ask, Dr. BROWN, what's this going to mean for me? If they are small businesses I am going to tell them that they are going to cut jobs because they are going to have to do so because of the financial burden that the extra taxes is going to put on them.

That means that many millions, actually, of American citizens are going to lose their jobs because of this bill.

They are going to lose their jobs, but strictly because of this bill.

Another thing is we are going to have cost controls, or it's going to break this Nation financially, and it can cause an economic collapse to America.

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. On his point in regard to the loss of jobs, I want to ask my colleagues to refer to this poster that I have. Because in the first week after this bill passed, these companies like AT&T, Verizon, John Deere, Caterpillar, these are companies that are, of course, household names, everybody recognizes before I mention them, but there are some 3,500 companies, other companies, smaller, medium-sized companies, some large as well as these four I mentioned, that are going to have to take charges against their future earnings. They are required, Madam Speaker, to do this by law, to file with the SEC, so the that the moms and pops across this country, retirees on fixed incomes who may have a few shares of AT&T, Verizon or John Deere and Caterpillar, in the interest of full disclosure, the companies are required to make those reports of charges against future earnings.

And in the aggregate, Madam Speaker, these companies have taken \$14 billion worth of charges against future earnings because of a provision in the health reform act in regard to providing prescription benefits to their retirees, and that's exactly what my colleague from the 10th District of Georgia, Dr. BROWN, is referring to when he says it is going to cost jobs. Because the only way these companies can continue to provide those benefits is to cut back on their employment base or simply say to the new hires, we are not going to be able to provide a prescription drug benefit to you in your retirement years. You just need to go sign up for Medicare Part D.

So you have got everybody losing. The company is losing, the retiree is losing, and the Federal Government and John Q. Taxpayer is losing. Because more and more people are getting the benefit for Medicare Part D rather than from these companies who wanted to give it to them, but the provisions in this bill snatched that opportunity away from them.

Mr. BROWN of Georgia. Well, thank you, Dr. GINGREY.

In fact, there is a John Deere plant in Columbia County, Georgia, just north of Augusta. That's a great plant. It hires hundreds of my constituents and citizens in the State of Georgia, and people are going to be put out of work from John Deere in my district. And then people can look at your chart there, I hope that the camera will focus upon it and look at it just for a moment or two, and just see the amount of money that these companies are going to lose. Well, how can they lose that and continue in business? Well, the only way they could do so is by cutting jobs.

The people who are going to be hurt most in this country are the poor people and senior citizens on limited incomes. The Medicare folks are going to be hurt because of loss of their doctors. The doctors are not going to be able to take their Medicare anymore. We already see doctors, primary care doctors like me who practice medicine are going to have to quit because they can't afford to continue to see Medicare or Medicaid patients anymore.

In fact, I talked to a lot of my medical colleagues in the 10th Congressional District in northeast Georgia, and they are quitting seeing patients on government insurance. Why? Because they absolutely cannot afford to do so anymore because their reimbursement rate, what they are paid is less than what it costs them to give those services.

I will give you one example out of my own practice. Medicaid, I used to be in an office. As the gentleman from Marietta knows, I did a full-time house-call medical practice. I still practice medicine today. I still see patients, still do house calls, did that full time before coming here. But when I was in the office as a primary care doctor, I saw patients from cradle to grave; and some of my most favorite patients were the pediatric patients.

We would give childhood immunizations. But Medicaid cut the reimbursement rate to us, in our office, below the level it cost us to buy the serum. And that didn't count the cost of the syringe or the nurse's time or the liability coverage and all the other things and my time, anything else. So we had to stop giving childhood immunizations in my office and had to send patients over to the health department.

□ 2150

And, actually, they could go to Kroger and get a flu shot cheaper than I could buy the flu shot serum and be reimbursed by Medicaid or Medicare at less than what the serum cost me just to buy it. I couldn't afford to do that. And that is the kind of thing that doctors all over the country are facing, this kind of a dilemma. They want to deliver those services, they want to take care of their patients, but they just cannot afford continuing to do so. And I think, coming back to the "designed to fail," what I think that our colleagues on the other side of the aisle and the administration have put in place is something so that it's going to fail, and they can establish a socialized medicine program.

Before I yield back to Dr. GINGREY, I want to just say one more thing. Last August, I spent a few days up in Canada and I talked to patients just to find out about the Canadian health care system. I talked to one man who makes \$50,000 a year. He told me that he spends 60 percent, 60 percent of his income in Canadian federal and provincial taxes primarily to pay for the health care system; 60 percent of

\$50,000. That doesn't give him much to live off of. And that's exactly where we're headed in this country. So particularly lower-income, middle class folks and low-income people are going to be hit the hardest. And then the senior citizens who are on a limited income are really going to be hit hard because of the cuts in Medicare.

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. I thank the gentleman. And, Madam Speaker, I want to yield time now to another member of the House GOP Doctors Caucus, the gentleman from the Sixth District of Louisiana, Dr. Bill Cassidy.

Mr. CASSIDY. Thank you, Dr. GINGREY. You know, I like the focus of this conversation. And if you will, I want to point out that oftentimes when we speak about losing a job, unless you've lost your job, you assume it's someone else that is losing their job. But I think it's important for the American people to understand that this has the potential to affect people at all strata.

Let's start off with the tax on Medicare, the increased Medicare tax. This is going to be on the people who earn over \$200,000 a year. Many of these folks don't consider themselves wealthy. If they're small business people, he or she is trying to make a payroll and expand a business, and this is going to hit them. And inevitably, when you tax, you are going to lose money that would otherwise be available to create jobs.

One of our famous Chief Justices said that the power to tax is the power to destroy. When you increase taxes on these folks that are job creators, you destroy their ability to create jobs. Now, folks say, well, that doesn't relate to me because those are the folks who are small business people, and I'm not a small business person. Well, as it turns out, let's go to the other end of the spectrum. As it turns out, this plan levies a \$2,000 penalty upon an employer whose employees will get a tax credit from the Federal Government. Now, the Congressional Budget Office—not the Republicans, not the Democrats, but the objective arm of Congress, the Congressional Budget Office—says that because of this there will be less hiring of lower-income people. When you are a small business person hiring entry-level wage earners and you are levied a tax of \$2,000 per person, you're not going to hire. You're going to find a way to increase productivity where you don't have to hire those folks.

I caught a fellow who owns a string of Taco Bells, and he has 20 employees per place. He said, if I have to put a \$2,000 tax on each of my employees—he has about 500 total—in a very price-sensitive market where someone makes a decision to buy or not to buy fast food depending on price, I'm going to have to lay people off. So now we have the small business person who is going to pay the increased tax. Therefore, it destroys the ability to create as many jobs, and now we have the tax, if

you will, the employment tax on the person who is at the entry-level job.

Let's go to a different person, someone who works for a large corporation. Well, again, in the effort to grab enough revenue to look like this is cost neutral, there is now a tax levied upon medical device makers. There was a great article in realclearmarkets.com where they kind of go through what you're posing here, that the health care bill that we just passed is going to be terrible for the job market. So in this bill there is levied a 2.9, I think, percent tax on medical devices. Well, it turns out you can ship those things to Ireland, according to this article, and you're still taxed. It isn't just those that are being marketed in the United States, but, rather, it's those that you would be selling overseas, incredibly competitive market where people in Ireland, China, the United States are all manufacturing these devices.

Well, if you manufacture it here, there is a tax apparently even if you export. But if you manufacture it in another country, you are only taxed on those that you bring to the United States. So let's say your shop is in India and you're producing artificial hips and you send 100 to the United States. Well, there is a little bit of tax in that hundred; but if you send 1,000 elsewhere in the world, there is no tax whatsoever. If you build those same artificial hips in the United States, you are taxed wherever they go. So if you're working in the manufacturing unit of that medical equipment maker, you lose your job. If you are the person designing it, they're going to offshore it to another country. If you're the owner, you may say, why am I doing my manufacturing here and taking a 3 percent hit on whatever I do? Why don't I set up my shop in another country and only pay the tax if I import it to the United States?

Again, in a desperate desire for revenue to make this look neutral, we've taxed jobs. And going back to what Supreme Court Justice John Marshall said, the power to tax is the power to destroy. When you raise \$500 billion of taxes in the economy, you are going to destroy jobs.

I yield back.

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. The gentleman, Madam Speaker, is absolutely accurate in what he just presented to our colleagues.

And there is another point in this bill that I think the Speaker, Speaker PELOSI, may have been referring to when she said we need to pass it so folks can find out what's in it. The law before this was passed in regard to what people could take in the way of a tax deduction for health care expenditures was limited to that amount above 7.5 percent of their adjusted gross income. Well, you would have to be a low-income person to take advantage of that tax break, if you will. This existed for a number of years. And most people's adjusted gross income, if they're in the middle class or upper

middle class, their medical expenditures in 1 year, Madam Speaker, are not going to be more than 7.5 percent of their adjusted gross income unless they got into a catastrophic situation. So there is no advantage there except for our low-income taxpayers.

That 7.5 percent of their adjusted gross income kicks in pretty quickly, and that's been heretofore an advantage to them. And yet in this bill that threshold has been raised to 10 percent, 10 percent of their adjusted gross income. This is just ripping the heart out of our low-income folks who are not on a safety net program. They have rejected the nanny state; they have gotten out of the hammock. They're working, they have pride in having a job and supporting their families, but we're making it that much harder on them, Madam Speaker. And this might be small potatoes to some people, but it's real to our low-income people who are working—the working poor, as we sometimes refer to them—and I wanted to make sure we pointed that out.

At this point, my colleagues, I will start with Dr. ROE from Tennessee, and then we will go back to Dr. BROWN from Georgia.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. I think what we were told—and you saw lots of manipulations during this particular, incredibly complex bill about the pay-fors and how this is going to be budget neutral. Well, let's just go over some history of these estimates by the government.

Number one, when Medicare was established in 1965, it was a \$3 billion program. It was estimated by the government—there was no CBO then—but it was estimated by the government that in 25 years it would be a \$15 billion program. The real number, \$90 billion, and today, over \$500 billion.

□ 2200

Some of the pay-fors are the CLASS Act. I think this would make Bernie Madoff grin from ear to ear, and he probably is right now. The CLASS Act, unless you exempt yourself out of it, it is a payroll deduction to pay for long-term health care services, maybe a nurse in your home or assisted living or that type thing. Probably not a bad idea. And over the next 10 years, this bucket of money will be about \$70 billion.

What this plan pays for is it is—have you heard this before? You are going to borrow the money out and spend it on health care, have a \$70 billion liability out here that you call an asset, and leave that liability for future generations. We are also doing that with about \$54 billion in Social Security. No money there. It is all spent. But my grandchild, who will be 17 in 10 years, will get the bill for that.

The student loan program; it was touted as a savings. And let me just take a minute, because I don't have much time, to let people know why is the student loan program in the health care bill? I mean, you should ask that question.

Well, the Federal Government took over the student loan program. There were two programs, of which 80 percent used the private sector. In the private sector, Dr. GINGREY, 80 percent of the loans were made for students. Eighty percent. I talked to the chancellor at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, a great university. He much preferred the private program, but it has been taken over by the Federal program.

They are going to borrow the money at 2.8 percent, lend it to our students at 6.8, call this interest that they make a savings, spend that on health care. They are not doing that to lower the costs for students to make their education less expensive. In Tennessee, it is going to cost our students about \$1,600 to \$1,800 over the duration of the loan in more interest payments.

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. If the gentleman would yield back, Madam Speaker, and I know we are getting toward the end of our hour. And I really appreciate him bringing that out, because in the process of doing that, I think it is important for all of our colleagues to know that taking over, the government taking over, first it was a public option, and as Dr. ROE just pointed out, Madam Speaker, now it is a complete government takeover of the student loan industry, and I think it is instructive, as I said at the outset of the hour, of what the intention is in regard to the health care system.

And, oh, by the way, in the process of the Federal Government taking away student loan lending from Sallie Mae and a lot of banks across this country, they destroyed about 70,000 jobs in the private market.

I want to yield to the gentleman from Georgia for a couple of minutes, and then if he will yield back to me to conclude.

Mr. BROWN of Georgia. Certainly, Dr. GINGREY. I appreciate it.

Some of our colleagues keep saying we are just being sore losers. We have lost, that the bill is now law, and that we need to just move on. Well, that is what our colleagues who would very much like to see us have socialized medicine in America would like for us to do. But we cannot do that because this bill is going to be a killer. It is going to kill our economy. It is going to kill jobs. It is going to kill the quality of health care in this country. We are going to have rationing of care so that people who need services are not going to be able to get those services.

It is going to kill unborn babies because the taxpayers are going to be paying now for greater abortion services. We are going to have, because of this bill, a greater expansion of abortion services, and the taxpayers are going to pay for it. Even a lot of pro-choice people in this country believe it is just fundamentally wrong for taxpayers to pay for elective abortions. So it is going to be a killer bill.

But what we need to do, and we all heard during the time that many of the

grass roots were here, they kept saying, "Kill the bill." Well, we unfortunately weren't able to kill the bill, but what we can do is we can repeal it, and we can replace it with policy that makes sense for the American people.

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. If the gentleman would yield back me, and I just want to continue on that theme as we conclude. And I thank my colleagues from Louisiana and from Tennessee and from Georgia.

But the gentleman from Georgia just said it so well. We are going to repeal this bill. That is the pledge. The Republican minority party now, but hopefully soon to be the majority party on November the 3rd of this year, our pledge is to repeal this bill and to replace it. And I think it is very important that the American people understand that that is part of the pledge.

I read an article, Madam Speaker, today in the *National Review* by Jeff Anderson, this week's issue, and he described something he called a Republican small bill. And I will just quickly list about six things that would be in that replacement bill:

Number one, medical malpractice reform;

Number two, allowing people to buy health insurance across State lines;

Number three, incentivize folks for healthy lifestyles in the workplace, working out, stopping smoking, losing weight, and giving them a break on their health insurance premiums or the deductible or their copay to incentivize these people over a 30-year career in a job so that when they get on Medicare they are healthier, and that we indeed save a tremendous amount of money as a result of that;

Number four, equalize the tax treatment for individuals that are purchasing in the individual market or the small group market. Give them the same tax break that you give to employees and employers of large companies;

Number five, increase Federal support, Federal support for State-run high-risk pools that we can do in every one of our 50 States so that folks with preexisting conditions wouldn't have to pay an arm and a leg, three or four times what the standard rates were;

And, last but not least, get the uninsured out of the emergency room and into less expensive routine care and this expansion of community health centers. I agree with that part of the bill.

But there are so many things that are wrong in this bill. It doesn't lower costs. You know, it doesn't. It fails in the number one goal of the President, to lower the cost of health care. This bill absolutely does not do it. The small Republican bill would do it, and it would not cost a trillion dollars to do it in the first 10 years and \$2.5 trillion to do it in the second 10 years. So that is what we say to the American people, give us a chance.

Madam Speaker, we want the American people to give us a chance, give us

an opportunity to regain the majority. We will repeal this bill and we will replace it with something that really truly does bring down the costs and insure so many of those 10 to 15 million that today do not have health insurance because they can't afford it.

I yield back.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. INSLEE (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of official business in the district.

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today and the balance of the week on account of medical reasons.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. SUTTON) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. SUTTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. HARE, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. FOXX) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. POE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today and April 14, 15, 16, and 20.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today and April 14, 15, and 16.

Mr. JONES, for 5 minutes, today and April 14, 15, 16, and 20.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas, for 5 minutes, today and April 14, 15, and 20.

Mr. NEUGEBAUER, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, for 5 minutes, today and April 14 and 15.

Ms. FOXX, for 5 minutes, today and April 14, 15, 16.

ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

Lorraine C. Miller, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills and a joint resolution of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 4957. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend authorizations for the airport improvement program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4938. An act to permit the use of previously appropriated funds to extend the Small Business Loan Guarantee Program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4872. An act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to Title II of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2010 (S. Con. Res. 13).

H.R. 4621. An act to protect the integrity of the constitutionally mandated United States census and prohibit deceptive mail practices that attempt to exploit the decennial census.

H.J. Res. 80. Joint Resolution recognizing and honoring the Blinded Veterans Association on its 65th anniversary of representing blinded veterans and their families.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced her signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 3186. An act to reauthorize the Satellite Home Viewer Extension and Reauthorization Act of 2004 through April 30, 2010, and for other purposes.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Lorraine C. Miller, Clerk of the House reports that on March 26, 2010

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

H.R. 4957. To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend authorizations for the airport improvement program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4938. To permit the use of previously appropriated funds to extend the Small Business Loan Guarantee Program, and for other purposes.

Lorraine C. Miller, Clerk of the House reports that on March 30, 2010 she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill.

H.R. 4872. To provide for reconciliation pursuant to Title II of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2010 (S. Con. Res. 13).

Lorraine C. Miller, Clerk of the House reports that on April 01, 2010 she presented the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills.

H.R. 4621. To protect the integrity of the constitutionally mandated United States census and prohibit deceptive mail practices that attempt to exploit the decennial census.

H.J. Res. 80. Recognizing and honoring the Blinded Veterans Association on its 65th anniversary of representing blinded veterans and their families.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 8 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, April 14, 2010, at 10 a.m.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Speaker-authorized official travel during the fourth quarter of 2009 and the first quarter of 2010, pursuant to Public Law 95-384 are as follows:

(AMENDED) REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO DENMARK, EXPENDED BETWEEN DEC. 10 AND DEC. 21, 2009

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Sander Levin	12/17	12/19	Denmark		4,005.71		(³)				4,005.71
Alex. Barron	12/10	12/21	Denmark		10,951.00		8,333.00				19,284.00
Lorie Schmitt	12/10	12/21	Denmark		10,951.00		8,333.00				19,284.00
Greg Dotson	12/12	12/21	Denmark		10,505.00		7,963.00				18,468.00
Phil Barnett	12/17	12/19	Denmark		4,123.00		(³)				4,123.00
Committee total											

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

³ Military air transportation.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA, KOSOVO, MACEDONIA, SERBIA, AND GERMANY, EXPENDED BETWEEN FEB. 14 AND FEB. 22, 2010

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Earl Pomeroy	2/14	2/16	Bosnia-Herzegovina		117.00						117.00
	2/16	2/17	Kosovo		73.00						73.00
	2/17	2/18	Macedonia		93.00						93.00
	2/18	2/21	Serbia		99.00						99.00
	2/21	2/22	Germany		79.00						79.00
Committee totals											

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. EARL POMEROY, Mar. 19, 2010.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

6808. A letter from the Office of Research and Analysis, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations: Resource Limits and Exclusions, and Extended Certification Periods [FNS-2007-0042] (RIN: 0584-AD12) received March 5, 2010 to the Committee on Agriculture.

6809. A letter from the Chief, Office of Research and Analysis, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP): Amendment Removing Priority Given to Women, Infants and Children Before the Elderly in Program Participation [FNS-2009-0015] (RIN: 0584-AD93) received March 5, 2010 to the Committee on Agriculture.

6810. A letter from the Acting Director, NRCS Legislative Affairs Division, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Compliance with NEPA (RIN: 0578-AA55) received March 8, 2010 to the Committee on Agriculture.

6811. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Agricultural Inspection and AQI User Fees Along the U.S./Canada Border [Docket No.: APHIS-2006-0096] (RIN: 0579-AC06) received March 11, 2010 to the Committee on Agriculture.

6812. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza; Voluntary Control Program and Payment of Indemnity [Docket No.: APHIS-2005-0109] (RIN: 0579-AB99) received March 11, 2010 to the Committee on Agriculture.

6813. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Regulation of the Interstate Movement of Lemons from Areas Quarantined for Mediterranean Fruit Fly [Docket No.: APHIS-2009-0002] received March 22, 2010 to the Committee on Agriculture.

6814. A letter from the Department Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Listing of Color Additives Exempt From Certification; Paracoccus Pigment; Confirmation of Effective Date [Docket No.: FDA-2007-C-0456] (formerly Docket No. 2007C-0245) to the Committee on Agriculture.

6815. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agen-

cy's final rule — Spiromesifen; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2008-0262; FRL-8436-9] received March 16, 2010 to the Committee on Agriculture.

6816. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Hexythiazox; Pesticide Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions [EPA-HQ-OPP-2009-0540; FRL-8808-4] received March 16, 2010 to the Committee on Agriculture.

6817. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Dithianon; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2007-0460; FRL-8808-8] received March 16, 2010 to the Committee on Agriculture.

6818. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Chlorantraniliprole; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2009-0261; FRL-8809-3] received March 16, 2010 to the Committee on Agriculture.

6819. A letter from the Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy, transmitting a proposed FY 2010 budget for High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) Program to the Committee on Appropriations.

6820. A letter from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, transmitting a request of FY 2011 emergency supplemental funding, totaling \$1.5 billion for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

6821. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting FY 2011 Budget Amendments for the Departments of Defense, Agriculture, Health and Human Services, the Treasury, Homeland Security, and State as well as the United States Agency for International Development and the Broadcasting Board of Governors to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

6822. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting report on the Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance (FSSA) program, covering the period October 1, 2008, through September 30, 2009 to the Committee on Armed Services.

6823. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Payment of Costs Prior to Definition-Definition of Contract Action (DFARS Case 2009-D035) received March 3, 2010 to the Committee on Armed Services.

6824. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Ac-

quisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS); DFARS Case 2009-D017, Continuation of Essential Contractor Services (RIN: 0750-AG52) received March 3, 2010 to the Committee on Armed Services.

6825. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a quarterly report on withdrawals or diversions of equipment from Reserve component units for the period of October 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009 to the Committee on Armed Services.

6826. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the annual National Guard and Reserve Component Equipment Report for fiscal year (FY) 2010 to the Committee on Armed Services.

6827. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Selected Acquisition Reports (SARs) for the December 2009 reporting period to the Committee on Armed Services.

6828. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Export-Controlled Items (DFARS Case 2004-D010) (RIN: 0750-AF13) received March 22, 2010 to the Committee on Armed Services.

6829. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Acquisitions in Support of Operations in Iraq or Afghanistan (DFARS Case 2008-D002) (RIN: 0750-AG02) received March 22, 2010 to the Committee on Armed Services.

6830. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 09-142, certification of a proposed manufacturing license agreement for the manufacture of significant military equipment abroad, pursuant to section 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act to the Committee on Armed Services.

6831. A letter from the Chair, Congressional Oversight Panel, transmitting the Panel's monthly report pursuant to Section 125(b)(1) of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008, Pub. L. 110-343 to the Committee on Financial Services.

6832. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Suspension of Community Eligibility [Docket ID: FEMA-2010-0003; Internal Agency Docket No. FEMA-8121] received March 19, 2010 to the Committee on Financial Services.

6833. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Suspension of Community Eligibility [Docket ID: FEMA-2008-0020; Internal Agency Docket No. FEMA-8111] received March 19, 2010 to the Committee on Financial Services.

6834. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Final Flood Elevation Determinations [Docket ID: FEMA-2010-0003] received March 19, 2010 to the Committee on Financial Services.

6835. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations [Docket ID: FEMA-2010-0003; Internal Agency Docket No. FEMA-B-1073] received March 18, 2010 to the Committee on Financial Services.

6836. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations [Docket ID: FEMA-2010-0003; Internal Agency Docket No. FEMA-B-1077] received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Financial Services.

6837. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a draft bill "To authorize United States participation in, and appropriations for the United States contribution to, the ninth replenishment of the resources of the Asian Development Fund and to authorize United States participation in, and appropriations for the United States subscription to, the fifth general capital increase of the Asian Development Bank" to the Committee on Financial Services.

6838. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to Turkey pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended to the Committee on Financial Services.

6839. A letter from the Secretary of the Commission, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Final Model Privacy Form Under the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act [Project No.: 034815] (RIN: 3084-AA94) received January 27, 2010 to the Committee on Financial Services.

6840. A letter from the General Counsel, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Secondary Capital Accounts (RIN: 3133-AD67) received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Financial Services.

6841. A letter from the General Counsel, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Unfair or Deceptive Acts or Practices (RIN: 3133-AD47) received March 18, 2010 to the Committee on Financial Services.

6842. A letter from the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendments to Regulation SHO (RIN: 3235-AK35) received March 3, 2010 to the Committee on Financial Services.

6843. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's "Report to Congress on a Plan for an Indian Head Start Study" to the Committee on Education and Labor.

6844. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Communications and Legislative Affairs, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Age Discrimination in Employment Act; Retiree Health Benefits (RIN: 3046-AA72) received March 16, 2010 to the Committee on Education and Labor.

6845. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Energy Conservation Program for Certain Commercial and Industrial Equipment: Test Procedure for Metal Halide Lamp Ballasts (Active and Standby Modes) and Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Certification, Compliance, and Enforcement Requirements for Consumer Products and

Certain Commercial and Industrial Equipment; Final Rule and Notice [Docket No.: EERE-2008-BT-TP-0017] (RIN: 1904-AB87) received March 15, 2010 to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6846. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Weatherization Assistance for Low-Income Persons: Maintaining the Privacy of Applicants for and Recipients of Services (RIN: 1904-AC16) received March 15, 2010 to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6847. A letter from the Program Manager, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Interim Final Rules under the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 [CMS-4140-IFC] (RIN: 0938-AP65) received March 3, 2010 to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6848. A letter from the Department Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Classification of Benzoyl Peroxide as Safe and Effective and Revision of Labeling to Drug Facts Format; Topical Acne Drug Products for Over-The-Counter Human Use; Final Rule [Docket Nos.: FDA-1981-N-0114 and FDA-1992-N-0049] (formerly Docket Nos. 1981N-0114A and 1992N-0311) (RIN: 0910-AG00) received March 11, 2010 to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6849. A letter from the Department Director, Regulations and Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — New Animal Drug Applications; Confirmation of Effective Date [Docket No.: FDA-2009-N-0436] received March 19, 2010 to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6850. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Notice of Availability of Class Deviation; Disputes Resolution Procedures Related to Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF and DWSRF, respectively) Reallocation Under the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act of 2009 (ARRA) [FRI-9115-1] received March 16, 2010 to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6851. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans and Designation of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes; Arkansas; Redesignation of the Crittenden County, Arkansas Portion of the Memphis, Tennessee-Arkansas 1997 8-Hour Ozone Non-attainment Area to Attainment [EPA-R06-OAR-2009-0202; FRL-9129-2] received March 18, 2010 to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6852. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plans: Alaska [EPA-R10-OAR-2008-0690; FRL-9091-5] received March 18, 2010 to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6853. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Area Sources: Asphalt Processing and Asphalt Roofing Manufacturing; Technical Correction [EPA-HQ-OAR-2009-0027; FRL-9128-1] (RIN: 2060-AO84) received March 18, 2010 to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6854. 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; Indiana; Correction [EPA-R05-OAR-2009-0771; FRL-9108-7] received March 16, 2010 to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6855. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Albuquerque-Bernalillo County, New Mexico; Excess Emissions [EPA-R06-OAR-2009-0745; FRL-9110-2] received March 16, 2010 to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6856. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communication Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations. (Markham, Ganado, and Victoria, Texas) [MB Docket No.: 07-163] received March 3, 2010 to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6857. A letter from the Chief, Policy and Rules Division, OET, Federal Communication Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Facilitating Opportunities for Flexible, Efficient, and Reliable Spectrum Use Employing Cognitive Radio Technologies [ET Docket No.: 03-108] received March 9, 2010 to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6858. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Section 73.622(i), Final DTV Table of Allotments, Television Broadcast Stations. (Birmingham, Alabama) [MB Docket No. 10-21] received March 11, 2010 to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6859. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations. (Port Angeles, Washington) [MB Docket No. 08-228] received March 11, 2010 to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6860. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations. (Irvington, Kentucky and French Lick, Indiana) [MB Docket No.: 07-296] received March 3, 2010 to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6861. A letter from the Assistant Bureau Chief, WTB, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Congressional Review Act [WT Docket No.: 08-166, WT Docket No. 08-167, ET Docket No. 10-24, FCC 10-16] received January 26, 2010 to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6862. A letter from the Office of Managing Director, AMD-PERM, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Revisions to Rules Authorizing the Operation of Low Power Auxiliary Stations in the 698-806 MHz Band; Public Interest Spectrum Coalition, Petition for Rulemaking Regarding Low Power Auxiliary Stations, Including Wireless Microphones, and the Digital Television Transition; Amendment of Parts 15, 74 and 90 of the Commission's Rules Regarding Low Power Auxiliary Stations, Including Wireless Microphones [WT Docket No.: 08-166, WT Docket No. 08-167, ET Docket No. 10-24] received January 26, 2010 to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6863. A letter from the Office of Managing Director, AMD-PERM, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Revisions to Rules Authorizing the Operation of Low Power Auxiliary Stations in the 698-806 MHz Band; Public

Interest Spectrum Coalition, Petition for Rulemaking Regarding Low Power Auxiliary Stations, Including Wireless Microphones, and the Digital Television Transition; Amendment of Parts 15, 74 and 90 of the Commission's Rules Regarding Low Power Auxiliary Stations, Including Wireless Microphones [WT Docket No.: 08-166, WT Docket No. 08-167, ET Docket No. 10-24] received January 26, 2010 to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6864. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Section 73.622(i), Final DTV Table of Allotments, Television Broadcast Stations (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma) [MB Docket No.: 10-19] received March 18, 2010 to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6865. A letter from the Principal Deputy General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Revisions to Form, Procedures, and Criteria for Certification of Qualifying Facility Status for a Small Power Production or Cogeneration Facility [Docket No.: RM09-23-000; Order No. 732] received March 22, 2010 to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6866. A letter from the Secretary of the Commission, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Trade Regulation Rule Relating to Power Output Claims for Amplifiers Utilized in Home Entertainment Products received March 11, 2010 to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6867. A letter from the Secretary of the Commission, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Free Annual File Disclosures (RIN: 3084-AA94) received March 12, 2010 to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6868. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's report on gifts given in Fiscal Year 2009 to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

6869. A letter from the Assistant Secretary For Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Implementation of both the Understandings Reached at the 2009 Australia Group (AG) Plenary Meeting and a Decision Adopted under the AG Intersessional Silent Approval Procedures [Docket No.: 100119033-0042-01] (RIN: 0694-AE85) received March 19, 2010 to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

6870. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Wassenaar Arrangement 2008 Plenary Agreements Implementation: Categories 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Parts I and II, 6, 7, 8 and 9 of the Commerce Control List, Definitions, Reports; Correction [Docket No.: 0908041218-91220-01] (RIN: 0694-AE58) received March 19, 2010 to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

6871. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Commerce, transmitting revision to the Export Administration Act of 1979 to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

6872. A letter from the Director, U.S. Census Bureau, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Foreign Trade Regulations (FTR): Eliminate the Social Security Number (SSN) as an identification number in the Automated Export System (AES) [Docket Number: 090422707-91445-02] (RIN: 0607-AA48) received March 23, 2010 to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

6873. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 10-004, certification of a proposed technical assistance agreement to include the export of

technical data, and defense services, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

6874. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 10-006, certification of a proposed technical assistance agreement to include the export of technical data, and defense services, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

6875. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting report prepared by the Department of State concerning international agreements other than treaties entered into by the United States to be transmitted to the Congress within the sixty-day period specified in the Case-Zablocki Act to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

6876. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 10-010 Certification of proposed issuance of an export license, pursuant to sections 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

6877. A letter from the Associate Director, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Cuban Assets Control Regulations; Sudanese Sanctions Regulations; Iranian Transactions Regulations received March 9, 2010 to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

6878. A letter from the Associate Director, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Cuban Assets Control Regulations received March 9, 2010 to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

6879. A letter from the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction, transmitting fifth lessons learned report entitled "Applying Iraq's Hard Lessons to the Reform of Stabilization and Reconstruction Operations" to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

6880. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting report on the U.S. efforts to ensure the free flow of information to Iran and to enhance the abilities of Iranians to exercise their universal rights to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

6881. A letter from the Chairman, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting the Commission's annual report for FY 2009 prepared in accordance with the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Pub. L. 107-174 to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6882. A letter from the Chief Human Capital Officer, Corporation for National and Community Service, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998 to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6883. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Commerce Acquisition Regulation (CAR) [Document No.: 080730954-0033-02] (RIN: 0605-AA26) received March 9, 2010 to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6884. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's Fiscal Year 2009 Annual Performance Report to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6885. A letter from the Acting Senior Procurement Executive, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Federal Acquisition Regulation; Technical Amendment [FAC 2005-39; Item VII; Docket FAR 2010-0078; Sequence 1]

received March 19, 2010 to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6886. A letter from the Acting Senior Procurement Executive, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Technical Amendment [FAC 2005-39; Item VII; Docket FAR 2010-0078; Sequence 1] received March 19, 2010 to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6887. A letter from the Acting Senior Procurement Executive, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; FAR Case 2008-015, Payments Under Fixed-Price Architect-Engineer Contracts [FAC 2005-39; FAR Case 2008-015; Item VI; Docket 2009-0015, Sequence 1] (RIN: 9000-AL26) received March 19, 2010 to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6888. A letter from the Acting Senior Procurement Executive, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; FAR Case 2008-040, Use of Standard Form 26 — Award/Contract [FAC 2005-39; FAR Case 2008-040; Item III; Docket 2010-0081, Sequence 1] (RIN: 9000-AL48) received March 19, 2010 to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6889. A letter from the Acting Senior Procurement Executive, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; FAR Case 2009-035, Extend Use of Simplified Acquisition Procedures for Certain Commercial Items [FAC 2005-39; FAR Case 2009-035; Item I; Docket 2010-0080, Sequence 1] (RIN: 9000-AL52) received March 19, 2010 to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6890. A letter from the Acting Senior Procurement Executive, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; FAR Case 2008-012, Clarification of Submission of Cost or Pricing Data on Non-Commercial Modifications of Commercial Items [FAC 2005-39; FAR Case 2008-012; Item II; Docket 2008-0001, Sequence 23] (RIN: 9000-AL12) received March 19, 2010 to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6891. A letter from the Acting Senior Procurement Executive, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; FAR Case 2008-006, Enhanced Competition for Task- and Delivery-Order Contracts-Section 843 of the Fiscal Year 2008 National Defense Authorization Act [FAC 2005-39; FAR Case 2008-006; Item IV; Docket 2008-0001, Sequence 25] (RIN: 9000-AL05) received March 19, 2010 to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6892. A letter from the Acting Senior Procurement Executive, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2005-39; Introduction [Docket FAR 2010-0076, Sequence 1] received March 19, 2010 to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6893. A letter from the Acting Senior Procurement Executive, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; FAR Case 2008-036, Trade Agreements-Costa Rica, Oman, and Peru [FAC 2005-39; FAR Case 2008-036, Item V; Docket 2009-019, Sequence 1] (RIN: 9000-AL23) received March 19, 2010 to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6894. A letter from the Commissioner, International Boundary and Water Commission, transmitting the Commission's annual

report for FY 2009 prepared in accordance with the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Pub. L. 107-174 to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6895. A letter from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting response to the recommendations made by the Government Accountability Office in "Results-Oriented Cultures: Office of Personnel Management Should Review Administrative Law Judge Program to Improve Hiring and Performance" to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6896. A letter from the Chairman, Postal Regulatory Commission, transmitting Advisory Opinion Concerning the Process for Evaluating Closing Stations and Branches to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6897. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 18-329, "Service Animal Amendment Act of 2010" to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6898. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 18-330, "Uniform Interstate Depositions and Discovery Act of 2010" to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6899. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 18-331, "Closing of a Portion of an Unimproved Public Alley in Square 5795, S.O. 08-7766, Act of 2010" to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6900. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 18-332, "Office on Latino Affairs Grant-Making Authority Temporary Amendment Act of 2010" to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6901. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 18-333, "Rhode Island Place Shopping Center Working Group Temporary Act of 2010" to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6902. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 18-334, "Rent Administrator Hearing Authority Temporary Amendment Act of 2010" to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6903. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 18-335, "Legalization of Marijuana for Medical Treatment Initiative Applicability Temporary Amendment Act of 2010" to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6904. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 18-336, "Real Property Tax Reform Temporary Amendment Act of 2010" to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6905. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 18-337, "Healthy DC Equal Access Fund and Hospital Stabilization Temporary Amendment Act of 2010" to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6906. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 18-338, "Haiti Earthquake Relief Drug and Medical Supply Assistance Temporary Act of 2010" to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6907. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting

Transmittal of D.C. ACT 18-339, "Energy Efficiency Financing Temporary Act of 2010" to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6908. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel, Federal Election Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Funds received in Response to Solicitations; Allocation of Expenses by Separate Segregated Funds and Nonconnected Committees [Notice 2010-08] received March 15, 2010 to the Committee on House Administration.

6909. A letter from the Chief Administrative Officer, transmitting the quarterly report of receipts and expenditures of appropriations and other funds for the period January 1, 2010 through March 31, 2010 as compiled by the Chief Administrative Officer to the Committee on House Administration and ordered to be printed.

6910. 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; Atka Mackerel in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 0810141351-9087-02] (RIN: 0648-XU59) received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6911. A letter from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; Amendment 29 Supplement [Docket No.: 090206140-91414-04] (RIN: 0648-AX39) received March 18, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6912. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels Less Than 60 feet (18.3m) Length Overall Using Jig or Hook-and-Line Gear in the Bogoslof Pacific Cod Exemption Area in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 0810141351-9087-02] (RIN: 0648-XU64) received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6913. 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 Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; Reopening of the Gulf Group King Mackerel East Coast Subzone [Docket No.: 040205043-4043-01] (RIN: 0648-XU38) received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6914. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher/Processors Using Pot Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 0810141351-9087-02] (RIN: 0648-XU65) received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6915. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Vessels Catching Pacific Cod for Processing by the Inshore Component in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 09100091344-9056-02] (RIN: 0648-XU51) received March 18, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6916. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, Na-

tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock in Statistical Area 610 in the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 09100091344-9056-02] (RIN: 0648-XU79) received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6917. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Vessels Catching Pacific Cod for Processing by the Offshore Component in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 09100091344-9056-02] (RIN: 0648-XU63) received March 18, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6918. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Non-American Fisheries Act Crab Vessels Catching Pacific Cod for Processing by the Inshore Component in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 09100091344-9056-02] (RIN: 0648-XU37) received March 18, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6919. A letter from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; Correction [Docket No.: 071220872-0093-04] (RIN: 0648-AS71 and 0648-AU71) received March 19, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6920. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; Fisheries Off West Coast States; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Biennial Specifications and Management Measures; Inseason Adjustments [Docket No.: 0809121213-9221-02] (RIN: 0648-AY40) received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6921. 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; Atka Mackerel in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 0810141351-9087-02] (RIN: 0648-XU59) received March 18, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6922. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United; Black Sea Bass Fishery; 2010 Black Sea Bass Specifications; Emergency Rule [Docket No.: 100120036-0038-01] (RIN: 0648-XT99) received March 18, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6923. A letter from the Director Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock in Statistical Area 630 in the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 09100091344-9056-02] (RIN: 0648-XU27) received March 18, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6924. A letter from the Director Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock for American Fisheries Act Catcher Vessels in the Inshore Open Access Fishery in the Bering Sea and Aleutian

Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 0810141351-9087-02] (RIN: 0648-XU30) received March 18, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6925. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Crab Rationalization Program; Emergency Rule [Docket No.: 100106010-0074-01] (RIN: 0648-AY52) received March 18, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6926. 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; Atka Mackerel in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 0810141351-9087-02] (RIN: 0648-XU22) received March 18, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6927. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries Off West Coast States; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Data Collection for the Trawl Rationalization Program [Docket No.: 0907281183-91427-02] (RIN: 0648-AX98) received March 18, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6928. A letter from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; Amendment 29 Supplement [Docket No.: 090206140-91414-04] (RIN: 0648-AX39) received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6929. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher/Processors Using Hook-and-Line Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 0810141351-9087-02] (RIN: 0648-XU36) received March 18, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6930. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries in the Western Pacific; Pelagic Fisheries; Vessel Identification Requirements; Correction [Docket No.: 090218199-91223-02] (RIN: 0648-AX38) received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6931. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod for American Fisheries Act Catcher-Processors Using Trawl Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 0810141351-9087-02] (RIN: 0648-XU52) received March 18, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6932. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — International Fisheries; Western and Central Pacific Fisheries for Highly Migratory Species; Initial Implementation of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention; Correction [Docket No.: 070717350-9936-02] (RIN: 0648-

AV63) received March 18, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6933. 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 Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic; Closure [Docket No.: 001005281-0369-02] (RIN: 0648-XU33) received March 18, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6934. 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; Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Trawl Limited Access Fishery in the C. opilio Bycatch Limitation Zone of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 0810141351-9087-02] (RIN: 0648-XU34) received March 18, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6935. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands; Final 2009 and 2010 Harvest Specifications for Groundfish; Correction [Docket No.: 0810141351-0040-03] (RIN: 0648-XL28) received March 18, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6936. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Reporting Requirement for Midwater Trawl Vessels Fishing in Closed Area I [Docket No.: 0907281181-0040-03] (RIN: 0648-AX93) received March 18, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6937. A letter from the Director Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — 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 [Docket No.: 001005281-0369-02] (RIN: 0648-XU24) received March 18, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6938. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Vessels Catching Pacific Cod for Processing by the Inshore Component in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 09100091344-9056-02] (RIN: 0648-XU20) received March 18, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6939. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Summer Flounder Fishery; Quota Transfer [Docket No.: 0908191244-91427-02] (RIN: 0648-XT93) received March 18, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6940. 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; Atka Mackerel in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 0810141351-9087-02] (RIN: 0648-XU11) received March 18, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6941. 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 Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic; Closure [Docket No.: 001005281-0369-02] (RIN: 0648-XU12) received March 18, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6942. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels Greater Than or Equal to 60 Feet (18.3 Meters) Length Overall Using Pot Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 0810141351-9087-02] (RIN: 0648-XU15) received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6943. A letter from the Staff Director, Commission on Civil Rights, transmitting a copy of the charter of the Nevada State Advisory Committee to the Commission on Civil Rights to the Committee on the Judiciary.

6944. A letter from the Staff Director, Commission on Civil Rights, transmitting notification that the Commission recently appointed members to the Missouri Advisory Committee to the Committee on the Judiciary.

6945. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Diversion Control, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule — Registration Requirements for Importers and Manufacturers of Prescription Drug Products Containing Ephedrine, Pseudoephedrine, or Phenylpropanolamine [Docket No.: DEA-294F] (RIN: 1117-AB09) received March 5, 2010 to the Committee on the Judiciary.

6946. A letter from the Chairman, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Annual Submission of Tax Information for use in the Revenue Shortfall Allocation Method received [STB Ex Parte No. 682] received March 19, 2010 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6947. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Model CL-600-2B19 (Regional Jet Series 100 & 440) Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2010-0178; Directorate Identifier 2010-NM-039-AD; Amendment 39-16224; AD 2010-05-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6948. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier Model DHC-8-102, DHC-8-103, DHC-8-106, DHC-8-201, and DHC-8-202 Series Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2009-0609; Directorate Identifier 2009-NM-037-AD; Amendment 39-16222; AD 2010-05-12] (RIN: 2120-AA64) March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6949. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Model 747-100, 747-200B, 747-300, and 747SR Series Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2008-0376; Directorate Identifier 2007-NM-322-AD; Amendment 39-16221; AD 2010-05-11] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6950. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Relief

for U.S. Military and Civilian Personnel Who are Assigned Outside the United States in Support of U.S. Armed Forces Operations [Docket No.: FAA-2009-0923; Special Federal Aviation Regulation No. 100-2] (RIN: 2120-AJ54) received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6951. A letter from the FMCSA Regulatory Ombudsman, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Requirements for Operators of Small Passenger-Carrying Commercial Motor Vehicles Used in Interstate Commerce [Docket No.: FMCSA-2009-0127] (RIN: 2126-AA98) received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6952. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — IFR Altitudes; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 30713; Amdt. No. 486] received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6953. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airplane Noise Certification Documents for International Operations [Docket No.: FAA-2008-1097; Amendment No. 91-312] (RIN: 2120-AJ31) received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6954. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Hawker Beechcraft Corporation (Type Certificate Previously Held by Raytheon Aircraft Company) Model B300 and B300C Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2009-1180; Directorate Identifier 2009-CE-060-AD; Amendment 39-16220; AD 2010-05-10] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6955. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Dowty Propellers Models R354/4-123-F/13, R354/4-123-F/20, R375/4-123-F/21, R389/4-123-F/25, R389/4-123-F/26, and R390/4-123-F/27 Propellers [Docket No.: FAA-2008-0545; Directorate Identifier 2008-NE-16-AD; Amendment 39-16219; AD 2010-05-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6956. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Stamford, TX [Docket No.: FAA-2009-0876; Airspace Docket No. 09-ASW-22] received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6957. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Llano, TX [Docket No.: FAA-2009-0858; Airspace Docket No. 09-ASW-22] received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6958. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revocation of Class D and E Airspace; Brunswick, ME [Docket No.: FAA-2009-0981; Airspace Docket No.: 09-ANE-105] received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6959. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Langdon, ND [Docket No.: FAA-2009-0535; Airspace Docket No. 09-AGL-11] received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6960. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pilatus Aircraft LTD. Model PC-12/47E Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2009-1158; Directorate Identifier 2009-CE-063-AD; Amendment 39-16211; AD 2010-05-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6961. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; McDonnell Douglas Corporation Model MD-90-30 Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2009-0783; Directorate Identifier 2009-NM-081-AD; Amendment 39-16213; AD 2010-05-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6962. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Model CL-600-1A11 (CL-600), CL-600-2A12 (CL-601), and CL-600-2B16 (CL-601-3A, CL-601-3R, and CL-604) Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2009-1021; Directorate Identifier 2009-NM-054-AD; Amendment 39-16217; AD 2009-06-05 R1] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6963. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; BAE SYSTEMS (Operations) Limited Model ATP Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2010-0130; Directorate Identifier 2009-NM-087-AD; Amendment 39-16214; AD 2010-05-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6964. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; ATR-GIE Avions de Transport Regional Model ATR42 and ATR72 Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2010-0155; Directorate Identifier 2010-NM-026-AD] Amendment 39-16210; AD 2010-05-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6965. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A340-541 and -642 Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2010-0128; Directorate Identifier 2009-NM-136-AD; Amendment 39-16215; AD 2010-05-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6966. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A340-200 and A340-300 Series Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2010-0131; Directorate Identifier 2009-NM-132-AD; Amendment 39-16216; AD 2010-05-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6967. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 30712; Amdt. No. 3363] received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6968. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 30711; Amdt. No. 3362] received March 17,

2010 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6969. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Dowty Propellers Models R354/4-123-F/13, R354/4-123-F/20, R375/4-123-F/21, R389/4-123-F/25, R389/4-123-F/26, and R390/4-123-F/27 Propellers [Docket No.: FAA-2008-0545; Directorate Identifier 2008-NE-16-AD; Amendment 39-16219; AD 2010-05-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6970. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Seaway Regulations and Rules Periodic Update, Various Categories [Docket No.: SLSDC-2010-0001] (RIN: 2135-AA30) received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6971. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Model 737-100, -200, -200C, -300, -400, and -500 Series Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2009-0452; Directorate Identifier 2007-NM-326-AD; Amendment 39-16223; AD 2010-05-13] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6972. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Empresa Brasileira de Aeronautica S.A. (EMBRAER) Model ERJ 190-100 LR, -100 IGW, -100 STD, -200 STD, -200 LR, and -200 IGW Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2009-0418; Directorate Identifier 2009-NM-020-AD; Amendment 39-16201; AD 2010-04-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 18, 2010 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6973. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Model 747-100, 747-100B, 747-100B SUD, 747-200B, 747-200C, 747-200F, 747-300, 747-400, 747-400D, 747-400F, 747SR, and 747SP Series Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2009-0718; Directorate Identifier 2009-NM-025-AD; Amendment 39-16212; AD 2010-05-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6974. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Model DHC-8-100 and DHC-8-200 Series Airplanes, and Model DHC-8-301, -311, and -315 Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2009-0712; Directorate Identifier 2009-NM-152-AD; Amendment 39-16205; AD 2010-04-12] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6975. A letter from the Federal Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers (RIN: 0551-AA80) received March 19, 2010 to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6976. 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 Certain Categories of Archaeological Material from the Pre-Hispanic Cultures of the Republic of El Salvador [CBP Dec.: 10-01] (RIN: 1505-AC23) received March 3, 2010 to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6977. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Chile Earthquake Occurring in February

2010 Designated as a Qualified Disaster Under Section 139 of the Internal Revenue Code [Notice 2010-26] received March 16, 2010 to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6978. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Deemed Dispositions by Individuals Emigrating from Canada (Rev. Proc. 2010-19) received March 16, 2010 to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6979. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Update for Weighted Average Interest Rates, Yield Curves, and Segment Rates [Notice 2010-24] received March 16, 2010 to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6980. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — *James R. Thompson v. United States* Court of Federal Claims No. 06-211 T [IRB No.: 2009-22] received March 17, 2010 to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6981. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Qualified School Construction Bond Allocations for 2010 [Notice 2010-17] received March 19, 2010 to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6982. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Reduced 2009 Estimated Income Tax Payments for Individuals with Small Business Income [TD 9480] (RIN: 1545-BI89) received March 3, 2010 to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6983. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Qualified Research Expenses-Extraordinary Expenditures for Utilities (UIL 41.51-01) received March 19, 2010 to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6984. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Examination of returns and claims for refund, credit, or abatement determination of correct tax liability (Rev. Proc. 2010-20) received March 19, 2010 to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6985. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Determination of Issue Price in the Case of Certain Debt Instruments Issued for Property (Rev. Rul. 2010-11) received March 19, 2010 to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6986. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Interim Guidance on Measurement of Continuity of Interest in Reorganizations [Notice 2010-25] received March 19, 2010 to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6987. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — 2010 Calendar Year Resident Population Estimates [Notice 2010-21] received March 22, 2010 to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6988. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Tier II Issue — Non-Performing Loans Directive #1 [LMSB Control No: LMSB-4-0110-003] received March 22, 2010 to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6989. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Determination of Housing Cost Amounts Eligible for Exclusion or Deduction for 2010 [Notice 2010-27] received March 22, 2010 to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6990. A letter from the Chief, Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Name Change of Two DHS Components [CBP Dec. 10-13] received March 10, 2010 to the Committee on Homeland Security.

6991. A letter from the Chief, Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Prohibitions and Conditions for Importation of Burmese and Non-Burmese Covered Articles of Jadeite, Rubies, and Articles of Jewelry Containing Jadeite or Rubies [CBP Dec. 10-04] (RIN: 1505-AC06) received March 18, 2010 jointly to the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Ways and Means.

6992. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Agriculture, transmitting proposal to implement the settlement of a case involving claims of alleged discrimination jointly to the Committees on the Judiciary and Agriculture.

6993. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Economic Development Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revisions to the EDA Regulations [Docket No.: 080213181-91417-02] (RIN: 0610-AA64) received March 17, 2010 jointly to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure and Financial Services.

6994. A letter from the Administrator, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's report on the Preliminary Damage Assessment information on FEMA-1871-DR for the State of North Carolina jointly to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Appropriations, and Homeland Security.

REPORTS ON 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. OBERSTAR: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 1174. A bill to establish the Federal Emergency Management Agency as a cabinet-level independent agency in the executive branch, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 111-459, Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. OBERSTAR: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. House Resolution 197. Resolution to commend the American Sail Training Association for its advancement of character building under sail and for its advancement of international goodwill; with an amendment (Rept. 111-460, Pt. 1). Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

Mr. WAXMAN: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 1258. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to prohibit manipulation of caller identification information, and for other purposes; with amendments (Rept. 111-461). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. WAXMAN: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 3125. A bill to require an inventory of radio spectrum bands managed by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration and the Federal Communications Commission; with an amendment (Rept. 111-462). 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 Foreign Affairs discharged from further consideration.

House Resolution 197 referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

TIME LIMITATION OF REFERRED BILL

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XII the following action was taken by the Speaker:

[The following action occurred on March 26, 2010]

H.R. 2989. Referral to the Committee on Ways and Means extended for a period ending not later than April 30, 2010.

[The following action occurred on April 13, 2010]

H.R. 1174. Referral to the Committee on Homeland Security extended for a period ending not later than September 30, 2010.

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. WAMP:

H.R. 4992. A bill to require employers of first responders to pay for certain judgments against, and other costs incurred by, those first responders that arise out of their conduct in the course of official duty; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. SCHWARTZ (for herself, Mrs.

CAPPS, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. FARR, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. WATSON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mrs. DAHLKEMPER, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Ms. DeLAURO, and Mr. DEFAZIO):

H.R. 4993. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure more timely access to home health services for Medicare beneficiaries under the Medicare Program; to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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 Mr. LEWIS of Georgia (for himself,

Mr. LEVIN, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. STARK, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. TANNER, Mr. POMEROY, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. KIND, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. YARMUTH, and Mr. BECERRA):

H.R. 4994. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce taxpayer burdens and enhance taxpayer protections, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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. PAUL:

H.R. 4995. A bill to restore the American people's freedom to choose the health insurance that best meets their individual needs by repealing the mandate that all Americans obtain government-approved health insurance; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, 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. FOXX (for herself, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. LAMBOURN, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. BROWN of Georgia, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. ROHR-ABACHER, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. FLAKE, Mrs. LUMMIS, and Mr. DUNCAN):

H.R. 4996. A bill to provide for congressional approval of national monuments and restrictions on the use of national monuments; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. LIPINSKI:

H.R. 4997. A bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2011 through 2015 for the National Science Foundation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science and Technology.

By Mr. HILL:

H.R. 4998. A bill to establish and to expand partnerships that promote innovation and increase the economic and social impact of research by developing tools and resources to connect new scientific discoveries to practical uses; to the Committee on Science and Technology.

By Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. PITTS, Mr. POSEY, and Mr. DUNCAN):

H.R. 4999. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the mandate that individuals purchase health insurance; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ANDREWS:

H.R. 5000. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to ensure health care coverage value and transparency for dental benefits under group health plans; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. BACA:

H.R. 5001. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to provide that an individual's entitlement to any benefit thereunder shall continue through the month of his or her death (without affecting any other person's entitlement to benefits for that month) and that such individual's benefit shall be payable for such month only to the extent proportionate to the number of days in such month preceding the date of such individual's death; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BURTON of Indiana:

H.R. 5002. A bill to end the cycle of illegal immigration in the United States and withdraw Federal funds from States and political subdivisions of States that interfere with the enforcement of Federal immigration law; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Homeland Security, and 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 Mrs. CAPITO:

H.R. 5003. A bill to increase the loan guarantee fee for rural housing loans guaranteed under section 502(h) of the Housing Act of 1949; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia:

H.R. 5004. A bill to amend section 1004 of title 39, United States Code, to include that it is a policy of the Postal Service to ensure reasonable and sustainable workloads and schedules for supervisory and management employees and to clarify provisions relating to consultation and changes or terminations in certain proposals; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. GRIFFITH (for himself, Mr. INGLIS, Mr. JONES, Mr. ROGERS of

Alabama, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. OLSON, Ms. JENKINS, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. WAMP, Mr. BROWN of Georgia, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. BONNER, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. ADERHOLT, and Mr. DUNCAN):

H.R. 5005. A bill to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Education and Labor, the Judiciary, Natural Resources, House Administration, Appropriations, and 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. HASTINGS of Florida (for himself, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. TOWNS, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. WATSON, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. NORTON, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. RUSH, Mr. SABLON, and Mr. CAO):

H.R. 5006. A bill to require the President to call a White House Conference on Haiti; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, 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. LANGEVIN (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY):

H.R. 5007. A bill to authorize the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to make grants to assist small business concerns located in areas affected by a major disaster and high unemployment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Ms. MARKEY of Colorado (for herself, Mr. BACA, Mr. BERRY, Mr. BOREN, Mr. BOYD, Mr. BRIGHT, Mr. CHILDERS, Mr. COOPER, Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee, Ms. GIFFORDS, Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN, Mr. HILL, Mr. KRATOVIL, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. MELANCON, Mr. MINNICK, Mr. MURPHY of New York, Mr. NYE, Mr. ROSS, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. SHULER, Mr. SPACE, Mr. TANNER, and Mr. WILSON of Ohio):

H.R. 5008. A bill to amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to require annual progress toward meeting fiscally responsible 5- and 10-year deficit and debt targets; to the Committee on Rules, 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. MATHESON:

H.R. 5009. A bill to designate certain lands in the Wasatch Mountains of Salt Lake County, Utah, as wilderness, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin:

H.R. 5010. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to require that not less than 10 percent of the amounts made available for certain high-speed rail projects be expended through small business concerns owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Small Business, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speak-

er, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. OWENS:

H.R. 5011. A bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to support State and tribal government efforts to encourage owners and operators of privately held farm, ranch, and forest land containing maple trees to make their land available for access by the public for maple-tapping activities under programs administered by States and tribal governments; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Ms. TITUS:

H.R. 5012. A bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch to establish a weekend and holiday feeding program to provide nutritious food to at-risk school children on weekends and during extended school holidays during the school year; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN (for herself, Mr. KLEIN of Florida, Mr. BOEHNER, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. PENCE, Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. PETERS, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. HIMES, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. ADLER of New Jersey, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. ELLSWORTH, Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ):

H. Con. Res. 260. Concurrent resolution recognizing the 62nd anniversary of the independence of the State of Israel, and reaffirming unequivocal support for the alliance and friendship between the United States and Israel; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. RAHALL (for himself, Mr. MOLLER, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, and Ms. WOOLSEY):

H. Res. 1236. A resolution honoring the coal miners who perished in the Upper Big Branch Mine-South in Raleigh County, West Virginia, extending condolences to their families and recognizing the valiant efforts of emergency response workers at the mine disaster; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. BOREN (for himself, Mr. COLE, Mr. RAHALL, Ms. FALLIN, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. LUCAS, Ms. RICHARDSON, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. HONDA, Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, and Mr. BACA):

H. Res. 1237. A resolution honoring the life of Wilma Pearl Mankiller and expressing condolences of the House of Representatives on her passing; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. HASTINGS of Washington (for himself and Mr. BISHOP of Utah):

H. Res. 1238. A resolution directing the Secretary of the Interior to transmit to the House of Representatives certain information relating to the Secretary's Treasured Landscape Initiative, designation of National Monuments, and high priority land-rationalization efforts; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. COURTNEY (for himself, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. HIMES, Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PUTNAM, and Mr. SESTAK):

H. Res. 1239. A resolution commending the University of Connecticut Huskies for their historic win in the 2010 NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Tournament; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. DELAURO (for herself, Mr. EHLERS, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

of Texas, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. SIRES, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, and Ms. SLAUGHTER):

H. Res. 1240. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Global Youth Service Day; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey:

H. Res. 1241. A resolution supporting the right of Israel to defend itself against terrorists and the Israeli construction of new security fences along the border of Egypt; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. PRICE of North Carolina (for himself, Mr. JONES, Mr. KISSELL, Mrs. MYRICK, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. COBLE, Mr. SHULER, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, Mr. WATT, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. MCHENRY, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. OLSON, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Ms. FOXX, Mr. INGLIS, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. MILLER of North Carolina, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. HOLDEN, and Mr. HOYER):

H. Res. 1242. A resolution congratulating the Duke University men's basketball team for winning the 2010 NCAA Division I Men's Basketball National Championship; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. QUIGLEY:

H. Res. 1243. A resolution expressing sympathy for the people of the Republic of Poland in the aftermath of the devastating plane crash that killed the country's President, First Lady, and 94 other high ranking government, military, and civic leaders on April 10, 2010; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. RODRIGUEZ (for himself, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. McDERMOTT, and Mr. CAPUANO):

H. Res. 1244. A resolution recognizing the National Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition for its now five-year effort to promote cyber security curriculum in institutions of higher learning; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. TIAHRT:

H. Res. 1245. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Value Added Tax is a massive tax increase that will cripple families on fixed income and only further push back America's economic recovery; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

MEMORIALS

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

250. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Virgin Islands, relative to Resolution No. 1734 urging the United States Congress to enact Employee Free Choice Act, pursuant to; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

251. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Virgin Islands, relative to Resolution No. 1742 urging the Congress to make St. Croix a National Heritage Area; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

252. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the State of Washington, relative to Senate Joint Memorial 8026 memorializing that the Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision immediately initiate its emergency rule-making process; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 197: Mr. ROYCE, Mr. BRADY of Texas, and Mr. THORNBERRY.

H.R. 208: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia and Mr. ROGERS of Michigan.

H.R. 211: Mr. POLIS, Mr. HIMES, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. COBLE, Ms. GRANGER, and Mr. HOEKSTRA.

H.R. 223: Mr. GARAMENDI.

H.R. 235: Mr. TEAGUE and Mr. MEEKS of New York.

H.R. 272: Mr. COBLE.

H.R. 275: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, and Ms. BALDWIN.

H.R. 413: Mr. PASTOR of Arizona, Mrs. HALVORSON, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. ELLISON, and Mr. HILL.

H.R. 422: Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. ARCURI, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. CHAFFETZ.

H.R. 442: Mr. ROYCE, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. KRATOVL, Mr. BRADY of Texas, and Mr. THORNBERRY.

H.R. 444: Mrs. MALONEY.

H.R. 476: Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. KUCINICH, and Mr. RYAN of Ohio.

H.R. 537: Mr. COSTA.

H.R. 544: Mr. KINGSTON.

H.R. 635: Ms. WATSON.

H.R. 667: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.

H.R. 690: Mr. KINGSTON, Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN, and Mr. CUELLAR.

H.R. 704: Mr. ACKERMAN.

H.R. 707: Mr. PALLONE.

H.R. 723: Ms. SUTTON.

H.R. 745: Ms. WOOLSEY.

H.R. 832: Mr. McDERMOTT.

H.R. 878: Mr. WAMP.

H.R. 914: Mr. FORBES.

H.R. 930: Mr. PITTS.

H.R. 943: Mr. FORBES.

H.R. 978: Mr. LATOURETTE.

H.R. 1032: Mr. TIAHRT.

H.R. 1067: Mr. WAMP.

H.R. 1074: Mr. ROYCE, Mr. BRADY of Texas, and Mr. THORNBERRY.

H.R. 1137: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 1177: Mr. HONDA, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. KISSELL, and Mr. WITTMAN.

H.R. 1191: Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California.

H.R. 1210: Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. CAPUANO, and Mr. KISSELL.

H.R. 1229: Mr. WAMP.

H.R. 1310: Mr. ADLER of New Jersey and Mr. LYNCH.

H.R. 1311: Mr. JONES.

H.R. 1403: Mr. FORBES.

H.R. 1458: Mr. McKEON and Mr. MICHAUD.

H.R. 1483: Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 1521: Mr. HUNTER.

H.R. 1547: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia and Mr. SIMPSON.

H.R. 1549: Ms. RICHARDSON.

H.R. 1578: Mr. RYAN of Ohio.

H.R. 1587: Mr. BOSWELL.

H.R. 1588: Mrs. BACHMANN.

H.R. 1625: Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. ROYCE, and Ms. TITUS.

H.R. 1806: Mrs. HALVORSON.

H.R. 1818: Mr. WALZ, Mr. COSTELLO, and Mr. FORTENBERRY.

H.R. 1831: Mr. HELLER.

H.R. 1835: Mr. SESSIONS.

H.R. 1956: Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 2067: Ms. SUTTON, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. RICHARDSON, and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.

H.R. 2110: Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas.

H.R. 2135: Mr. TIAHRT.

H.R. 2136: Mr. KENNEDY and Mr. FORBES.

H.R. 2149: Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. SABLON, Mr. NADLER of New York, and Mr. SIRES.

H.R. 2156: Mr. PASTOR of Arizona.

H.R. 2255: Mr. FORBES.

H.R. 2262: Ms. BERKLEY and Mr. HINCHEY.

H.R. 2305: Mr. WAMP.

H.R. 2324: Mr. DOYLE, Mr. McDERMOTT, and Mr. BERMAN.

H.R. 2373: Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. PETERS, and Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN.

H.R. 2378: Mr. WELCH, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. DUNCAN, and Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 2381: Ms. LEE of California, Mr. KUCINICH, and Ms. CHU.

H.R. 2406: Mr. WAMP.

H.R. 2433: Mr. PLATTS.

H.R. 2472: Mr. TAYLOR.

H.R. 2478: Mr. WALZ, Mr. TEAGUE, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. LANGEVIN, and Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee.

H.R. 2485: Mr. MICHAUD.

H.R. 2553: Mr. JONES.

H.R. 2555: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 2672: Mr. GERLACH.

H.R. 2817: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.

H.R. 2850: Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia.

H.R. 2866: Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN and Mr. EHLERS.

H.R. 2900: Mr. BURTON of Indiana.

H.R. 2906: Mr. NYE.

H.R. 3012: Mr. ELLSWORTH.

H.R. 3017: Mr. MAFFEI.

H.R. 3059: Ms. BORDALLO.

H.R. 3077: Mr. RYAN of Ohio and Ms. RICHARDSON.

H.R. 3099: Mrs. HALVORSON.

H.R. 3116: Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Mr. BARROW.

H.R. 3125: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. SCOTT of Georgia.

H.R. 3164: Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California.

H.R. 3186: Mr. HALL of New York, Mr. STARK, Mr. RAHALL, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. WOOLSEY, and Mr. HEINRICH.

H.R. 3202: Mr. MORAN of Virginia and Mr. SIRES.

H.R. 3243: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.

H.R. 3266: Mr. MORAN of Virginia.

H.R. 3286: Mr. BOREN, Mr. PETERS, Mr. GARAMENDI, and Mr. GUTIERREZ.

H.R. 3287: Mr. CARNAHAN.

H.R. 3315: Mr. CARNAHAN and Mr. HINCHEY.

H.R. 3335: Mr. TOWNS.

H.R. 3380: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. WAMP, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. HARE, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. CONYERS, and Mr. ROONEY.

H.R. 3400: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey and Mr. RADANOVICH.

H.R. 3407: Mr. HALL of New York.

H.R. 3454: Mr. BACHUS.

H.R. 3487: Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. SIRES.

H.R. 3488: Mrs. LOWEY.

H.R. 3491: Mr. HOLT.

H.R. 3512: Mr. ROONEY.

H.R. 3636: Mr. COSTA.

H.R. 3652: Mr. MATHESON, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. HILL, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. NYE, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. CAPUANO, Mrs. MYRICK, and Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN.

H.R. 3653: Mr. ISRAEL.

H.R. 3655: Mr. MOLLOHAN.

H.R. 3668: Mrs. LUMMIS, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. SMITH of Washington, and Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 3715: Mr. GUTIERREZ and Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 3720: Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. MCINTYRE, and Mr. PETERSON.

H.R. 3731: Mr. SERRANO.

H.R. 3734: Mr. CARNAHAN.

H.R. 3745: Mr. BAIRD.

H.R. 3757: Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia.

H.R. 3790: Mr. MATHESON, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. HALL of New York, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, Mr. PETERSON, Mr. CARTER, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. CASTLE, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. SESTAK, Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. CROWLEY, and Mr. BACHUS.

H.R. 3931: Mr. SHADEGG.
H.R. 3939: Mrs. DAVIS of California.
H.R. 3943: Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York and Mr. RAHALL.
H.R. 3990: Mr. RYAN of Ohio.
H.R. 3995: Ms. NORTON, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Ms. WATSON.
H.R. 4000: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. HARE, and Mr. MEEKS of New York.
H.R. 4004: Mr. RANGEL.
H.R. 4021: Mr. PASTOR of Arizona and Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California.
H.R. 4037: Mr. ETHERIDGE and Mr. CARNAHAN.
H.R. 4054: Mr. CASTLE and Mr. CARNAHAN.
H.R. 4091: Mr. HALL of New York.
H.R. 4107: Mr. PAUL, Ms. FOXX, and Mr. BURTON of Indiana.
H.R. 4109: Mr. GUTIERREZ, Ms. RICHARDSON, and Mr. BACA.
H.R. 4116: Mr. COSTA, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. CHU, and Ms. GRANGER.
H.R. 4149: Mr. POMEROY.
H.R. 4195: Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. STARK, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 4197: Mr. DELAHUNT.
H.R. 4223: Mr. BOUCHER.
H.R. 4239: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 4241: Mr. MCINTYRE and Mr. LEE of New York.
H.R. 4256: Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. BOUSTANY, and Mr. PASCRELL.
H.R. 4274: Ms. KILROY.
H.R. 4278: Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. BARTLETT, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. WAMP, Mr. YARMUTH, and Mr. CASTLE.
H.R. 4286: Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas.
H.R. 4302: Mr. PETERSON, Mr. PETERS, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey, Mr. WILSON of Ohio, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. HIMES, Mr. REYES, Mr. SIREs, Mr. LIPINSKI, and Mr. CARNAHAN.
H.R. 4306: Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mr. MACK, and Mr. WELCH.
H.R. 4322: Ms. RICHARDSON, Ms. BALDWIN, and Ms. FUDGE.
H.R. 4325: Ms. RICHARDSON and Ms. WOOLSEY.
H.R. 4347: Mr. KILDEE.
H.R. 4378: Mr. MORAN of Virginia.
H.R. 4386: Mr. LANGEVIN.
H.R. 4391: Mr. QUIGLEY.
H.R. 4400: Mr. STUPAK and Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee.
H.R. 4402: Mr. COHEN, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, and Mr. OWENS.
H.R. 4443: Mr. MURPHY of New York and Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas.
H.R. 4486: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia and Ms. GIFFORDS.
H.R. 4525: Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. WITTMAN, and Mr. MARSHALL.
H.R. 4530: Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. CLAY, Mr. PALLONE, and Ms. WATSON.
H.R. 4538: Ms. SUTTON.
H.R. 4541: Mr. KILDEE and Mr. BERMAN.
H.R. 4543: Ms. PELOSI.
H.R. 4568: Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 4580: Ms. NORTON, Mr. PASCRELL, and Ms. RICHARDSON.
H.R. 4594: Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. STARK, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. SESTAK, and Ms. SPEIER.
H.R. 4598: Mr. HILL and Mr. CARNEY.
H.R. 4601: Mr. DEFazio, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, Mr. WELCH, and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 4616: Mr. NADLER of New York, Mr. RUSH, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. SIREs, Mr. CAO, and Mr. MEEKS of New York.
H.R. 4640: Mr. FORBES and Ms. KILROY.
H.R. 4649: Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. CAO, Mr. LANCE, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. MACK,

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. SCHOCK, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. BLUNT, Ms. JENKINS, Mr. LINDER, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. FORBES, Mr. PENCE, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. OLSON, Mr. KAGEN, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. ELLSWORTH, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mrs. BACHMANN, and Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida.
H.R. 4662: Mr. HONDA, Mr. COBLE, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, and Mr. HOEKSTRA.
H.R. 4677: Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. BERMAN, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. PASTOR of Arizona, Ms. MCCOLLUM, and Mr. CARNAHAN.
H.R. 4678: Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. FILNER, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. CARNEY, and Mr. SIREs.
H.R. 4689: Mr. BOREN, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. NORTON, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. COHEN, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, and Mr. CARNAHAN.
H.R. 4693: Mr. MCMAHON, Mr. WILSON of Ohio, Mr. MEEK of Florida, and Mr. LUJÁN.
H.R. 4697: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.
H.R. 4701: Ms. KILROY.
H.R. 4709: Mr. LYNCH, Mr. BOUCHER, and Mr. CAPUANO.
H.R. 4710: Mr. ROSS.
H.R. 4711: Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey, Mr. BISHOP of New York, and Mr. POLIS.
H.R. 4722: Ms. NORTON, Mr. WELCH, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. HINCHEY, and Mr. PASTOR of Arizona.
H.R. 4732: Mr. HALL of New York.
H.R. 4733: Mr. ACKERMAN and Ms. LEE of California.
H.R. 4734: Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. TONKO, Mr. FILNER, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. KILROY, Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. RICHARDSON, and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 4748: Mrs. DAHLKEMPER.
H.R. 4755: Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. PETERS, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, and Mr. KUCINICH.
H.R. 4796: Mr. SIREs, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, and Mr. BRALEY of Iowa.
H.R. 4800: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia and Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin.
H.R. 4806: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 4812: Mr. DOYLE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. SESTAK, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. KAGEN, Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mrs. LOWEY, Mrs. CAPPS, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, and Mr. WILSON of Ohio.
H.R. 4830: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 4842: Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, and Mr. PASCRELL.
H.R. 4844: Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Ms. RICHARDSON, and Mr. MCCAUL.
H.R. 4869: Ms. NORTON, Mr. CLEAVER, and Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas.
H.R. 4870: Mr. BERMAN, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. BACA, and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.
H.R. 4876: Mr. KIND, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. KIRK, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. LEE of New York, and Mr. EHLERS.
H.R. 4883: Mr. HENSARLING.
H.R. 4886: Mr. ACKERMAN and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 4890: Mr. FILNER.
H.R. 4894: Mr. SOUDER, Mr. JONES, Mr. MCCARTHY of California, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. ISSA, Mr. LEE of New York, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mrs. MYRICK, and Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida.
H.R. 4896: Mrs. BACHMANN.
H.R. 4901: Mr. SOUDER, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. PITTS, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, and Mr. SIMPSON.

H.R. 4903: Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mr. UPTON, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. MACK, Mr. PITTS, Mr. RADANOVICH, and Mrs. SCHMIDT.
H.R. 4904: Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Mr. BURGESS.
H.R. 4908: Mr. HOLT and Mrs. CHRISTENSEN.
H.R. 4909: Mr. PAULSEN.
H.R. 4920: Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. FUDGE, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. SIREs, Ms. CLARKE, Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. SERRANO.
H.R. 4923: Mr. FARR, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. SPRATT, Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas, Mr. RAHALL, Ms. MARKEY of Colorado, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. BACA, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. EDWARDS of Texas, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. HALL of New York, Mr. GORDON of Tennessee, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. SNYDER, Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut, and Mr. ROSS.
H.R. 4925: Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. NORTON, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. TONKO, Mr. CARNAHAN, and Mrs. DAVIS of California.
H.R. 4934: Mr. BISHOP of Utah.
H.R. 4947: Mr. SABLON, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. COURTNEY, and Mr. POMEROY.
H.R. 4951: Mr. WALDEN, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. UPTON, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. INGLIS, Mr. KLINE of Minnesota, and Mr. BURTON of Indiana.
H.R. 4958: Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. CLAY, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, and Mr. CARNAHAN.
H.R. 4959: Mr. BLUMENAUER and Mr. ENGEL.
H.R. 4961: Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. RUSH, Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas, Mr. RANGEL, and Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan.
H.R. 4972: Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. PITTS, and Mrs. MILLER of Michigan.
H.R. 4982: Ms. JENKINS, Mr. FORBES, and Mr. WITTMAN.
H.R. 4990: Mr. CONYERS.
H.J. Res. 1: Ms. MARKEY of Colorado.
H.J. Res. 11: Mr. MCCOTTER.
H.J. Res. 63: Mr. INGLIS.
H.J. Res. 67: Mr. INGLIS.
H.J. Res. 76: Mr. ORTIZ.
H.J. Res. 77: Mr. PUTNAM, Mr. LEE of New York, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. COLE, Mr. SCHOCK, and Mr. KINGSTON.
H. Con. Res. 94: Ms. NORTON and Mr. WALZ.
H. Con. Res. 200: Mr. HOLT.
H. Con. Res. 230: Mr. ORTIZ and Mr. PLATTS.
H. Con. Res. 232: Mr. SHULER.
H. Con. Res. 241: Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky, Mr. WAMP, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. BOREN, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. CARTER, Mrs. BONO MACK, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. SULLIVAN, Ms. FALLIN, Mr. NUNES, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Ms. JENKINS, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. SCHOCK, and Mr. DELAHUNT.
H. Con. Res. 252: Mr. PIERLUISI and Mr. HARE.
H. Con. Res. 258: Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas.
H. Res. 173: Mr. LATHAM, Ms. TITUS, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. CARDOZA, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. SALAZAR, Ms. WATERS, Mr. BOREN, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. COHEN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. RICHARDSON, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. CARNEY, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. SHULER, and Mr. BRALEY of Iowa.

H. Res. 200: Mr. SIREs.

H. Res. 213: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.

H. Res. 375: Mr. WALZ, Ms. NORTON, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. CONYERS, and Ms. WOOLSEY.

H. Res. 394: Mr. WAMP.

H. Res. 443: Mr. HODES.

H. Res. 763: Mr. SENSENBRENNER.

H. Res. 767: Mrs. NAPOLITANO and Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia.

H. Res. 855: Mr. SOUDER, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. ORTIZ, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. WALZ, Ms. NORTON, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. ROONEY, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. FOSTER, Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mr. COOPER, and Mr. BUYER.

H. Res. 898: Mr. HALL of New York.

H. Res. 919: Ms. NORTON.

H. Res. 928: Mr. SIREs, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. MCCOLLUM, and Mr. RYAN of Ohio.

H. Res. 992: Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. CROWLEY, and Mr. BURTON of Indiana.

H. Res. 996: Mr. SARBANES, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. DRIEHAUS, Mr. MATHESON, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. BARROW, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. DINGELL, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. FORBES, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mrs. CAPPS.

H. Res. 1006: Mr. CULBERSON.

H. Res. 1019: Mr. PLATTS, Mr. SHUSTER, and Mr. MAFFEI.

H. Res. 1033: Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. WAMP, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. MCMAHON, and Mr. BOOZMAN.

H. Res. 1104: Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. SCHOCK, and Mr. MCCAUL.

H. Res. 1106: Mr. CLEAVER and Mr. RYAN of Ohio.

H. Res. 1121: Mr. ROE of Tennessee.

H. Res. 1132: Mr. CARNEY, Mr. CHILDERS, Mr. HUNTER, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. SESTAK, and Mr. WU.

H. Res. 1138: Mr. CONYERS and Mr. HODES.

H. Res. 1153: Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. NADLER of New York, Mr. SPACE, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. SABLAN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PIERLUISI, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. MCCLINTOCK,

Mr. HINCHEY, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. WILSON of Ohio, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. LAMBORN, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. HOLDEN, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. SIREs, Mr. CARNEY, Mr. HALL of New York, Mr. WALZ, Mr. SHULER, Mr. CAO, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. ARCURI, and Mr. BUCHANAN.

H. Res. 1161: Mr. SIREs, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. CAO, and Ms. HIRONO.

H. Res. 1166: Mr. MURPHY of New York.

H. Res. 1187: Mr. ALEXANDER, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. FILNER, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. REYES, Mr. NADLER of New York, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. WALZ, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. COHEN, Ms. BERKLEY, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Mr. SCOTT of Georgia.

H. Res. 1196: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. CONAWAY, Ms. MARKEY of Colorado, Mr. NUNES, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. SIMPSON, Ms. JENKINS, Mr. PUTNAM, Mr. POMEROY, Mr. LINDER, Mr. OLSON, and Mr. FORTENBERRY.

H. Res. 1206: Ms. GIFFORDS, Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. LAMBORN, and Mr. PERRIELLO.

H. Res. 1211: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. LEWIS of California, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CAO, and Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas.

H. Res. 1224: Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas, and Ms. BALDWIN.

H. Res. 1229: Mr. COBLE, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SABLAN, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. BARTLETT, and Mr. HARPER.

H. Res. 1230: Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. JORDAN of Ohio, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. PAUL, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. HALL of Texas, and Mr. CARTER.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

The Amendment to be offered by Mr. OBERSTAR of Minnesota, or his designee, to H.R. 4715, the "Clean Estuaries Act of 2010", does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

DELETION OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

H.R. 413: Mr. WAMP.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 1 of rule XXII, petitions and papers were laid on the clerk's desk and referred as follows:

112. The SPEAKER presented a petition of City of North Miami Beach, Florida, relative to Resolution No. R2010-12 urging the Florida State Legislature to pass legislation to advocate for and encourage governmental entities to go "green"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

113. Also, a petition of Wilton Manors, Island City, Florida, relative to Resolution No. 3518 supporting The Broward League of Cities 2010 State Legislative Action Plan; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

114. Also, a petition of Wilton Manors, Island City, Florida, relative to Resolution No. 3520 urging the repeal of Chapter 2009-125, Laws of Florida; to the Committee on House Administration.

115. Also, a petition of City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, relative to Resolution No. 10-55 expressing the City's opposition to permitting offshore oil drilling within the waters of the State of Florida; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

116. Also, a petition of Wilton Manors, Island City, Florida, relative to Resolution No. 3522 urging the Legislature of Florida to support SB 1354; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

117. Also, a petition of The Legislature of Rockland County, New York, relative to Resolution No. 86 urging the Secretary of Health and Human Services to provide additional financial aid to school districts facing an influx of Haitian refugees, Haitian immigrants, and Haitian-Americans returning to the U.S. because of the recent earthquake; jointly to the Committees on the Judiciary and Education and Labor.



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No. 51

Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JEANNE SHAHEEN, a Senator from the State of New Hampshire.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Lord of all power and might, the Author and Giver of all good things, nourish us with Your goodness. Lead our lawmakers to trust You with all their hearts, for You resist the proud who confide in their own strength. May our Senators be honest with You about their insufficiencies and discover the sufficiency of Your wisdom that can meet their deepest needs. In these challenging days, embolden them with new confidence in the ultimate triumph of Your providence.

We pray in Your sovereign Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JEANNE SHAHEEN 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. BYRD).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, April 13, 2010.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JEANNE SHAHEEN, a Senator from the State of New Hampshire, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mrs. SHAHEEN thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Madam President, today in the Senate, there will be a period of morning business for 1 hour. Senators will be allowed to speak for up to 10 minutes each. The majority will control the first 30 minutes and the Republicans will control the final 30 minutes. Following morning business, the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to H.R. 4851, the Extension Act. We will recess from 12:30 until 2:15 p.m. today for our caucus luncheons. By a previous unanimous consent agreement, at 2:15 p.m. all postcloture time will be yielded back and the Senate will adopt the motion to proceed. The bill will then be open to amendments, and Senators should expect rollcall votes this afternoon.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 3194

Mr. REID. Madam President, I am told that S. 3194 is at the desk and due for a second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill by title for the second time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3194) to provide collective bargaining rights for public safety officers employed by States or their political subdivisions.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I object to any further proceedings with respect to this bill at this time.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard. The bill will be placed on the calendar.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF STAFF

Mr. REID. Madam President, things were very hectic when the health care legislation passed. At the end of that work period, I acknowledged the contribution of several staff members to helping Congress pass health care reform—the most significant domestic policy legislation in a long time. There were so many valuable players on this team that it was inevitable, in the haste of things, that perhaps I would forget someone who was very important. I did that extemporaneously and tried to go over all my staff, but I had many things running through my mind, and I inadvertently left off one of the key players on my staff who worked so hard; that is, a man by the name of Bruce King, who worked so actively on health care, especially as it related to reconciliation. More importantly, he is a good person, a fine human being, and the American public is fortunate that people as talented and as selfless as he have chosen public service.

Bruce came to my office after, among other things, serving in a senior role for two distinguished Senators from New Jersey—Senators LAUTENBERG and Corzine. He did that for more than a decade. He also served as staff director for the Senate Budget Committee. He graduated from Tulane University and Stanford School of Law and attended the prestigious London School of Economics, so his academic background is really sensational. He was one of the first people I hired when I became Democratic leader, and it turned out to be one of the best decisions I made for the people of Nevada and the country. He is very easy to work with, very bright, and very helpful all of the time.

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



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S2215

He has staffed me so well on so many issues in the last 6 years. He did an especially exceptional job on the reconciliation bill we put together to make improvements on the Senate-passed health care bill. Reconciliation is perhaps the most complicated process the Senate undertakes, and thanks to Bruce and the staff of the Senate Budget Committee, we produced a reconciliation bill that both helped millions of Americans and remained consistent with arcane and complex Senate rules.

I wish to publicly acknowledge Bruce and thank him for all he has done on health care and countless other issues for the people of Nevada and the people of America.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader is recognized.

FINANCIAL REGULATION REFORM

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, a lot of smart people have thought about how to prevent a repeat of the kind of financial crisis we saw in the fall of 2008. We have heard plenty of ideas. But if there is one thing Americans agree on when it comes to financial reform, it is absolutely certain they agree on this: Never again—never again—should taxpayers be expected to bail out Wall Street from its own mistakes. We cannot allow endless taxpayer-funded bailouts for big Wall Street banks. That is why we must not pass the financial reform bill that is about to hit the floor.

The fact is, this bill wouldn't solve the problems that led to the financial crisis; it would make them worse. The American people have been telling us for nearly 2 years that any solution must do one thing—one thing: It must put an end to taxpayer-funded bailouts for Wall Street banks. It must put an end to taxpayer-funded bailouts for Wall Street banks. This bill not only allows for taxpayer-funded bailouts of Wall Street banks, it institutionalizes them. Let me say that again. This bill not only allows for taxpayer-funded bailouts for Wall Street banks, it actually institutionalizes them. The bill gives the Federal Reserve enhanced emergency lending authority that is far too open to abuse. It also gives the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the Treasury broad authority over troubled financial institutions without requiring them to assume real responsibility for their mistakes. In other words, it gives the government a backdoor mechanism for propping up failing or failed institutions.

A new \$50 billion fund would be set up as a backstop for financial emergencies. But no one honestly thinks—no one honestly thinks—that \$50 billion would be enough to cover the kinds of crises we are talking about.

During the last crisis, AIG alone received more than three times that from the taxpayers—three times that. Moreover, the mere existence of this fund will ensure that it gets used. The mere existence of the fund will ensure that it gets used. And once it is used up, taxpayers will be asked to cover the balance. This is precisely the wrong approach.

Far from protecting consumers from Wall Street excess, this bill would provide endless protection—endless protection—for the biggest banks on Wall Street. This bill would provide endless protection for the biggest banks on Wall Street. It also directs the Fed to oversee 35 to 50 of the biggest firms, replicating on an even larger scale the same distortions that plagued the housing market and helped trigger a massive bubble we will be suffering from for years. So imagine this: If you thought Freddie and Fannie were dangerous, how about 35 to 50 of them?

Everyone agrees on the need to protect taxpayers from being on the hook for future Wall Street bailouts, but this bill would all but guarantee that the pattern continues. We need to end the worst abuses on Wall Street without forcing the taxpayer to pick up the tab. I repeat: We need to end the worst abuses on Wall Street without forcing the taxpayer to pick up the tab. That is what Republicans will be fighting for in this debate. The taxpayers have paid enough already. Taxpayers have paid enough already. We are not going to expose them to even more pain down the road.

The way to solve this problem is to let the people who made the mistakes pay for them. The way to solve the problem is to let the people who made the mistakes pay for them. We won't solve this problem until the biggest banks are allowed to fail.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period of morning business for 1 hour, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the time equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with the majority controlling the first half and the Republicans controlling the final half.

EXTENDING UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, pending before the Senate is the question of whether we are going to extend

unemployment compensation to the unemployed across our Nation. It is an issue which recurs in the Senate with some frequency, and it baffles me why we continue to argue over this question. We have 8 million people actively unemployed and another 6 million long-term unemployed people. We know many of them have lost their jobs because of this recession through no fault of their own.

If my colleagues have taken the time, as I have, to meet with these people, they know they are in desperate straits. There are approximately 4 or 5 unemployed people in America for every available job. When I sit down and listen to the stories of how they are applying online for job after job after job—a great week for them is if one or two potential employers even follow through with an e-mail of inquiry about their background. It is a frustrating, fearful existence, and it is one that is made no easier by the actions of the Senate.

We have been lurching from month to month, creating uncertainty as to whether we are going to send these people a check to live on—a basic unemployment benefit check of some \$300 a week. Consider how many of us could survive, and even some with families, with that meager amount of money. The argument is made on the other side of the aisle by many that when you give people \$300 a week—\$1,200 a month—it just makes them lazy and they stop looking for jobs. I wonder how many in this Chamber could live on \$300 a week for everything—rent, utilities, maybe a mortgage payment, school clothing, kids' shoes, food—the basics. And don't forget that most of these people, when they lost their jobs, also lost their health insurance. So they live not only in fear of not finding a job but in fear that tomorrow morning a diagnosis or an accident can devastate everything they have ever saved for in their lives. Yet every 4 or 5 weeks we go through this drill on the floor of the Senate about whether we are going to help these people.

Some on the other side of the aisle say this is all about the deficit. We have to get serious about this deficit, and here is our opportunity: unemployment benefits for those unemployed across America. This is where we will make our stand for fiscal sanity. Where were they when the last President asked us for a bank bailout of \$800 billion? How many on that side of the aisle were saying to President Bush: I am sorry, we can't bail out banks because we have a deficit. I don't remember hearing that argument. When it came to bank bailouts, the other side of the aisle, by and large—not all of them but by and large—voted for hundreds of billions of dollars for banks in distress. But when it comes to unemployment compensation to help families in distress, then we have to really consider this deficit.

I am troubled by this. We know that when natural disasters strike our

States, we rally to the victims. We rally to their needs and we say: Take care of the immediate challenge. We will deal with the budgetary issues at the appropriate time, but let's take care of the emergency. Yet when it comes to unemployment compensation and health insurance for the unemployed, many on the other side of the aisle don't consider that an emergency. It would be an emergency if they had to live on \$300 a week and it was cut off. It would be an emergency if they had no health insurance. Why do we do this? I think we are a better Nation. We should be a better Senate than to turn our backs on people truly in need, and that is what is going on here.

We have to urge our colleagues to come forward with amendments, if that is what they want, offer the amendments and debate them, which is their right in the Senate.

But then let's get on with it. Let's have a final vote. Let's give some security and peace of mind to the people who have lost their unemployment benefits because of the objections of one Senator. That is right. One Senator stood and objected and 21,000 Americans lost their unemployment benefits last week; 21,000 will lose them this week, and in my State 16,000 a week are falling off unemployment, 16,000 people who will not receive that \$300 check.

What are they going to do? Well, I think we should respond to this need immediately, and we ought to take into consideration the fact that when it comes to this recession, there are some positive things, some good news, not nearly enough of it. Too many people still unemployed.

The unemployment figures, though very slightly better, show at least we are moving on the positive side of the ledger. We need to do so much more. Every single Senator on the other side of the aisle who is voting against unemployment benefits also voted against President Barack Obama's efforts to put money into our economy and bring us out of this recession. It is starting to work. I hope it works soon.

We know what this devastation did to us. We lost some \$17 trillion in value across America because of this recession. That is more than 1 year's gross domestic product, the sum total value of all the goods and services produced in America in 1 year. We lost that in this recession. Many of us felt it personally in our savings accounts and retirement accounts. A lot of people felt it as their businesses strained and some failed. Others felt it when they lost their jobs and had no place to turn—\$17 trillion dragged out of this economy.

The President came in and said: Let's put a stimulus bill in, a bill for reinvestment in America. First, let's give a tax cut, the largest tax cut to working families that we have seen in recent times. Then let's provide a safety net for those who lost the jobs and State and local governments still struggling

and, finally, let's invest in some projects that we will build for America's future: school construction and highways and airports and a variety of things.

I went to Spring Valley, IL, over the break. It is a small town. But they were celebrating because \$4½ million from the President's stimulus package was going to make it to Spring Valley, IL, to build sewer lines which they have needed for decades.

As we had a press conference in this tiny town, where a weekly newspaper and radio station showed up, there were people lining the streets in front of their homes saying: Thank you. Our homes have been flooded out every time we have had a serious rainfall in this town. Now we are going to have storm sewers here, and local people are going to work to build them. The jobs are not going to be exported. The jobs are going to be right here in America, good-paying jobs.

So those investments are going to pay off for Spring Valley, for Illinois, and for this Nation for a long time to come. When it came right down to it, only a handful of Republican Senators would even help us pass that important measure.

After this, we are going to have the financial regulatory reform bill. It is going to be a fight because, you see, the very banks and financial institutions which dragged us into this recession are fighting tooth and nail to stop the reform and regulation we need to avoid a repeat of this crisis.

Shame on us if, at the end of the day, we do not put enough oversight and regulation into law to protect Americans from another recession such as this one. A lot of mistakes were made. Some were made by government, but a lot were made by the private sector which, in their excitement and greed, got involved in some policies which were indefensible.

We have read now—there are more and more books coming out analyzing this situation—that many financial institutions took advantage of the opportunities presented to them. They took advantage of a lot of people.

One of the important parts of financial regulation is to make sure we are going to have a cop on the beat, a consumer protection agency. Oh, the business interests are howling over this. The banks are howling over this notion that we would have an agency that literally looks out for the consumers of America. Have you ever been through a real estate closing with a stack of papers about this tall and they turn the corner of each of the pages and say: Keep signing. About 20 minutes from now, we are going to hand you a check and that home will be yours.

About halfway through you pause and you say: What am I signing?

Oh, standard forms. The government requires it. Just a lot of paperwork. Keep rolling.

Off you go. Buried in one of those papers may be language that could de-

stroy you financially. I am not making this up, because prepayment penalties on mortgages trapped a lot of people into these exploding subprime mortgages and they could not get out. They lost their homes, they lost their savings, they lost everything, and they filed for bankruptcy because of one sentence in one form in a stack of papers pushed at you at a real estate closing.

Is it too much to ask that we have one agency of government, one agency that keeps an eye out for those tricks and traps which lure people in and can destroy them financially? How many of us have taken the time with our monthly credit card statement to flip it over and read the back page, that faint print, tiny line after tiny line that is almost impossible, even for someone who went to law school, to understand?

Virtually none of us do that. How many of us take a careful look at those letters you get from the credit card companies which kind of announce maybe the interest rate is going up?

Well, the fact is, even those with good education, even with business backgrounds, we might struggle to understand what all this means. The terms keep changing. Is it not appropriate we have at least one agency of government that steps back and says: This should not be allowed. This violates public policy.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission makes sure the toaster you bought at the store is not going to catch fire in your kitchen. The Food and Drug Administration makes sure the food you buy at the store is safe to eat. They make sure the pills you bought through the pharmacy are going to be safe and effective. Is it too much to ask that we have one agency, one watchdog oversight agency, that takes a look at all the financial information that is thrown at American families and businesses every single day?

My old friend, Dale Bumpers, former Senator from Arkansas, had a saying that applies here. They say, of the financial institutions and consumer protection, they hate this like the devil hates Holy water.

The notion that there would be one agency looking out for consumers and families across America when it comes to financial instruments, credit card applications and mortgages, that, to me, is very basic. I am working on several amendments with my colleagues on financial regulatory reform that Senator KAY HAGAN from North Carolina and I are interested in. She is going to take the lead on an issue she worked on in North Carolina in the legislature; that is, these payday loans, title loans, same day loans. These are awful.

The States that try to regulate them find that no matter how they write the law, within a matter of days, these organizations and companies find a way to scoot around it, to charge people

outrageous interest rates for small loans which most of them default on because it is impossible to pay back. They roll over and roll over and finally they cannot pay them. Then they face foreclosures and the kind of seizures of property that many of us are aware of. That, to me, is an outrage.

Years ago, Senator Talent, a Republican from Missouri, heard from the Pentagon that these payday loan operations, those fly-by-night loan operations, were undermining our military because they were parking themselves outside military installations and making these loans. When our men and women in uniform got dragged into them, they became financially insolvent to the point where some had to leave the military, they were so broke.

So we made it a matter of policy across the United States that these predatory lenders could not lend money to military families. We said: As a matter of law and national security, we were going to stop their business with military families. But we did not protect the rest of America, and we should.

Senator HAGAN has an amendment to deal with that. Senator SANDERS of Vermont is going to address the issue of what is a fair interest rate in America. Should there be a limit? I think there should. I do believe there should be. I have my own bill. He has his. Between us, we hope one of them will pass, to establish that at least there is a limit to how much you can be charged in interest on a loan you take out.

This is a critically important bill that is going to come up soon. Senator DODD, of Connecticut, has done a great job. He is the chairman of the Banking Committee. He will be bringing this bill to the floor. So far we have had no Republican support. There have been some indications in the media recently that they are now interested in the bill. We welcome them if they want to come on board and help us pass it.

But if they do not, if they want to stand for these financial institutions, to just say no when it comes to reform and regulation, then that is a debate worth engaging in.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Rhode Island.

RHODE ISLAND FLOODING

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I rise to describe the catastrophic flood damage in my home State of Rhode Island and to ask all my colleagues, to appeal to my colleagues, for swift action to deliver to our families and businesses badly needed aid.

Rhode Island saw more rain last month than any month on record: over 16 inches, with over 5 inches of rain falling on March 30 alone. The devastation wrought by these storms exceeds anything in living memory.

Meteorologists who have reviewed this are calling it the most damaging

storm to hit the "Ocean State" since the Great September Gale of 1815, a monstrosity of a storm that tossed ships through the streets of Providence and carried out to sea the shops on Newport's Long Wharf.

Rhode Island's floods of March 2010 could not have come at a worse time. They struck a Rhode Island already weakened by the worst recession we have seen since the Great Depression. Even before the recent flooding, unemployment in our State stood near 13 percent and homelessness was on the rise. We have already experienced 27 months of severe recession. For a year, we have been in the top three States for unemployment.

It is too soon yet to estimate the full economic impact of the March flooding, but it is clear the flooding's economic damage will be prolonged and severe.

The peak storm of March 30 and 31 brought commerce in the entire region to a halt. Route I-95, the main artery that connects the major cities of the New England and Middle Atlantic States, was closed for 2 full days, flooded out, following a surge of the Pawtuxet River.

The river, which has a flood level of 9 feet, crested at its alltime high, almost 21 feet on March 31. It is hard to overstate the importance of this highway to Rhode Island's economy because it is not only a regional artery, but it is the main commuter artery for our home State.

Similarly, Amtrak's Northeast service was closed for 5 days due to flooding of the track in our State.

This next picture shows the Warwick Mall. It is one of the largest shopping centers in the State. It was completely flooded following the unprecedented rainfall of March 30 and 31. You can see the top of a car right up to the hood. You can see the entry is completely flooded. There are thousands of Rhode Islanders who work at the mall, others use the mall, many have kiosks who sell within the mall. Suddenly, with very little warning, they are temporarily unemployed.

I toured this complex with its owner, Aram Garabedian, just after the water had gone down. The water was only about an inch deep when we were there. You could still see—it says "Food Court." You could still, in the food court, some of the flooding was vanilla and some of the flooding was chocolate because of the ice cream stores that had lost their power and melted into the flood.

Mr. Garabedian and his workers are in the middle of a heroic job cleaning up, and they are determined to reopen as soon as possible. But it could be weeks or even months until all those stores are back in business. Those, of course, are weeks and months when families who depend on paychecks from this mall will need to survive on unemployment benefits; unemployment benefits, I might add, with which our friends on the other side are trying to interfere.

Some store owners doubt whether they will be able to reopen at all. I recently held a telephone townhall during which a store owner named Kathleen told me about the damage to her store in the mall which had been in business for 25 years. Her payment counter and her register were destroyed. The drywall in her store was ruined. Little if any of the merchandise or fixtures appear to be salvageable. Kathleen's flood insurance company has claimed that her damage is not covered. She said if she doesn't receive some grant assistance from the government, she will not be able to reopen, after 25 years.

We can see from this picture the scale of hardship that business owners are facing as they begin to clean up their stores. It is difficult to relay in a single speech the extent of the devastation wrought by the floodwaters. Flooding in places where, as I went around the State, the thing I heard more than anything else was: 35 years I have lived here, never even water in the basement, and now look at this.

I wish to take a few more minutes to show some pictures that represent the damage. These were taken as I toured throughout the State in the immediate aftermath of the storms. This is the Natick pumping station which sits near a river bank in west Warwick. It is the sewage treatment plant overwhelmed by the floodwaters and largely submerged. The flooding crippled the station's ability to process sewage and caused essentially all of the untreated waste that would have gone through it to flow out into local waterways. This station was submerged. The Warwick sewage treatment plant was submerged, and Bristol's sewage treatment plant was also inundated. The Warwick treatment plant became really part of the river. It just flowed right through and across it. So for days Rhode Island's floodwaters were contaminated with raw sewage.

On March 30, I visited Glen Rock Reservoir in south Kingstown with town manager Steve Alfred. As we can see, the reservoir has overflowed the banks of this dam and has washed out this section of Old Usquepaugh Road. This is a very typical photograph of the sort of road damage we are going to see from the flooding in Rhode Island. When we have water like that flowing as white water over a road, one can imagine what damage it does to the road. Our infrastructure requirements to rebuild from this are going to be very considerable.

At the height of the rains, Providence Street, a main road in west Warwick, a small, largely working class, great Rhode Island town which was probably, per capita, hardest hit of any of the towns, its main street looked more like a river than a road. This picture shows local emergency workers out rescuing people who had been flooded into their homes and apartments, driving them through the street with a boat and a jet ski. It is not often

that one sees local emergency workers driving down the streets of Rhode Island towns on boats and jet skis, but that is what it took to get the residents out who had been trapped by the unprecedented floodwaters.

The day after the rain subsided, the flooding was still substantial. This is the scene behind a local mechanic's shop on Elmwood Avenue in Cranston. As we can see, the garage building is almost entirely underwater. Nearby I was able to see cars and trailers for this mechanic's shop just under the surface. Later on when the water came down, I could see that under this were cars. The water is right over the roof of the cars and so they are not visible now, but what I thought was an empty parking lot was filled with cars. I went back and saw it later when the waters had gone down.

Here is a different shot of Elmwood Avenue, looking across to an old mill complex filled up through the ground floor. The floodwaters are not only covering the road itself but the entire parking lot and into the mill building itself. The local residents obviously were distraught by this kind of damage. The bridge that is down below this, the Wellington Avenue bridge, thankfully, held against the pressure of the water rushing past and over it. But two other bridges in Coventry and North Providence were so damaged by the flow of the water past and over them, they have been condemned and have to be completely rebuilt.

I went up to Cumberland to visit Mayor Dan McKee and to see some of the damage there. His first responders took us in this boat out to Hope Global, which is a company on the banks of the river. It is the Blackstone River this time, not the Pawtuxet. This river was the cradle of the Industrial Revolution. The famous Slater Mill in Rhode Island, a true spark that lit off America's Industrial Revolution, was a riverside mill that used the rivers for power. Historically, Rhode Island's working waterfront has been a riverfront where mills up and down the Blackstone, up and down the Pawtuxet, up and down other rivers took advantage of water power. Then, as we moved from water power to electric power, they stayed. But they stayed very vulnerable to the rivers. So from Hope Global down to Ashaway Line and Twine Manufacturing Company and Bradford Printing and Finishing, down near Westerly, the riverside businesses in Rhode Island were swamped and flooded.

Now businesses that had existed for generations, that employed many hundreds in each plant, lie submerged and silent and out of work.

One of the things that impressed me during the course of my visit was the resilience and courage shown by Rhode Islanders. We took this picture at the Okonite Company. It was also covered by the floodwaters, but it was nice to see both the American and the Rhode Island flags flying high, notwith-

standing the devastation that surrounded them. This struck me as a fitting example of the perseverance and resilience of Rhode Islanders responding to this crisis. It is often true that trying times bring out the best in people. Certainly this flood brought out the best in many folks in Rhode Island.

Everywhere I have traveled in the days since the floods began, I have seen neighbors helping neighbors, and I have witnessed the extraordinary diligence and courage of the municipal workers, the first responders, the police and fire folks, public works, literally all municipal employees who worked long hours, wet hours, cold hours, tired hours helping their communities.

A couple in Westerly had to evacuate their home in 30 minutes as the floodwaters picked their house up off its foundation. Amazingly, after all they had been through, they were still more concerned for their neighbors than for themselves. They wrote to me:

... as tough as things are for now, we see so many of our neighbors that had no insurance and they lost everything. Many of the people who were renting apartments were given five minutes to evacuate. As we were leaving, we took all of the food from our fridge and were able to distribute it to some of the folks running for cover. Life seems to throw lots of curveballs and you never anticipate when you get up in the morning that you will be homeless by the afternoon but Mother Nature has a mind much her own.

I want to point out that the word on the Rhode Island State flag is "hope." As I look at this picture and see the flag flying high amidst the devastation from the flood below, I am reminded of countless acts of kindness and generosity, indeed hope, which have accompanied the troubling, sad, and difficult events of recent weeks. The flooding has destroyed homes, closed businesses, and ended jobs, but the people of Rhode Island have stood up remarkably well. Spirits are strong. But the job of rebuilding roads, bridges, sewage treatment plants, public facilities, homes, and businesses is a colossal and daunting task for a State 27 months into severe recession.

Now we in Rhode Island need help from the Federal Government to fulfill that hope and to help us rebuild. Just as Congress was quick to respond in the wake of Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and following the flooding in Iowa and North Dakota in 2008 and 2009, I ask my colleagues to work with my senior Senator, JACK REED, and I to bring needed assistance to Rhode Island as quickly as possible.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. KYL. Madam President, may I be advised when I have spoken for 7 minutes.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Yes.

JUDICIAL CONFIRMATION PROCESS

Mr. KYL. Madam President, I rise to talk about the judicial confirmation

process, given the fact that President Obama will soon be nominating someone for the Supreme Court to replace retiring Justice Stevens. There has been a lot written about this subject. It would be useful, at least from my standpoint, to clarify or elucidate how I view this and how I think a lot of my colleagues do on both sides of the aisle.

The question of a filibuster arises. The best way to put into context what folks mean when they talk about judicial activism as potentially bringing about a filibuster is to at least describe what I think about that. All of us in the Senate, whether we have supported a filibuster or not, would agree that all else being equal, it is not something we should do for judicial nominations, especially for a Supreme Court nomination. There has not been a successful filibuster of a Supreme Court nomination, thankfully, despite the fact that the last two nominees—especially the last nominee to the Court by President Bush, there was an attempt to filibuster, and even then-Senator Obama, now President Obama, participated in that attempt.

What would cause Senators to not just vote against a nominee but actually go so far as to try to prevent the nominee from receiving a vote up or down?

There is this concept of extraordinary circumstance that evolved about 4 years ago when the so-called Gang of 14, seven Republicans and seven Democrats, agreed that it would not be appropriate to filibuster a judicial nominee except in extraordinary circumstances. That is where that phrase "extraordinary circumstance" came about.

There are a lot of Members of the Senate who believe one of those extraordinary circumstances could be a situation where a nominee is particularly activist in the sense that it would appear that he or she goes on to the bench with preconceived notions about specific kinds of societal issues or questions that may come before the Court and a bias toward resolving those matters one way or the other, as opposed to simply taking the facts of each case and reading the law to see what the precedents of the Court are, what the statute is, if there is a law involved, and deciding the case on the merits of that specific case irrespective of the judge's views about the question from a political or philosophical standpoint.

There are a couple of recent examples I wanted to bring to the attention of my colleagues which illustrate the kind of activism to which I and some of my colleagues would object.

The chairman of the Judiciary Committee, the Senator from Vermont, was quoted in Politico today as making a statement which I think illustrates the issue well. Senator LEAHY is quoted as saying this, that he thinks one of the questions to the potential nominees is going to be this: "Do you share our concern about the fact that the court

always seems to side with the big corporate interests against the average American?"

Aside from the fact that I think that is not a fact, that the Court always sides with big corporate interests against the average American—that is, obviously, a very politically charged statement—the question is, Is it really appropriate to ask a potential judicial nominee whether that nominee is going to side with big corporate interests or whether the nominee would want to side with some other kind of interest in the litigation? Well, I think it is appropriate to ask whether the nominee has biases one way or the other that would preclude him or her from deciding a specific case on the merits of that case as opposed to whether, from a general philosophical standpoint, that nominee would be on the side of big corporate interests or always against the big corporate interests.

When Chief Justice Roberts was before our committee, he was asked a question like this, a question about whether he thinks it would be appropriate to rule for the big guy or the little guy, and I think he said it correctly. He said: If the law supports the big guy, then the big guy should win the case. If the law supports the little guy, then the little guy should win the case. You do not go on the bench with an idea that: I am always going to rule against the big guy or—commenting on Senator LEAHY's statement here—I am going to rule against big corporate interests. That presents a dilemma, by the way, where you have corporation A suing corporation B. I do not know how you are going to resolve that if you are always going to rule against big corporate interests.

But the point is, to go on the bench with that attitude would be wrong. The big corporation might have the right law and facts in a particular case. In another case, the person suing or being sued by the big corporate interest might have the law and the facts on their side. That should be the determination of how the case comes out, not your preconceived notions—for example, your intention to always rule against "big corporate interests."

Here is another example: One of my colleagues on the Judiciary Committee on a television program said he wanted to see a nominee who would be hard on Executive power. We have three branches of government: the executive, the legislative, and the judicial. The Constitution sets up a delicate balance among those three branches of government, and there is a constant tension between the powers exerted by the branches and against the branches. Those tensions result in litigation sometimes.

Sometimes there is a claim that the Executive is taking too much power unto himself. That charge was made against virtually every President who, in my memory, has ever served. It certainly is being made against the President today. But you do not go on the

bench with the notion that: If a case ever comes before me involving a contest of whether the Executive has the power to do something versus the legislature, for example, I am going to rule against the Executive. I am going to be hard on Executive power. That would be wrong. You do not even know what the facts of the case are and what the precedents might be relating to those particular facts.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator has used 7 minutes.

Mr. KYL. Thank you, Madam President. I appreciate it.

I will conclude with this particular example: You want a judge who is going to be on the Court to say: I understand the balance of power. I have read the law, and I understand the precedents that relate to this particular kind of fact pattern. And based on the law and based on these facts in this particular case, I believe that either the Executive should have the power or not. But I do not come to that conclusion based upon a preconceived political, ideological notion that we need to rein in Executive power any more than I believe we should rein in legislative power or judicial power.

This is what a lot of us mean when we talk about judicial activism. It is the difference between someone who comes to the Court with firmly held philosophical beliefs that would cause that individual to be more predisposed to rule on the basis of those beliefs than on the facts of the case or the law in any particular situation. So when my colleagues on the Democratic side say they are looking for a nominee who will have a penchant for ruling in a particular way in particular cases, you will see objections from people like me who will say: No, that is wrong. That is activism. That is basing decisions on ideology rather than on what the law is.

I will conclude by saying this: The President has it fully within his power to nominate a candidate for Supreme Court Justice who generally has been seen as deciding cases based on their merits rather than from an ideological perspective. But to the extent the President chooses someone who has been very active politically and has expressed strong political views or who from the bench has seemingly made decisions based upon a preconceived ideological notion rather than on the basis of the facts and law to come before him or her, in that situation, then, you would tempt opposition and potentially even a filibuster depending upon how serious the situation was or how extraordinary it was, to cite the particular phrase.

So I hope that sort of sets the groundwork here for our evaluation of the President's nominee and for a public understanding of the circumstances under which some of us would oppose a nominee and under which perhaps even, in an extraordinary situation, a filibuster would result. I certainly hope that is not the case, that that does not happen.

I am sure the President realizes that if he nominates someone who does come clearly to the attention of the Senate from a perspective of even-handed justice, that nominee will be treated fairly, that the process could move much more quickly, and that the outcome can be much more favorable.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Texas.

NASA

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, this week President Obama is scheduled to visit the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. Many Americans expect the President to explain his vision for human space flight in the decades ahead. I would say this vision is long overdue.

One year after celebrating its 50th anniversary, as well as the 40th anniversary of the first Moon landing, the White House has proposed a budget that will force NASA to abandon its historic role in space exploration. The administration has stated its intention to terminate NASA's Constellation Program, our Nation's flagship endeavor to return Americans to the Moon and beyond. After \$9 billion invested over 7 years, the President would leave NASA adrift and without a mission. I hope the President will announce that he has thought better of that initial decision, and this morning I would like to take a few minutes to explain why I think he should do so.

Texas is proud of our close connection with NASA's human space flight program, and we recognize how it has helped transform the greater Houston area into a high-tech leader. Johnson Space Center has helped send astronauts into space for nearly four decades. We would love for the President to visit the Johnson Space Center and see how we have helped our astronauts complete their missions and return home safely.

We remember the region endured several years of challenges following the termination of the Apollo Program in 1974. We saw some of the brightest minds at the Johnson Space Center end their careers. The future of the entire industry seemed uncertain.

NASA Administrator Charles Bolden was recently quoted as saying:

With all due respect to everybody who opposes the budget—

In other words, the cut of the Constellation Program—

a very serious and real concern is the jobs.

Now, he was correct in one way: the cancellation of Constellation, combined with the retirement of the space shuttle, could cost the region as many as 7,000 direct jobs, according to the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership. With all due respect to General Bolden, Texas support for human space flight is not merely based on parochial concerns. We understand the local economic impact would be nothing compared to the strategic opportunity cost for the United States of America.

For one thing, the end of the Constellation Program will increase our dependence on Russia to transport Americans to the International Space Station—a space station built with billions of American taxpayer dollars. Earlier this month, NASA signed a \$335 million contract with Russia that will cost our country nearly \$56 million per seat on Russian spacecraft—or about \$8 million more per seat than what NASA paid in 2007. So we are literally having to depend on Russia to transport American astronauts to the International Space Station. Many Americans are already concerned about this arrangement. Many Americans suspect the Russians will raise the price once the shuttle program is ended because we will be completely dependent on them to transport our astronauts. Indeed, the head of the Russian space agency recently stated his eagerness to renegotiate costs to access the International Space Station following the retirement of the space shuttle.

Soon, Russia will not be the only nation to surpass the United States in human space flight. The governments of China and India have also accelerated their investments. All of these nations are investing in human space flight not only because they want their flags to be the first on Mars but also because they know those investments will generate a good return.

Innovations that will help humans survive and thrive in space will likely create as many spinoff technologies in the 21st century as we saw in the first decades of the space age. If we do not incubate these life-supporting technologies here in America, our children will have no choice but to import them from other countries. Apollo 13 astronaut Jim Lovell put it this way. He said the end of the Constellation Program “will have catastrophic consequences on our ability to explore space and the spin-offs we get from space technology.” He said: “They haven’t thought through”—talking about the administration’s proposed cut in the Constellation Program—“the consequences.” I think that is correct.

The White House has said it believes the private sector can play a larger role in space exploration, and I would say they are right—to a point. We certainly want to encourage private investment and public-private partnerships in the development of space technologies. We want to help NASA become an even better partner with aerospace entrepreneurs. Leveraging the potential of the private sector is no less an imperative in space exploration than it is in other fields of innovation. But NASA cannot pass the baton of human space flight to a runner who is still trying on its shoes. The private sector requires years of further development before it can send a human being to the Moon or compete with America’s international rivals.

The Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel—a group of independent experts

created by Congress—reported in January that:

No manufacturer of Commercial Orbital Transportation Services is currently qualified for human-rating requirements, despite some claims and beliefs to the contrary.

The panel has warned:

To abandon the [Constellation program] for an alternative without demonstrated capability or proven superiority is unwise and probably not cost effective.

NASA was assigned the constellation mission for the same reason it took on Apollo: It remains the only entity in our country capable of getting the job done.

So what should President Obama say when he visits the Kennedy Space Center this week? I would like to offer just a few thoughts.

First, I hope President Obama would recognize the tremendous uncertainty his administration has created by proposing to end the Constellation Program without identifying a viable alternative.

Second, he should make clear that Congress has the last word on the Constellation Program—which we do—and that NASA will follow the current law during this fiscal year and every year Congress continues to fund the program.

Third, I hope he would articulate a clear vision for the future of human space flight in our country, and that vision would include a clear exploration mission, a timeline, goals, and a destination. And I hope his vision would include a new commitment to the Constellation Program, which remains America’s best bet to ensure America’s continued leadership in human space exploration.

Fourth, I hope he would make a budget request that will fund this vision and that it will carefully be aligned with this exploration plan.

Just yesterday, a number of American heroes made clear what a vision for American space flight should look like. More than two dozen former astronauts and flight directors, as well as a former NASA Administrator, wrote an open letter to the President. They wrote, in part:

America’s greatness lies in her people: she will always have men and women willing to ride rockets into the heavens.

America’s challenge is to match their bravery and acceptance of risk with specific plans and goals worthy of their commitment.

NASA must continue [to be] at the frontiers of human space exploration in order to develop the technology and set the standards of excellence that will enable commercial space ventures to eventually succeed.

I hope President Obama listens to those words. I hope the President listens to Congress, which has given broad bipartisan support to the Constellation Program over many years. And I hope he listens to the millions of Americans who understand that human space flight represents our Nation’s future, not merely its past.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. UDALL of New Mexico). The Senator from Texas.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, President Obama is going to travel to Florida where many expect him to discuss the adverse reaction to his proposed budget for NASA and possible alternative options for the future of America’s manned space exploration capability. I know members of the NASA family and everyone living in communities that directly support the space program—from Maryland to Utah to Florida to Alabama to Louisiana and Texas—are, at the very least, uncertain about the President’s budget proposal and how it would affect America’s leadership role in space exploration. I share those concerns. Every American should share those concerns, because it will determine our role in science, space, research, exploration, and so much that will determine our future economically and in security.

I hope the President has heard the concerns that have been raised since the budget was proposed and that he will take the opportunity to meet with the individuals who have worked hard to keep America in the forefront of space exploration for the last four decades. I also hope the President will recognize that he has an opportunity to reach out on a truly bipartisan basis for a new plan for NASA’s future that prioritizes scientific research, protects our \$100 billion investment in the International Space Station, and ensures that America retains independent human space flight capability.

Last month, I introduced legislation that would provide such a framework. Identical companion legislation has been introduced in the House of Representatives by SUZANNE KOSMAS, a Democrat from Florida, BILL POSEY, a Republican from Florida, and others. This can be a starting point for bridging the differences between the President’s proposal and the views of many in Congress. We may miss this opportunity to work together to build on America’s legacy of space leadership unless the administration looks at its current approach and makes some alterations.

The budget proposal put forward by the administration has created an unnecessary choice between the President’s plans for increased research and development and the necessary transition to the next generation of technology on the one hand and maintaining a viable space station and an American human space flight capability over the next few years on the other. We can do both.

Let me be clear why I believe the President should make his visit to Florida the beginning of a renewed discussion on the country’s civil space program. I believe the President’s advisers, in reaching for a bold new direction for NASA, failed to take into account some very important realities of our space program. The decision made in 2004 to discontinue the shuttle program at the end of 2010 was based on an International Space Station service end date of 2015. Two years ago this

Congress, in an overwhelming bipartisan vote, enacted the NASA authorization bill of 2008, which stated that the space station should be kept in service until at least the year 2020. In the bill, we also required NASA to ensure that the capability to continue shuttle flights in support of the space station should be preserved for a period of time to give the new administration a chance to consider its plan for NASA.

The Obama administration ordered a full review of U.S. human space flight plans as part of its 2010 budget request and eventually deferred a final proposal until the 2011 budget request. One of the important points made by the review committee, chaired by the eminently qualified Norman Augustine, was that the space station should be extended until 2020, which is what Congress has already said is the policy of our country. The President's proposal accepts the recommendation which is consistent with the 2008 bill and which I believe is vital to making full use of the scientific research capacity that is only just now being made available with the completion of the space station assembly. However, I remind my colleagues that the space station was designed and built with the idea that the shuttle would be available to keep it supplied and maintained, and to be able to bring large replacement or spare parts up should they be needed in order to keep the space station functioning. The parts and equipment being flown on the last three remaining shuttle flights were selected from over 1,400 total items based on what would be needed for the station to be extended until 2015.

So while I commend the decision to extend the life of the station until 2020, flying the remaining shuttles scheduled for this year before completing an analysis of the station's needs based on a 2020 service date would surely be a mistake. We need to determine the parts and equipment needed to extend the station's life and ensure we have the capability to deliver them to the station. If we were to end the shuttle program as scheduled this year, we would be dependent on the Russian Soyuz vehicle and other possible cargo vehicles which lack the capability that the shuttle provides. Now let me remind all of those who are interested in the cost that using the Soyuz costs over \$50 million per person. Probably a minimum of six per year—well, six over a 2-year period, so at least three per year—would be about \$150 million a year. This is \$150 million that we could be using to extend America's capabilities for its crewed vehicle that we have on the drawing boards—the Constellation program. We could be putting that money to our use rather than paying the Russians for the Soyuz, for using their vehicle. The President's proposal fails to recognize this, thereby endangering our ability to sustain the station until 2020. My legislation would address this deficiency by keeping the shuttles as an option at a reduced rate

of two flights per year, but only until it can be determined that the station has parts and equipment on hand to keep functioning until 2020 in the absence of the shuttle's capability.

The President's proposal also relies on a still emerging commercial space industry to develop the launch and crew-carrying capability to replace the shuttle. I support the development of a commercial capability, but as a supplement to a NASA capability, and with the development—and proving out—of a cargo capability. We should take this first step in commercial development before committing our entire national human space flight effort to launch systems that would be another generation beyond the cargo capabilities currently being developed.

I remind my colleagues that much of the “business case” for a commercial system is based on the assumption of a viable space station. If the risk to station survivability presented by the President's proposal is not addressed, the case for investment in a commercial sector may weaken and the development of these capabilities may not even materialize. If this happens, America would have no long-term space flight capability and would need to rely completely on other nations for access to space. If an accident or technical issue results in the Russian Soyuz being unavailable for any extended period of time, the space station would very likely have to be abandoned and deorbited within a matter of months. Taking that level of risk is entirely unacceptable for a nation with our history of space leadership.

A nation with our heritage of stretching beyond the possible and reaching for the heavens deserves more. We need an approach that ensures the sustainability of the station, facilitates the transition to a replacement for the shuttle, and reduces the gap in our Nation's ability to reach space. My legislation would address these issues by allowing for the extension of shuttle if needed for station sustainability and authorizing the accelerated development of a NASA-owned replacement to the shuttle such as a shuttle-derived design using existing systems and capabilities and the current contractor workforce, which might be available in time to shorten our reliance on other nations for access to space after the shuttle is retired. All of this can be done while allowing for the change in NASA's long-term mission and the increase in scientific research and technology funding envisioned in the President's proposal. Simply moving—and this is how we can do it within a budget that does not increase spending—we can move the remaining shuttle flights scheduled for this year into 2011 and 2012, and adding the backup flight already prepared as a contingency would provide enough flexibility to complete the analysis of station needs and guarantee a cargo capability for an additional 2 years. It is possible to accomplish even this mod-

est but critical goal while holding the line on spending at the level in the President's budget. That is key, that we can do this within the President's own budget, yet extend our capabilities to have our control over the shuttles that would provide the space station what it needs to continue as we assess the needs to go on until 2020.

The principles necessary to bridge the gap between the President and Members of Congress have been set forward by my legislation that has also been introduced in the House. All that is needed to align these principles with the President's goals and existing budget realities is a willingness to make the effort and take the same risks that have been hallmarks of our Nation's commitment to space exploration. The bipartisan foundation is there to make a cooperative effort.

I stand ready to work with the President to bridge the differences between his budget proposal and the views of many in our Nation and many in Congress that the proposal places too much faith in unproven private sector alternatives to a NASA-managed replacement for the space shuttle and does not address the critical need to ensure the full and complete utilization and return on the investment in the International Space Station. For the sake of our Nation's space program and future generations of space pioneers, I hope when the President returns from his trip to Florida, he will accept my invitation to work together on a comprehensive space flight proposal that is worthy of our Nation and one that I think all of us who have worked on this issue for years—I am the ranking member of the Commerce Committee and I have been the chairman of the Space Subcommittee. I know we can do this. Senator NELSON of Florida, Senator LEMIEUX of Florida know this issue so well. We can do this if the President will work with us to come forward with a plan that is budget responsible and has the capability to extend our shuttles and make sure we utilize the investment we have already made in the space station.

Thank you, Mr. President. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire.

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to proceed as in morning business for 15 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

FINANCIAL REFORM

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I rise to speak a little bit about one of the major issues which we are about to take up here in the Senate and which has been discussed at considerable length throughout this country, and especially here in Washington, over the past 2 years as we have dealt with the financial crisis, and that is the issue of fiscal reform and financial reform.

The country went through a traumatic experience of inordinate proportions.

We were on the verge in the fall of 2008 of having our entire financial industry implode, and not only the big financial systems in New York City and around the country, but Main Street America was clearly at risk and had the potential to suffer massive damage.

That cataclysmic event didn't occur because we as a Congress and the administrations of President Bush and of President Obama took some very bold and aggressive action in the way of coming in and stabilizing the financial industry of this country. As a result, we did not have the type of events that were predicted.

Some had said if the financial institutions had been allowed to unravel, we would have been into another Depression-like period. One former Secretary of the Treasury projected that unemployment could have gone as high as 25 percent. Obviously, we have been through a difficult time. The recession has caused great harm. Americans have been under tremendous financial stress. But the damage that might have occurred has been muted to some degree by the actions we took. Now we are at least getting the TARP money back with interest from the banking industry. We are not getting it back from the automobile industry or AIG, but from the banking industry we are getting it back with interest, and we are going to actually make money for the American taxpayer, the stockholders in these various entities we had to support.

The question remains, how do we avoid this type of event occurring again. That involves a lot of different actions that should be taken, because the causes of this event were multiple. One of the causes was clearly that the Federal Reserve kept interest rates too low for too long and made money too readily available. Another cause was the Congress's own decision throughout the 1990s and the early part of this decade to basically promote—and in some instances force—lending for the purpose of buying homes, when the people buying the homes didn't have the wherewithal to support the obligation they were undertaking. The homes in many instances didn't have the value at which they were assessed. There was an assumption of appreciation that would occur that never occurred.

A third cause was plain, old-fashioned, horrible, and sometimes illegal underwriting, where people were essentially putting out loans in a totally inappropriate manner. Then those loans were being securitized. I have described it as an inverted pyramid, where possibly the person who was giving the loan was just interested in the servicing fees of making the loan, in the origination fees of making the loan, not in the actual obligations of the loan, and then the loan ending up being securitized out in the market. You had

all sorts of counterparty liability and multiple structure built on top of this one loan that basically didn't have either the asset value or the capacity of the individual to pay it back. That was the systemic event that was a function of bad underwriting.

So what can we do to correct this? Well, one thing we can do, obviously, is reform our financial structure in this country. It clearly wasn't up to the regulatory needs that were necessary, and there was clearly a lot of activity occurring in the financial markets that was wrong and inappropriate. There is this huge discussion going on now, bills have made their way through the House, and there has been a proposal from the administration—in outline form at least—and there is one from Senator DODD and specifics that have been brought forward in the Banking Committee. There is going to be a major attempt to reorganize our financial institutions.

I think that as we go down this path we have to be thoughtful and constructive. There is this fervor of populism sweeping across our Nation on this issue. The fires have been fanned by the White House and a lot of other people in a very inappropriate way. Populism isn't a good way to try to address something as complex as this type of issue. It is sort of like a beach ball bouncing down the beach that is caught up in the wind. That is the way this financial reform effort seems to be going forward. There is not a lot of thought behind it—just a lot of energy and talk, with ideas that may be politically attractive but in the end will probably do more harm than good.

Our goal should be three things: One, we should reform the systems. We need to put into place, to the fullest extent we can, changes in the way we regulate the financial structure so we avoid a future systemic event. It is pretty hard to project what the next systemic event will be, but we know what the last one was and we should be able to correct those problems. We can anticipate to some degree what the next events may be, and we should try to do that.

Second, we should recognize that we are in a competitive world, and that what we do in the United States to structure our financial system is going to determine whether the United States remains competitive with other nations that have sophisticated financial systems. It is very important that in doing this we not push offshore American jobs and American capital, because it becomes too onerous to manage capital and create jobs in the United States in the financial sector. We, in fact, should have as one of our goals—the first goal being addressing the system's risk—the desire to make America the best place in the world and the soundest place in the world to create capital and credit, so that the engine that drives our economy—remember, our economy is driven not by the government. I know the President

says the more you grow government, the more prosperity you get, and he is certainly trying to prove it, but that is not what drives our economy. What drives our economy is entrepreneurs, people willing to take risks, the initiatives by Americans to create jobs. You cannot do that unless you have credit, and you cannot do it unless you can get capital.

One of the great geniuses of our system, which has made us more competitive than the rest of the world, is that we have always been a place where capital and credit have been readily available to responsible people and risk-takers. We need to keep that atmosphere. When we are finished with this process, we should have a regulatory regime that addresses the issue of systemic risk and at the same time says to the world: bring your capital here; this is the best place to make a loan and underwrite entrepreneurial spirit.

Third—and this is tied to the second—we need to remember this is about Main Street, about making sure that on Main Street in America people have the wherewithal to take that risk, and to get that job, and to buy that house, but that they have it in a context of a sound banking system, one that is a supportive and strong one, and a sound financial system—not one that has been forced to retract as a result of excessive regulations being put on it here in Washington.

If we approach this in a thoughtful way, a pragmatic and constructive way, rather than this populist fervor, where we say everybody on Wall Street is evil, and everybody in banking is evil, and everybody who makes loans is evil—which seems to be the philosophy or theme around here—if we take a more constructive and thoughtful way, we will actually end up with a much stronger and better nation. Often these periods of populist fervor—and we have had a lot of them—Huey Long, William Jennings Bryan—the list is long. Those folks usually end up cutting off their nose to spite their face. These ideas sound good and have a nice jingoistic ring to them, but in the end it undermines the ability to do the basic purpose, which is to make America more prosperous and create more opportunity for Americans and create more jobs.

This is not an issue that needs to be partisan. We have a lot of big, complex questions here to address. With the exception of one, as far as I can tell, none of them has any partisan flavor to them of any significance. First, of course, is what do you do about “too big to fail.” First, it should not exist. There should be no business in this country that is too big to fail. Basically, any company, any business that makes bad decisions should not have some implied guarantee that it is going to be bailed out by the Federal Government or the American taxpayer. If you make a bad decision and put your financial house at risk, your stockholders should pay the price; your secured bondholders should pay the price,

not the American taxpayers. I think there is agreement on that.

On our side of the aisle we have some good ideas on how you end "too big to fail." As a practical matter, they are better ideas than have been put out by anybody else so far. But they are not partisan ideas. They are just good, sound policies as to how you accomplish this. It could be done. The best ideas have been put forward in a bipartisan way, by Senator WARNER from Virginia and Senator CORKER from Tennessee. That is the first issue. We should be able to reach a comprehensive agreement on that.

Second, of course, is how do you manage risk and structure our regulatory regime so they can see that risk coming and take action. I think there is consensus on both sides of the aisle. Basically, you set up some sort of risk council, where you bring key regulators in and make sure there is communication, you try to end the stovepipes, and you try to cross-fertilize the information, and you don't allow arbitraging regulators so people don't go out and hire the cheapest or weakest regulator. There is not much difference of opinion on that. We can reach agreement on that.

Third, of course—which is huge here—is the question of derivatives, which are very complex. There is no simple answer to this question, on this issue, when you look at the detailed language. What is the purpose of derivatives? It is to basically give the market liquidity, to make sure you have the ability to put out the credit, to make sure that when some business in America needs to protect itself from a downside risk it sees coming at it, it has the capacity to buy that type of protection in the market, that type of insurance. They are extremely important instruments for the purpose of basically being the insurance and the oil that makes the American machinery of entrepreneurship and job creation work. Big companies and smaller companies need them, but especially big companies need these instruments. They need to have them readily available in a way and in a form that makes them usable.

I have been working with Senator REED from Rhode Island for a number of months on almost all the technical issues of how to make the derivatives market stronger, better, and more sound, basically get more liquidity and transparency. On almost all issues we have a pretty good agreement and sense of where we can go. If we continue to work on it, hopefully, we can reach a complete agreement. We do have an issue on the question of mandated exchange treatment of derivatives, which I think can be resolved—I hope. It is not a partisan question. It is a question of how you do it best. That is the approach we should take.

Last is the issue of regulatory structure. Who should regulate what? That is a question of how best you line up the regulators to make sure there isn't

regulatory arbitrage where people try to shop for the best regulator. I strongly believe the Fed needs to be a major player in the regulatory structure. The Fed has shown itself to have the depth and professionalism and the resources to regulate effectively. I hope we would end up with a structure that would recognize that fact. I think there is general agreement on structure that can be reached here. Again, I think we can reach an understanding.

The issue where we have significant differences is consumer protection and how you deal with that. On our side, most of the folks strongly believe you cannot separate consumer protection from safety and soundness. The regulators who have the responsibility for safety and soundness should have the responsibility for consumer protection, and it should be at the same level so there is no question that the consumer receives the same type of attention and support that the regulators put into trying to make sure the banks the consumers get their loans from are safe and sound. When you separate the two and set up a freestanding, autonomous consumer agency, you create significant issues on safety and soundness. The purpose is to make our financial system stronger, not weaker. A separate independent consumer agency with potentially a political agenda or social justice agenda, which has nothing to do with safety or soundness, could easily undermine safety and soundness of the banking industry, especially the community banks—remember, these are the folks on Main Street—essentially creating an atmosphere where loans have to be made to people not based on safety and soundness but based on a social or political agenda of whoever runs the consumer agency that is independent and autonomous. It makes no sense. But, again, this is an issue that can be resolved.

There have been good ideas put forward by Senator SHELBY. At one time, we almost had an understanding between Senator SHELBY and Senator REID on this issue. So this is no reason, in my opinion, to stop the progress on getting a bipartisan, comprehensive bill. The only thing that stands between us getting a bipartisan, comprehensive bill, stopping that progress, is this political issue; the fact that the administration has two paths it can take. It can take the path where we reach a comprehensive, thoughtful, constructive bill that basically does what we need to do in the area of protecting the financial structure of this country from systemic risk and make sure we have the most competitive financial markets in the world and protect Main Street and make Main Street viable, allow people to get loans on Main Street, it can pursue a bill such as that or it can pursue a political bill, carrying the banner of populism forward on the theory that somehow they win points by doing that.

They may win short-term political points. I don't think they do, actually.

But in the long term, the effect that will have on our capacity to produce credit in this country for Americans who need credit in order to do things such as buy houses, send their kids to colleges, or basically just start a business and create jobs, it will be dramatically chilling, to be kind.

We will see a lot of the institutions which compete in this Nation having to go overseas. We will see a lot of companies that need to use derivatives in order to make their products salable and make sure they are not hit with unexpected cost increases or events which are out of their control unable to buy those instruments or obtain those instruments in the United States, so they will have to go overseas. We will see credit markets where consumers will end up paying higher interest rates because they are basically paying for people who are not paying back their loans at a much higher rate, so the good performers end up paying for the bad performers, which inevitably ends up costing the good performers much more in the way of their credit.

These are the results of a populist tact, and they are not good results, in my opinion. They are not constructive. They are so unnecessary because we really have within our grasp the capacity to reach an agreement, pretty much across the board, on all the major issues that affect the question of financial stability and to try to address what happened in late 2008 in a constructive way.

I am hopeful that will be the course that is taken, that we do have a consensus approach rather than a confrontational approach, and that we do have an approach which understands that our first obligation is not to get votes, not to win a political fight, not to have a jingoistic saying that resonates at election time but, rather, to make America stronger, more economically sound, more vibrant, and a place where when one wants to create a job, one has the capacity to get the credit to do it. That should be our goal. I hope we will pursue this regulatory reform effort in that manner.

Mr. President, I yield the floor and 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. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MINING TRAGEDY IN WEST VIRGINIA

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, as the Presiding Officer would well understand from his own experience, West Virginia is mourning the loss of 29 brave miners who died last week—most of whom never knew what hit them—when a devastating explosion tore

through the Upper Big Branch Mine in Montcoal, WV. It has brought the whole State to a dead halt. Even though it may never be possible to fully grasp the magnitude of this tragedy or to ease the pain of this devastating loss, we in West Virginia believe strongly in the power of prayer and in the grace of God. That has been important this week and will be in the weeks to come. We hold onto it—that feeling—and we offer it to one another and to the families, friends, and fellow miners who are grieving.

We revere our miners—the men and women who put their lives on the line every single day to provide for their families and bring light and heat to millions. They live in obscurity. They work underground. Nobody knows much about it around the rest of the country, but it is heroic living, and they make this country work.

We offer a heartfelt thanks to the rescue workers who risked their own lives. Our rescue teams, and the entire West Virginia community, never gave up hope and continued to forge ahead in their mission. They know and understand when they volunteer for this dangerous work that at some point in time they will be called upon to put their own lives on the line in the mine. That is what a rescue worker is all about—pushing the edges. How much methane is there, how far can you get in, how much dust is there, what can you see, does he or she have enough oxygen? They did so selflessly and fearlessly, and they have, as you can imagine, my deepest respect.

Even in one of our darkest hours, America has seen the very best of West Virginia—binding together, drawing solace from each other with tears and with mutual love. This is who we are. This is Appalachia. It is the sense of oneness, always against so many odds. The odds are always stacked against us. Maybe that is why I am so proud to represent them—always fighting uphill, others not knowing much about you, not necessarily paying a lot of attention to you but strong, good people. So it is this sense of oneness that sets us apart, in my mind, and why I am so proud to be a West Virginian.

We are all too familiar with this agony. I know the Presiding Officer is. We have been here before—with Sago, with Aracoma. When our worst fears are realized, as they were in this terrible tragedy, we know we must find a way through the searing pain and the loss because that is the way it is in our Appalachia—central Appalachia.

Everybody understands that mining has always been risky, but it can be made safer by people who want to make it safer. That will often start with the person who is in charge of the company. Safety is about a company doing the right thing. Safety is also about the State and Federal Government stepping in and toughening up our laws where that needs to be done. It is about providing the resources and the people to enforce those laws.

Let me give an example. Currently, the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission has 14 administrative law judges. If this year's budget request is enacted, they will have 18. They will go from 14 to 18. Those 18—and right now those 14—administrative law judges, together, face a backlog of more than 16,000 cases, containing 82,000 violations. That is incomprehensible to me. It is ridiculous, but it is true and it is unacceptable.

In the aftermath of Sago, I was proud to coauthor the MINER Act, along with Senator BYRD, Senator Kennedy, and Senator MIKE ENZI from Wyoming. This was, in fact, the only significant Federal mine legislation since 1977, which meant that we had gone 30 years without passing significant mine safety legislation. That doesn't tell the whole story, but it certainly tells some part of the story.

The bill was not perfect, but it did tackle the core problems we faced at Sago, which was a different kind of mine. It was a very rural mine, a much smaller mine than this huge mine in Raleigh County, WV. Because of this bill, we now require that mines have flame-resistant lifelines to guide miners out in an emergency. If you have an explosion. There is dust everywhere. You cannot see anything. So you put in sort of like a handrail, and you hold on to it and you just follow that because you cannot see where you are going. That will lead you to the mine mouth or perhaps to an elevator, if it is still working, that will allow you to get out.

We require refuge chambers that are now located in mines to protect miners if they cannot evacuate. Those are safe havens that have oxygen and food. There are stores of breathing devices along the escape routes—part of the law now.

We have new flammability requirements for new belt equipment. I know that is mining jargon, but I lay it before the Senate. Yet despite these important improvements, we mourn now another disaster of a very different kind. More lives were lost. We ask: How can this be? Again?

Everything we know at this time tells us this accident did not have to happen. This explosion could have and should have been prevented. If you are asked by a coal miner: Does an explosion have to happen? The answer is, no; it is preventable. Yes, that is easy to say and hard to do. But in the real world of serious work in mine safety, it is preventable. Miners do not have to lose their lives.

So our responsibility now is to learn from this new and terrible incident. We have to look at it carefully. We cannot rush to judgment. I am going to explain a couple of things that are being done. We do not know exactly what went wrong at Upper Big Branch mine but I promise you we will demand answers, and we will get answers.

MSHA, which is the Mine Health and Safety Administration, will conduct a

complete investigation into this tragedy, and that will tell us a lot. The agency's quick response and leadership after this explosion has been, in my judgment, highly commendable.

Right now, what we do know is we need to enforce aggressively the provisions of the MINER Act that we passed several years ago in 2006 at all mines. Where they are needed, we must put new laws in place, understanding that mine operations are different. Some mines try to do the right thing, others try less hard. It is a hard job.

I am concerned that the enforcement process today moves much too slowly, and that hurts the good operators as well as helping the bad ones, even when the circumstances demand the most urgent response.

Today, mine safety operators can stop operations in a mine or part of a mine whenever they see imminently dangerous violations. That is in the eye of the beholder, of the inspector, which means they have to be good people and well trained.

Once the operator has addressed that problem, then there is no longer a violation and mining can continue. But these inspectors also look for a very interesting phenomena called "patterns of violations." For that they have to look back over the last several years in a particular mine or a particular part of a mine to find out if there has been a pattern of violation, which, in and of itself, might not rise to the level of imminent danger, but could indicate that the mine needs to improve its safety.

If they find a pattern, these Federal inspectors, they should be able to impose higher fines. If it is not corrected, they should be able to, as they are now, shut down a mine or just part of a mine where there is a particular problem. This mine where the explosion occurred was huge. It had numerous double-digit entrances into different parts of the mine. It was huge.

But, anyway, closing down a mine or part of a mine does not always work that way because companies have found a loophole in this part of the law, the part dealing with so-called "patterns of violations." They just keep contesting and appealing. They appeal and they appeal right on up to Federal court. They appeal the decisions to prevent the finding of a pattern. That is why they do it. If you do not want something to happen, if you do not want to pay a fine, you have been cited for a violation, you have been cited for a fine. But if you appeal it, if you appeal it long and keep appealing, then, if you get a judgment against you, you go to the next court higher up, you do not have to either pay a fine or change the way you operate.

The number of appeals has increased dramatically from just 6 percent of total violations in 2005 to 27 percent last year. With such a tremendous backlog of cases and limited manpower, the average appeal took 587 days to finalize last year, which is bad for everybody. Some operators have

taken advantage of this loophole, preventing government action and imposing a serious risk to the miners' safety.

West Virginians can rest assured that I plan to press this issue aggressively. We are already taking steps to get to the bottom of this. I am glad that President Obama has been involved, and he has called a lot of folks, including miners' families. He has requested a full report to him on what Federal investigators have learned about the disaster, and it is going to happen this week.

Now, maybe that is too early. They may not know everything yet. But he wants to be kept abreast of what is happening. I have asked, and others, for a full briefing on the findings for West Virginia's Congressional Delegation. I decided that was not selfish; I decided that was the right thing to do. I want to know what the President knows, and that is going to happen.

I have requested that MSHA conduct a top-to-bottom review of all mine safety violations all across the country so that we can get a sense of perspective of where we are in this mine and others in other States. And I have also requested hearings and oversight investigations from the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions. They were kind enough to allow me to sit with them during the hearings regarding the MINER Act so that I could contribute what I know.

In closing, I wish to say our coal miners have lost too many brothers and too many sisters. Coal mining has always been dangerous, and it is a common story in West Virginia—southern West Virginia particularly—which is where I first went, where there is so much coal mining that mothers do not want their sons to go into coal mining. But there they are living up a hollow, up a creek. No other work is available, and they can get paid \$60 to \$70,000 for doing this job after some training.

What are they meant to do? What if it is a mine which does not have any kind of representation which allows people to tell somebody in authority that something is not being done safely?

Well, we have mines where the operators use intimidation. If somebody tries to do something like that, they are out of a job. There are all kinds of ways to do that. And while we all know their journey is a dangerous one, our coal miners must know that everything is being done to keep them safe. That is why I am standing here, simply to say that.

We have a solemn, urgent and, I think, sacred obligation in Congress to find the truth, do it fairly and carefully, and take action in their honor. These men have given us all they can, and we must honor this sacrifice.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECESS

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now be in recess until 2:15 p.m. this afternoon.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, at 12:22 p.m., the Senate recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. BEGICH).

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

CONTINUING EXTENSION ACT OF 2010

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to H.R. 4851, which the clerk will report by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to the bill (H.R. 4851) to provide a temporary extension of certain programs, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to proceed is agreed to and the Senate will proceed to the consideration of H.R. 4851, which the clerk will report by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4851) to provide a temporary extension of certain programs, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, we are now on the temporary extension of unemployment insurance benefits. This bill will help millions of Americans who are struggling to feed their families, struggling to pay the bills.

Take, for example, a single father from Missoula, MT. He has been out of work for weeks. He exhausted his State benefits, and he is now receiving Federal extended benefits. He called the Montana Unemployment Insurance Claims Processing Center, and he said if his unemployment insurance benefits are not extended, he does not know how in the world he is going to take care of his daughters. He continues to search for a job. But for now, unemployment insurance benefits are the lifeline for him and for his family.

Unemployment benefits help him to pay the bills for his daughters. Unemployment benefits help the single dad from Missoula and also help millions of Americans who, through no fault of their own, have fallen victim to this Great Recession.

As we meet today, benefits have lapsed for 200,000 Americans. Another 200,000 Americans could lose their benefits, too, if we do not pass this bill this week.

Unemployment benefits help our unemployed neighbors. In helping our neighbors, we also help to keep open the neighborhood grocery store and the neighborhood gas station. In helping our unemployed neighbors, we also help to keep houses out of foreclosure. In helping our unemployed neighbors, we also help the economy.

The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office says that extending additional unemployment benefits would have one of the largest effects on economic output and unemployment per dollar spent of any option. The CBO chart behind me tells us how effective increasing aid to the unemployed can be.

The CBO analyzed the effectiveness of a number of job creation proposals. For each policy, the CBO estimated the number of jobs created for each dollar of budgetary cost. You will see on the chart behind me, there are 11 policies the CBO analyzed. Increasing aid to the unemployed is ranked first. It is No. 1, at the top of the chart. You can see it with the blue line. Among all these policies, increasing aid to the unemployed is the most effective. The Congressional Budget Office says it will create the most jobs per dollar of budgetary cost. It is the most efficient and creates more jobs. Other policy options are much less cost effective.

CBO also says each dollar spent increasing aid to the unemployed could increase the gross domestic product by up to \$1.90. That is almost double per dollar spent. Why is increasing aid to the unemployed so effective? Let's ask ourselves that question. Well, households receiving unemployment benefits spend their benefits right away. They have to. They are spent. That spurs demand for goods, demand for services. That boosts production, and that leads businesses to hire more employees.

Unemployment benefits are essential to bridging the gap between losing one job and finding another, and it has become increasingly difficult to find that next job. In February, there were 2.7 million job openings. In the same month, there were 15 million Americans out of work. That means there are about five and one-half job seekers for every job opening—over five.

It is no wonder it is hard for people who are unemployed to find jobs. This chart behind me tells the story. Prior to the Great Recession, there were fewer than two job seekers for every open position. Now there are five and one-half. Let me repeat that. Prior to the Great Recession—you can see it on this chart with the red line over to the left—there were fewer than two job seekers for every job that was open, every position that was open. That was back in December 2007. Now, if you look at the red line that goes to the right, there are five and one-half.

It is important we extend unemployment benefits. We need to bridge that

gap between jobs. Getting unemployment benefits is not living high on the hog by any stretch of the imagination. The average unemployment benefit is \$335 a week. The average cost of a loaf of bread is \$2.97. The average cost of a gallon of milk is \$2.72. Diapers for just one baby can cost up to \$85 a month. These days, \$335 only stretches so far.

We need to keep our unemployed neighbors from falling into poverty. We need to figure out how best to create new jobs for unemployed workers. One way we could do that is to help foster job growth, and that is by using the unemployment insurance program to create the right conditions for job creation. In that vein, I am holding a hearing in the Finance Committee tomorrow to explore ways to use the unemployment insurance system to help Americans get back to work. Let's reform this system. Let's modernize it. Let's make it work better.

States and experts have great ideas for how we can improve the unemployment insurance system. They have ideas about how it can save and create more jobs. For example, some States are creating new jobs through subsidy programs. Montana has a job subsidy program and has put hundreds of people back to work. Using funds from the Recovery Act, this program helps employers to pay for the cost of creating new jobs. Across the country, thousands of people are benefiting from job subsidy programs.

But right now, it is essential we pass a temporary extension of unemployment benefits. It is essential we help Americans put food on the table. It is essential to pay the bills while they continue to look for work. It is essential for people such as Jeremy from Flathead County, MT.

Jeremy is a wildland firefighter. He is receiving unemployment benefits for the first time in his life. Fighting wildfires is seasonal work. Typically, Jeremy can find another job during the off-season, but this year he has been unable to find employment. Jeremy's benefits lapsed on February 28. That is when Congress failed to extend unemployment benefits. Jeremy has been left hanging. It is not right to leave Americans in this position.

So let us extend unemployment insurance benefits for Jeremy the firefighter. Let us extend this vital lifeline for this single dad from Missoula and for his daughters who depend on him. Let us enact this temporary extension of unemployment insurance without delay.

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. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I rise in strong support of the bill that is cur-

rently before the Senate which would provide for a temporary extension of unemployment benefits, COBRA coverage, and prevent a severe cut to provider reimbursements under Medicare. The bill would also extend the National Flood Insurance Program, which expired on March 28 at midnight. Each of these provisions is important in its own right, and each will help our economy to move forward.

The long-term unemployment rate is defined as the percentage of people in the workforce who have been out of work for more than 6 months and are still looking for jobs. That rate reached 4.3 percent of the workforce in March; that is, 4.3 percent are out of work for 6 months and cannot find employment. Our Nation's overall unemployment rate is still at 10 percent.

Maryland's unemployment rate continues to rise, reaching 8.3 percent in February statewide, up from 7 percent in February 2009. In 11 of our counties, nearly one-half of the counties in Maryland, the unemployment rate exceeds the national rate. In Baltimore City, it is 11.2 percent. In Dorchester County, it is 12.9. In Worcester County, it is an astonishing 18.8 percent—more than double the statewide percentage. In these counties, the situation is urgent. We must act to help keep these families' heads above water. Each of the thousands of families who depend upon extended unemployment benefits needs our help. In Maryland, it is 16,000 families. They need our help in order to be able to feed their families, pay the rent and utilities on their homes, and to keep their houses literally out of foreclosure.

I hear from heads of households every day who are trying to find work, but the jobs just aren't there. In fact, the Labor Department statistics tell us that for every job opening, there are five individuals actively seeking employment. Those odds are not very good for somebody who is trying to find employment today. That is why we have the long-term unemployment and why we need to extend the benefits to those who are in need today. We are emerging from the most severe and prolonged economic downturn since the Great Depression.

For those of my colleagues who are insisting that the unemployment compensation extension be paid for, I point out that for every dollar we spend in unemployment compensation, we are generating more than \$1.50 back into our economy. In other words, this is a stimulus. This helps job growth. When people have unemployment insurance, they spend it immediately. It helps our retail establishments, our food stores, and our economy. It is the definition of stimulus spending, and it is immediate.

I also add that it is not a handout. Employment insurance is just that—an insurance program. It is an insurance program to which employers and employees contribute so that in difficult times such as these, they can receive benefits. We are in these times now.

That is why we paid the unemployment insurance benefits taxes. These funds should now be available to help the people who need it.

Equally essential are COBRA benefits, which allow people who lose their jobs to continue health insurance coverage for themselves and their families. I cannot tell you the number of people who are shocked when they lose their jobs and go to pay for their COBRA and find out it is prohibitive and they cannot afford it. They cannot afford to continue their health insurance protection in the most critical time of their lives. That is why Congress passed help for people during this economic time with their COBRA protection. But that has expired. We need to extend that so families can continue to maintain their health insurance. The extension of COBRA benefits will allow us to get affordable health care to those who are in the most desperate need.

I want to mention the expiration of the National Flood Insurance Program. In my State, over 60,000 homes are covered by the National Flood Insurance Program, and half of those are on Maryland's Eastern Shore. This program was authorized, but it expired on March 28, 2010. Since then, no new policies have been issued, no policies have been renewed, and there has been no increased coverage on existing policies that could be issued. So Marylanders who wish to purchase a home in a flood plain cannot do so during this period.

We need to act now. We literally have frozen the market, which is not good for our economy, for our families, and it is certainly something we need to correct. The bill before us will retroactively make up for the past 2 weeks, but we need to act quickly in order that this important program continues.

Finally, I wish to stress the urgency of fixing the Medicare physician reimbursement, an area on which I have worked for many years to try to repeal the flawed sustainable growth rate payment system that makes no sense. As of April 1, there is a 21.2-percent across-the-board cut in Medicare reimbursement for physicians and other providers who are paid according to the fee schedule—physical, occupational, and speech language therapists, nurse practitioners, and others. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services is holding claims until Wednesday, April 14. At that time, claims will be paid at the lower reimbursement rate. We must stop that from happening.

Today, my office received nearly a dozen calls from constituents who were told by their doctors that they are not accepting new Medicare patients at this time. This is no longer a hypothetical; there is a denial of access to care. Seniors are being made to suffer because of obstructionism in this body of not allowing this bill to move forward in a prompt way.

I come to the floor today to urge immediate passage of this legislation and

urge my colleagues to work together to pass a long-term extension of these essential benefits. Ensuring that American families are able to weather this economic storm should not be a partisan issue. We need to work together to debate the merits of this bill and provide the American people with the help they need and the economy with the boost it needs while we are working on long-term recovery of our Nation.

With that, I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. GILLIBRAND). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BURRIS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 3721

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I send an amendment to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Montana [Mr. BAUCUS] proposes an amendment numbered 3721.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is 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 "Continuing Extension Act of 2010".

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE PROVISIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—(1) Section 4007 of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 (Public Law 110-252; 26 U.S.C. 3304 note) is amended—

(A) by striking "April 5, 2010" each place it appears and inserting "June 2, 2010";

(B) in the heading for subsection (b)(2), by striking "APRIL 5, 2010" and inserting "JUNE 2, 2010"; and

(C) in subsection (b)(3), by striking "September 4, 2010" and inserting "November 6, 2010".

(2) Section 2002(e) of the Assistance for Unemployed Workers and Struggling Families Act, as contained in Public Law 111-5 (26 U.S.C. 3304 note; 123 Stat. 438), is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking "April 5, 2010" and inserting "June 2, 2010";

(B) in the heading for paragraph (2), by striking "APRIL 5, 2010" and inserting "JUNE 2, 2010"; and

(C) in paragraph (3), by striking "October 5, 2010" and inserting "December 7, 2010".

(3) Section 2005 of the Assistance for Unemployed Workers and Struggling Families Act, as contained in Public Law 111-5 (26 U.S.C. 3304 note; 123 Stat. 444), is amended—

(A) by striking "April 5, 2010" each place it appears and inserting "June 2, 2010"; and

(B) in subsection (c), by striking "September 4, 2010" and inserting "November 6, 2010".

(4) Section 5 of the Unemployment Compensation Extension Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-449; 26 U.S.C. 3304 note) is amended by striking "September 4, 2010" and inserting "November 6, 2010".

(b) FUNDING.—Section 4004(e)(1) of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 (Public Law 110-252; 26 U.S.C. 3304 note) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (C), by striking "and" at the end;

(2) by inserting after subparagraph (D) the following new subparagraph:

"(E) the amendments made by section 101(a)(1) of the Continuing Extension Act of 2010; and".

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect as if included in the enactment of the Temporary Extension Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-144).

SEC. 3. EXTENSION AND IMPROVEMENT OF PREMIUM ASSISTANCE FOR COBRA BENEFITS.

(a) EXTENSION OF ELIGIBILITY PERIOD.—Subsection (a)(3)(A) of section 3001 of division B of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5), as amended by section 3(a) of the Temporary Extension Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-144), is amended by striking "March 31, 2010" and inserting "May 31, 2010".

(b) RULES RELATING TO 2010 EXTENSION.—Subsection (a) of section 3001 of division B of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5), as amended by section 3(b) of the Temporary Extension Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-144), is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(18) RULES RELATED TO APRIL AND MAY 2010 EXTENSION.—In the case of an individual who, with regard to coverage described in paragraph (10)(B), experiences a qualifying event related to a termination of employment on or after April 1, 2010 and prior to the date of the enactment of this paragraph, rules similar to those in paragraphs (4)(A) and (7)(C) shall apply with respect to all continuation coverage, including State continuation coverage programs."

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect as if included in the provisions of section 3001 of division B of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

SEC. 4. INCREASE IN THE MEDICARE PHYSICIAN PAYMENT UPDATE.

Paragraph (10) of section 1848(d) of the Social Security Act, as added by section 1011(a) of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111-118) and as amended by section 5 of the Temporary Extension Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-144), is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking "March 31, 2010" and inserting "May 31, 2010"; and

(2) in subparagraph (B), by striking "April 1, 2010" and inserting "June 1, 2010".

SEC. 5. EHR CLARIFICATION.

(a) QUALIFICATION FOR CLINIC-BASED PHYSICIANS.—

(1) MEDICARE.—Section 1848(o)(1)(C)(ii) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-4(o)(1)(C)(ii)) is amended by striking "setting (whether inpatient or outpatient)" and inserting "inpatient or emergency room setting".

(2) MEDICAID.—Section 1903(t)(3)(D) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396b(t)(3)(D)) is amended by striking "setting (whether inpatient or outpatient)" and inserting "inpatient or emergency room setting".

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall be effective as if included in the enactment of the HITECH Act (included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5)).

(c) IMPLEMENTATION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Health and Human Services may implement the amendments made by this section by program instruction or otherwise.

SEC. 6. EXTENSION OF USE OF 2009 POVERTY GUIDELINES.

Section 1012 of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111-118), as amended by section 7 of the Temporary Extension Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-144), is amended by striking "March 31, 2010" and inserting "May 31, 2010".

SEC. 7. EXTENSION OF NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM.

(a) EXTENSION.—Section 129 of the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2010 (Public Law 111-68), as amended by section 8 of Public Law 111-144, is amended by striking "by substituting" and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting "by substituting May 31, 2010, for the date specified in each such section."

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall be considered to have taken effect on February 28, 2010.

SEC. 8. COMPENSATION AND RATIFICATION OF AUTHORITY RELATED TO LAPSE IN HIGHWAY PROGRAMS.

(a) COMPENSATION FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—Any Federal employees furloughed as a result of the lapse in expenditure authority from the Highway Trust Fund after 11:59 p.m. on February 28, 2010, through March 2, 2010, shall be compensated for the period of that lapse at their standard rates of compensation, as determined under policies established by the Secretary of Transportation.

(b) RATIFICATION OF ESSENTIAL ACTIONS.—All actions taken by Federal employees, contractors, and grantees for the purposes of maintaining the essential level of Government operations, services, and activities to protect life and property and to bring about orderly termination of Government functions during the lapse in expenditure authority from the Highway Trust Fund after 11:59 p.m. on February 28, 2010, through March 2, 2010, are hereby ratified and approved if otherwise in accord with the provisions of the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2010 (division B of Public Law 111-68).

(c) FUNDING.—Funds used by the Secretary to compensate employees described in subsection (a) shall be derived from funds previously authorized out of the Highway Trust Fund and made available or limited to the Department of Transportation by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111-117) and shall be subject to the obligation limitations established in such Act.

(d) EXPENDITURES FROM HIGHWAY TRUST FUND.—To permit expenditures from the Highway Trust Fund to effectuate the purposes of this section, this section shall be deemed to be a section of the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2010 (division B of Public Law 111-68), as in effect on the date of the enactment of the last amendment to such Resolution.

SEC. 9. SATELLITE TELEVISION EXTENSION.

(a) AMENDMENTS TO SECTION 119 OF TITLE 17, UNITED STATES CODE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 119 of title 17, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in subsection (c)(1)(E), by striking "April 30, 2010" and inserting "May 31, 2010"; and

(B) in subsection (e), by striking "April 30, 2010" and inserting "May 31, 2010".

(2) TERMINATION OF LICENSE.—Section 1003(a)(2)(A) of Public Law 111-118 is amended by striking "April 30, 2010", and inserting "May 31, 2010".

(b) AMENDMENTS TO COMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1934.—Section 325(b) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 325(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)(C), by striking "April 30, 2010" and inserting "May 31, 2010"; and

(2) in paragraph (3)(C), by striking "May 1, 2010" each place it appears in clauses (ii) and (iii) and inserting "June 1, 2010".

SEC. 10. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

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

(b) EMERGENCY DESIGNATION FOR CONGRESSIONAL ENFORCEMENT.—This Act, with the exception of section 4, is designated as an emergency for purposes of pay-as-you-go principles. In the Senate, this Act is designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 403(a) of S. Con. Res. 13 (111th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2010.

(c) EMERGENCY DESIGNATION FOR STATUTORY PAYGO.—This Act, with the exception of section 4, is designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 4(g) of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-139; 2 U.S.C. 933(g)).

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, on March 10, the Senate passed a bill to extend unemployment insurance and a number of other provisions through the end of this year. We are currently working with the House of Representatives to agree on a package of offsets for a portion of that bill.

In the meantime, Congress needs to act on the pending bill to ensure that Americans can receive their much needed unemployment benefits. This bill would extend benefits to the end of this month.

My amendment, which I just offered, will extend the programs in the bill before us today for one more month, until the end of May. Why? What is the purpose of this? The answer is that this further short-term extension would ensure that Congress has enough time to resolve its differences over the long-term extension.

It is now April 13. The end of the month is not too long away. It is not sufficient time to work out an agreement with the relevant Senators on both sides of the aisle as to how to pay for this and what portions of the unemployment/COBRA bill. It is going to take a little more time than 2 weeks. This amendment will extend the unemployment benefits and all the provisions in the current bill for one more month to give us time to work out a solid understanding so that in the end we can pass the bigger, longer term extenders bill, which would extend the tax provisions, as well as the SGR, COBRA, UI, FMAP, and other provisions until the end of the calendar year.

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. DORGAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, we invoked cloture last evening on a motion

to proceed to legislation that will extend unemployment benefits during what has been the deepest recession since the Great Depression. We have had objections from the other side to extending unemployment benefits as an emergency, saying these cannot be extended because they will cost too much and add to the deficit and this and that.

It is interesting to me that in this country, when our country has experienced an economic downturn, we have always dealt on an emergency basis with the most vulnerable Americans by extending unemployment insurance benefits. Why? For two reasons. No. 1, when you work for a living in this country, you actually pay premiums for an unemployment insurance plan that then kicks in when you lose your job. This is not as if somebody is getting something for nothing. People who are working in this country are actually paying into a plan that provides for unemployment insurance. And, No. 2, extending unemployment insurance during a severe economic downturn is just the right thing to do for the most vulnerable Americans.

I find it interesting that the very people who have been standing in the way of doing this, saying it is the Federal budget deficits, that they are too big—I agree they are too big. But I have not seen any of these folks out here when it really matters. This is taking on the most vulnerable Americans. They are out here taking on that issue.

How about the big issues? How about fighting a war and not paying for one penny of it over a 10-year period? In the 8 years of the previous administration, we went to war, and we were told by President George W. Bush: You are not going to pay for a penny of this; and if you try to pay for it, I will veto the bill. It is all going to be emergency spending. The fact is, we should have seen the same folks out here complaining about that issue.

Or how about going back 10 or 11 years when legislation was passed that built these huge corporate financial pyramids that got engaged in all kinds of unbelievable risky speculation and ran the country into the economic ditch and caused \$15 trillion of American wealth to vanish and cause these unbelievable increases in deficits? I did not see them out here on that issue either. In fact, many of them voted for the legislation that repealed the protections that were put in place after the Great Depression and actually allowed to happen what has happened in the last 10 years that caused this collapse.

I don't know. It seems to me this last stand on the budget deficit, to say let's have the last stand when it comes to the most vulnerable Americans, that is our last stand—how about a last stand, for example, on some of the affluent Americans? How about a last stand on carried interest? I encourage my colleagues who have been out here worried

about the budget deficit to come out here while I am here and talk about changing the carried interest rules.

What does that mean? It sounds like a foreign language to some. It means some in this country are earning more income than anybody in America and paying the lowest income tax rates. Why is that the case? That is what the law allows them to do. We have been trying to change the law, but some of my colleagues do not want to change the law. That would be increasing taxes.

Let me give an example of increasing taxes. How about increasing taxes on a person who made \$3.6 billion in a year—which, by the way, is about \$10 million a day—and pays 15 percent income taxes? How about if we say to that person and others like him or her: How about you pay the same kind of taxes everybody else in this country pays? That will reduce the Federal budget deficit.

I ask my colleagues, do you want to join me to do that? I am all for reducing the Federal budget deficit. Tighten our belts, reduce spending—I am all for that. But, also, how about asking people to pay their fair share of taxes?

I said yesterday, as I said before, that we have some of the biggest financial institutions in this country that in the last decade decided to buy sewer systems from foreign cities in order to avoid paying U.S. taxes. How about let's make sure we close all loopholes, such as that loophole, that say: You want all the benefits America has to offer? How about paying the taxes and being responsible as an American citizen for things that you are required to do?

If we want to reduce the Federal budget deficit let's take some real big hunks at doing that by, yes, reducing some spending, and there is plenty of waste. I chaired 20 hearings on the biggest waste, fraud, and abuse in the history of this country; that is, the contracting in Iraq and Afghanistan. I will not go through it in detail today. I am telling you, it is the biggest waste in American history in these contracts.

Let's cut some of that spending. Let's raise some taxes on those who are not paying their fair share, those who are doing everything they can to avoid paying taxes in this country. Let's cut the deficit, but let's not come out here and pretend that the last stand is to take on the most vulnerable Americans at a time when we should extend unemployment insurance. That makes no sense.

Mr. President, if you know much about economics, you understand during a steep economic downturn there is substantially less revenue coming into the Federal Government. We have lost something like \$400 billion a year in revenue. At exactly the same time when we have a steep economic downturn, the economic stabilizers kick in—unemployment insurance, food stamps, and other programs for people who have been laid off, out of work, in trouble. That is exactly what we do during

an economic downturn. We have less revenue and more spending. That is temporary because the minute we come out of this and restore economic health, then we do the things necessary to get rid of those budget deficits and put the country back on track to a better course.

I don't know, this has been a Byzantine circumstance to see who comes to the floor of the Senate and say: You know what. Now we are going to make our last stand, and it is going to be when you want to give some unemployment insurance to the most vulnerable Americans, those who have lost their jobs.

Someplace in this country, all around the country today, about 17 million people or so woke up jobless. They have lost their jobs. They do not have work. They got dressed and went out with some hope in their hearts that maybe they could find a job. But tonight will come and they will not have found a job. The question they ask is, Am I going to get the funding I was told would exist, for which I paid insurance premiums for unemployment insurance? Am I going to get that help during this period of time? This was not my fault. I was laid off because of a very steep economic recession.

The answer should be from this Congress: Yes, you are going to get that help. We understand the obligation and the need to do that during this economic recession.

My hope is we will get a little cooperation and see if we can do that. Again, I am very interested in tackling this Federal budget deficit. Let's tackle it in big ways in the areas where substantial additional revenue that should come in is now not coming in because people are avoiding paying their taxes, some of those who are the wealthiest Americans.

Let's also tighten our belt and cut spending in areas I just described. Let's not decide the last stand is to take on the most vulnerable Americans who woke up this morning jobless and, in some cases, hopeless and helpless if they do not have money to buy food, pay rent, and buy medicine.

We can do better than that. There is a moral imperative for this Congress to at long last do the right thing.

I did not come to the floor to say that, but because that is the business of the day, I wanted to, on behalf of Senator BAUCUS and Senator REID and others, say that we have an obligation, and we are trying to work through this issue.

Last night by one vote we were able to invoke cloture with almost no help—we got a little help to get cloture invoked. Now we will get on with the business of seeing if we can, during a very deep economic downturn, extend unemployment insurance as we are required to do and as we have an obligation to do.

I hope the answer is yes. That is our responsibility. That is our obligation. If there are those who come to the

floor later wanting to join me in dealing with the issues I just described—spending cuts, revenue increases from those who are not paying their fair share, some of the biggest financial companies in the country—let's join and do that. I am here and very happy to do it.

ENERGY

Mr. President, there are many things on the agenda for this country that need doing. We are trying to work through this list. We worked on a health care reform bill that I understand was very controversial. The fact is, health care is such a significant part of our economy and the costs are growing so rapidly that we have to try to address it, and we did.

There is another issue, however, that I want to talk about today, and that is the issue of energy. We do not think much about energy because it becomes kind of second nature to the way we live. We get up in the morning and the first thing we do is turn off an electric alarm clock, perhaps, and then flick a switch and lights go on. We do almost everything without thinking, and that reflects on our use of energy. Someone makes coffee. They turn on a stove to make coffee or plug in a toaster to make toast. They get in their car to drive to work, perhaps take a shower beforehand with hot water from a hot water heater. All of those, even before they get started, reflect the prodigious use of energy in our country.

Almost two-thirds of the oil that we use in this country comes from other countries outside our shores. I have spoken often about this fact. But we stick straws in this planet and suck oil out of it. We suck out about 85 million barrels of oil a day and one-fourth is destined to come to the United States because that is how much we need and how much we use. The problem is that about two-thirds of it comes from other countries. Some of it comes from countries that do not like us very much.

The question is, How do we provide greater energy security for our country, more energy security so we are less vulnerable? Second, and just as important, how do we change our mix of energy and our use of energy to protect our planet with respect to the issue of climate change?

Let me talk about this for a moment and say the following: First, climate change is important. There is something happening to our climate, and we ought to address it. Even the skeptics should at least be in support of a series of no-regret steps that if 50 years from now you decide that climate change was not happening, at least you have done something you don't have regrets doing because they were the right things to do. Even the skeptics should agree about that. But, yes, something is happening to our climate and we ought to take some steps to address them. I am in favor of capping carbon. The use of carbon and emitting it into the airshed is a serious problem. We

need to have a lower-carbon future. I am in favor of capping carbon emissions. But it has to be done in a smart way and an appropriate way, and I am in favor of that. I am also in favor of putting a price on carbon.

There are some people who I think that I and others who want to bring the Energy bill to the floor of the Senate—which came from the Energy Committee and the work we did last year—don't support addressing climate change. I support the effort to address climate change. I support a cap on carbon, and I support the opportunity to decide that we are going to not only lower carbon emissions, but put a price on carbon, which is a way to accomplish all that. What I don't support is what is called "cap and trade" as the mechanism to do that because I don't have any interest or willingness to consign a \$1 trillion carbon securities market to Wall Street to speculate on. There are other ways to do this.

Let me just say that the issue of restraining carbon and putting a price on carbon can be done in many different ways. Some of my colleagues say: Well, the only way to do it is what we call cap and trade. I don't believe that, and I don't support that for the reasons I have described. There could be a carbon fee, a straightforward carbon fee, which is much less complicated. There is the cap-and-dividend approach, which has some advantages as well. There is a sector-by-sector approach. There are a number of hybrid approaches being discussed. There is the command-and-control approach, where you simply say: Here is the restriction. So, there are many different approaches to this issue of restricting carbon and trying to price carbon.

But here is what is happening. We passed an energy bill out of the energy committee last June. It was bipartisan. Republicans and Democrats joined together and we passed an energy bill and here is what it does: It will reduce the amount of carbon emitted into the airshed, it will maximize the production of energy from wind and solar sources, which are carbon free, and it will build the transmission capability around the country, a superhighway of transmission so you can gather energy from where the sun shines and the wind blows and put it on the wire to move the energy where it is needed to a load center. We also have a renewable electricity standard, called an RES, requiring 15 percent of all electricity be done from renewables. I would offer an amendment to take that to 20 percent, if we can get the bill to the floor of the Senate.

That is just an example of what is in the bill. In fact, this is a chart reflecting that it will reduce our dependence on foreign energy and it will increase domestic production. It was my amendment that opens the eastern Gulf of Mexico for production. It is the only area that is not now open and has substantial reserves of both oil and natural gas. We establish a renewability

electricity standard, create a transmission superhighway. We electrify and diversify the vehicle fleet in our country. Seventy percent of the oil used in this country is used in the vehicle fleet. So that is very important. The bill contains substantial provisions dealing with energy efficiency and new green energy technology.

All those things are exactly what we would do if we had already passed a climate change bill to say: All right. Now how do you implement it? What are the provisions you develop in order to implement this, to have less carbon emitted? This is what you would do.

So many of us have been impatient about trying to get this bill to the floor of the Senate, but here is what I understand. I understand that those who say they want climate change legislation first have said they don't want an energy bill to come to the floor of the Senate because they want there to be some agreement on climate change, and until they get that, they don't want the Energy bill to come to the floor of the Senate. My view is, we should bring the Energy bill to the floor of the Senate. Let's all of us decide this is a priority. When the bill comes to the floor of the Senate, let's reach an agreement on some kind of climate change amendment to this bill and move ahead.

I wouldn't support cap and trade, but there are other things I will support that will put a price on carbon. But why would we end this Congress not having achieved some very substantial achievements in a bipartisan energy bill that will actually reduce the emission of carbon in the atmosphere? That makes no sense to me.

As we go forward, I know this is an issue that requires it fit into a broader set of issues—immigration reform is discussed these days, Wall Street reform or financial reform is going to come to the floor at some point, which will take some time, appropriations bills, and there are many other things—but I still believe it is very important that we diversify America's energy supply, that we maximize the production of renewable energy, and that we produce more here at home and, yes, that includes oil and natural gas. The use of coal is also very important, the use of coal using new technology to decarbonize. We can do all these things. Our legislation includes the provisions that will accomplish that.

So, what we need to have happen is to have our legislation come to the floor of the Senate from the Energy Committee. I would say to all those who wish to work on the broader piece of climate change to add to it as an amendment. I support a carbon cap, and I will support pricing carbon. That does not include support for cap and trade. If we haven't learned anything from the last decade or so about what Wall Street would do with a \$1 trillion securities market, then we are pretty ill-prepared to legislate on these issues.

There are not a lot of weeks left in this legislative session, and my fervent hope, I would say to those who have been working on climate change and blocking our ability to bring an energy bill to the floor of the Senate, is that we can perhaps find a way to work together to bring the Energy bill to the floor. That is the way the Senate works. The Senate works by running things through a committee and working hard to achieve compromise. We did that on a bipartisan basis and passed a piece of legislation that is a Democratic-Republican energy bill that reduces carbon, maximizes renewable energy, opens additional areas of drilling in the eastern gulf, builds an interstate highway of transmission capability, has the first ever RES, renewable electricity standard, and all those things are important to this country. We should not leave them at the starting gate. Let's at least decide that this, too, is a priority for our country. Yes, health care is a priority, but so is energy.

Let me make one final point. If tomorrow morning, instead of flicking that switch, shutting off the alarm clock, taking a shower with the use of an electric water heater, putting a piece of bread in the toaster, taking something out of your refrigerator and using all that energy even before you get in your car to go to work, if, God forbid, somehow terrorists interrupted the pipeline of foreign oil coming to this country—and there are a lot of points where that possibility exists—this country's economy would be flat on its back. We are, in my judgment, far too vulnerable with the percentage of our economy that runs on foreign oil and there is a way to respond to that and a way to address it and much of that is included in this legislation that has already passed the Energy Committee on a bipartisan vote.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. HAGAN). The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. KAUFMAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. KAUFMAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(The remarks of Mr. KAUFMAN pertaining to the introduction of S. 3196 are printed in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. KAUFMAN. I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NASA BUDGET

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam President, I rise today to discuss President Obama's proposed fiscal year 2011 budget and the proposed path forward for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration which we all know as NASA. Even though Colorado doesn't have a NASA facility, this proposed budget and the major changes to NASA's direction included in it have major implications for thousands of Coloradans. I was the chairman on the House side of the Space Subcommittee and I know what space means to Colorado and I know what it means to our Nation.

Yesterday, Senator BENNET and I had the opportunity to meet with former General and now NASA Administrator Charlie Bolden to urge him to reevaluate the decision included in the President's budget request for NASA to terminate the Constellation Program. This program is developing the successor to the retiring space shuttle known as the Orion capsule and Ares rocket. Those two technologies will be teamed up in the planning that was brought together.

We had a frank and productive discussion with Administrator Bolden. Senator BENNET and I impressed upon him the importance of this program—especially the development of the Orion capsule—to thousands of jobs in Colorado and, frankly, to America's leadership more broadly in space. General Bolden assured us that he wants to be flexible and work with Congress on this NASA budget and that he is committed to human space flight. In other words, the President's budget request is the beginning of a long process, and I was pleased to hear General Bolden is set on working with Congress to chart a future course for NASA and America's leadership in space. I look forward to working with General Bolden as this unfolds.

If I might, I will take a few moments to describe the aerospace community in Colorado. Although we don't host a NASA facility, Colorado has the second largest aerospace economy in the Nation, behind only California. We have a talented and educated workforce and our colleges and universities have deep ties to NASA, private aerospace companies, and Federal research laboratories. We have many businesses that partner with NASA and the military to provide launch services and satellite development as well as a number of startup companies that are pushing the boundaries of what is possible in privately financed access to space. We can also in Colorado boast of the two key military space commands—NORAD and the Air Force Space Command—and three Air Force bases with strong space missions: Buckley, Peterson, and Schriever.

In short, Colorado's aerospace enterprise brings together the government and commercial sectors as well as the military and civil sectors. For all of these reasons, I pay close attention to NASA and to the administration's vision for the agency, and the significant changes in the President's fiscal 2011 budget request demand an especially hard look. I know many of my Senate colleagues feel the same way.

I have been reviewing the President's NASA budget since it was released in February and, as I noted earlier, Senator BENNET and I shared our concerns with General Bolden yesterday.

Let me start by saying there is much to like in the President's budget. First, it supports an extension of the International Space Station until 2020 and possibly beyond. Completing this station has been a long time coming and I am pleased to see that this administration's commitment to fully utilizing it past the previous end date of 2015.

Second, the budget includes important new investments in science and aeronautics research. My goal is to balance each of NASA's four mission priorities: earth science, space science, space exploration, and aeronautics. The President's request for nonexploration priorities represented a far-sighted investment that should pay large dividends.

Also, the budget includes an additional \$6 billion over 5 years, which is especially notable at a time when many agencies are seeing flat or declining budgets. Much of this investment will go toward developing transformative technologies and propulsion systems that will help NASA cross into new frontiers.

However, the elephant in the room is understandably the proposed cancellation of the Constellation Program, which is to be supplanted by commercial development of human space flight. A purely commercial approach to human space flight may be the future, but I am concerned that it also runs the risk of diminishing American leadership in space. If that happens, that would be a great shame. It would be penny wise, but I fear it would be pound foolish. Let me be frank. This move would hit Colorado especially hard. Well over 1,000 Coloradans work directly on one aspect or another of Constellation. In addition, the Jefferson County Economic Council estimates that work on Constellation supports nearly 4,000 additional Colorado jobs and \$300 million worth of economic activity in the Metro Denver area. As the Presiding Officer can imagine, those kinds of numbers give me real pause. They are especially worrisome in today's economic conditions.

The budget proposal leaves broader questions unanswered as well. After the planned retirement of the space shuttle next year, the United States will be without the capacity to launch humans into space, including to the International Space Station. At that point, we will be forced to purchase ac-

cess to space on Russian Soyuz spacecraft. Constellation was supposed to minimize the gap in our ability to access Low Earth Orbit, otherwise known as LEO, and now the President is proposing to rely on the commercial sector to minimize the gap instead.

I strongly support development of commercial launch capabilities and space services, and I look forward to the day when the commercial sector can provide these services for NASA to focus on development of new exploration technologies and human missions beyond Low Earth Orbit.

I am confident that day will come. However, I have not seen sufficient proof from the administration that day is close at hand. The commercial sector has yet to prove it can safely put a human into orbit.

Should the commercial sector fail to deliver human access to space, America will be reliant on Russian-procured launch services to the space station and LEO for the foreseeable future. In my opinion, that is an unacceptable position for our Nation.

The United States and Russia have enjoyed a very productive partnership in space. It has been good for our country and good for space exploration. We should cooperate and share resources wherever possible. But I am concerned about what an indefinite reliance on Russian launch services will mean for our leadership in space.

Cancelling Constellation has other important implications for our national security. NASA is a prime customer for the U.S. space launch industrial base, which we rely on to sustain our strategic deterrence mission and to ensure access to space. These issues are especially important to me, as I sit on the Armed Services Committee.

Department of Defense officials have stated that Constellation's cancellation could increase the current price of propulsion systems for our launch vehicles. The Department of Defense is looking at the cost impacts, but we will not have clear answers until this summer. Congress needs this information before deciding whether to approve the President's budget request.

I do not want to appear naive about the problems this administration faced in crafting a NASA budget and direction for the future. The Constellation Program, as currently resourced, is clearly "unsustainable," in the words of the Review of Human Spaceflight Plans Committee—more commonly known as the Augustine Committee. The committee went on to say that we are "perpetrating the perilous practice of pursuing goals that do not match allocated resources." That is simply not a recipe for U.S. leadership in space either.

In the midst of crafting this budget for NASA, the administration also faced the worst economic conditions in a generation. I can appreciate the difficulty of designing a sustainable plan for NASA with today's fiscal constraints.

We cannot and should not ask NASA to do more with less. Transferring routine space operations to the commercial sector appears to be an attractive, potentially money-saving alternative.

I know I am not alone in believing that Congress should not support this budget based on what we know now. Terminating Constellation does not make sense. But we should be open to restructuring the program in a way that preserves American leadership in space and protects jobs.

Madam President, where do we go from here? The President will be speaking later this week in Florida. It will be his first set of comments on the proposed NASA budget. I appreciate the fact that the President is tackling the problems with Constellation head on. However, he needs to explain his plan better.

I hope the President will begin to answer the questions that I and many of my colleagues in Congress have asked. I hope he will begin to articulate a plan for NASA that is, in the words of the Augustine Committee, "worthy of a great nation." I do not believe we are there yet, but we will get there.

One of the lessons I learned as a mountaineer came on the 10th day of what was supposed to be a 7-day climb of Mount McKinley. At that critical moment in our climb, I learned that when you are all the way in, you will find a way. I believe the American people are all the way in with NASA. I know this Congress is.

NASA's mission of exploration resonates with each of us. That mission transcends programs, budgets, and politics. It has endured the end of Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo, and it will soon endure the end of the space shuttle.

Unfortunately, the history of NASA is littered with canceled programs with little to show for them. I don't want to see the same happen with Constellation, nor do I want to continue on an unsustainable course.

The challenge before us is to ensure that NASA's programs and budgets are worthy of its mission.

Over the coming weeks and months, I will be working with my colleagues in Congress and the administration to find the right way to further NASA's mission.

I believe there is a sweet spot to be found that includes many of the positive aspects of the President's proposal. But the American people deserve answers on the President's vision for our Nation's leadership in human space travel.

While some changes need to be made, I believe the Constellation Program has advanced an important mission. It would be highly disappointing to leave behind the significant investments we have made in Constellation without anything to show for them.

We will find a budget that works for NASA, for Congress, and for Colorado. We have to because we are in all the way.

I yield the floor and 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 (Mr. UDALL of Colorado). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, there will be no more votes today.

I ask unanimous consent that on April 14, tomorrow, following morning business, the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 4851, with the time until 12 noon equally divided and controlled between the leaders or their designees; that during this time, it be in order for the Republican leader or his designee to make a relevant Budget Act point of order against the pending Baucus amendment No. 3721, to be modified as specified below; that after the point of order is made, Senator BAUCUS or his designee be recognized to move to waive the applicable point of order; that the vote on the motion to waive the budget point of order occur at 12 noon; that no intervening motions or amendments be in order during this period of debate; further, that it be in order to modify the Baucus amendment with provisions which cover the extension of small business programs.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant editor of the Daily Digest (Joe Johnston) proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. VOINOVICH. 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 APPOINTMENT

Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, I rise to speak about one of the recess appointments President Obama made when the Senate was not in session. Before I get into my concern about this, I wish to emphasize the fact that I have been the ranking member or the chairman of the Oversight of Government Management and the District of Columbia and then several years ago the Federal Workforce. Working with Senator AKAKA, we have conscientiously tried to make the most significant improvements in the Federal service, in terms of human capital and looking at title V of the code that deals with our Federal workers.

If we look at the past and determine why we have had some real bad situations in the Federal Government, it is we have not had the right people with the right knowledge and skills at the right time in the right place. The whole effort has been to try to improve the management of our government, to work with Senator AKAKA to try to get

Federal agencies off the high-risk list. The high-risk list is agencies subject to waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement.

I first share that with you because I think it may cast a little bit of a light on what I am going to talk about this evening.

The President nominated Rafael Borrás to serve as the Department of Homeland Security Under Secretary for Management on June 24, 2009. That is June of last year. I met with Mr. Borrás to discuss his experience, qualifications, and goals for the Department of Homeland Security and also served as the ranking member when the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee held his nomination hearing on July 29, 2009.

I carefully reviewed Mr. Borrás's background and resume and stated qualifications and heard what people he worked for and what people who worked for him said about him. Based on all that, I placed a hold on Mr. Borrás's nomination because I believe he is unqualified to be the DHS Under Secretary for Management.

On March 27 of this year, the President ignored my concerns and my hold and made Mr. Borrás 1 of his 15 recess appointments, and I want to know why. I want to know why. I do not generally oppose nominees, and I do not put holds on lightly. When I do, I explain why I put on holds. I do not hide out. I let people know why I put on a hold.

I am extremely concerned about the management challenges the Department of Homeland Security faces, which are wide ranging and far reaching.

When Congress established the Department of Homeland Security in 2002, we initiated the Federal Government's largest restructuring since the Department of Defense was created in 1947. What is more, we told the Department to protect us from terrorism and natural disasters, while addressing the organizational, operational, and cultural challenges associated with merging 22 agencies and 170,000 employees into one entity. It is probably the biggest management challenge in the history of the world. The Government Accountability Office cautioned about the challenges the merger would cause and placed the Department of Homeland Security on its high-risk list in January of 2003.

Today, DHS is the third largest Cabinet department with about 230,000 employees and an annual budget of \$50 billion. Management challenges persist and the Department remains on GAO's high-risk list. Additionally, the DHS inspector general, the DHS Chief Financial Officer, and the Homeland Security Advisory Council's Cultural Task Force have also identified management challenges at the DHS. They recognize they have some big problems.

DHS is too big an entity, spending too much money, with too important a job to be deemed susceptible to waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement year after year, and it is imperative that

the right person be put in place to address those challenges. I do not believe Mr. Borrás is the person, and I do not think he will move the Department forward toward getting off the Government Accountability Office's high-risk list.

My concerns about Mr. Borrás's qualifications and the hold on the nomination, as I mentioned, were not secret. I wrote to the majority leader, I wrote to Secretary Napolitano, and I also wrote to the President to outline my concerns.

I announced at a Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs hearing on DHS management challenges that I was holding the nomination because of those concerns, but no one approached me to discuss those concerns. The Senate did not debate Mr. Borrás's qualifications. No cloture motion was filed. Rather, my concerns were ignored, and this recess appointment was made.

I would like for someone in the administration to explain why things were done this way. I assume because it is everyone knows Mr. Borrás is not the best person to manage our third largest department, and any debate we had would have made his lack of qualifications plainly apparent. So we did not debate it.

If the Senate had taken the time to debate this nomination, I would have explained in 2007, Congress set statutory requirements for the DHS Under Secretary for Management. By the way, we helped create that special Under Secretary for Management because we believed the Department needed someone who would get up early in the morning and go to bed late at night and move on the transformation that is needed in the Department to get it off the high-risk list.

We required the Under Secretary to have extensive executive-level leadership and management experience, a demonstrated ability to manage large and complex organizations, and a proven record in achieving positive operational results. Mr. Borrás did not meet those statutory requirements because he does not have the appropriate executive-level leadership experience or demonstrated ability to manage an organization as large and complex as DHS.

The administration and Mr. Borrás point to his experience as one of several vice presidents in one region of a Fortune 500 company, as a regional administrator for one region of the General Services Administration, and as a Deputy Assistant Secretary at the Department of Commerce. I do not believe, and most people do not believe, these experiences are in any way comparable to the challenges Mr. Borrás will face at DHS.

Mr. Borrás has never overseen a budget anywhere near as large as the DHS budget. His own assertions indicate that the largest budget he ever was involved with was \$4.5 billion at the Department of Commerce. That is roughly one-tenth the size of the DHS

\$50 billion budget, and Mr. Borras was never directly responsible for the Commerce Department budget. He was just one of those who worked at the Department.

Additionally, Mr. Borras has never managed hundreds of thousands of employees, such as the 230,000 he will be responsible for at DHS. At most, he asserts he was directly responsible for managing 1,500 employees while a GSA regional administrator.

He has also never overseen a procurement budget similar to that at DHS, where in 2005, \$10 billion was spent on 63,000 contracts. Mr. Borras asserts that the largest procurement budget he has been involved with was one-quarter of that, \$2.5 billion, while he was at the General Services Administration.

Given the vast difference between Mr. Borras's experience and the requirements of the job, I agree with two of his former supervisors who told me this job is a big leap from what he has done in the public and private sector. In other words, they said this is a big leap from what he has done.

Further, when you compare Mr. Borras's qualifications with the qualifications of past nominees for this position, it is even more concerning.

For example, Paul Schneider had over 38 years of Federal service when he was nominated to be the DHS Under Secretary for Management, and much of that experience was with the Navy, a large, complicated organization such as DHS.

Similarly, Elaine Duke had more than 25 years of progressively difficult Federal Government experience, primarily within the Department of Defense, when she was nominated to be DHS Under Secretary for Management.

I do not mean to imply only career civil servants are appropriate for this role, but Mr. Borras's resume does not include high-level managerial positions in organizations that are similarly complex to DHS. I think the Department of Homeland Security Under Secretary for Management needs a proven record in that regard.

I emphasize again, we set this up specifically to be responsible for transformation and to deal with the management problems of the Department. We laid it out: This is the kind of person we ought to be putting into this position.

Additionally and unfortunately, Mr. Borras demonstrated a lack of attention to detail on two separate occasions in his personal life, which makes me wonder whether he is prepared to successfully undertake all the responsibilities required of the DHS Under Secretary for Management, such as addressing DHS's low rank on the "Best Places to Work in the Federal Government" study and overseeing the billions of dollars the DHS spends on hard-to-manage projects such as SBInet.

I feel so strongly about Mr. Borras's lack of qualifications that I am no longer seeking to work to enact a 5-

year term for the person who holds this position. The thought was, when we put this position together, we would give it a 5-year term because we knew that if we were going to do transformation, it was going to take more than 1 year. We would give that individual 5 years to go forward and work on nothing but transformation, transformation, transformation, so this Department would come together and get it off the high-risk list.

The Government Accountability Office suggested that such a term would help improve the management function at DHS, and I have been advocating for such legislation for the last couple years. My bill has bipartisan support and has passed the Senate before, but now I don't want it enacted because I am afraid of having Mr. Borras in this position for 5 years. I don't think he has the skills necessary to get the job done. So that is gone.

I know I am not alone in my concerns. Mr. Borras was passed out of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee largely on a party-line vote, but it should be noted that two Democratic members of the committee expressed concern about his qualifications when we were debating his nomination.

In fact, one of the Democrats who voted for the nomination said she was doing so to send the nomination to the floor, but that she wanted the committee to take a closer look at Mr. Borras's qualifications to make sure he had the management skills necessary to manage the Department of Homeland Security.

I wonder, did such a review ever occur? If it did, it did not include me even though I am the ranking member on the committee's Oversight of Government Management Subcommittee. I should have asked Senator AKAKA if he had ever been consulted, but a dime will get you a dollar that they didn't talk to him at all.

I wasn't a strong supporter in creating the Department of Homeland Security. Standing it up created real challenges, and those challenges remain. But the Department exists, and we owe it to the United States and our children and grandchildren to ensure that the Department is as good as it can be. I think we need to ask our President why he made this recess appointment when doubt existed on both sides of the aisle about Mr. Borras's qualifications. What was the stated reason for the appointment? Will somebody explain why the appointment was made?

I sat with the Secretary, and we talked about it. Never in all of my conversations did anyone come forward and say he should get the job; that he is qualified for the job. The fact that no one in the administration defended Mr. Borras or explained why they thought he was qualified to be a DHS Under Secretary for Management still remains a puzzlement to me. I think somebody owes it to me, to Senator

AKAKA, and to the Members of this Senate to explain why they put this man in this position under a recess appointment, particularly when we have an agency that, if we don't have the kind of attention given to it, will never be in a position where it can get off the high-risk list.

Mr. President, I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant editor of the Daily Digest proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. President, I noticed the senior Senator from Ohio, my colleague, was in the Chamber, and I wanted to thank him publicly for his vote yesterday, joining with three other Republican Senators—Senators COLLINS, SNOWE, and BROWN, the new Senator from Massachusetts—in their vote to extend unemployment benefits.

There is simply no reason this shouldn't be bipartisan—this extension of unemployment benefits. It is not solving all our Nation's problems, but it certainly stimulates the economy. It is the best use of public dollars to help the economy because when we extend unemployment benefits, we pay unemployment benefits to a family in Ash-tabula or a family in Yellow Springs who ends up putting money into their community. They spend it at the local grocery store, the hardware store, or the department store. They are able to pay their property tax, which is money that goes to schools, and all of those things. So it clearly has a stimulative effect on the local economy.

Even more than that, it is what we owe to people who are working hard, playing by the rules, and who can't find a job. We don't call it unemployment welfare. We call it unemployment insurance. I think all of us on both sides of the aisle, even though 30 of my colleagues worked against passing this legislation to extend unemployment benefits to people who are now unemployed but who were employed, understand, though maybe we need to have a little more instruction around here, that when people are employed, they pay into the system as insurance. When they are unemployed, they get assistance from the government to keep bread on the table, to keep their families fed. It is a pretty simple concept, and it has worked well for us for decades.

I hear from my Republican colleagues who voted against the extension of unemployment benefits that the reason they did so is because it is not paid for and that it will blow a hole in the budget. I know the Presiding Officer, when he represented Boulder in his

congressional district in Colorado before he came to the Senate—he was down the hall from me, and he remembers, as I do the time when we opposed the war in Iraq, and the Republicans who supported it, all but, I believe, three in the House and one in the Senate didn't think then about paying for that war. They didn't think about what that meant in terms of cost to their children and grandchildren when they passed that.

We were both in the House, Senator UDALL of Colorado and myself, and they didn't think about the cost when we passed the Medicare giveaway to the drug and insurance companies, which Senator UDALL and I—then congressmen—opposed. They didn't say anything about paying for it in those days. They just added it to the credit card for our children and grandchildren.

When they gave tax cuts to the richest Americans—hundreds of billions of dollars over 10 years to the wealthiest Americans—that was just added to the credit card of the future.

It is only now they object to the cost, when it is unemployed workers—people whose lifestyle, people whose quality of life isn't close to the quality of life and the lifestyle and the standard of living that we enjoy, dressed like this, working in a place like this, this august body, with the privileges that surround us. It is only when we talk about people who have lost their jobs, who don't have privileges that we do now—and generally through no doing of their own, but simply because they lost their jobs because their company closed or they got laid off—that they object to the cost.

Most of these workers were efficient workers who did what their employer asked. Yet we are going to be so stingy as to deny them unemployment compensation.

It is not like they are sitting around with nothing to do and should be out working. I talked to dozens of people, as I am sure Senator UDALL, the Presiding Officer, has, talked to dozens of people who tell me they send out 10 or 15, sometimes 25, sometimes 50 resumes every week or so to try to get a job. Usually these resumes go unanswered and possibly barely even looked at because these companies are not even hiring.

It is a question of fairness. It is a question of good economics. It is a question, in some sense, of the privilege we enjoy here that they are denying even a shred of that same advantage, by refusing to extend their unemployment benefits and refusing to extend the assistance they could get for health care with the so-called COBRA program which allows them to keep the health insurance they had. It is at high cost—but not so prohibitively high a cost since we have been helping with that since the stimulus package and legislation I had written before the stimulus bill that included it in it that gave assistance to people who lost

their insurance when they signed up for COBRA to keep what they had.

I do not know what to think about their opposition. I hear them say it is about the budget deficit but I really wonder if it is because they didn't say it before when it was the tax cuts for the rich, the drug and insurance company giveaway, billions of taxpayer dollars, and the Iraq war. They never thought about paying for those things but they want to do it on the backs of unemployed workers. I do not get that.

Let me make it more personal. I have two letters today. I talked to a lady from Painesville, OH, east of Cleveland, in Lake County right along Lake Erie. She wrote and then I actually called her today and talked to her. Her name is Barbara. She said:

My son-in-law just got his last unemployment check. He has 2 kids, a \$1,000 house payment, car insurance, gas is \$3 a gallon, food bills, school clothes, school supplies, car maintenance.

She writes:

Oh yes, the kids like to eat. . . . They turn off the utilities when you do not pay them. . . . [P]lease vote to extend unemployment until jobs are available that pay more than minimum wage.

She goes on to write:

[We] need good paying jobs or unemployment right now. [My] daughter has bills she wants to pay.

She said:

[My] husband wants to work for money.

She said:

My kids don't want welfare.

Again, I think perhaps the Republicans who voted en masse—with the exception again of four courageous Republicans, including my seatmate, Senator VOINOVICH, the senior Senator from my State, including the two Maine Senators and the Massachusetts Senator—perhaps they do not understand the difference between welfare and unemployment insurance. I wish they would pay more attention so that they did. This is again unemployment insurance. These people are not taking welfare. These are people who earned it.

The second and last letter I will read—Janet from Toledo in northwest Ohio writes:

I have been working since I was 14. I am going on 65.

So Janet has worked 50 years or so.

I had to take early retirements and I am [at] risk of losing my home. . . . Thank the Lord I kept my car, but I can't afford much else like health insurance.

People like me are struggling. Giving unemployment . . . is giving money to people who have already earned it and paid into the system.

She is not asking for herself but she is asking for the many people she sees in Oregon, OH, and Wauseon and Bryan and Toledo and Sylvania and all over northwest Ohio, people who again, as most Americans, play by the rules, work hard and simply ask for a fair shake. They want this unemployment insurance available, payments available to them. It is not a lot of money.

It is not anything most of us would want to live on, on any kind of decent standard of living. It is enough to get them to pay their bills through the week, through the month, so their house will not be foreclosed on, so they can feed their children or whatever the basic needs of life are that are so important to them.

I again thank the four Republicans who joined the Democrats in extending this legislation. I hope we can move forward this week, pass this legislation and get it to the President so we can get on with the job of figuring out how to put more people to work in this country.

I spoke today, I did a conference call with several Ohio highway contractors to talk about what this meant to them, what we can do to get money so they can build more highways and bridges and water and sewer systems so they can help companies that want to expand do what they need to do to modernize and expand their plants so they can begin hiring people. That is our mission, extend unemployment benefits and figure out, working with the private sector, how we help them create jobs and get this economy back on track.

I yield the floor and 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. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order with respect to H.R. 4851 and the Baucus amendment No. 3721 be modified to provide the vote on the motion to waive the Budget Act occur at 12:30 p.m., the additional time be divided as previously ordered, and the remaining provisions of the previous order still in effect.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

HEALTH CARE AND EDUCATION RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2010

SPIRITUAL AND RELIGIOUS CARE

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, the recently enacted health reform law will extend quality, affordable health coverage to 32 million Americans and cover 95 percent of legal residents within the next decade.

Many Americans, including Christian Scientists, rely on provisions in current law that recognize spiritual care

as a medical expense eligible for a medical care tax deduction. Nothing in the recently enacted health reform law prevents insurance companies from covering care that is currently recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as eligible for a medical care tax deduction through health insurance plans in the exchanges. Further, the new health reform law does not reduce existing provisions in the law that recognize spiritual care.

As we work to implement comprehensive health reform, I believe it is important to ensure that the needs of Americans relying on religious and spiritual care are addressed. I know these views are shared by my colleagues, Chairman HARKIN and Senator SHERROD BROWN, and I look forward to continue working with them on this issue.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. I would like to associate myself with the remarks of Senator KERRY. We share an interest in providing appropriate accommodation for spiritual and religious care in a reformed health insurance market.

No American should be left worse off as a result of health reform. Some spiritual care—including that which is provided by Christian Science practitioners and Christian Science nurses—has been covered by certain health insurance policies for decades.

For example, four plans under the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program cover religious nonmedical nursing care and/or Christian Science practitioner services. They are the Government Employees' Health Association, the Mail Handlers Benefit Plan, the Special Agents Mutual Benefit Association, and the Association Benefit Plan.

Religious nonmedical nursing services are also covered under the Medicare and Medicaid Programs—42 U.S.C. §1395x(ss) and §1395i-5. TRICARE covers care in Christian Science nursing facilities, private duty Christian Science nursing services, and Christian Science practitioner services (10 U.S.C. §1079(a)(4)). And under section 223 of the Internal Revenue Code, funds contained in a health savings account may be used to pay for spiritual care (26 U.S.C. § 223(d)(2)(A)).

I have an interest in identifying a statutory way to affirm that health insurance companies may still cover this mode of care as part of their policies.

Chairman HARKIN has shown great leadership throughout health reform.

Mr. HARKIN. I thank the Senator from Ohio. Nothing in health reform legislation would cut existing benefits or restrict the ability of private insurance carriers from covering spiritual care. Further, spiritual care will continue to be recognized as a medical expense eligible for a medical care tax deduction.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. I thank the Senator for his assistance and look forward to working with him and Senator KERRY to ensure that appropriate protections for spiritual care are provided as health reform is implemented.

Mr. KERRY. I thank the Senator.

REMEMBERING CAPTAIN JOHN LONERGAN

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, it is with great pride that I bring to the attention of the Senate the bravery and sacrifice of a great American, CPT John Lonergan, who was awarded the Medal of Honor for gallantry at the Battle of Gettysburg during the Civil War. His memory will be commemorated on May 8, 2010, with the dedication of a monument in his hometown of Carrick on Suir, County Tipperary, Ireland.

Amid severe famine and the 1848 rebellion against British rule, the Lonergan family was forced to flee Ireland and made their way to Vermont. In 1862, as the American Civil War erupted, John Lonergan mobilized Company A of the 13th Vermont Volunteer Infantry Regiment, the so-called "Irish Company." His unit served 9 months of active duty in Virginia as part of the 2nd Vermont Brigade guarding the outer defenses of Washington, DC. As General Lee and General Grant maneuvered the armies of the South and North during the summer of 1863, Lonergan's Company A was sent on a forced march to Pennsylvania for what would be the Battle of Gettysburg.

On July 2, 1863, at Gettysburg, Lonergan, now a captain, and his company successfully recaptured a Union cannon lost to the rebels and took prisoner more than 80 Confederate soldiers. Captain Lonergan was later awarded the Medal of Honor for his leadership and gallantry during this battle. The next day, he led his company of Vermont soldiers in an attack against the right flank of a massive Confederate assault on Cemetery Ridge. Company A made an invaluable contribution to drive back the Confederate charge at a crucial moment in the Battle of Gettysburg.

After the War, Captain Lonergan worked to overcome existing prejudice against Americans of Irish descent by organizing the first public celebrations of St. Patrick's Day in Vermont. He never lost his love for Ireland, and he was apparently a passionate advocate for liberation from British rule. Captain Lonergan continued serving his new country as a U.S. Customs officer, assigned to duty in Montreal, Canada. He died in 1902 and was buried in Burlington, VT.

We Vermonters are proud to recognize the bravery of Captain Lonergan, those of Irish descent who fought alongside him, and the thousands of other Vermonters who fought in the Civil War. Vermont, per capita, had more of its sons die fighting in the Civil War than any other State.

For their service, bravery and sacrifice, we thank all of them, and all those who continue this proud tradition as they serve the Nation today in Afghanistan, Iraq and other outposts across the globe.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING JOAN MARJORIE KOCH STIVERS

• Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, it is with great admiration and respect that I take this time to memorialize one of Kentucky's most outstanding citizens, Mrs. Joan Marjorie Koch Stivers.

Mrs. Stivers was born on June 19, 1921, in Greenfield, MA. After graduating from high school she attended Simmons College where she received a bachelor of science in dietetics. She then attended Harvard University where she received a master's degree in public health. After graduating from Harvard, Mrs. Stivers relocated to Manchester, KY, as a single young woman, upon taking a position with the Kentucky Public Health Department.

In 1948 she married Bertram Robert Stivers of Manchester, KY. Mr. Stivers would go on to serve Kentucky as a judge of the circuit court. Their marriage lasted 57 years and produced four children and numerous grandchildren. All of their four children are accomplished and include daughters Louise and Mary Beth, who have had outstanding careers in higher education, and one son Robert, who is a State senator and another, Franklin, who is an appellate judge.

However, Mrs. Stivers is perhaps best known for her service to Sue Bennett College, which she joined in 1957 as a faculty member. Her career at Sue Bennett spanned 34 years in which time Mrs. Stivers held numerous positions both inside and outside of the classroom. In addition to her teaching duties, Mrs. Stivers served the college as dean of women, dean of students, academic dean, and finally president of the college.

After her retirement, Mrs. Stivers remained active in the community. She volunteered at the Federal Correctional Institute in Manchester, was active in the Presbyterian Church, and served on the Cumberland Valley Area Development District Commission on Aging and on the Governor's Commission on Aging.

The life of Mrs. Stivers made a tremendous impact on both her local community and the entire Commonwealth of Kentucky. I am honored to bring her accomplishments to the attention of the Senate, and I wish to extend my heartfelt condolences to her friends and family.●

TRIBUTE TO FRANKIE MANNING

• Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment today to recognize Mrs. Frankie Manning of the VA Puget Sound Health Care System in Seattle, WA. After over 40 years of service in the U.S. Army and the Department of Veterans Affairs, Mrs. Manning is retiring from government service. A pioneer in championing the needs of women veterans, she helped

create the Women Veterans' Program for the Western Region in the 1980s. This program developed standards of care for women in the VA system and is still in place today. She was also instrumental in ensuring that the rural areas of our State received equal access and care from the VA system. My office worked closely with Mrs. Manning to establish the Veteran-Virtual Clinic in Port Angeles, a project that allows 3,000 veterans living on the Olympic Peninsula to access specialty care at the VA in Seattle.

Mrs. Manning has filled many roles within the VA system and served most recently as the nurse executive, overseeing the nursing operations at the Seattle and Tacoma facilities. Mrs. Manning also had a distinguished career in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps, spanning 23 years that included a deployment to Saudi Arabia during the Gulf war. Mrs. Manning retired from the Army with the rank of lieutenant colonel.

These decades of service to our country demonstrate a dedication to public service matched by few. Mrs. Manning worked tirelessly to ensure the men and women serving in our armed services received the best health care possible and that this care continued for the rest of their lives. I would like to thank Mrs. Manning for her years of service to our country and to the people of Washington State. Her career is a tremendous example of public service, and her commitment to our veterans is truly appreciated. I wish her all the best in her future endeavors and know that her many talents will be missed at the VA Puget Sound Health Care System.●

NOTIFICATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF AN EXECUTIVE ORDER BLOCKING THE PROPERTY OF CERTAIN PERSONS CONTRIBUTING TO THE CONFLICT IN SOMALIA—PM 50

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Consistent with subsection 204(b) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(b) (IEEPA), and section 301 of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1631 (NEA), I hereby report that I have issued an Executive Order (the "order") blocking the property of certain persons contributing to the conflict in Somalia. In that order, I declared a national emergency to deal with the unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States posed by that conflict, as described below.

The United Nations Security Council, in Resolution 1844 of November 20, 2008,

reaffirmed its condemnation of all acts of violence in Somalia and incitement to violence inside Somalia, and expressed its concern at all acts intended to prevent or block a peaceful political process. United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1844 also expressed grave concern over the recent increase in acts of piracy and armed robbery at sea against vessels off the coast of Somalia, and noted the role piracy may play in financing violations of the arms embargo on Somalia imposed by UNSCR 733 of January 23, 1992. In UNSCR 1844, the United Nations Security Council determined that the situation in Somalia poses a threat to international peace and security in the region and called on member States to apply certain measures against persons responsible for the continuing conflict. The United Nations Security Council has continued to express grave concern about the crisis in Somalia in UNSCR 1846 of December 2, 2008, UNSCR 1851 of December 16, 2008, and UNSCR 1872 of May 26, 2009.

Pursuant to the IEEPA and the NEA, I have determined that the deterioration of the security situation and the persistence of violence in Somalia, and acts of piracy and armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia, constitute an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. The order declares a national emergency to deal with this threat.

The order is not targeted at the entire country of Somalia, but rather is intended to target those who threaten peace and stability in Somalia, who inhibit the delivery of humanitarian assistance to Somalia or the distribution of such assistance in Somalia, or who supply arms or related materiel in violation of the arms embargo. The order blocks the property and interests in property in the United States, or in the possession or control of United States persons, of the persons listed in the Annex to the order, as well as of any person determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State:

to have engaged in acts that directly or indirectly threaten the peace, security, or stability of Somalia, including but not limited to (1) acts that threaten the Djibouti Agreement of August 18, 2008, or the political process, or (2) acts that threaten the Transitional Federal Institutions, the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), or other international peacekeeping operations related to Somalia;

to have obstructed the delivery of humanitarian assistance to Somalia, or access to, or distribution of, humanitarian assistance in Somalia; or

to have directly or indirectly supplied, sold, or transferred to Somalia, or to have been the recipient in the territory of Somalia of, arms or any related materiel, or any technical advice, training, or assistance, including financing and financial assistance, related to military activities.

The designation criteria will be applied in accordance with applicable Federal law including, where appropriate, the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. The designation criteria will also be applied taking into consideration the arms embargo on Somalia imposed by UNSCR 733 of January 23, 1992, as elaborated upon and amended by subsequent resolutions.

The order also authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to designate for blocking any person determined to have materially assisted, sponsored, or provided financial, material, logistical, or technical support for, or goods or services in support of, the activities described above or any person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to the order. I determined that, among other threats to the peace, security, or stability of Somalia, acts of piracy or armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia threaten the peace, security, or stability of Somalia. I further authorized the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to designate for blocking any person (defined as an individual or entity) determined to be owned or controlled by, or to have acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, any person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to the order.

I delegated to the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, the authority to take such actions, including the promulgation of rules and regulations, and to employ all powers granted to the President by IEEPA and the United Nations Participation Act, as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of the order. All executive agencies are directed to take all appropriate measures within their authority to carry out the provisions of the order.

The order, a copy of which is enclosed, became effective at 12:01 a.m. eastern daylight time on April 13, 2010.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, April 13, 2010.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

ENROLLED BILL AND JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 6, 2009, the Secretary of the Senate, on March 31, 2010, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill and joint resolution:

H.R. 4621. An act to protect the integrity of the constitutionally mandated United States census and prohibit deceptive mail practices that attempt to exploit the decennial census.

H.J. Res. 80. Joint resolution recognizing and honoring the Blinded Veterans Association on its 65th anniversary of representing blinded veterans and their families.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 6, 2009, the enrolled bill and joint resolution were

signed on April 1, 2010, during the adjournment of the Senate by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The PRESIDENT pro tempore (Mr. BYRD) announced that on Friday, March 26, 2010, he had signed the following enrolled bill, which was previously signed by the Speaker of the House:

H.R. 4938. An act to permit the use of previously appropriated funds to extend the Small Business Loan Guarantee Program, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The PRESIDENT pro tempore (Mr. BYRD) announced that on Friday, March 26, 2010, he had signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 4957. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend authorizations for the airport improvement program, and for other purposes.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 3194. A bill to provide collective bargaining rights for public safety officers employed by States or their political subdivisions.

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-5288. A communication from the Secretary of the Air Force, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Average Procurement Unit Cost for the Wideband Global SATCOM (WGS) program satellites; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5289. A communication from the Secretary of the Army, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Average Procurement Unit Cost for the Advanced Threat Infrared Countermeasure and Common Missile Warning System (ATIRCM/CMWS) program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5290. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Financial Management and Comptroller), Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to meals sold by messes for the United States Navy and Naval Auxiliary vessels; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5291. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics and Technology), Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Army's intent to enter into a contract in support of depot maintenance programs performed at Corpus Christi Army Depot, Texas, for the AH-64 and CH-47 Systems; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5292. A communication from the Administrator of the Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled

"Potato Research and Promotion Plan" (Docket Nos. AMS-FV-09-0024; FV-09-706C) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 31, 2010; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5293. 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 13224 of September 23, 2001, with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5294. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Council's 2009 Annual Report to Congress; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5295. A communication from the Chairman, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Buy American Act; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5296. A communication from the Deputy to the Chairman for Legal Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Transitional Safe Harbor Protection for Treatment by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation as Conservator or Receiver of Financial Assets Transferred by an Insured Depository Institution in Connection With a Securitization or Participation" (RIN3064-AD55) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 1, 2010; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5297. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors, Division of Consumer and Community Affairs, Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Electronic Fund Transfers" (FRS Docket No. R-1377) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 26, 2010; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5298. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation and Regulatory Law, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Small Electric Motors" (RIN1904-AB70) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 1, 2010; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-5299. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife Parks, National Wildlife Refuge Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Refuge Specific Regulations: Public Use; Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge" (RIN1018-AW15) as received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 1, 2010; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5300. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Delegation of New Source Performance Standards and National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for the State of Louisiana" (FRL No. 9137-2) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 12, 2010; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5301. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division,

Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Wyoming; Revisions to the Wyoming Air Quality Standards and Regulations; Direct Final Rule" (FRL No. 9136-6) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 12, 2010; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5302. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Striping Transactions for Qualified Tax Credit Bonds" (Notice No. 2010-28) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 31, 2010; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5303. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "American Recovery and Reinvestment Tax Act of 2009 Clarifications" (Notice No. 2010-18) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 31, 2010; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5304. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Issuance of Opinion and Advisory Letters and Opening of the EGTRRA Determination Letter Program for Pre-Approved Defined Benefit Plans" (Announcement 2010-20) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 31, 2010; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5305. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, U.S. Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the waiver of the restrictions contained in Section 907 of the FREEDOM Support Act of 1992; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5306. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, U.S. Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the withdrawal of certification granted to Mexico in relation to the incidental capture of sea turtles in commercial shrimping operations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5307. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed amendment to a manufacturing license agreement for the export of defense articles, including, technical data, and defense services for the manufacture of Small Diameter Bomb Increment I (SDB I) Weapon System in Italy; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5308. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed manufacturing license agreement for the export of defense articles, including, technical data, and defense services for the continued manufacture of M791, M792, and M793 Ammunition and Components for sale to Turkey; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5309. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed manufacturing license agreement for the export of defense articles, including, technical data, and defense services for the manufacture of Combat Identification System Products, Subsystems, and

Ancillary Equipment for the Italian Ministry of Defense; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5310. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed manufacturing license agreement for the export of defense articles, including, technical data, and defense services to Israel for the manufacture of the Video Matrix Switch with Quad Processor (VMS-Q) in the amount of \$50,000,000 or more; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5311. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed technical assistance agreement for the export of defense articles, including, technical data, and defense services to support the Proton launch of the Astra 1N Commercial Communication Satellite from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan in the amount of \$50,000,000 or more; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5312. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed amendment to a technical assistance agreement for the export of defense articles, including, technical data, and defense services to develop, integrate, and manufacture the Integrated Color Display System for modernization of the Republic of China (Taiwan) Air Force Indigenous Defense Fighter in the amount of \$50,000,000 or more; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5313. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed manufacturing license agreement for the export of defense articles, including, technical data, and defense services for the continued manufacture of the T55-L712 and 55-L714A engines powering the Japanese Ministry of Defense's CH-47J Helicopter in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5314. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to U.S. support for Taiwan's participation as an observer at the 63rd World Health Assembly and in the work of the World Health Organization; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5315. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the justification for the President's waiver of the restrictions on the provision of funds to the Palestinian Authority; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5316. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act—2009 Implementation" (RIN1625-AB40) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 9, 2010; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5317. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Race to the Top Fund" (RIN1810-AB10) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the

Senate on April 8, 2010; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5318. A communication from the Acting Director, Legislative and Regulatory Department, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans; Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Valuing and Paying Benefits" (29 CFR Parts 4022 and 4044) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 29, 2010; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5319. A communication from the Deputy Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Listing of Color Additives Exempt From Certification; Bismuth Citrate" (Docket No. FDA-2008-C-0098) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 8, 2010; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5320. A communication from the Deputy Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Advisory Committees; Technical Amendment" (Docket No. FDA-2010-N-0001) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 8, 2010; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5321. A communication from the Deputy Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medical Devices; Technical Amendment" (Docket No. FDA-2010-N-0010) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 9, 2010; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5322. A communication from the Deputy Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Administrative Practices and Procedures; Good Guidance Practices; Technical Amendment" (Docket No. FDA-1999-N-3539) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 9, 2010; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5323. A communication from the Deputy Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "New Animal Drugs; Removal of Obsolete and Redundant Regulations" (Docket No. FDA-2003-N-0446) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 9, 2010; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5324. A communication from the Deputy Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revision of Organization and Conforming Changes to Regulations" (Docket No. FDA-2010-N-0148) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 9, 2010; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5325. A communication from the Deputy Director of Regulations and Policy Man-

agement Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medical Devices; Pediatric Uses of Devices; Requirement for Submission of Information on Pediatric Subpopulations That Suffer From a Disease or Condition That a Device is Intended to Treat, Diagnose, or Cure; Direct Final Rule" (Docket No. FDA-2009-N-0458) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 9, 2010; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5326. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a petition to add workers from the Nevada Test Site, Mercury, Nevada, to the Special Exposure Cohort; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5327. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a petition to add workers from the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Livermore, California, to the Special Exposure Cohort; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5328. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a petition to add workers from the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in Berkeley, California, to the Special Exposure Cohort; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5329. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a petition to add workers from the Westinghouse Electric Corp., Bloomfield, Illinois, to the Special Exposure Cohort; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5330. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a petition to add workers from the Area IV of Santa Susana Field, Santa Susana, California, to the Special Exposure Cohort; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5331. A communication from the Director of the Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, Mine Safety and Health Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "High-Voltage Continuous Mining Machine Standard for Underground Coal Miners" (RIN1219-AB34) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 12, 2010; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5332. A communication from the Director of the Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, Mine Safety and Health Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Coal Mine Dust Sampling Devices" (RIN1219-AB61) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 12, 2010; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5333. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 18-329, "Service Animal Amendment Act of 2010"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5334. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 18-330, "Uniform Interstate Depositions and Discovery Act of 2010"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5335. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report

on D.C. Act 18-331, "Closing of a Portion of an Unimproved Public Alley in Square 5795, S.O. 08-7766, Act of 2010"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. KERRY, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment and with a preamble:

S. Res. 409. A resolution calling on members of the Parliament in Uganda to reject the proposed "Anti-Homosexuality Bill", and for other purposes.

By Mr. KERRY, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and with an amended preamble:

S. Res. 446. A resolution commemorating the 40th anniversary of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. KERRY for the Committee on Foreign Relations.

*Carolyn Hessler Radelet, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Director of the Peace Corps.

*Elizabeth L. Littlefield, of the District of Columbia, to be President of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation.

*Lana Pollack, of Michigan, to be a Commissioner on the part of the United States on the International Joint Commission, United States and Canada.

*Victor H. Ashe, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors for a term expiring August 13, 2010.

*Walter Isaacson, of Louisiana, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors for a term expiring August 13, 2012.

*Walter Isaacson, of Louisiana, to be Chairman of the Broadcasting Board of Governors.

*Michael Lynton, of California, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors for a term expiring August 13, 2012.

*Susan McCue, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors for a term expiring August 13, 2011.

*Dennis Mulhaupt, of California, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors for a term expiring August 13, 2011.

*S. Enders Wimbush, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors for a term expiring August 13, 2010.

*Bisa Williams, of New Jersey, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Niger.

Nominee: Bisa Williams.

Post: Ambassador to Niger.

(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, donee:

1. Self: \$1,505, 2008, Barack Obama.

2. Spouse: N/A.

3. Children and Spouses: Michael Stephen Manigault, Jr., N/A.

4. Parents: Paul Towbin Williams, M.D.—deceased, N/A; Eloise Owens Williams—deceased, N/A.

5. Grandparents: Frank E. Owens—deceased, N/A; Viola B. Owens—deceased, N/A; Charles C. Williams—deceased, N/A; Mrs. Ida B. Williams—deceased, N/A.

6. Brothers and Spouses: Paul T. Williams, Jr., \$2,300, 2008, Hillary R. Clinton; Ammie Felder-Williams, \$2,200, 2008, Hillary R. Clinton.

7. Sisters and Spouses: Ntozake Shange, N/A; Ifa Bayeza, N/A.

*Raul Yzaguirre, of Maryland, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Dominican Republic.

Nominee: Raul Yzaguirre.

Post: Dominican Republic.

(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, donee, amount, and date:

Self: Hillary for President, \$1,500, 2/2008; Rick Noriega for Senate (TX), \$1,000, 11/2008; Democratic Senatorial Committee, \$1,000, 5/2009; Gil Cedillo for Congress (CA), \$500, 6/2007; Bill Winter for Congress (CO), \$250, 10/2006; Ciro Rodriguez, \$250, 02/02/2006.

2. Spouse: N/A.

3. Children and Spouses: N/A.

4. Parents: N/A.

5. Grandparents: N/A.

6. Brothers and Spouses: N/A.

7. Sisters and Spouses: N/A.

*Theodore Sedgwick, of Virginia, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Slovak Republic.

Nominee: Theodore Sedgwick.

Post: Ambassador to Slovak Republic.

(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. Theodore Sedgwick: \$1,000, 2006, Harold Ford Jr. for US Senate; \$1,000, 2006, Harris N. Miller, Miller for US Senate; \$1,000, 2006, Heath Shuler for Congress; \$2,100, 2006, James Webb for US Senate; \$1,000, 2006, Leonard C. Boswell, Boswell for Congress; \$1,000, 2006, Forward Together South Carolina; \$500, 2006, Maria Cantwell for US Senate; \$5,000, 2006, Mark Warner, Forward Together PAC; \$5,000, 2006, New Democrat Network; \$1,000, 2006, Phil Kellam for Congress; \$1,000, 2006, Sheldon Whitehouse for Congress; \$1,000, 2007, Chellie N. Pingree for Congress; \$4,600, 2007, Obama For America; \$4,500, 2007, Dem Senatorial Campaign Committee; \$2,500, 2007, Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee; \$500, 2007, Democratic Leadership Council; \$1,000, 2007, Friends of Jim Clyburn—US Congress; \$4,600, 2007, Friends of Mark Warner, US Senate; \$4,600, 2007, Friends of US Senator Mary Landrieu; \$4,600, 2007, James Webb for US Senate; \$5,000, 2007, New Democrat Network; \$1,000, 2007, Tennessee Democratic Party; \$5,000, 2008, Committee for Change—Per FEC website, Recipients include: \$657, Democratic Executive Committee of FL, \$221, Colorado Democratic Party, \$329, Missouri Democratic State Committee, \$443, North Carolina Democratic Party, \$606, Ohio Democratic Party, \$368, Democratic Party of Virginia, \$347, Georgia Federal Elections Committee, \$323, Indiana Democratic Congressional, Victory Committee, \$583, Pennsylvania Democratic Party; \$1,000, 2008, Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee; \$28,500, 2008,

Democratic National Committee; \$2,100, 2008, Democratic Party of Virginia; \$2,300, 2008, Ethan Berkowitz, Berkowitz for Congress; \$1,000, 2008, Hillary Clinton for Pres; \$350, 2008, Joint Action Committee for Political Affairs; \$1,000, 2008, Tennessee Democratic Party; \$1,000, 2008, Udall for Colorado; \$100, 2009, Al Franken for US Senate, MN; \$1,000, 2009, Democracy In Action now called Wired for Change; \$17,700, 2009, Democratic National Committee (\$489) Michigan Democratic State Central Committee was partial recipient per FEC; \$1,000, 2009, Friends of Mark Warner.

2. Kate Sedgwick (Spouse): \$5,000, 2006, Mark Warner, Forward Together PAC; \$2,300, 2007, Obama For America; \$4,600, 2007, Friends of Mark Warner.

3. Caroline Sedgwick (Daughter): \$2,300, 2007, Barack Obama, Obama for America.

Elizabeth Brunson (Daughter): \$2,500, 2006, Forward Together PAC (Mark Warner); \$2,300, 2007, Barack Obama, Obama for America.

Stuart Brunson (Son-in-Law): \$250, 2006, Heath Shuler for Congress; \$2,500, 2006, Forward Together PAC; \$1,000, 2007, Tennessee Democratic Party; \$1,000, 2008, Tennessee Democratic Party; \$1,000, 2008, Robert Tukey for US Senate; \$1,000, 2009, Roy Herron for Congress, TN.

Elizabeth Sedgwick (Mother): \$1,000, 2006, Robert N. Shamansky for Congress; \$5,000, 2006, Mark R. Warner, Forward Together PAC; \$2,300, 2007, Barack Obama, Obama for America; \$28,500, 2008, Barack Obama, Obama Victory Fund; \$26,200, 2008, Democratic National Committee; \$2,300, 2008, Barack Obama, Obama for America.

Grandparents: (N/A).

Ellery Sedgwick (Brother): \$1,000, 2006, Mark R. Warner, Forward Together PAC; \$1,000, 2007, Barack Obama, Obama for America; \$1,300, 2008, Barack Obama, Obama for America; \$1,000, 2008, Thomas Stuart Price Perriello for Congress.

Walter Sedgwick (Brother): \$2,500, 2006, Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee; \$1,000, 2007, Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee; \$1,000, 2007, William G. Shafroth, Shafroth for Congress; \$1,000, 2007, Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee; \$2,300, 2008, Barack Obama, Obama for America; \$2,000, 2008, Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee; \$500, 2008, Charles Brown, Brown for Congress; \$250, 2008, Darcy Burner, Burner for Congress; \$2,500, 2008, Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee; \$2,400, 2009, Harry Reid for Senate.

Jeanne Sedgwick (Sister-in-Law): \$1,000, 2005, Evan Bayh, Evan Bayh Committee; \$2,300, 2008, Barack Obama, Obama for America; \$2,400, 2009, Harry Reid for Senate.

Irene Briedis (Sister): \$600, 2006, Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee; \$250, 2006, Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee; \$2,100, 2007, Barack Obama, Obama for America; \$250, 2007, Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee; \$2,300, 2008, Barack Obama, Obama for America; \$250, 2009, Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee.

*Robert Stephen Ford, of Maryland, 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 Syrian Arab Republic.

Nominee: Robert S. Ford.

Post: U.S. Embassy, Damascus, Syria.

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.
2. Spouse: Clare Alison Barkley: none.
3. Children and Spouses: none.
4. Parents: William Jack Ford: none; Marian Ford: none.
5. Grandparents: deceased.
6. Brothers and Spouses: William E. Ford: none; Brian J. Ford: none.
7. Sisters and Spouses: none.

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, for the Committee on Foreign Relations I report favorably the following nomination list which was printed in the RECORD on the date indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that this nomination lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

*Foreign Service nominations beginning with Karen L. Zens and ending with Richard Steffens, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 26, 2010.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 211

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) were added as cosponsors of S. 211, a bill to facilitate nationwide availability of 2-1-1 telephone service for information and referral on human services and volunteer services, and for other purposes.

S. 362

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 362, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the collective bargaining rights and procedures for review of adverse actions of certain employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 435

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 435, a bill to provide for evidence-based and promising practices related to juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang activity prevention and intervention to help build individual, family, and community strength and resiliency to ensure that youth lead productive, safe, healthy, gang-free, and law-abiding lives.

S. 450

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 450, a bill to understand and comprehensively address the oral health problems associated with methamphetamine use.

S. 535

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 535, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to repeal requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan by veterans' dependency and indemnity compensation, and for other purposes.

S. 732

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 732, a bill to amend the National Dam Safety Program Act to establish a program to provide grant assistance to States for the rehabilitation and repair of deficient dams.

S. 753

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 753, a bill to prohibit the manufacture, sale, or distribution in commerce of children's food and beverage containers composed of bisphenol A, and for other purposes.

S. 781

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 781, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for collegiate housing and infrastructure grants.

S. 1233

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1233, a bill to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs and for other purposes.

S. 1275

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1275, a bill to establish a National Foundation on Physical Fitness and Sports to carry out activities to support and supplement the mission of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

S. 1352

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1352, a bill to provide for the expansion of Federal efforts concerning the prevention, education, treatment, and research activities related to Lyme and other tick-borne diseases, including the establishment of a Tick-Borne Diseases Advisory Committee.

S. 1382

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1382, a bill to improve and expand the Peace Corps for the 21st century, and for other purposes.

S. 1492

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1492, a bill to amend the Public

Health Service Act to fund breakthroughs in Alzheimer's disease research while providing more help to caregivers and increasing public education about prevention.

S. 1789

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS), the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1789, a bill to restore fairness to Federal cocaine sentencing.

S. 1939

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1939, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify presumptions relating to the exposure of certain veterans who served in the vicinity of the Republic of Vietnam, and for other purposes.

S. 2962

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2962, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to apply an earnings test in determining the amount of monthly insurance benefits for individuals entitled to disability insurance benefits based on blindness.

S. 2989

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2989, a bill to improve the Small Business Act, and for other purposes.

S. 3039

At the request of Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3039, a bill to prevent drunk driving injuries and fatalities, and for other purposes.

S. 3068

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. LEMIEUX) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3068, a bill to reauthorize the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Human Space Flight Activities, and for other purposes.

S. 3122

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3122, a bill to require the Attorney General of the United States to compile, and make publicly available, certain data relating to the Equal Access to Justice Act, and for other purposes.

S. 3165

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3165, a bill to authorize the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to waive the non-Federal share requirement under certain programs.

S. 3180

At the request of Mr. LEMIEUX, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3180, a bill to prohibit the use of funds for the termination of the Constellation Program of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 477

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 477, a resolution honoring the accomplishments and legacy of Cesar Estrada Chavez.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. KAUFMAN (for himself, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. AKAKA, and Mr. LIEBERMAN):

S. 3196. A bill to amend the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 to provide that certain transition services shall be available to eligible candidates before the general election; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Mr. KAUFMAN. Mr. President, I rise to discuss a bill I am introducing today, the Pre-Election Presidential Transition Act of 2010, bipartisan legislation that concerns both our national security and America's democratic institutions.

I am proud to be joined by my colleague from Ohio, Senator VOINOVICH in introducing this bill. I also want to thank our cosponsors, Chairman AKAKA of the Oversight of Government Management Subcommittee as well as Chairman LIEBERMAN of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee.

I am appreciative of their support and for their input while drafting this bill.

I also would like to thank the Partnership for Public Service, a leading nonpartisan, nonprofit organization in the area of government accountability and reform. Their recent "Ready to Govern" report on the 2008-2009 transition made a number of important recommendations that are included in our bill.

As the strong, bipartisan support for this bill demonstrates, this is not a political issue.

After the attacks of September 11, we face new security challenges that require close cooperation between outgoing and incoming administrations, and the recent economic crisis underscores the importance of a smooth handoff on domestic policy as well.

This was highlighted in a recent article by Martha Kumar, a respected political scientist at Towson University and Director of the nonpartisan White House Transition Project. As Professor Kumar recounts in her December 2009

article in Presidential Studies Quarterly, a threat to President Obama's inauguration brought together the incoming and outgoing senior national security personnel in the White House Situation Room the morning of his swearing-in.

In the hours before then-President-elect Obama was to take office, intelligence sources had indicated a possible plot to attack the National Mall during the ceremony. Thankfully, this threat proved a false alarm.

But, as Kumar explains, that Situation Room meeting between advisers to President Bush and President-elect Obama was a powerful example of why transition planning is so important.

In their meeting that morning, those on both sides worked well together as a team. This was so because they had met frequently in the weeks beforehand and had undergone joint emergency preparedness exercises together.

This occurred in no small part because the administration of former President George W. Bush made it a high priority. The former President and his White House staff deserve great credit for their work during their final months in office. By appointing his chief of staff, Joshua Bolton, as his transition point-person and convening a formal Transition Coordinating Council, President Bush created a successful model for a 21st century transfer of power.

Presidential inaugurations have always been moments of celebration for Americans, as we reaffirm the elective nature of our government. But they also represent moments of potential vulnerability.

In the earliest years of our history, that vulnerability inhabited the untested nature of our institutions. In an era when elected government was rare, the transition from one executive administration to another, particularly those between parties, brought fears of political or social unrest.

The primary example of such a transition remains that from the administration of John Adams to that of Thomas Jefferson, the first between opponents of different parties to contest the Presidency.

The peaceful nature of the 1801 transition came as a welcome surprise to some. The early American writer and novelist, Margaret Bayard Smith, whose brother, James Bayard, held the Senate seat from Delaware I now occupy, attended that inauguration. In a letter to her daughter, she described it thus:

I have this morning witnessed one of the most interesting scenes a free people can ever witness. The changes of administration, which in every government and in every age have most generally been epochs of confusion, villainy, and bloodshed, in this our happy country take place without any species of distraction or disorder.

It is also notable that the greatest political crisis in our history occurred during the period between election day in November 1860 and Abraham Lin-

coln's inauguration the following March. The States that seceded did so amid a palpable uncertainty of national leadership.

Today, however, our concern is less with political stability than with national security.

During the Cold War, when fears of a power vacuum caused a renewed focus on continuity of government, Congress passed the Presidential Transition Act of 1963. It formalized several important elements of a successful transition, including public funds for transition staff, use of office space and equipment from the General Services Administration, reimbursement for travel by the President-elect and Vice President-elect, and their use of franked mail. It was amended in 1998 to permit the President-elect and Vice President-elect to supplement public transition funding with private donations and laid out requirements for disclosing their sources.

In 2004, Congress took an important step by including provisions in the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act that allow transition personnel to request FBI background checks for potential appointees. This helps ensure that, on January 20 when the new President is sworn in, the most critical national security positions are immediately filled.

While some aspects of a successful Presidential transition process have been formalized by these acts, much of what has become necessary for a safe and smooth transition is still left to chance.

Fortune favors the prepared.

We were very lucky that the first transition of the post-September 11 era was carried out smoothly and with great preparation by both the outgoing and incoming administrations.

As I said a few moments ago, we owe great thanks to former President Bush for making this a priority and committing staff and resources to the process.

I also commend those who worked on both the Obama transition team as well as those from Senator MCCAIN's campaign who engaged in some transition planning before election day.

Most importantly, our bill will go a long way in removing the stigma that has historically caused candidates to hide or even delay important transition planning until after election day.

We all recognize that the first priority of any Presidential campaign is to win the election. I certainly understand why, in the past, candidates have been wary of revealing that they have engaged in pre-election transition planning.

But we cannot afford to lose critical planning time because of fears that a candidate might be accused by a rival of "measuring the drapes" prematurely. We must also ensure that incumbents make the necessary preparations in case they lose bids for reelection.

Candidate transition planning is an act of responsibility, not presumptuousness.

With the security and domestic policy challenges we face today, it must become the norm for any major party nominee to begin making arrangements for a transition long before election day.

The bill my colleagues and I are introducing will both formalize many of the recent transition's successes and provide additional resources to help nominees begin their transition efforts earlier.

The Pre-Election Presidential Transition Act of 2010 encourages eligible Presidential candidates to accept transition office space and a broad array of services from the General Services Administration immediately after their nominating conventions.

Presently, candidates must wait until after election day before these resources become available. We know that this is too late, since both campaigns in 2008, and others in recent years, began informal transition planning months in advance.

Under our bill, salaries for candidates' transition staff, travel expenses, and allowances are funded exclusively by separate funds raised by their campaigns prior to the election.

Eligible candidates would be authorized to set up a separate account to support these activities. They would be able to transfer money from their campaign accounts into this transition account as well as raise funds separately.

Those candidates eligible to receive GSA-provided services and access to facilities include major party candidates. Third-party candidates would be eligible if they met the same criteria used by the Commission on Presidential Debates to participate in general election debates.

The GSA would distribute to candidates a report on modern transitions, including a bibliography of resources. This report would also be released to the public and posted on the Internet to educate the press and public on the importance of early transition planning.

Of course, under the bill services and information to candidates would be provided on an equal basis and without regard to political affiliation, and they would have to be used only for transition purposes.

Because a transition depends on the careful attention of those both preparing to assume power and those leaving it, our bill also authorizes appropriations for the outgoing administration to use in planning and coordinating transition activities across departments and agencies. It recommends adopting the Bush model of a transition coordinating council, staffed by both outgoing appointees and career managers from each agency. This council would meet regularly with representatives from the major nominees and update them on transition matters.

The bill also encourages the outgoing administration to prepare comprehensive briefing materials for incoming of-

ficials on a range of issues and potential areas of concern.

My colleagues and I approach this as pragmatists, and our goal is not to tie the hands of an administration. It is to inspire responsible preparation. This bill is not about telling an outgoing President what to do; rather, it lays out a strongly suggested model for how to do the right thing.

The only new requirement it sets for the outgoing President is the submission of two reports to Congress in the months before election day describing the activities being undertaken to prepare for the transfer of power.

But the model it suggests has worked and can serve as a blueprint for transitions to come.

My first job in politics after JOE BIDEN was elected to the Senate in 1972 was to help him set up his Senate office in Delaware. My last job, before I was appointed to his Senate seat was as co-chair of his Vice Presidential Transition Team.

I can tell you from experience, setting up a Senate office is tough, but it is nothing like setting up a White House.

I was there in the room when then-President-elect Obama and Vice President-elect Biden convened their first transition meetings right after election day. I cannot stress more forcefully how important it was in those meetings that the Obama-Biden transition had begun much earlier.

There simply is not enough time between November and January to get everything done that needs to be done.

These are the reasons why I hope my colleagues will join us in supporting this legislation to make our presidential transitions smoother and safer.

We cannot afford to leave something this important to chance.

Again, I want to thank my friend and colleague from Ohio, Senator VOINOVICH, for his help in pulling this bill together as well as Senators AKAKA and LIEBERMAN for their support and leadership.

I look forward to working with them on the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee to move this measure through the Congress.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3196

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 "Pre-Election Presidential Transition Act of 2010".

SEC. 2. CERTAIN PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION SERVICES MAY BE PROVIDED TO ELIGIBLE CANDIDATES BEFORE GENERAL ELECTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3 of the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 (3 U.S.C. 102 note) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(b)(1)(A) In the case of an eligible candidate, the Administrator—

"(i) shall notify the candidate of the candidate's right to receive the services and facilities described in paragraph (2) and shall provide with such notice a description of the nature and scope of each such service and facility; and

"(ii) upon notification by the candidate of which such services and facilities such candidate will accept, shall, notwithstanding subsection (b), provide such services and facilities to the candidate during the period beginning on the date of the notification and ending on the date of the general elections described in subsection (b)(1).

The Administrator shall also notify the candidate of the services provided under sections 7601(c) and 8403(b) of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004.

"(B) The Administrator shall provide the notice under subparagraph (A)(i) to each eligible candidate—

"(i) in the case of a candidate of a major party (as defined in section 9002(6) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986), on one of the first 3 business days following the last nominating convention for such major parties; and

"(ii) in the case of any other candidate, as soon as practicable after an individual becomes an eligible candidate (or, if later, at the same time as notice is provided under clause (i)).

"(C)(i) The Administrator shall, not later than January 1 of 2012 and of every 4th year thereafter, prepare a report summarizing modern presidential transition activities, including a bibliography of relevant resources.

"(ii) The Administrator shall promptly make the report under clause (i) generally available to the public (including through electronic means) and shall include such report with the notice provided to each eligible candidate under subparagraph (A)(i).

"(2)(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the services and facilities described in this paragraph are the services and facilities described in subsection (a) (other than paragraphs (2), (3), (4), and (7) thereof), but only to the extent that the use of the services and facilities is for use in connection with the eligible candidate's preparations for the assumption of official duties as President or Vice-President.

"(B) The Administrator—

"(i) shall determine the location of any office space provided to an eligible candidate under this subsection;

"(ii) shall, as appropriate, ensure that any computers or communications services provided to an eligible candidate under this subsection are secure;

"(iii) shall offer information and other assistance to eligible candidates on an equal basis and without regard to political affiliation; and

"(iv) may modify the scope of any services to be provided under this subsection to reflect that the services are provided to eligible candidates rather than the President-elect or Vice-President-elect, except that any such modification must apply to all eligible candidates.

"(C) An eligible candidate, or any person on behalf of the candidate, shall not use any services or facilities provided under this subsection other than for the purposes described in subparagraph (A), and the candidate or the candidate's campaign shall reimburse the Administrator for any unauthorized use of such services or facilities.

"(3)(A) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an eligible candidate may establish a separate fund for the payment of expenditures in connection with the eligible candidate's preparations for the assumption of official duties as President or Vice-President, including expenditures in connection

with any services or facilities provided under this subsection (whether before such services or facilities are available under this section or to supplement such services or facilities when so provided). Such fund shall be established and maintained in such manner as to qualify such fund for purposes of section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

“(B)(i) The eligible candidate may—

“(I) transfer to any separate fund established under subparagraph (A) contributions (within the meaning of section 301(8) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 431(8))) the candidate received for the general election for President or Vice-President or payments from the Presidential Election Campaign Fund under chapter 95 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 the candidate received for the general election; and

“(II) solicit and accept amounts for receipt by such separate fund.

“(ii) Any expenditures from the separate fund that are made from such contributions or payments described in clause (i)(I) shall be treated as expenditures (within the meaning of section 301(9) of such Act (2 U.S.C. 431(9))) or qualified campaign expenses (within the meaning of section 9002(11) of such Code), whichever is applicable.

“(iii) An eligible candidate establishing a separate fund under subparagraph (A) shall (as a condition for receiving services and facilities described in paragraph (2)) comply with all requirements and limitations of section 5 in soliciting or expending amounts in the same manner as the President-elect or Vice-President-elect, including reporting on the transfer and expenditure of amounts described in subparagraph (B)(i) in the disclosures required by section 5.

“(4)(A) In this subsection, the term ‘eligible candidate’ means, with respect to any presidential election (as defined in section 9002(10) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986)—

“(i) a candidate of a major party (as defined in section 9002(6) of such Code) for President or Vice-President of the United States; and

“(ii) any other candidate who has been determined by the Administrator to be among the principle contenders for the general election to such offices.

“(B) In making a determination under subparagraph (A)(ii), the Administrator shall—

“(i) ensure that any candidate determined to be an eligible candidate under such subparagraph—

“(I) meets the requirements described in Article II, Section 1, of the United States Constitution for eligibility to the office of President;

“(II) has qualified to have his or her name appear on the ballots of a sufficient number of States such that the total number of electors appointed in those States is greater than 50 percent of the total number of electors appointed in all of the States; and

“(III) has demonstrated a significant level of public support in national public opinion polls, so as to be realistically considered among the principal contenders for President or Vice-President of the United States; and

“(ii) consider whether other national organizations have recognized the candidate as being among the principal contenders for the general election to such offices, including whether the Commission on Presidential Debates has determined that the candidate is eligible to participate in the candidate debates for the general election to such offices.”.

(b) ADMINISTRATOR REQUIRED TO PROVIDE TECHNOLOGY COORDINATION UPON REQUEST.—Section 3(a)(10) of the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 (3 U.S.C. 102 note) is amended to read as follows:

“(10) Notwithstanding subsection (b), consultation by the Administrator with any President-elect, Vice-President-elect, or eligible candidate (as defined in subsection (h)(4)) to develop a systems architecture plan for the computer and communications systems of the candidate to coordinate a transition to Federal systems if the candidate is elected.”.

(c) COORDINATION WITH OTHER TRANSITION SERVICES.—

(1) SECURITY CLEARANCES.—Section 7601(c) of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (50 U.S.C. 435b note) is amended—

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

“(1) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘eligible candidate’ has the meaning given such term by section 3(h)(4) of the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 (3 U.S.C. 102 note).”, and

(B) by striking “major party candidate” in paragraph (2) and inserting “eligible candidate”.

(2) PRESIDENTIALLY APPOINTED POSITIONS.—Section 8403(b)(2)(B) of such Act (5 U.S.C. 1101 note) is amended to read as follows:

“(B) OTHER CANDIDATES.—After making transmittals under subparagraph (B), the Office of Personnel Management shall transmit such electronic record to any other candidate for President who is an eligible candidate described in section 3(h)(4)(B) of the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 (3 U.S.C. 102 note) and may transmit such electronic record to any other candidate for President.”.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 3 of the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 (3 U.S.C. 102 note) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(8)(B), by striking “President-elect” and inserting “President-elect or eligible candidate (as defined in subsection (h)(4)) for President”; and

(2) in subsection (e), by inserting “, or eligible candidate (as defined in subsection (h)(4)) for President or Vice-President,” before “may designate”.

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF TRANSITION ACTIVITIES BY THE OUTGOING ADMINISTRATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The President of the United States, or the President's delegate, may take such actions as the President determines necessary and appropriate to plan and coordinate activities by the Executive branch of the Federal Government to facilitate an efficient transfer of power to a successor President, including—

(1) the establishment and operation of a transition coordinating council comprised of—

(A) high-level officials of the Executive branch selected by the President, which may include the Chief of Staff to the President, any Cabinet officer, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, the Administrator of the General Services Administration, and the Director of the Office of Personnel Management; and

(B) any other persons the President determines appropriate;

(2) the establishment and operation of an agency transition directors council which includes career employees designated to lead transition efforts within Executive Departments or agencies;

(3) the development of guidance to Executive Departments and agencies regarding briefing materials for an incoming administration, and the development of such materials; and

(4) the development of computer software, publications, contingency plans, issue memoranda, memoranda of understanding, training and exercises (including crisis training and exercises), programs, lessons learned from previous transitions, and other items

appropriate for improving the effectiveness and efficiency of a Presidential transition that may be disseminated to eligible candidates (as defined in section 3(h)(4) of the Presidential Transition Act of 1963, as added by section 2(a)) and to the President-elect and Vice-President-elect.

Any information and other assistance to eligible candidates under this subsection shall be offered on an equal basis and without regard to political affiliation.

(b) REPORTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President of the United States, or the President's delegate, shall provide to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate reports describing the activities undertaken by the President and the Executive Departments and agencies to prepare for the transfer of power to a new President.

(2) TIMING.—The reports under paragraph (1) shall be provided six months and three months before the date of the general election for the Office of President of the United States.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, every 4 to 8 years our country achieves a feat that is very much the exception to the rule when placed in the context of the long roll of history: through universal suffrage the people select a new president, and the president-elect assumes power in a peaceful manner.

It is a testament to the dedication and professionalism of past presidents, presidents-elect, civil servants and private citizens that this latter task, the presidential transition, is now seen by many Americans as routine; a new president is selected in November, and in January, he or she swaps places with the incumbent president. Life goes on as normal.

Of course, the task of transferring command of an organization with more than 5 million employees and a \$3.7 trillion annual budget is a bit more complex than our recent successful track record may suggest. Domestic and international threats further complicate this process.

Perhaps more than any of its counterparts, the Bush-Obama transition was dealt the longest odds for attaining the uneventful standard our country has come to expect from transfers of power. As my colleagues well know, the Bush-Obama transition was the first of the modern era to occur during wartime, and the first to follow a general election in which the incumbent president or vice-president did not vie for the presidency. The Bush-Obama transition was also the first to occur in the post-September 11th world, and the first since the largest reorganization of government in over 6 decades. As the candidates entered the last week of the campaign season, the second worst month in the history for the Standard & Poor's 500 was drawing to a close after that index had plunged 27 percent in 4 weeks' time.

These challenges would be more than enough for any well-disciplined transition effort to confront. Yet in January

2010, shortly before the anniversary of President Obama's inauguration, the American public learned through press accounts of still another threat confronted by the outgoing and incoming administrations. In the days preceding the Presidential Inauguration, intelligence reports surfaced that al-Shabaab, a Somali terrorist organization with ties to al-Qaeda, was planning an attack on the crowds that would gather to witness the administration of the oath of office to the 44th President of the U.S. The threat was taken so seriously that the Secretary of Defense did not attend the inaugural ceremonies in order to ensure continuity of the Nation's national security apparatus.

Fortunately this plot did not materialize. But threats like these emphasize the importance of a new president being ready to govern from day one.

Despite the challenges faced by the Bush-Obama transition, this most recent transfer of power most closely approached our transition ideal. Both the President and President-elect understood the gravity of the tasks before them, and undertook early and robust planning efforts. President Bush began preparing his administration for the transition earlier than any other presidency when he directed then White House Chief of Staff Joshua Bolten in late 2007 to ensure "that the transition is as effective as possible, especially in the national security area." For his part, President-elect Obama established the largest transition organization to date. At its peak, the Obama-Biden Transition Project's staff numbered 450, with a total budget of more than \$12 million, \$7 million of which came from private contributions.

In many ways, this most recent transition effort was the best case scenario. The transition succeeded because of the character and values of those tasked with leading the effort, individuals like Gail Lovelace, Joshua Bolten, Clay Johnson, John Podesta, and Christopher Lu.

But for critical events like a presidential transition, we cannot always be assured that such productive organizations and working relationships will develop. One need look no further than the acrimonious relationship between the outgoing Clinton administration and the incoming Bush administration, or the internal dissension in President-elect Carter's transition team, to find examples of dysfunctional transitions.

Of course, presidential personalities and uncontrollable circumstances will always be a driving factor in the success of future presidential transitions. But we in Congress can contribute to future successes by providing sufficient assistance and formal avenues to more robust transition planning, and by working to address the stigma that has unfortunately been associated with so-called "presumptuous" transition planning before the general election.

As my colleagues know, the formal mechanisms used by the federal gov-

ernment to transfer power were established in March 1964 with enactment of the Presidential Transition Act, PTA. The Presidential Transition Act of 1963 extends certain government services to the president-elect, including staff salaries, travel expenses, office space, postal reimbursement, and communications equipment. With the exception of substantive amendments in 2000 to provide for a transition directory and activities designed to "acquaint key prospective Presidential appointees with the types of problems and challenges that most typically confront new political appointees," and a provision of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 to provide for expedited security clearances for transition team members and prospective presidential appointees, the architecture our country uses to achieve a successful transition remains largely the same almost a half-century on.

So I am pleased to today join the distinguished junior Senator from Delaware, Senator EDWARD KAUFMAN, in introducing legislation to contribute to the future success of presidential transitions. Prior to returning to the U.S. Senate as a Member, Senator KAUFMAN served as one of the Obama-Biden Transition Project's twelve board members, where he gained first-hand experience in the challenges associated with transitioning the Federal Government.

I am happy to also be joined by two of the U.S. Senate's most ardent champions of good governance: the Chairman and of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, Senator JOSEPH LIEBERMAN, and my longtime friend and colleague on the Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia, Senator DANIEL AKAKA.

The Pre-Election Presidential Transition Act of 2010 would extend to the major party candidates and certain third-party candidates a select list of the services currently provided to the president-elect under the PTA. These benefits include office space, communications services, printing and binding expenses, and briefings and workshops designed to acquaint key potential administration staff with the problems and challenges they are likely to face. The bill would also provide candidates with assistance from the General Services Administration in designing systems architecture compatible with federal systems.

To encourage more deliberate transition preparation in the executive branch, the Pre-Election Presidential Transition Act also authorizes funding for the establishment of a transition coordinating council and an agency transition directors council modeled on the coordinating bodies that functioned so successfully during the Bush-Obama transition. The assistance extended to the candidates by these authorized functions would be provided

on the same terms as those employed during the last transition, on an equal basis and without regard to a candidate's political affiliation. The bill would also require the President, or the President's designee, to report to Congress in presidential election years on the preparations being made to ensure a smooth transition.

We in Congress cannot, and should not, dictate the roles and decision-making processes employed by the outgoing and incoming administrations; as a former mayor and governor, I know how fluid and dynamic transfers of power can be. So I am especially pleased that Senator KAUFMAN's bill is not prescriptive. Rather, the Pre-Election Presidential Transition Act provides assistance that candidates can reject or accept at their discretion, and the authorized activities included in the bill for coordinating bodies in the executive branch respect separation of powers issues by allowing, but not requiring, the use of these best practices.

Perhaps most importantly, the Pre-Election Presidential Transition Act provides valuable transition assistance to candidates at an earlier time than ever before. Regardless of the various unique obstacles a president-elect faces, each transition since the Nixon administration has been provided formal assistance for a very short period of time—76 days during the most recent transition. Of course, candidates can begin preparing for the transition before the general election. But in the home stretch of a presidential election, every spare dollar and body are employed to help the candidate win, and preparing to govern often falls by the wayside.

Senator KAUFMAN's bill will contribute to earlier, more robust transition planning by providing candidates with the means, the architecture, and the sanction associated with an equitable and impartial assistance mechanism to combat unfortunate dispersions of the transition planning process, like the comments directed at then Senator Obama's transition activities during the campaign.

Candidates taking deliberate steps to ensure a smooth transition should not be criticized as presumptuously "measuring the White House drapes" before the election; they should be encouraged and supported. The Pre-Election Presidential Transition Act seeks to achieve that goal.

I urge my colleagues to join in supporting the Pre-Election Presidential Transition Act.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 478—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR DESIGNATION OF MARCH AS "NATIONAL WHOLE CHILD MONTH"

Mrs. HAGAN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 478

Whereas each student should be able to enter school healthy and learn about and practice a healthy lifestyle;

Whereas, according to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies, the percentage of overweight children ages 6 to 11 years has doubled and the number of overweight adolescents has tripled over the last 2 decades;

Whereas each student should be able to learn in an intellectually challenging environment that is physically and emotionally safe;

Whereas according to the Indicators of School Crime and Safety report of 2009, 32 percent of middle and high school students reported being bullied during the 2007 school year;

Whereas each student should be able to be actively engaged in learning and connected to the school and broader community;

Whereas a study on high school student engagement conducted by the Center for Evaluation & Education Policy at the Indiana University School of Education found that half of high school students feel they are an important part of their school community;

Whereas each student deserves access to personalized learning and to be supported by qualified, caring adults;

Whereas the Indiana University study found that more than 20 percent of students reported that there is no adult at their school who cares about them and knows them well;

Whereas each graduate deserves to be challenged academically and prepared for success in college or further study and for employment in a global economy;

Whereas according to the most recently published information from the Condition of Education on the availability of advanced courses in high schools in United States, more than 25 percent of students do not have access to a single advanced course in mathematics, English, science, or foreign language in their high school;

Whereas another student drops out every 9 seconds in the United States;

Whereas the objective of the ASCD whole child approach to education ensures that every child is healthy, safe, engaged, supported, and challenged; and

Whereas March would be an appropriate month to designate as "National Whole Child Month": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of March as "National Whole Child Month";

(2) recognizes that ensuring all children are healthy, safe, engaged, supported, and challenged is a national priority; and

(3) encourages parents, educators, and community members to support and provide a whole child approach to education for each student.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3720. Mr. MCCAIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4851, to provide a temporary extension of certain programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3721. Mr. BAUCUS proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 4851, *supra*.

SA 3722. Mr. BROWN of Ohio (for Mrs. FEINSTEIN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1749, to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the possession or use of cell phones and similar wireless devices by Federal prisoners.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. KAUFMAN (for himself, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. AKAKA, and Mr. LIEBERMAN):

S. 3196. A bill to amend the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 to provide that certain transition services shall be available to eligible candidates before the general election; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mrs. HAGAN:

S. Res. 478. A resolution expressing support for designation of March as "National Whole Child Month"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3720. Mr. MCCAIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4851, to provide a temporary extension of certain programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place insert the following:

SEC. ____ . POINT OF ORDER ON LEGISLATION THAT IMPOSES A VALUE-ADDED TAX.

(a) IN GENERAL.—It shall not be in order in the Senate to consider any bill, resolution, amendment between Houses, motion, or conference report that would cause the imposition of a value-added tax.

(b) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEAL.—

(1) WAIVER.—This section may be waived or suspended in the Senate only by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn.

(2) APPEAL.—An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required in the Senate to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under this section.

SA 3721. Mr. BAUCUS proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 4851, to provide a temporary extension of certain programs, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Continuing Extension Act of 2010".

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE PROVISIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—(1) Section 4007 of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 (Public Law 110-252; 26 U.S.C. 3304 note) is amended—

(A) by striking "April 5, 2010" each place it appears and inserting "June 2, 2010";

(B) in the heading for subsection (b)(2), by striking "APRIL 5, 2010" and inserting "JUNE 2, 2010"; and

(C) in subsection (b)(3), by striking "September 4, 2010" and inserting "November 6, 2010".

(2) Section 2002(e) of the Assistance for Unemployed Workers and Struggling Families

Act, as contained in Public Law 111-5 (26 U.S.C. 3304 note; 123 Stat. 438), is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking "April 5, 2010" and inserting "June 2, 2010";

(B) in the heading for paragraph (2), by striking "APRIL 5, 2010" and inserting "JUNE 2, 2010"; and

(C) in paragraph (3), by striking "October 5, 2010" and inserting "December 7, 2010".

(3) Section 2005 of the Assistance for Unemployed Workers and Struggling Families Act, as contained in Public Law 111-5 (26 U.S.C. 3304 note; 123 Stat. 444), is amended—

(A) by striking "April 5, 2010" each place it appears and inserting "June 2, 2010"; and

(B) in subsection (c), by striking "September 4, 2010" and inserting "November 6, 2010".

(4) Section 5 of the Unemployment Compensation Extension Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-449; 26 U.S.C. 3304 note) is amended by striking "September 4, 2010" and inserting "November 6, 2010".

(b) FUNDING.—Section 4004(e)(1) of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 (Public Law 110-252; 26 U.S.C. 3304 note) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (C), by striking "and" at the end;

(2) by inserting after subparagraph (D) the following new subparagraph:

"(E) the amendments made by section 101(a)(1) of the Continuing Extension Act of 2010; and".

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect as if included in the enactment of the Temporary Extension Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-144).

SEC. 3. EXTENSION AND IMPROVEMENT OF PREMIUM ASSISTANCE FOR COBRA BENEFITS.

(a) EXTENSION OF ELIGIBILITY PERIOD.—Subsection (a)(3)(A) of section 3001 of division B of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5), as amended by section 3(a) of the Temporary Extension Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-144), is amended by striking "March 31, 2010" and inserting "May 31, 2010".

(b) RULES RELATING TO 2010 EXTENSION.—Subsection (a) of section 3001 of division B of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5), as amended by section 3(b) of the Temporary Extension Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-144), is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(18) RULES RELATED TO APRIL AND MAY 2010 EXTENSION.—In the case of an individual who, with regard to coverage described in paragraph (10)(B), experiences a qualifying event related to a termination of employment on or after April 1, 2010 and prior to the date of the enactment of this paragraph, rules similar to those in paragraphs (4)(A) and (7)(C) shall apply with respect to all continuation coverage, including State continuation coverage programs."

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect as if included in the provisions of section 3001 of division B of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

SEC. 4. INCREASE IN THE MEDICARE PHYSICIAN PAYMENT UPDATE.

Paragraph (10) of section 1848(d) of the Social Security Act, as added by section 1011(a) of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111-118) and as amended by section 5 of the Temporary Extension Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-144), is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking "March 31, 2010" and inserting "May 31, 2010"; and

(2) in subparagraph (B), by striking "April 1, 2010" and inserting "June 1, 2010".

SEC. 5. EHR CLARIFICATION.

(a) QUALIFICATION FOR CLINIC-BASED PHYSICIANS.—

(1) **MEDICARE.**—Section 1848(o)(1)(C)(ii) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-4(o)(1)(C)(ii)) is amended by striking “setting (whether inpatient or outpatient)” and inserting “inpatient or emergency room setting”.

(2) **MEDICAID.**—Section 1903(t)(3)(D) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396b(t)(3)(D)) is amended by striking “setting (whether inpatient or outpatient)” and inserting “inpatient or emergency room setting”.

(b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall be effective as if included in the enactment of the HITECH Act (included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5)).

(c) **IMPLEMENTATION.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Health and Human Services may implement the amendments made by this section by program instruction or otherwise.

SEC. 6. EXTENSION OF USE OF 2009 POVERTY GUIDELINES.

Section 1012 of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111-118), as amended by section 7 of the Temporary Extension Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-144), is amended by striking “March 31, 2010” and inserting “May 31, 2010”.

SEC. 7. EXTENSION OF NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM.

(a) **EXTENSION.**—Section 129 of the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2010 (Public Law 111-68), as amended by section 8 of Public Law 111-144, is amended by striking “by substituting” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting “by substituting May 31, 2010, for the date specified in each such section.”.

(b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall be considered to have taken effect on February 28, 2010.

SEC. 8. COMPENSATION AND RATIFICATION OF AUTHORITY RELATED TO LAPSE IN HIGHWAY PROGRAMS.

(a) **COMPENSATION FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.**—Any Federal employees furloughed as a result of the lapse in expenditure authority from the Highway Trust Fund after 11:59 p.m. on February 28, 2010, through March 2, 2010, shall be compensated for the period of that lapse at their standard rates of compensation, as determined under policies established by the Secretary of Transportation.

(b) **RATIFICATION OF ESSENTIAL ACTIONS.**—All actions taken by Federal employees, contractors, and grantees for the purposes of maintaining the essential level of Government operations, services, and activities to protect life and property and to bring about orderly termination of Government functions during the lapse in expenditure authority from the Highway Trust Fund after 11:59 p.m. on February 28, 2010, through March 2, 2010, are hereby ratified and approved if otherwise in accord with the provisions of the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2010 (division B of Public Law 111-68).

(c) **FUNDING.**—Funds used by the Secretary to compensate employees described in subsection (a) shall be derived from funds previously authorized out of the Highway Trust Fund and made available or limited to the Department of Transportation by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111-117) and shall be subject to the obligation limitations established in such Act.

(d) **EXPENDITURES FROM HIGHWAY TRUST FUND.**—To permit expenditures from the Highway Trust Fund to effectuate the purposes of this section, this section shall be deemed to be a section of the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2010 (division B of Public Law 111-68), as in effect on the date of the enactment of the last amendment to such Resolution.

SEC. 9. SATELLITE TELEVISION EXTENSION.

(a) **AMENDMENTS TO SECTION 119 OF TITLE 17, UNITED STATES CODE.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 119 of title 17, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in subsection (c)(1)(E), by striking “April 30, 2010” and inserting “May 31, 2010”; and

(B) in subsection (e), by striking “April 30, 2010” and inserting “May 31, 2010”.

(2) **TERMINATION OF LICENSE.**—Section 1003(a)(2)(A) of Public Law 111-118 is amended by striking “April 30, 2010”, and inserting “May 31, 2010”.

(b) **AMENDMENTS TO COMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1934.**—Section 325(b) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 325(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)(C), by striking “April 30, 2010” and inserting “May 31, 2010”; and

(2) in paragraph (3)(C), by striking “May 1, 2010” each place it appears in clauses (ii) and (iii) and inserting “June 1, 2010”.

SEC. 10. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

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

(b) **EMERGENCY DESIGNATION FOR CONGRESSIONAL ENFORCEMENT.**—This Act, with the exception of section 4, is designated as an emergency for purposes of pay-as-you-go principles. In the Senate, this Act is designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 403(a) of S. Con. Res. 13 (111th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2010.

(c) **EMERGENCY DESIGNATION FOR STATUTORY PAYGO.**—This Act, with the exception of section 4, is designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 4(g) of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-139; 2 U.S.C. 933(g)).

SA 3722. Mr. BROWN of Ohio (for Mrs. FEINSTEIN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1749, to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the possession or use of cell phones and similar wireless devices by Federal prisoners; as follows:

At the end of the bill, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . GAO STUDY.

Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit a report to Congress with research and findings on the following issues:

(1) A study of telephone rates within State and Federal prisons and jails to include information on interstate, intrastate and collect calls made by prisoners, including—

(A) the costs of operating inmate telephone services;

(B) the revenue obtained from inmate telephone systems;

(C) how the revenue from these systems is used by State governments and the Bureau of Prisons; and

(D) recommendations to lower telephone costs to inmates and their families, while still maintaining sufficient security.

(2) A study of State and Federal efforts to prevent the smuggling of cell phones and other wireless devices into prisons and jails, including efforts that State and Federal authorities are making to minimize trafficking of cell phones by guards and other prison officials and recommendations to reduce the number of cell phones that are trafficked into prisons and jails.

(3) A study of cell phone use by inmates in State and Federal prisons and jails, including—

(A) the cost that inmates pay for cell phones trafficked into prisons;

(B) the quantity of cell phones that are located in State and Federal prisons and jails; and

(C) the quantity of illegal activity that is conducted or facilitated as a result of inmate cell phone use.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 20, 2010, at 10 a.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on carbon capture and sequestration legislation, including S. 1856, S. 1134, and other draft legislative text.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record may do so by sending it to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510-6150, or by e-mail to Rosemarie.Calabro@energy.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact Allyson Anderson at (202) 224-7143 or Rosemarie Calabro at (202) 224-5039.

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Rules and Administration will meet on Thursday, April 15, 2010, at 10 a.m. to hear testimony on the nomination of Stephen T. Ayers to be Architect of the Capitol for the term of 10 years.

For further information regarding this hearing, please contact Lynden Armstrong at the Rules and Administration Committee on 202-224-6352.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 13, 2010, at 2:15 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet, during the session of the Senate, to conduct a hearing entitled “ESEA Reauthorization: School Turnaround” on April 13, 2010. The hearing will commence at 2 p.m. in room 430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 13, 2010, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled, "Wall Street and the Financial Crisis: The Role of High Risk Home Loans."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 13, 2010, at 2:30 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AIRLAND

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Airland of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 13, 2010, at 9:30 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FEDERAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, GOVERNMENT INFORMATION, FEDERAL SERVICE, AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs' Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 13, 2010, at 2:30 p.m. to conduct a hearing entitled, "Removing the Shroud of Secrecy: Making Government More Transparent and Accountable Part II."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

IMPEACHMENT TRIAL COMMITTEE

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Impeachment Trial Committee on the Articles against Judge G. Thomas Porteous, Jr. be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 13, 2010, at 4 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CELL PHONE CONTRABAND ACT
OF 2010

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 269, S. 1749.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1749) to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the possession or use of cell phones and similar wireless devices by Federal prisoners.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill which

had been reported from the Committee on the Judiciary with amendments; as follows:

(The parts of the bill intended to be stricken are shown in boldface brackets and the parts of the bill intended to be inserted are shown in italic.)

S. 1749

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 "Cell Phone Contraband Act of [2009]2010".

SEC. 2. WIRELESS DEVICES IN PRISON.

Section [1791]1791 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (4), by striking "or (d)(1)(E)" and inserting " , (d)(1)(E), or (d)(1)(F)"; and

(B) in paragraph (5), by striking "(d)(1)(F)" and inserting "(d)(1)(G)"; and

(2) in subsection (d)(1)—

(A) in subparagraph (E), by striking "and" at the end;

(B) by redesignating subparagraph (F) as subparagraph (G); and

(C) by inserting after subparagraph (E) the following:

"(F) a phone or other device used by a user of commercial mobile service (as defined in section 332(d) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 332(d))) in connection with such service; and";

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. I ask unanimous consent the committee-reported amendments be agreed to, that the Feinstein 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 committee amendments were agreed to.

The amendment (No. 3722) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To require a GAO study of cell phone use in prisons)

At the end of the bill, insert the following:

SEC. . GAO STUDY.

Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit a report to Congress with research and findings on the following issues:

(1) A study of telephone rates within State and Federal prisons and jails to include information on interstate, intrastate and collect calls made by prisoners, including—

(A) the costs of operating inmate telephone services;

(B) the revenue obtained from inmate telephone systems;

(C) how the revenue from these systems is used by State governments and the Bureau of Prisons; and

(D) recommendations to lower telephone costs to inmates and their families, while still maintaining sufficient security.

(2) A study of State and Federal efforts to prevent the smuggling of cell phones and other wireless devices into prisons and jails, including efforts that State and Federal authorities are making to minimize trafficking of cell phones by guards and other prison officials and recommendations to reduce the number of cell phones that are trafficked into prisons and jails.

(3) A study of cell phone use by inmates in State and Federal prisons and jails, including—

(A) the cost that inmates pay for cell phones trafficked into prisons;

(B) the quantity of cell phones that are located in State and Federal prisons and jails; and

(C) the quantity of illegal activity that is conducted or facilitated as a result of inmate cell phone use.

The bill (S. 1749), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 1749

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 "Cell Phone Contraband Act of 2010".

SEC. 2. WIRELESS DEVICES IN PRISON.

Section 1791 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (4), by striking "or (d)(1)(E)" and inserting " , (d)(1)(E), or (d)(1)(F)"; and

(B) in paragraph (5), by striking "(d)(1)(F)" and inserting "(d)(1)(G)"; and

(2) in subsection (d)(1)—

(A) in subparagraph (E), by striking "and" at the end;

(B) by redesignating subparagraph (F) as subparagraph (G); and

(C) by inserting after subparagraph (E) the following:

"(F) a phone or other device used by a user of commercial mobile service (as defined in section 332(d) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 332(d))) in connection with such service; and";

SEC. 3. GAO STUDY.

Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit a report to Congress with research and findings on the following issues:

(1) A study of telephone rates within State and Federal prisons and jails to include information on interstate, intrastate and collect calls made by prisoners, including—

(A) the costs of operating inmate telephone services;

(B) the revenue obtained from inmate telephone systems;

(C) how the revenue from these systems is used by State governments and the Bureau of Prisons; and

(D) recommendations to lower telephone costs to inmates and their families, while still maintaining sufficient security.

(2) A study of State and Federal efforts to prevent the smuggling of cell phones and other wireless devices into prisons and jails, including efforts that State and Federal authorities are making to minimize trafficking of cell phones by guards and other prison officials and recommendations to reduce the number of cell phones that are trafficked into prisons and jails.

(3) A study of cell phone use by inmates in State and Federal prisons and jails, including—

(A) the cost that inmates pay for cell phones trafficked into prisons;

(B) the quantity of cell phones that are located in State and Federal prisons and jails; and

(C) the quantity of illegal activity that is conducted or facilitated as a result of inmate cell phone use.

CALL TO UGANDA TO REJECT THE
PROPOSED ANTI-HOMOSEX-
UALITY BILL

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 344, S. Res. 409.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 409) calling on members of the Parliament in Uganda to reject the proposed "Anti-Homosexuality Bill," and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 409) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 409

Whereas a bill introduced on October 14, 2009, by a member of Parliament in Uganda would expand penalties for homosexuality to include the death penalty and requires citizens to report information about homosexuality to the police or face imprisonment;

Whereas many countries criminalize homosexuality, and in some countries, such as Iran, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, and Sudan, the penalty for homosexuality includes the death penalty;

Whereas the United States, in seeking to promote the core American principles of equality and "Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness," has long championed the universality of human rights;

Whereas religious leaders in the United States, along with representatives from the Vatican and the Anglican Church, have stated that laws criminalizing homosexuality are unjust; and

Whereas the people and Government of the United States recognize that such laws un-

dermine our commitment to combating HIV/AIDS globally through the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) by stigmatizing and criminalizing vulnerable communities: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) calls on members of the Parliament in Uganda to reject the "Anti-Homosexuality Bill" recently proposed in that country;

(2) urges the governments of all countries to reject and repeal similar criminalization laws; and

(3) encourages the Secretary of State to closely monitor human rights abuses that occur because of sexual orientation and to encourage the repeal or reform of laws such as the proposed "Anti-Homosexuality Bill" in Uganda that permit such abuses.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL
14, 2010

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 14; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate then observe a moment of silence in solidarity with the people of Poland; that following the moment of silence, the Senate proceed to a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak on the topic of Poland; that following those statements, there be a period of morning business for 1 hour with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the Republicans controlling the first 30 minutes and the majority controlling the final 30 minutes; that following morning business, the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 4851, the Continuing Extension Act, as provided for under the previous order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Before finalizing the end of the day, I would add that in support of this resolution we will discuss tomorrow, in 1991, working for

Ohio State University, I spent some time in Poland working with their government to transition from communism to democracy. And my friend Tomaz, who is a Polish academician, later rose to be the Minister of Culture in Poland. He was on that plane. I miss him. I had not seen him in years. But I miss him and the contribution he made to Poland and to our country in the work we did together on cultural issues, and certainly support this moment of silence and ask that we all remember the terrible thing that happened to so many of the leaders in Poland and what that means for how we have to come together and assist that country as it moves forward in another crisis that the great 38 million people of Poland face day after day.

PROGRAM

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. President, when the Senate convenes tomorrow, we will observe a moment of silence to express the Senate's solidarity with the people of Poland.

Following morning business, the Senate will resume consideration of the Continuing Extensions Act. Under a previous order, if a point of order is raised against the pending Baucus amendment, then at 12:30 p.m. the Senate will proceed to a rollcall vote on the motion to waive the applicable point of order.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M.
TOMORROW

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. 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 7:12 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, April 14, 2010, at 9:30 a.m.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MS. DIANE LAWSON

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the years of service given to the people of Chautauqua County by Ms. Diane Lawson. Ms. Lawson served her constituency faithfully and justly during her tenure as the Ripley Town Assessor.

Public service is a difficult and fulfilling career. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Ms. Lawson served her term with her head held high and a smile on her face the entire way. I have no doubt that her kind demeanor left a lasting impression on the people of Chautauqua County.

We are truly blessed to have such strong individuals with a desire to make this county the wonderful place that we all know it can be. Ms. Lawson is one of those people and that is why Madam Speaker I rise in tribute to her today.

A TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL KELLER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Michael Keller and his tremendous impact on the community.

Mr. Keller has been an important part of the Brooklyn community in many ways. Through his participation at the YMCA, Mr. Keller has strengthened our community and reminded us of the importance of investing in our youth. Mr. Keller has been a part of the YMCA since 1977 when he volunteered in a youth swim program. Since then, his roles have included Day Camp Director, Program Director, Membership Director and for the last 14 years, Executive Director of the East Orange (NJ) YMCA, Flatbush YMCA and later the Long Island City YMCA.

When he isn't spending time at the Y, Mike volunteers his time in other youth related programs and activities. He is a coach in the Gioia YMCA baseball and basketball leagues, and has served as an Assistant Scoutmaster for his local Boy Scout Troop. Additionally, Mike is currently a member of the Queensborough Rotary Club and has served as president of a number of Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs as well as other community organizations. Mike is a native of the Bronx and has a BA in English from Brooklyn College. He resides in Harlem with his wife, four children and grandson.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Michael Keller.

HONORING NELSON SMOTHERMAN
ON A LIFETIME OF SERVICE

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Nelson Smotherman, who is retiring after 60 years as a sports statistician in middle Tennessee.

Nelson began keeping statistics for sports broadcasts in 1950. His first broadcast was for a Murfreesboro Central football game for WGN radio. This March, Nelson worked his 4,000th game.

He has been called a legend and a walking encyclopedia, whose remarkable mind for sports statistics and 60 years of experience in the field have made him a pillar of our State's athletic programs.

Nelson's institutional memory has been an invaluable asset for the athletes of middle Tennessee. In his time in the booth, Nelson witnessed the integration of high school sports teams. He saw women's basketball shift from a 6-on-6 half-court game to 5-on-5 full-court play. He had a chance to work with some 50 different broadcasters. He maintains basketball records that go back to when the game was new, and has kept stats at State tournaments in four different sports. Nelson has been inducted into the Hall of Fame of the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association and has a softball field named in his honor in Murfreesboro.

Nelson's impact on the lives of young people in our community reaches well beyond the broadcast booth. He has served as Sunday School Secretary at the First Presbyterian Church in Murfreesboro for more than 50 years, and he continues to help coach the Oakland High School girls' softball team.

Nelson, your involvement in middle Tennessee sports will be missed, but I wish you all the best. I hope you enjoy a long and happy retirement.

HONORING BRYAN JOHN KUNZE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Bryan John Kunze of Fayette, Missouri, who is retiring this year after serving 24 years as Police Chief; the longest service in the history of the city of Fayette.

Mr. Kunze is a lifelong resident of Fayette, Missouri, graduating from Fayette High School in 1976. He went on to graduate from the University of Missouri Law Enforcement Training Institute and the FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Course. He has completed more than 3,000 hours of law enforcement training throughout his prestigious career.

Mr. Kunze has also vigorously served his community by going above and beyond his responsibilities as a deputy and as Police Chief. He has been an active volunteer fireman for the Fayette and Howard County rural fire department for more than 32 years; four of which he served as Fire Chief. Mr. Kunze was instrumental in spearheading the 911 Committee which established the emergency procedure for his county. In addition, he was also appointed to the 911 board several times. Furthermore, he has maintained active service and memberships in the Missouri Police Chiefs Association, the Missouri Federation of Police Chiefs, the International Association of Police Chiefs, and the Mid-Missouri Major Case Squad. He also serves the community as a deacon in his home church and current President of the Fayette City Cemetery.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in honoring Bryan John Kunze, who not only fulfilled his duties of service and leadership to his county and surrounding communities, but also set the bar for deputies and police chiefs across the nation. It is my privilege to represent such a deserving individual in the United States Congress.

HONORING MRS. MARY FOLEY
REILLY

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Mary Foley Reilly of Spring Lake, New Jersey. Mrs. Reilly will be honored as the 2010 Citizen of the Year by the Greater Spring Lake Chamber of Commerce at a celebration on Thursday, April 29, 2010. Her reception of this prestigious honor is well-deserved in light of her contributions to the retail business community in Spring Lake and the greater Monmouth County area.

Mrs. Reilly owns and operates The Irish Centre, a destination store at the Jersey Shore that has specialized in the sales of Irish merchandise for the past thirty years. The Irish Centre, now located at two separate locations in the Irish-dominated town of Spring Lake, is known for dealing in high end, "heirloom quality" merchandise. As an active entrepreneur, Mrs. Reilly hand selects much of the merchandise in her store, and specializes in handmade, authentic Irish products. Her achievement as a successful businesswoman brings great pride and joy to Spring Lake Township and the State of New Jersey.

Mrs. Reilly has also made great strides in bringing our Irish-American citizens closer to their ancestral homeland. Over the years The Irish Centre has sponsored concerts, lecture series, fine art shows, and readings run by the finest Irish talent. Furthermore, Mrs. Reilly has continuously supported and publicized numerous parades, festivals, and fundraisers in promotion of Irish heritage. Her attempts to remain connected with her ancestral homeland

• 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.

helps to preserve the Irish heritage in our culturally diverse state and nation.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in congratulating Mrs. Reilly for her reception of the 2010 Citizen of the Year recognition, and also for her leadership and service to the Irish-American community.

HONORING SHARON K. BARKER

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Sharon K. Barker and her unending commitment to our community.

Sharon Barker has been serving Bucks County for over 30 years and has been a leader in our community, fighting for those who need our help the most. Through her leadership and her volunteer involvement, she has made fundamental contributions to the lives of women in Bucks County. It's fitting that she will receive the Bucks County Women's History Month Award.

Sharon is an inspiration to anyone who knows her, and continually finds ways to improve the community around her. She is a role model and a mentor. Her hard work and dedication are a testament to the great State of Pennsylvania, and I am proud to say she calls the 8th District home.

Currently, Sharon Barker is Senior Vice President of the United Way of Bucks County, and still she finds time to bring together others interested in serving their community. She has even established a community service organization of knitters and crocheters who make and donate crafts to other nonprofit organizations. She has worked tirelessly for these causes, and deserves recognition for her significant accomplishments, which improve the lives of those around her.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize and to honor Sharon K. Barker for her incredible service to our community, and am extremely honored to serve as her Congressman.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOSEPH
F. SLAVIN

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the life of Mr. Joseph Slavin, a beloved husband, father, and grandfather, and dedicated worker in the field of health care. Joseph was known for standing up for public health and for the consumer in the community in his effort to carry out and interpret good policies. Those who knew him can attest that Joseph was one of those unique men who was able to accomplish much, while maintaining perfect integrity and concern for others.

Mr. Slavin was born and raised in Trenton, NJ as the son of Edward and Anna M. Slavin. As an academic he graduated at Trenton Catholic High School, earned an under-

graduate degree at Villanova University, a master's degree in public administration from Rutgers University and was a graduate of Harvard University's Healthcare Leadership Program.

Joseph's work began as an administrator for the late Trenton mayor, Arthur Holland, before embarking on a career in health care as an administrator at Donnelly Memorial Hospital. He also worked in the New Jersey Department of Health, served as executive director of the Regional Health Planning Council in Newark, NJ, and was the vice president of planning and regulatory affairs at the New Jersey Hospital Association.

Joseph was the initial executive director of the Catholic Healthcare Partnership of New Jersey and also served as director of planning for St. Lawrence Rehabilitation Center. Throughout his career he always carried out professional matters with a fair and intelligent hand.

Joseph Slavin passed away at age 75 on February 11, 2010. He is survived by his loving wife of 51 years, Katherine C. Slavin; four sons and three daughters-in-law: Kevin and Wendy Slavin, of Hackettstown, NJ; Tim Slavin and Ami Leaming of Dover, DE; Al Slavin and Catherine Johnson, of Clarks Summit, PA, and Peter Slavin of Port Orange, FL. Survivors also include 11 grandchildren, one great grandchild and 18 nieces and nephews.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, Joseph's family and friends, and me, in recognizing a great man, Joseph Slavin.

HONORING JEFFREY W.
MEISENHEIMER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize the outstanding achievement of Jeffrey W. Meisenheimer of Lee's Summit, Missouri. Jeffrey is the assistant principal of Lee's Summit High School in Lee's Summit, Missouri, and has been nominated by the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) as a finalist for the 2010 NASSP/Vicro National Assistant Principal of the Year. This prestigious nomination recognizes Jeffrey's ability to excel in the ever-demanding role of assistant principal in all aspects of education.

Madam Speaker, Jeffrey is a major contributing factor to the collaborating leadership success at Lee's Summit High School by promoting participation and teamwork through high-functioning teams. Jeffrey's goal is to improve the educational environment for his students through nurturing positive relationships and creating individual plans for academically struggling students. Jeffrey is a true asset to Lee's Summit School District with his commitment to students, relationship building and long-range goals for students, teachers, and Lee's Summit High School.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join me in applauding Jeffrey W. Meisenheimer's outstanding professionalism and commitment to educating the American youth. I join with Jeffrey's colleagues, family, friends, and students in congratulating Jeffrey on his outstanding achievement, and wish him good luck in his future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF OCEAN COUNTY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 47TH
ANNUAL GALA AWARD WINNERS

HON. JOHN H. ADLER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. ADLER of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate this year's Ocean County Chamber of Commerce honorees, Mr. and Mrs. Stephan and Judi Leone and The J. Phillip Citta Regional Cancer Center at Community Medical Center.

Mr. and Mrs. Leone have rightfully earned this year's "Distinguished Citizens of the Year" award. Mr. Stephan Leone co-founded the Toms River law firm Carluccio, Leone, Dimon, Doyle, and Sacks and was recently included in New Jersey Magazine's list of Super Lawyers. He serves as a member of the Ocean County College Board of trustees, is Director of the Toms River Business Improvement District, and has served on the Nature Conservancy of New Jersey. Mrs. Judith Leone serves as the vice Chair of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, and serves as a trustee for several organizations including the Garden State Philharmonic, Ocean's Harbor House Foundation, and the Shelter, Inc. She has earned several awards for her work with various community organizations, and was named Ocean County College's Humanitarian of the Year along with her husband.

Earning the honor of this year's "Organization of the Year" award is The J. Phillip Citta Regional Cancer Center at Community Medical Center. As the leading provider of cancer services in the region, they have provided the people of Ocean County with high quality care and innovative programs in all areas of cancer prevention, detection, and treatment.

The honorees will be recognized at the Ocean County Chamber of Commerce's 47th annual gala on April 29, 2010 in Lakewood, NJ. In recognition of their outstanding contributions and service to the community, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. and Mrs. Leone and the J. Phillip Citta Regional Cancer Center at Community Medical Center.

ENHANCING COMPETITION IN
HEALTH INSURANCE MARKETS

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, with a large number of concentrated health insurance markets across the country, it is imperative that health care reform initiatives focus on enhancing competition among insurers and providing American consumers with affordable health care coverage. Many health insurance markets in the United States appear to have one dominant insurer, and in many other markets, the top two insurers serve most enrollees. According to the American Medical Association, in 2007, at least one insurer had a combined HMO/PPO market share of 50 percent or greater in 64 percent (200) of the local markets (or Metropolitan Statistical Areas) of the United States. And the two top

insurers accounted for at least 60 percent of enrollment in almost 75 percent of these markets.

Moreover, it can be extremely difficult for new firms, even large national health insurance firms, to enter these markets. A new health insurer in an area will have difficulty attracting customers until a large number of health care providers have signed up. But providers may be reluctant to sign up at competitive rates without assurance that the plan can offer a volume of patients. And both consumers and providers may be skeptical of a new health plan with which they have little experience.

As a recent Congressional Research Service report states: "The health insurance market has many features that can hinder markets, lead to concentrated markets, and produce inefficient outcomes." Dominant insurers may raise premiums or reduce quality of service. They may also reduce or prevent innovations that could benefit consumers or engage in exclusionary practices to make entry more difficult.

HHS or the Exchange Controller, therefore, must take steps to encourage the entry of new, credible insurance companies and prevent dominant insurers from hampering competition. This includes seeking the advice and counsel of the U.S. Department of Justice, Antitrust Division, regarding practices that may cause or continue undue market concentration. This will be achieved in part by ensuring that the antitrust laws remain intact through a savings clause, which was included in both the House-passed and Senate-passed bills. However, improving competition in health insurance markets requires a one-two punch. It also must include seeking the advice and counsel of the U.S. Department of Justice, Antitrust Division, regarding practices that may cause or continue undue market concentration. More competitive health insurance markets will generate significant benefits for American consumers. It is the best way to ensure that all consumers, including individuals who will now be required to purchase health insurance, will be able to obtain quality care at affordable prices.

AMERICAN GATHERING OF JEWISH HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to share a resolution conveyed to Attorney General Eric Holder, from the American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors and Their Descendants in recognition of the outstanding work of the Office of Special Investigations at the United States Department of Justice.

RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE AMERICAN GATHERING OF JEWISH HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS

Whereas the American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors and Their Descendants is the umbrella organization of Holocaust survivor groups and Landsmannschaften in North America, representing some 80,000 Holocaust survivors and their family members;

Whereas the Office of Special Investigations (OSI) was created in the Criminal Divi-

sion of the United States Department of Justice in 1979 in the wake of the shocking public exposure by the then-Representative Elizabeth Holtzman and others of decades of U.S. government inaction in the face of the documented presence in the United States of numerous perpetrators of Nazi crimes;

Whereas, most unconscionably of all, some of those Nazi war criminals were brought to this country by U.S. government agencies that were aware of the Nazi crimes that they had committed;

Whereas OSI recently marked the 30th anniversary of its establishment by Attorney General order;

Whereas, under the courageous and tenacious leadership of Eli Rosenbaum and his predecessors, OSI has been, for the past three decades, by far the most dedicated and successful government agency in the world in tracking down, investigating, prosecuting, and obtaining law enforcement justice in cases of fugitive Nazi war criminals and has accordingly won bipartisan praise from the Congress, awards from Jewish organizations, and plaudits from the media;

Whereas OSI has won more court cases against Nazi criminals than have authorities in all of the other governments of the world combined during the period of OSI's thirty-year existence;

Whereas OSI has prevailed in its crucial mission despite (1) daunting investigative obstacles rarely if ever encountered by other American prosecutors, (2) determined efforts made over many years by former White House Communications Director and later presidential candidate Patrick Buchanan, then-Attorney General Edwin Meese, former Rep. James Traficant, organizations of Nazi supporters, and others to undermine, disable and even close that office, (3) threats of violence directed at OSI personnel by Nazi criminals' supporters, (4) the immoral and ongoing refusal of European governments to accept the return of Nazi criminals against whom OSI has won deportation orders in U.S. courts, and (5) receiving funding that is but a tiny fraction of the moneys allocated by the U.S. government to support international efforts to prosecute a smaller number of perpetrators of atrocity crimes in Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia;

Whereas OSI launched the only law enforcement effort in postwar world history to identify suspected Axis perpetrators systematically in order both to identify them for investigation and to prevent their entry as immigrants or visitors, with the result that nearly 200 such persons have been stopped and turned away at U.S. airports—a world-leading program from which our government might learn much as it struggles to identify terrorist and bar them from entering this country;

Whereas the fruits of OSI's extensive efforts to assist other nations in pursuing justice in the Nazi cases may be seen around the world, including in the ongoing Munich trial of former Nazi death camp guard John Demjanjuk;

Whereas OSI has done more than has any other component of the federal government to restore the honor of the United States government in the Nazi cases and to secure a measure of law enforcement justice on behalf of the Holocaust's victims;

Whereas OSI's efforts have also succeeded in obtaining a great measure of historical and remunerative justice on behalf of Holocaust victims and survivors, especially in (1) conducting investigations and prosecutions involving genocidal crimes committed in the former Soviet Union that were previously little known in the West and whose perpetrators had not previously been identified; (2) proving and publicly disclosing the fact that Gestapo archcriminal Klaus Barbie, Nazi V-

2 program slave master Arthur Rudolph, Eichmann cohort Otto Albrecht von Bolschwing, and other Nazi war criminals were employed by U.S. intelligence and military agencies after World War II and were assisted by those agencies in escaping postwar justice; (3) proving, for the first time, and in direct contradiction of more than half a century of Swiss government denials, that looted gold, some of it ripped from the mouths of murdered Jewish victims in the Nazi camps, was melted down by the Reichsbank and traded to the Swiss National Bank; (4) discovering that certain artwork stolen by the Nazis from European Jews was in the possession of the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.; (5) laboring indefatigably from 1999 to 2007 to locate, declassify, and disclose to the public, despite the opposition of some other federal agencies, fully eight million pages of classified documents in the U.S. government possession relating to Axis war crimes; (6) successfully leading the U.S. government's effort, in conjunction with Israeli and German authorities, to trace the fate of the infamous Auschwitz selector and experimenter Dr. Josef Mengele; and (7) undertaking a worldwide investigation that confirmed the allegations first made by the World Jewish Congress that former United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim took part in Nazi crimes against humanity and persuading the Reagan Administration to bar him forever from reentering the United States;

Whereas, as a result of the expansion of OSI's mission in 2004, the unit has also won acclaim for its efforts in pursuit of justice on behalf of the victims of atrocities in Rwanda, Bosnia and elsewhere, while it continues to investigate and prosecute Nazi criminals;

Whereas the Department of Justice has announced that OSI is soon to be merged with Criminal Division's Domestic Security Section in order to consolidate the Justice Department's human rights enforcement efforts;

Now therefore be it *Resolved by the Governing Board of the American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors and Their Descendants, meeting in Washington, D.C., this 14th day of February 2010*, That the Governing Board:

(1) Praises and expresses deep gratitude for the matchless dedication and unique accomplishments of the prosecutors, historians, and other professional staff, both past and present, of the Office of Special Investigations, and especially its remarkable director, Eli Rosenbaum, who devoted his storied career to bringing justice and hope to Holocaust survivors, the families of those who perished in the Shoah, and the families of the hundreds of thousands of American soldiers, sailors, and airmen who gave their lives in the historic battle to end the nightmare of Nazi inhumanity;

(2) Expresses abiding gratitude to Eli Rosenbaum, the longest-serving investigator and prosecutor of Nazi criminals in postwar world history, for his courageous, tenacious, and extraordinarily successful efforts, undertaken at great personal sacrifice and risk, to pursue justice—and historical truth—on behalf of those Jewish men, women and children whose blessed memory was summoned by Israeli Attorney General Gideon Hausner in his opening address in the Eichmann case in Jerusalem when he declared that he did not stand alone to present the case, because he was joined by "six million accusers" who "cannot rise to their feet and point their finger at the man in the dock and cry 'J'accuse' . . . for they are now only ashes—ashes piled high on the hills of Auschwitz and the fields of Treblinka and strewn in the forests of Poland";

(3) Thanks Eli Rosenbaum and his predecessor Neal Sher for being among the first to

expose and publicly refute the Holocaust calumnies of Patrick Buchanan, long before such criticism became a mainstream phenomenon;

(4) Considers OSI's landmark work to have been the key post-Nuremberg American realization of the solemn commitment to justice made to the Third Reich's surviving victims 55 years ago by former Attorney General and Supreme Court Justice Robert H. Jackson when he first stood at the podium before the judges of the International Military Tribunal;

(5) Deems the Justice Department's continued pursuit of justice in the Nazi cases to be an undeniable moral imperative notwithstanding the lateness of the date;

(6) Very strongly supports OSI's continuing efforts to identify, investigate, and prosecute the perpetrators of Nazi crimes and also postwar crimes against humanity;

(7) Calls on the Department of Justice to ensure that its personnel will continue to leave no stone unturned in the effort to pursue justice on behalf of the victims of Nazi crimes; and

(8) Urges those nations of Europe that, despite having provided the henchmen who massacred a third of the world's Jews, continue to violate their moral obligation to accept the return of Nazi criminals whom the United States seeks to deport to observe that time is short in the Nazi cases and therefore to desist at once from their obstructionist conduct.

IN HONOR OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WILLINGBORO FIRE COMPANY AND THE WILLINGBORO EMERGENCY SQUAD

HON. JOHN H. ADLER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. ADLER of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, in my State of New Jersey, we have a rich heritage of local fire companies and emergency responders serving our communities, a tradition of neighbors helping neighbors.

I rise today to honor the Willingboro Volunteer Fire Company and the Willingboro Emergency Squad, two separate organizations, which will be jointly celebrating their 50th anniversary of service in 2010.

Originally founded in January 1960, the Willingboro Fire Company began as a local VFW group recognized the need for a Fire Company in the growing town. Throughout the past 50 years, the Fire Company has grown substantially and become a vital institution serving the Willingboro community. As the integration of Willingboro was taking place in 1969, their Constitution was changed to reflect that race, color, or creed would not affect the member's application to join the Fire Company. They received their first minority fire fighter, Lt. Ray Holden in 1970. Ever since, they began to receive regular applications from minority residents who were fully integrated into the Company. As the Willingboro community continued to grow, so did the Willingboro Fire Company. As of 2005, there were 16 members of the Career Staff, 12 fire fighters, three captains, and a Chief.

The Willingboro Emergency Squad started as the Levittown Emergency Squad in April 1960, after Mr. Charles Van Kirk, who recognized the need for an ambulance service in

the growing town, put an ad in the paper for people interested in starting a local service. By 1975, they had grown to more than 100 members strong to serve what had become one of the largest suburban communities in South Jersey. Throughout the years, the Willingboro Squad has been considered an innovator at the forefront of changes in medical services in Burlington County. They were one of the first squads in the area to embrace females and minorities, not only as members, but as leaders as well. The Willingboro Emergency Services squad continues to serve the community with the high-quality, compassionate care that was established in 1960.

It is my privilege to share some of the history and hopefully some of the spirit of the Willingboro Fire Company and Willingboro Emergency Squad with my colleagues and with our fellow citizens today. We honor their 50th anniversary, and the extraordinary commitment and service they represent. Congratulations to all the officers, members and friends of the Willingboro Fire Company and Willingboro Emergency Squad again, with great respect and with thanks.

TRIBUTE TO ARLIS KINSETH-BODE

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Arlis Kinseth-Bode for being the recipient of the Humboldt-Dakota City Chamber of Commerce President's Award at the 2010 Humboldt County Spirit Awards.

The Humboldt County Spirit Awards were established to recognize and honor outstanding groups and individuals who have worked for the benefit of all citizens of Humboldt County, to celebrate the accomplishments and activities of our communities, to acknowledge the value of volunteerism in the county, and to have a positive impact on community spirit.

Annually included in the Spirit Awards, the Humboldt-Dakota City Chamber of Commerce President's Award is presented to an individual or group for their longtime achievement of community support or for a superior effort on behalf of the community.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to represent Arlis Kinseth-Bode in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues join me in commending him for his sincere dedication to establishing a better community and wish him continued success well into the future.

HONORING SHEILA JOHNSON

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me, as we celebrate Women's History Month, by honoring Sheila Johnson, who has used her historic business achievements in sports and entertainment to empower and energize communities and people of all backgrounds, especially women, throughout the United States and other parts of the world.

Sheila Johnson has been called "a great American success story," and continues to be a history-maker and a special inspiration to girls and women. She first made history as co-founder of the first African American owned cable network, providing entertainment and news to a primarily African American audience.

No woman in American history has simultaneously cracked open two supercharged, male-dominated fields: sports ownership and entertainment. Sheila Johnson is the first African American woman to have ownership in three professional sports franchises: the Washington Mystics, the Washington Wizards, and the Washington Capitals. She's the first African American woman to purchase a major, luxury golf resort, Innisbrook, a Salamander Golf and Spa Resort, which hosts the PGA Tour's Transition Championships and the LPGA Legends Tour's Open Championship.

Sheila Johnson also has been a leader in supporting great neglected issues, many involving women. She was executive producer of "A Powerful Noise," a documentary that examines the lives of three women living with HIV/AIDS in different parts of the world; "She Is the Matador," a movie depicting the history of women's challenges to male-only bullfighting laws in Spain; and "The Other City," about the HIV/AIDS crisis in Washington, D.C. She invested in the film "Kicking It," a documentary that illuminated the Annual Homeless World Cup, which attracts homeless men from around the world to raise awareness and funds to end homelessness.

Sheila Johnson's life has also been about service and the arts. She funded a \$4 million CARE campaign to fight global poverty, focusing on women, and was named a global ambassador for CARE. President Barack Obama appointed her to serve on the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities.

Sheila Johnson has set a different course for young women of all backgrounds in pursuit of excellence, through her living example. Madam Speaker, I ask that the House of Representatives join me in honoring Sheila Johnson.

COMMEMORATION OF THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF KATYN

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 70th anniversary of Katyn—a word that has come to symbolize the brutal murder of over 20,000 Polish military officers and other intellectual elite by Stalin's secret police in the spring of 1940 and the subsequent lies told about this horrific crime. These men, and one woman, were taken as prisoners by the Soviets in their undeclared war against Poland that began a mere 17 days after the Nazis invaded Poland and started World War II.

The tragic crash this past Saturday that took the lives of so many of Poland's most senior leaders has focused worldwide attention on the Katyn massacre, which has come to symbolize Stalin's brutal repression of the Poles and others. People of goodwill everywhere extend the hand of sympathy and friendship to

the Polish people who once again have suffered a great national tragedy, ironically in the very place where one of the last century's most sordid deeds was carried out.

It is my hope that the victims—from President Lech Kaczynski and his wife Maria to prominent leaders of the armed forces, the parliament, other institutions, and relatives of those shot in 1940—will not have died in vain, that this horrible crash will somehow give strength to those in Poland who must go on and continue to lead their great nation, a nation that has been a stalwart ally of the United States and a beacon of freedom and prosperity in Eastern Europe.

I also hope that these sad events may in some way help bring Russia and Poland a new and stronger relationship based on a shared history and suffering and characterized by mutual respect and trust.

Further, I would like to express my admiration for the manner in which Russia's Prime Minister Vladimir Putin handled this disaster, flying immediately to Smolensk, the site of the crash and taking personal responsibility for the investigation. Mr. Putin acted decisively, but more than that he reinforced the positive signals he and Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk had given at their joint ceremony in Katyn last Wednesday. No Russian Prime Minister—in fact no Russian of Mr. Putin's stature and standing—had ever been to Katyn. Mr. Tusk graciously expressed his appreciation to Mr. Putin by quoting the great Russian writer, Alexander Solzhenitsyn: "But let us not forget that violence does not live alone and is not capable of living alone: it is necessarily interwoven with falsehood. Between them lies the most intimate, the deepest of natural bonds. Violence finds its only refuge in falsehood, falsehood its only support in violence. Any man who has once acclaimed violence as his method must inexorably choose falsehood as his principle."

I hope that Mr. Putin will also embrace these words in practical ways, most importantly by assisting the Poles in finding still missing information about those who were executed on Stalin's orders in 1940.

HONORING REVEREND RUFUS C. GOODMAN

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Reverend Rufus C. Goodman in recognition of his retirement as Pastor of Mt. Carmel Baptist Church in Neptune, New Jersey. Reverend Goodman will be honored by his parishioners, colleagues, and dear friends at his retirement celebration on Friday, April 9, 2010. This celebration is well-deserved in light of the Reverend's 49 years of service to Mt. Carmel and Neptune Township.

As Pastor of Mt. Cannel Baptist Church, Reverend Goodman conveyed the power of faith and hope to his parishioners through countless sermons and counseling sessions. During this time period, the church witnessed tremendous growth in membership and public

service endeavors. With the Reverend's support, the church developed the Community Room for worship services, town meetings, and various social events. His tremendous dedication to his followers has served to promote faith, peace, and harmony throughout his community.

In addition to serving his parishioners, Reverend Goodman has made lasting contributions to his local community. As president of the Asbury Park-Neptune Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, Reverend Goodman oversaw the awarding of scholarship awards to graduating high school students for their academic achievements. While serving as secretary of the Neptune Township Welfare Board, Reverend Goodman generously offered assistance to families in need of food, shelter, and clothing. Furthermore, he provided counseling for unemployed parents seeking employment to care for their families. During local riots in the late 1960s and early 1970s, the courageous Reverend met with participants to listen to their complaints and convey his words of peace and harmony. Finally, Reverend Goodman was instrumental in the development of the Motivational Center, a center that works with various organizations to offer referral services, clean clothing, showers, and meals for the poor and underprivileged. His years of work with such community initiatives have had a profound impact on numerous families across several generations.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in congratulating Reverend Goodman on his retirement, and for his years of dedicated leadership to the American people.

HONORING WILLIAM A. MCKENTY

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor William A. McKenty of Ottsville, Pennsylvania.

Mr. McKenty, who will be receiving the much-deserved "Man of the Year" award from the Feasterville Business Association, has been an integral part of our community and an outstanding businessman.

For 36 years, Mr. McKenty has worked in the industrial battery industry, and for the last 13 years, Mr. McKenty has owned and operated his own battery business in Trevose, Pennsylvania. He has been involved in the shaping of our business community and has helped raise thousands of dollars for local charities. He has been involved in Special People in Northeast, and the Special Olympics. In addition, he has also been a Little League and softball coach. William McKenty is an inspiration to our community.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize and honor William A. McKenty not only for being an upstanding businessman, but also for his commitment to charity work and giving back to the community. I am honored to serve as his Congressman.

TRIBUTE TO RON RASMUSSEN

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ron Rasmussen for being the recipient of the Youth Champion Award at the 2010 Humboldt County Spirit Awards.

The Humboldt County Spirit Awards were established to recognize and honor outstanding groups and individuals who have worked for the benefit of all citizens of Humboldt County, to celebrate the accomplishments and activities of our communities, to acknowledge the value of volunteerism in the county, and to have a positive impact on community spirit.

Annually included in the Spirit Awards, the Youth Champion Award is presented to an adult individual who has generously given time, talent and energy to promote activities for youth in the community.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to represent Ron Rasmussen in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues join me in commending him for his sincere dedication to establishing a better community and wish him continued success well into the future.

HONORING THE 3RD U.S. INFANTRY REGIMENT OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mrs. MYRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedication and service of the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment of the United States Army, also known as the Old Guard.

The oldest active duty infantry unit in the U.S. Army, the Old Guard conducts all memorial affairs honoring fallen soldiers, escorts the President at official events, and has the high honor of guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery.

For 62 years this month, since April 6, 1948, the Old Guard has held watch over the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, rain or shine. When they're not on guard, members of the 3rd Infantry Regiment study the history of the Cemetery, clean weapons and provide assistance to their fellow guardsmen going on or coming off duty, also known as The Changing of the Guard, one of the most sacred and awe-inspiring ceremonies within our military.

Madam Speaker, we owe thanks to all members of our armed services and their families, who daily serve our country with honor and dignity. We especially owe thanks to the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment, the Old Guard, for their dedication and commitment to honoring those servicemembers who are "Known But To God."

TRIBUTE TO MARTHA SCHMIDT

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Martha Schmidt for being the recipient of the Inspiration Award at the 2010 Humboldt County Spirit Awards.

The Humboldt County Spirit Awards were established to recognize and honor outstanding groups and individuals who have worked for the benefit of all citizens of Humboldt County, to celebrate the accomplishments and activities of our communities, to acknowledge the value of volunteerism in the county, and to have a positive impact on community spirit.

Annually included in the Spirit Awards, the Inspiration Award is presented to an individual with a "can do" attitude who is involved in all facets of the community both as a leader and team player.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to represent Martha Schmidt in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues join me in commending her for her sincere dedication to establishing a better community and wish her continued success well into the future.

HONORING BRUCE STARKWEATHER
FOR HIS CIVIC LEADERSHIP**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Bruce Starkweather as he retires as Chairman of Lionakis. For twenty-five years Bruce has served the Sacramento community as a leading architect and civic leader. As his friends, family and colleagues gather together to pay tribute to his hard work and dedication, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly inspirational individual.

In 1972, Bruce graduated from the University of Oregon, School of Architecture. After graduation, he practiced architecture for five years in Oregon before moving to California. He ran his own firm for eight years in Auburn, and then accepted a position on March 15, 1985 with the prestigious Sacramento-based structural and design firm Lionakis, Liske, Engberg and Beaumont, now known as Lionakis.

Bruce's contributions to the Sacramento community have not gone unnoticed. He has received several awards and certificates over the past twenty-five years for his exceptional achievements. Some of those awards include: Certificate of Appreciation from the City of Sacramento in recognition of his exceptional performance in the City of Sacramento's General Plan Advisory Committee; the Sacramento Old City Association Architectural Achievement Awards for his contributions to the Sacramento River Water Intake Structure; the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Presidential Citation in recognition of his efforts to bring together the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Central Valley Chapter and the City of Sacramento and many more. His impact on Sacramento can be seen in many local

buildings including the Sacramento River Water Intake Structure, the Lionakis Office, Kaiser Permanente Medical Office Building, Foothill Oaks Elementary School, Lucy & Company Office Building and many, many others.

Bruce has a true civic mind and has been a leader who I am honored to call my friend. His involvement in the Sacramento community is never-ending outside of the office. He has served as the Board of Directors of Valley Vision and the Sacramento Metro Chamber of Commerce, Principal-in-Charge of the Sacramento Water Intake Structure, as well as Vice Chair of the General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) and the Development Oversight Commission with the City of Sacramento.

Madam Speaker, as Bruce Starkweather, his wife DonnaLee and children Fred, Jennifer, Stephen, and Ryan, along with his many friends and colleagues gather to celebrate his retirement, I ask all my colleagues to join me in saluting a truly remarkable individual.

TRIBUTE TO THE HUMBOLDT
AREA ARTS COUNCIL**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Humboldt Area Arts Council for being the recipients of the Cooperation Award at the 2010 Humboldt County Spirit Awards.

The Humboldt County Spirit Awards were established to recognize and honor outstanding groups and individuals who have worked for the benefit of all citizens of Humboldt County, to celebrate the accomplishments and activities of our communities, to acknowledge the value of volunteerism in the county, and to have a positive impact on community spirit.

Annually included in the Spirit Awards, the Cooperation Award is presented to an organization or entity which led an effort or event that benefited and filled a need in the community through volunteerism.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to represent the Humboldt Area Arts Council in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues join me in commending them for their sincere dedication to establishing a better community and wish them continued success well into the future.

HONORING THE UNITED STATES'
WHEELCHAIR CURLING TEAM**HON. MICHAEL A. ARCURI**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. ARCURI. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today in honor of the United States' Wheelchair Curling Team's 4th place finish at the 2010 Paralympic Winter Games, and the Sitrin Health Care Center, an innovative regional provider of health and rehabilitative services, which is located in my Congressional District in Upstate New York.

In 2001, the Sitrin Health Care Center created the Sitrin STARS, an adaptive sports pro-

gram that provides individuals with physical disabilities opportunities to engage in a variety of sports on a recreational or competitive basis.

Every member of the United States' Curling Team is a Sitrin STARS athlete, a true testament to the outstanding work and dedication of the Sitrin staff.

I would also like to specifically thank Augusto "Goose" Perez, James Pierce, James "Jimmy Jam" Joseph, Jacqueline Kapinowski and Patrick McDonald. Through their sportsmanship, dignity and character they proudly represented our country.

Madam Speaker, I call on my colleagues to join me in recognizing the United States' Wheelchair Curling Team, and the Sitrin Health Care Center for defying the odds, and providing inspiration and hope to all athletes with physical disabilities.

TRIBUTE TO THE GARGANO
FAMILY**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Gargano family for being the recipients of the Family Tradition Award at the 2010 Humboldt County Spirit Awards.

The Humboldt County Spirit Awards were established to recognize and honor outstanding groups and individuals who have worked for the benefit of all citizens of Humboldt County, to celebrate the accomplishments and activities of our communities, to acknowledge the value of volunteerism in the county, and to have a positive impact on community spirit.

Annually included in the Spirit Awards, the Family Tradition Award is presented to a family who demonstrates support and devotion to the community through volunteerism.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to represent the Gargano family in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues join me in commending them for their sincere dedication to establishing a better community and wish them continued success well into the future.

COMMEMORATING HOLOCAUST
REMEMBRANCE DAY**HON. RUSS CARNAHAN**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, on Sunday, April 11, 2010, the world paused to remember the Holocaust, which took the lives of six million Jews across Europe along with six million other victims of Nazi persecution, devastated societies, destroyed families, and forever left an unconscionable mark upon humanity.

Holocaust Remembrance Day is an opportunity to solemnly reflect upon this historic tragedy and memorialize the millions of innocent lives lost in the greatest campaign of terror the world has ever seen. It is an opportunity to remember the atrocities of the past, but also a chance to recall that we must never forget.

Holocaust Remembrance Day pays tribute to the unbreakable will of human beings to live in freedom and oppose despotism wherever it appears. It is a reminder of that pledge to never forget and never allow the unchecked cruelty of the Holocaust to be repeated by firmly recommitting ourselves to the fight against anti-Semitism, as well as all forms of persecution, bigotry, discrimination and hatred.

In 1993, on the 50th Anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, for which Holocaust Remembrance Day was designated, then-Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin noted that despite the fall of Hitler "his successors have arisen in various corners of the world." Sadly this statement remains true today.

In too many regions of the world today we are still witnessing terrible mass violence, destruction and murder against women, children, ethnic and religious minorities, and lesbian, gay and transgender individuals, and many other groups of people. Reprehensibly, this violence and hatred is too often deeply institutionalized.

Holocaust Remembrance Day serves as an opportunity to put on notice the brutal regimes carrying out these crimes that our resolve to defend universal human rights is profound and unwavering. As long as it is necessary we will continue to fight to end intolerance and work toward a more just future for all of mankind, and we stand with supreme confidence that we will be triumphant.

The statesman and philosopher, Edmund Burke, famously said that "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." Today we remember the Holocaust because many good men and women stood up for justice and acted to stop Nazi cruelty, and their sacrifice must forever be honored. We remember because the spirit of humanity refused to succumb to evil and be dominated by hatred. And we remember because in remembering the past we can work toward a better future; a future of equality, freedom, peace and prosperity.

TRIBUTE TO M.D. PRODUCTS

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize M.D. Products for being the recipients of the Horizon Award at the 2010 Humboldt County Spirit Awards.

The Humboldt County Spirit Awards were established to recognize and honor outstanding groups and individuals who have worked for the benefit of all citizens of Humboldt County, to celebrate the accomplishments and activities of our communities, to acknowledge the value of volunteerism in the county, and to have a positive impact on community spirit.

Annually included in the Spirit Awards, the Horizon Award is presented to a business or entity that has brightened the county's horizon through building improvements.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to represent M.D. Products in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues join me in commending them for their sincere dedication to establishing a better community and wish them continued success well into the future.

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-GREEN BAY WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. STEVE KAGEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. KAGEN. Madam Speaker, I would like to take a moment here to honor the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay women's basketball team for their historic at-large bid to the NCAA tournament. Now, this may not seem like a big deal to folks from the big cities or from the East or West Coast, but in northeast Wisconsin, we could not be prouder of our Phoenix being the first team from the Horizon League to earn an NCAA at-large bid. I want to commend Head Coach Matt Bollant and his team for their remarkable achievement this year. They entered the tournament with 27 wins and launch into the second round today after upsetting the Virginia Cavaliers over the weekend. I also want to point out most of Coach Bollant's team is homegrown in Wisconsin. For the lady Phoenix players, most of them spent their lifetime growing up in northeast Wisconsin. I want to thank the entire UWGB team for making Wisconsin proud, and I wish them good luck tonight in their road to the Final Four.

University of Wisconsin-Green Bay 2009–10 Roster: #4 Celeste Hoewisch, Junior, Hortonville, WI; #10 Hannah Quilling, Sophomore, Eau Claire, WI; #13 Adrian Ritchie, Freshman, De Pere, WI; #20 Sam Zastrow, Freshman, Algoma, WI; #22 Lydia Bauer, Freshman, Lake Zurich, IL; #24 Heather Golden, Junior, De Pere, WI; #25 Jenny Gilbertson, Sophomore, Wabasha, MN; #30 Katie Bushman, Sophomore, Phillips, WI; #32 Julie Wojta, Sophomore, Mishicot, WI; #33 Morgan Faase, Junior, Green Bay, WI; #42 Kayla Tetschlag, Junior, Sheboygan, WI; #43 Sarah Eichler, Freshman, Grafton, WI; #45 Stephanie Sension, Freshman, Hopkins, MN; #52 Breannah Ranger, Freshman, Skokie, IL.

Coaching Staff: Head Coach: Matt Bollant; Assistant Coaches: Mike Divilbiss, Amanda Leonhard, Sarah Bronk; Director of Operations: Kari Flunker.

TRIBUTE TO DEAN AND JUDY HARKLAU

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dean and Judy Harklau for being the recipients of the Good Neighbor Award at the 2010 Humboldt County Spirit Awards.

The Humboldt County Spirit Awards were established to recognize and honor outstanding groups and individuals who have worked for the benefit of all citizens of Humboldt County, to celebrate the accomplishments and activities of our communities, to acknowledge the value of volunteerism in the county, and to have a positive impact on community spirit.

Annually included in the Spirit Awards, the Good Neighbor Award is presented to an individual who exemplifies true neighborhood spirit by lending a helping hand in a time of need.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to represent Dean and Judy Harklau in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues join me in commending them for their sincere dedication to establishing a better community and wish them continued success well into the future.

HONORING ST. LUKE'S HOSPITAL

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor St. Luke's Quakertown Hospital for receiving the 2010 Distinguished Community Service Award from the Bucks County Council, Boy Scouts of America.

Madam Speaker, this worthy recognition was earned by St. Luke's for its tremendous contribution to our community and the positive example that service has set for the 13,000 young men and women served by Scouting and Learning for Life programs in Bucks County.

The leadership exhibited by St. Luke's and its dedicated staff is inspiring and truly sets the bar in their field. St. Luke's is one of the premier health networks in the region, and the Quakertown facility is the fastest growing hospital in Southeastern Pennsylvania, a testament to the great work being done there.

St. Luke's is dedicated to providing the community with quality care. By extending that mission beyond its walls through community days and health and safety awareness programs, St. Luke's has shown it will stop at nothing to ensure the health and well-being of the community.

This dedication to service is exactly what it means to be a Scout, and as we celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Boy Scouts, it is fitting that we recognize St. Luke's.

Madam Speaker, once again I would like to thank St. Luke's Quakertown Hospital for its contribution to the community and especially to the youth of Bucks County.

TRIBUTE TO MERLIN FORT

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Merlin Fort for being the recipient of the Neighborhood Restoration/Beautification Award at the 2010 Humboldt County Spirit Awards.

The Humboldt County Spirit Awards were established to recognize and honor outstanding groups and individuals who have worked for the benefit of all citizens of Humboldt County, to celebrate the accomplishments and activities of our communities, to acknowledge the value of volunteerism in the county, and to have a positive impact on community spirit.

Annually included in the Spirit Awards, the Neighborhood Restoration/Beautification is presented to an individual or group who has set an example by improving, beautifying and restoring their neighborhood.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to represent Merlin Fort in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues join me in commending him for his sincere dedication to establishing a better community and wish him continued success well into the future.

HONORING MRS. SYLVIA YVONNE
DRAKEFORD

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in commemoration of the life of Mrs. Sylvia Yvonne Drakeford. Mrs. Drakeford, a resident of Englewood, New Jersey, passed away on March 6, 2010 after decades of public service with the Englewood City Department of Education and Department of Recreation.

During the past 30 years, Mrs. Drakeford served as the Playground Supervisor for the Department of Recreation. As supervisor, she was instrumental in restructuring the city's camping trip program to include affordable, package deals for the city's children. Prior to her time at the Department of Recreation, Mrs. Drakeford served as a teacher's aide at Cleveland and Quarles Schools in the City of Englewood for 27 years. For 15 of these years, she spent the first half of the day educating schoolchildren, and the second half entertaining them as the coordinator of the schools' After-School Program. Mrs. Drakeford's contributions to the city touched generations of Englewood residents.

Mrs. Drakeford leaves behind a loving and adoring family. Her son Teddy Drakeford, whom I have known for nearly two decades, was a valued staffer in my office from 1996 until last year. He recently left my office to continue his mother's proud legacy of working with children.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in honoring Mrs. Drakeford for her lifetime of dedicated support to the children and residents of Englewood.

TRIBUTE TO THE HEAVENLY HATS
PROJECT-TRV

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Heavenly Hats Project-TRV students for being the recipients of the Young Leaders Award at the 2010 Humboldt County Spirit Awards.

The Humboldt County Spirit Awards were established to recognize and honor outstanding groups and individuals who have worked for the benefit of all citizens of Humboldt County, to celebrate the accomplishments and activities of our communities, to acknowledge the value of volunteerism in the county, and to have a positive impact on community spirit.

Annually included in the Spirit Awards, the Young Leaders Award is presented to an individual or group of young people who have made their community a better place through volunteer efforts.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to represent the Heavenly Hats Project-TRV students in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues join me in commending them for their sincere dedication to establishing a better community and wish them continued success well into the future.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF
MELVIN S. SCHWARZWALD AND
PHILIP M. ZANNELLA, JR.

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Melvin S. Schwarzwald and Philip M. Zannella, Jr., as they are being honored by the State of Israel Bonds, Cleveland Chapter, Cleveland, Ohio.

Melvin S. Schwarzwald is a managing partner with the law firm Schwarzwald, McNair & Fusco LLP. The firm represents the interests of labor unions, especially in the areas of labor-sponsored pension, health and welfare plans. Mr. Schwarzwald, a graduate of Harvard Law School, launched his legal career working for the late U.S. Senator Howard M. Metzenbaum. Mr. Schwarzwald has worked on behalf of numerous labor organizations, steel workers, machinists, food workers, musicians, printing trades and many others. In addition to serving on the Cleveland Israel Bonds Cabinet, he continues to volunteer his expertise and time by serving on many boards that protect the rights of workers, including the National Labor Advisory Committee and the Board of Directors of the AFL-CIO.

Mr. Philip M. Zannella, Jr., is the Directing Business Representative for the International Association of Machinists & Aerospace Workers, Local #1363. Mr. Zannella learned first hand the critical role of labor representation when he joined the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers in 1971, where he first worked as a garage-man, apprentice and journeyman mechanic for Transamerica Freight Lines. In 1975, while working as a journeyman mechanic at Marshall Ford, he was appointed Business Representative for Local #1363. For nearly thirty years, Mr. Zannella perfected his trade as an aerospace machinist, learning new elements of the trade as technology evolved. Promoted to Directing Business Representative in 2004, Mr. Zannella incorporates his labor expertise and passion on behalf of workers' rights to successfully negotiate labor contracts, arbitrations and grievances. An active community volunteer, he is a member and leader on several labor boards. He also volunteers on behalf of conservation and farm organizations, including the Northern Ohio Chapter of Guide Dogs of America.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Melvin S. Schwarzwald and Philip M. Zannella, Jr., for their unwavering commitment and work on behalf of protecting the rights, safety and benefits of the laboring men and women throughout our community and our nation. Their accomplishments and leadership, honored by the State of Israel Bonds, has strengthened the rights of workers and continues to strengthen the bonds of friendship between American labor and the State of Israel.

CELEBRATING THE JEWISH NAMING
CEREMONY OF RACHEL ESTHER
LAULOM

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of my good friend, Dr. Sol Lizerbram, to honor and recognize the birth of his granddaughter Rachel Esther Laulom in a baby naming ceremony officiated by Rabbi Matthew Earne at Congregation Beth Am on Sunday, April 18, 2010 in San Diego, California.

Rachel Esther Laulom was born on February 3, 2010 to parents Marci and Corey Laulom. She joins her big brother Jacob Laulom; proud grandparents Dr. Sol and Lauren Lizerbram, and paternal grandparents Danny and Carol Laulom.

The baby has been given the name Rachel Esther in honor of her great-grandmothers; maternal great-grandmother, Esther Lizerbram, and her paternal great-grandmother, Rachel Addi.

This centuries-old ceremony is considered to be one of the most important and recognized Jewish rituals. It signifies the importance of the Jewish faith, introduces the baby to the community for their support and commitment to the physical and spiritual well being of baby Rachel. It is a time of dedication and benediction, and will allow Marci and Corey to enlighten the family and community to the significance of her chosen name.

Madam Speaker, I have the pleasure of asking my colleagues to join me in recognizing the traditions of the Jewish faith and the significance of this ceremony.

REMEMBERING THE SACRIFICE OF
OUR NATION'S PRISONERS OF WAR

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize POW Remembrance Day. As a nation, we must always honor and remember all of the brave men and women who have placed themselves in harm's way in order to protect liberty and freedom. However, special recognition is warranted for those selfless individuals who confronted our enemies as prisoners of war. It is fitting that we honor the commitment and the sacrifices made by this nation's prisoners of war.

April 9th commemorates the date during World War II when the single largest number of Americans were captured and forced to undergo the infamous Bataan Death March. Today we remember those Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, and Airmen and the many others since then that have fallen captive while valiantly fighting to preserve our great nation.

Madam Speaker, in recognition of Prisoner of War Remembrance Day, today citizens and veterans alike are gathered at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Spokane, Washington, to honor and pay respect to these brave souls. I ask my colleagues to join me in offering my most heartfelt thanks and appreciation to this nation's prisoners of war for their enduring sacrifices.

IN HONOR OF EDWARD D. TEARE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Edward D. Teare, dedicated father and paramedic for the Fire Department in Independence, Ohio. A family man who believed in tradition, he lived his life in service of others and he will never be forgotten by his friends, colleagues and loved ones.

Mr. Teare was born in Cleveland, but grew up in Independence. As a student at Independence High School, he worked in public service during the summer. He continued as a college student at Kent State University. After college, Mr. Teare studied to become a paramedic at Marymount Hospital. He joined the Independence Fire Department in 1979 and worked his way up to the rank of lieutenant.

Mr. Teare was a beloved husband of Janet (nee Boyd), and a devoted father to Katherine, Edward and Linda. Mr. Teare and his wife were members of the Church of Assumption, where they played pinocle. An outdoorsman, Mr. Teare enjoyed running as well as boating and fishing on Lake Erie. An annual fishing trip with family and friends, which became a rite of passage for his son and his friends, will continue this year in his honor.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognition of Edward D. Teare, a family man and outstanding public servant. He will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

HONORING ELWOOD AND PATRICIA TREADWELL'S 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Elwood and Patricia Treadwell of Groveland, FL. On April 2, 2010, Mr. and Mrs. Elwood celebrated 50 years of marriage.

Elwood Treadwell, better known by his friends and family as "Woody", attained the rank of colonel while serving in the military. In his civilian life, his career has taken him as far north as Niagara, New York where he worked as a structural engineer, to sunny Florida where he currently works for the Walt Disney World Transportation Department, in the Magic Kingdom's ferry boat section.

Patricia Treadwell's passion for animals and devotion to those in need also took her to Niagara, New York. She devoted countless hours to training dogs for the Guiding Eyes program.

So far, Woody and Patricia's marriage has spanned 5 decades, 10 presidents, a moon landing and the *Challenger* explosion. They can remember where they were when Martin Luther King Junior gave his famous address on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial and on the day President Kennedy was assassinated. In the past 50 years, technology has also evolved in ways that few could have imagined: the invention of the Internet and cell phones

has made it easier than ever to connect with loved ones.

Over the span of their lives together, they have raised two children, and are the proud grandparents of four grandchildren. They have supported them with their love and have given them the tools to take on our ever changing world.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Treadwells on 50 years of wedded bliss. I wish them the best over the next 50 years as they continue to walk through life together.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CLEVELAND WOMEN'S ORCHESTRA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the 75th anniversary of the Cleveland Women's Orchestra, the oldest women's orchestra in the United States. I also rise in recognition of its founder, Mr. Hyman Schandler. With the help of his beloved wife Rebecca, Mr. Schandler created an opportunity for women musicians to perform professionally.

Mr. Schandler was a violin teacher who became inspired by the exceptional talent of his female students. He rallied the support of his friends and colleagues and founded the Cleveland Women's Orchestra in 1935. After receiving rave reviews by all three local newspapers for its debut concert at Severance Hall, the Women's Orchestra became a fixture of the community.

Mr. Schandler served as both the conductor and the music director at the orchestra for 55 years until he passed in 1990 at the age of 90. Subsequently, Robert L. Conquist was named Music Director and has held the position ever since. Mr. Conquist, a life-long friend of Mr. Schandler, has maintained the rich traditions of the Cleveland Women's Orchestra.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honor and celebration of the Cleveland Women's Orchestra. After 75 years, the orchestra still provides talented women musicians with performance opportunities; provides the community with special events programs; provides free "Gift of Music" concerts on a regular basis; and plays an anniversary concert at Severance Hall every year. The Cleveland Women's Orchestra is a vibrant organization that enriches all our lives through the universal language of music.

IN HONOR OF BURLINGTON COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE VOICE OF BUSINESS AWARD WINNERS

HON. JOHN H. ADLER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. ADLER of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate this year's Burlington County Chamber of

Commerce Voice of Business award recipients for their outstanding contributions to the Burlington County business community. Having strong, local business communities is vital to the well-being of our nation and I commend these individuals and companies who have demonstrated excellence in commitment to South Jersey through extraordinary efforts. I would also like to thank the Chamber, which itself is such an integral part of this community, for taking the opportunity to draw attention to the outstanding contributions of these individuals and organizations.

Mr. John C. Hall has rightfully earned this year's "Voice of Business" award. For more than 34 years, Mr. Hall has been a vital component to the economic development in Burlington County. He helped co-found the "Committee of 50," a local organization focused on the economic development of Burlington County. He was President of Mt. Holly State Bank for more than 17 years and currently serves as the Vice President of Government Banking at Beneficial Bank.

Beneficial Bank and Pro Computer Service have earned this year's "Business Excellence" award for their commitment to the economic development of Burlington County through increasing local employment opportunities, leadership in the community, and entrepreneurial spirit.

This year's "Economic Development" award is given to the Maple Shade Business Association, an organization of more than 100 active entrepreneurs. The MSBA is an integral part of the local community, helping to foster local job creation and strengthen the small business community.

Earning this year's "New Voice" award is SNJ Business People, a monthly business publication that focuses on local business leaders and their work throughout South Jersey.

The "Community Enrichment" award will go to Crossroads Programs, Inc, a non-profit that has provided residential and community based services to the region's most vulnerable youth for more than 31 years.

The Honorable William Haines Jr. is the recipient of this year's "Public Voice" award. Mr. Haines, a former Burlington County freeholder, was an aggressive advocate of land preservation whose legacy has been the preservation of thousands of acres of farmland and open space in Burlington County. His efforts led to the creation of the county parks department in 1999 and the recognition by the Victorian Society in America for the county's restoration efforts at historic Smithville Park in Eastampton.

Earning this year's "Chairman's Award of Excellence" is Mr. Mark Morgan who serves as President of the Moorestown Business Association and Director of the Moorestown Theatre Company. Under his leadership, both groups have thrived and become integral community organizations.

The honorees will be recognized at Burlington County's Chamber of Commerce Voice of Business dinner on April 19, 2010. I applaud these outstanding individuals and businesses who have worked hard to achieve the American dream of free enterprise and serve our community by ensuring small businesses remain the job engine of America.

NATIONAL MEDIA FAIL TO HOLD PRESIDENT ACCOUNTABLE

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, recently, a woman named Doris asked President Obama why his health care legislation includes more taxes when, as she put it, "we are overtaxed as it is."

Here's what The Wall Street Journal had to say about the President's 17-minute, 2,500-word answer, and the media's failure to hold him accountable:

[The President's] filibuster had only served to avoid addressing her concern. He never explained why his health care bill ended up raising taxes on those making under \$200,000 a year—a violation of his explicit 2008 campaign pledge.

President Obama is clearly avoiding any forum where he can be pinned down with tough questions.

So far, Washington journalists have been quite passive in letting the White House choose the terms of its interaction with the public.

Would a conservative president get such an obliging ride from the normally aggressive Washington press corps? Probably not.

The national media should hold the President accountable, not give him a free pass.

HONORING THE MIGNONI SISTERS

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Carol Mignoni Ferguson, Rosemarie Mignoni Szczucki, and Ann Mignoni Mundy.

The Mignoni family name has been synonymous with quality jewelry in Bristol, Pennsylvania for over 60 years. They have been intertwined with the Irish community for almost as many years, with their love for Irish jewelry and art on clear display in their Bristol store.

Recently, the Mignoni sisters were again recognized by the Irish community for their contribution to the culture, the tradition, and the general welfare of Irish heritage. They truly embody the ideals of the Irish community, and their charity and support of friends and family inspire those around them.

These three sisters led the Bucks County St. Patrick's Day parade on March 13, 2010, as exemplary members of the Bucks County community and as representatives of the Irish spirit. Long after the parade is over, they will continue to be leaders throughout the community, and their love and compassion will continue to be a beacon in the 8th district of Pennsylvania.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Carol, Ann, and Rose Mignoni for their incredible service to our community. I am honored to serve as their Congressman and humbled to call them my friends.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF FAIRVIEW PARK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the 100th anniversary of the City of Fairview Park. Residents, business owners and city officials have occasion to celebrate the rich history of this vibrant community.

One hundred years ago, the land southwest of Cleveland was a combination of farmland and woodland. Some of the earliest settlers of the area include families with surnames that are still recognizable today: Mastick, Anthony, Bassett, Eaton and Spencer.

Independence appears to be the main catalyst for the creation of Fairview Park (originally Fairview Village). Many residents of the Fairview-Parkview area of the newly incorporated Village of Rocky River wanted their own community. Seventy-five families submitted petitions in less than a year. On September 10, 1910, Fairview Village received its official charter.

As the city grew, Fairview Park continued to be an important part of the Cleveland-area community. Truck farming, a way of life for many families living outside Cleveland, strengthened ties between communities. Throughout the growing season, farmers would "truck" their produce and poultry to the city of Cleveland to sell at local markets such as the popular West Side Market.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of the people of the City of Fairview Park, Ohio as they celebrate their 100th anniversary. The city has overcome challenges and ensured progress over the last century and it has always remained an integral part of the Greater Cleveland community.

HONORING JAMES B. VENTANTONIO, ESQ.

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize James B. Ventantonio, the Somerset County Business Partnership's 60th Annual Outstanding Citizen of the Year. Mr. Ventantonio will be presented with this award on May 5, 2010, in Martinsville, New Jersey.

The Somerset County Business Partnership is comprised of talented community leaders, volunteers and employees dedicated to developing a thriving economy and enhancing Somerset County's quality of life. Based in Bridgewater, New Jersey, the SCBP is committed to providing leadership on key business and community initiatives, assuring the opportunity to attain business and personal goals, and achieving results that benefit and assure prosperity in Somerset County.

Mr. Ventantonio has held a leadership position in nearly every quality of life initiative in Somerset County for more than two decades. He served as Chair of a number of organiza-

tions in Somerset County, including the Somerset County Chamber of Commerce, the Blue Ribbon Task Force on the Somerset County Ballpark, and the Somerset County Business Partnership. Mr. Ventantonio continues to be a member of numerous non-profit and municipal boards and agencies. Mr. Ventantonio began his career with the Somerset/Sussex Legal Services, and continues to be a staunch supporter of providing legal services for those who cannot afford representation.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope my colleagues will join me in honoring Mr. James B. Ventantonio for his commitment to my constituency, as well as congratulate him on receiving the 60th Annual Outstanding Citizen Award.

HONORING THE RED CROSS

HON. ANH "JOSEPH" CAO

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. CAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the American Red Cross. Since its founding in 1881 by Clara Barton, the American Red Cross has provided assistance and comfort to communities where disaster has struck.

Every year, at home and abroad, one in five Americans is in some way touched by the Red Cross. My district, which includes New Orleans, was one of the hardest hit by Hurricane Katrina.

The American Red Cross' response was immediate and 20 times bigger than any previous response effort. While they provided sheltering, hot meals, and assistance in purchasing essential items such as food and clothing, they also provided something much greater: compassion, promise, and hope. And, for that I am extremely grateful.

In addition to responding to disasters, the Red Cross also helps prepare individuals to lead safe and healthy lives by offering babysitting, safety, and CPR classes and coordinating blood donations.

Madam Speaker, whether it is an earthquake or a single family home fire, a call for blood or a call for help, the American Red Cross will be there.

I ask that my colleagues join me in applauding the dedication and efforts of the American Red Cross staff and volunteers and in celebrating March as American Red Cross Month.

INTRODUCING WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON HAITI ACT OF 2010

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the White House Conference on Haiti Act of 2010. This important piece of legislation would call on the President of the United States to convene a White House Conference on Haiti before the end of this calendar year.

As we are all well aware, this past January, a 7.0 magnitude earthquake rocked the already struggling nation of Haiti. Approximately

3 million people were affected and 230,000 are estimated to have died. Those that survived are facing unimaginable conditions with a crumbling infrastructure that has hindered the delivery of humanitarian aid.

If there is a silver lining to this unimaginable tragedy, it is that out of this, the Haitian people have been given the incredible opportunity to right the wrongs of the past and rebuild their nation stronger than ever before. Millions of dollars in aid have flooded into the country and thousands of aid organizations are committed to building a sustainable recovery.

Immediately following the earthquake, we all witnessed countless foreign governments and aid organizations pledging to stand with Haiti, and I have been inspired by the countless individuals throughout the globe who have donated their talents and services to the recovery and the many more who are eager to help, but simply don't know how.

We cannot let this opportunity go to waste. However, with the possibility to do good comes the very real possibility of waste, duplication, and inefficiencies in the rebuilding and recovery process.

Under this bill, the major stakeholders in the rebuilding, along with other interested parties, will come together to share their knowledge and best practices and identify gaps in the recovery process. It is my hope that out of this Conference, opportunities for collaboration and coordination in projects big and small will emerge.

The Conference will also highlight innovative ideas for rebuilding and redevelopment in Haiti, from inexpensive hurricane- and earthquake-proof housing and green building techniques to sustainable economic practices and urban development. There are countless companies and individuals who have developed groundbreaking concepts in response to this tragedy, but they have yet to be connected with those who can put these ideas into practices or with others pursuing similar goals who may be able to improve upon their initiatives. Innovation does not happen in a bubble; great things can happen when great minds come together.

Further, Haitians living abroad are eager to help their brothers and sisters in Haiti, but many simply do not know where to begin. The White House Conference on Haiti will tap the immense resource that is the Haitian Diaspora by bringing their abilities together with those who are in a position to use them.

Most importantly however, the White House Conference on Haiti will help ensure that the challenges facing the Haitian people remain in the public eye and in the minds of all Americans.

While the United States has been instrumental in the recovery and rebuilding from countless natural and man-made disasters throughout the world, few international tragedies have had as deep an impact on the United States, and particularly the State of Florida, as this one.

Helping our Haitian neighbors is not only the right thing to do; it is also in our own Nation's best interests. Just a stone's throw from our shores, instability in Haiti impacts our own economy and immigration levels.

Our nation's rapid, comprehensive response, from our Government down to everyday Americans, has been commendable, but the President and this administration are in a position to do more. This legislation would not

be a costly endeavor, but could stand to save millions of dollars that could be used to improve the lives of the Haitian people for generations to come.

At a time of extreme instability and crisis, the United States must do all within its power to help ensure a long-term sustainable recovery for Haiti.

I ask my colleagues to support this legislation and urge the House leadership to bring it swiftly to the House floor for consideration.

HONORING MRS. FAYE CAIN SEARS

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Faye Cain Sears of Somerset, Kentucky on the occasion of her 100th birthday.

Mrs. Sears has long been admired by her community. The mother of four children and blessed with many grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews, she has been a wonderful Christian example to them and the numerous friends and acquaintances she has known over the years. Her devotion to God, her family, and her community have been the driving force of her long life.

While her husband, Goebel Sears, served our nation in the Navy during World War Two, Faye moved to New York City, where she worked at the Woolworth Company in Brooklyn. Upon returning to Kentucky, she worked tirelessly in the community as an election officer, precinct chairwoman, and attended the inauguration of several Kentucky governors. She has also been awarded the prestigious "Kentucky Colonel" award for her involvement. During her spare time she is active in the Senior Friends organization, enjoys gardening and, of course, University of Kentucky basketball.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in honoring Mrs. Faye Cain Sears who throughout her life has continued to bless all those who know her and cherish her friendship and love. I am proud to have her in my home community and honored to serve her in the House of Representatives. Her 100th birthday is only the latest in a long list of milestones in her life, and I am sure there will be many more.

RECOGNIZING DR. MARTIN LUTHER LUTHERAN CHURCH OF BROOKLYN, OHIO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Martin Luther Lutheran Church of Brooklyn, Ohio as they celebrate one hundred years of service to the community.

The legacy of Dr. Martin Luther Lutheran Church began in 1910 with the faith of several immigrant families who came to Cleveland from Czechoslovakia in search of a better life.

The original church was built on West 14th Street in the Tremont neighborhood of Cleveland. In the 1960s, the church was demolished to make way for interstate highway construction, including Interstate 71. Thanks to the dedication and generous contributions of church members, a new home was found in Brooklyn, Ohio, where the church has remained for more than forty years.

Today, the church provides social activities and events for all ages. Church members are brought together by the musical talents of the Praise Band, as well as programs such as the weekly Children's Sermon. Many members volunteer time at fish fries and other events, including fund raising projects to help people in need.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing Dr. Martin Luther Lutheran Church of Brooklyn, Ohio as they celebrate their one hundred year anniversary. Although the church has evolved in many ways over the past century, its mission has remained the same: to provide a warm and friendly place for families and individuals of all backgrounds to worship; to support each other; and to reach out and help others in need.

A TRIBUTE TO MARY HATWOOD FUTRELL

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mary Hatwood Futrell on her remarkable career as the Dean of the Graduate School of Education and Human Development at The George Washington University. Many in this body will remember Dr. Futrell from her decades of involvement and leadership at the National Education Association, where she was president from 1983 to 1989.

Throughout her entire distinguished career, Dr. Futrell has been a trailblazer in Virginia and the national education debate. Born and raised in Altavista, Virginia, she graduated from Dunbar High School in Lynchburg and received a Business Education Degree from Virginia State University. In 1965, she helped integrate the teaching staff at George Washington High School in Alexandria, where she would continue to teach until 1980—becoming chair of her department and an active participant in the Alexandria and Virginia Education Associations.

In 1968, Dr. Futrell became the first African American president of the Virginia Education Association. She fought hard for teachers' rights, and in that same year she led a march of 7,000 teachers and public school employees on Richmond to protest a Virginia Supreme Court ruling striking down collective bargaining rights for public employees. At the time, it was one of the largest marches ever to take place in the history of Virginia.

Dr. Futrell became president of the National Education Association in 1983. There she served an unprecedented three terms. She worked tirelessly to strengthen and grow the association, move it to take forceful positions on collective bargaining rights, and to bring a higher profile to important issues like drop-out rates and changing school curriculum needs.

After stepping down as president of the NEA, Dr. Futrell joined The George Washington University as a fellow, earned her PhD, and quickly became a faculty member and the Dean of the Graduate School of Education and Human Development. In her role as Dean she contributed greatly to education both nationally and locally. Under her leadership the School's prominence has grown dramatically; its enrollments have increased 45 percent and it is now more selective than ever before. The Graduate School has raised more than \$200 million in funding for research and educational efforts during her tenure and has started 10 centers of excellence that help guide education policy on the national stage and in local school districts across the country.

Throughout that time, Dr. Futrell has always kept her close ties to the Commonwealth. She makes sure that her faculty teaches in all of GW's Virginia locations—Arlington, Alexandria, Ashburn and Hampton Roads. Indeed, Dr. Futrell herself drives to the university's Hampton Roads Center to teach classes each semester. She has built a strong following and has personally educated many of the great principals, superintendents and education leaders in Virginia today.

As she relinquishes her deanship, I want to wish Dr. Futrell many more successful years of teaching and thank her for her lifetime of dedication to her profession and to the students and teachers of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

HONORING THE HAJDAK-MOKAN CHAPTER OF THE 82ND AIR- BORNE ASSOCIATION

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Hajdak-Mokan Chapter of the 82nd Airborne Association as an exemplary organization for its membership's history of commitment to service, to community, and to our Nation.

The 82nd Airborne Division, the division in which I am proud to have served, has had a long and distinguished history in the United States Army. Formed on August 25, 1917, at Camp Gordon, Georgia, the unit was given the nickname "All-Americans," since members of the Division called all 48 States home. This is showcased in its famous "AA" shoulder patch.

First deployed for combat in World War I, the 82nd Infantry Division fought for five grueling months in France. After the war ended, the Division was demobilized; when the dual threats of Fascist Germany and Imperial Japan threatened the very survival of the free world and democratic government, the 82nd was reactivated in 1942 to defend our Nation. That same year, the 82nd became the first airborne division in the U.S. Army, and was redesignated the 82nd Airborne Division. Over the course of the war, paratroopers from the 82nd Airborne Division saw action in North Africa, Italy, and as part of Operation Overlord. On the night of June 5th–6th, 1944, just before Allied transports landed on the beaches of Normandy, paratroopers from the 82nd Airborne Division began the largest airborne assault in history, and were among the first to

fight for the liberation of Europe. The 82nd Airborne would go on to fight in Operation Market Garden in the Netherlands, and would brave the German counteroffensive in the Ardennes forest in the frigid winter of 1944.

After the war, the 82nd Airborne Division assisted in the occupation of Berlin, and then upon its return to the United States made its permanent home at Ft. Bragg in North Carolina. Since then, the brave paratroopers of the 82nd have seen action in Korea, have helped keep order in the Dominican Republic, have fought in the dense jungles of Vietnam, and have defended American interests in Grenada. The paratroopers participated in interventions in Honduras and Panama, and in 1990 assisted in the liberation of Kuwait from Saddam Hussein's brutal dictatorship. After 9/11, the 82nd Airborne was one of the first American units to see action in Afghanistan. When the U.S. launched Operation Iraqi Freedom, the 82nd Airborne was there.

The Hajdak-Mokan Chapter of the 82nd Airborne Association honors veterans, raises money for wounded warriors, provides honor guards for funerals, marches in parades, and supports community events. The men and women of the Hajdak-Mokan Chapter embody the spirit of the 82nd Airborne. They prove that love of country, commitment to one another and to community, and a respect for duty are all still integral parts of American society. This spirit also manifests itself in the life and work of Mr. Dan Bosak. Mr. Bosak was a founding member of the Hajdak-Mokan Chapter. He served as its chairman for 13 years of its 15-year history.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize the Hajdak-Mokan Chapter of the 82nd Airborne Association for its outstanding dedication to service, and its longtime chairman and one of its founding members, Mr. Dan Bosak, for his years of steadfast commitment and loyalty to his fellow paratroopers, to his community, and to his Nation. I am extremely honored to serve as his Congressman.

PACIFIC UNIVERSITY LU'AU 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. WU. Madam Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Pacific University's Na Haumana 'O Hawai'i Club for their 50 years of service and support for the student body and surrounding communities in Forest Grove, Oregon.

Pacific University, founded in 1849, is one of the oldest schools in the Pacific Northwest. It prides itself on its community of intellectually curious and highly motivated faculty, staff, and students who are committed to educational excellence and the maintenance and expansion of an open worldview. Pacific is a comprehensive liberal arts and health care university with more than 3,200 graduate and undergraduate students attending classes at campuses in Forest Grove, Eugene, Hillsboro, and Portland, Oregon.

Na Haumana 'O Hawai'i, which was founded in the fall of 1959, is an integral part of Pacific's vibrant and diverse community. It began as a group of sixteen students from Ha-

waii under the guidance of Dr. Fred Scheller and Dr. A.C. "Hap" Hingston and has now grown into a campus-wide organization with over 200 members.

Through social functions and community projects, active members of the club become a part of a family of students, or 'Ohana, and are integrated into a network that ensures a memorable college experience. For the group, family means more than blood relations; it means a collection of people who have strong community ties and are focused on building positive relationships.

One of Na Haumana 'O Hawai'i's most successful activities, the Big Brother–Big Sister program, pairs new students with upperclassmen from the same high school or hometown, allowing the new students to adjust to their surroundings using peers as a resource and further capitalizing the concept of 'Ohana. Club members are also given the opportunity to participate in intramural sports, which afford them the opportunity to engage in the competitive spirit while meeting new people and fostering a deeper sense of community and loyalty to one another.

In addition, the Na Haumana 'O Hawai'i club facilitates a variety of activities throughout the year to enrich the student body and wider community. The most well-known of these events, the annual spring lu'au, is a culmination of many hours of hard work and months of planning. The lu'au allows the community to share in a unique aspect of Hawaiian heritage, culture, and family, or 'Ohana. This event is the only completely student-run and student-directed lu'au in the Northwest and attracts over 2,000 attendees every year.

On April 10, 2010, Na Haumana 'O Hawai'i will celebrate its 50th annual lu'au at Pacific University. I wish to recognize Na Haumana 'O Hawai'i for its accomplishments, legacy, and importance in the university community. Congratulations to Pacific University's Na Haumana 'O Hawai'i club for having reached its 50th anniversary lu'au celebration. Mahalo and best wishes.

HONORING BOTH REGIONAL CONTRACTING SERVICES, LLC, IN WASHINGTON, D.C., AS THE 2010 SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR, AND ITS FOUNDER, BEVERLY THOMAS

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Regional Contracting Services, LLC, in Washington, D.C., as the 2010 D.C. Small Business of the Year, and its founder, Beverly Thomas. Regional Contracting Services is a woman-owned, minority D.C. business that specializes in rough carpentry, fire-stopping, insulation, and building supplies. The company recently received a significant contract to do work at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) headquarters construction project underway in the United States today, where 100 percent of the pre-construction contracts were awarded to small, minority-owned, and disadvantaged businesses, and

40 percent of these contracts were awarded to businesses in the District of Columbia, where the project is located.

Regional Contracting Services began in July 2001 with a \$7,000 investment and has grown significantly, reporting annual sales revenue of \$16 million last year, with a bonding capacity of \$2 million per job, and \$10 million in total. Regional Contracting Services has 60 employees, and has been rated among the top 500 "Fastest Growing Companies in America" by Entrepreneur magazine.

Regional Contracting Services has worked on some of the Washington area's top projects, including the Children's National Medical Center, the Mandarin Hotel, the Pentagon, the National Museum of the American Indian, the Walter Washington Convention Center, the Washington Nationals' Baseball Stadium, and the Washington Metro Area Transit Authority—Brentwood Yard Expansion.

Receiving a contract for the DHS headquarters construction project is a testament to Regional Contracting Services' success and motivation for other D.C. small businesses in competition for a share of the DHS headquarters project. The early success of Regional Contracting Services stands as an example to our local businesses, that in a fair competition, they can win. Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring both Regional Contracting Services, LLC, in Washington, D.C., as the 2010 D.C. Small Business of the Year, and its founder, Beverly Thomas.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$12,826,379,456,286.85.

On January 6th, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$2,187,953,709,993.00 so far this Congress.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

IN SUPPORT OF THE GOALS OF A NATIONAL SIBLINGS DAY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of establishing a National Siblings Day, a day in which we all reflect upon the ways siblings have enriched our lives. We have a Mother's Day to celebrate our mothers, and a Father's Day to celebrate our fathers. Establishing a Siblings Day would allow us an opportunity to celebrate and honor our siblings and would give every family member a day to be celebrated.

Claudia Ewart is a constituent of mine in New York. She has worked tirelessly over the

past several years to make April 10th the official day we reflect upon the importance of our siblings.

April 10th would mark the birthday of Ms. Ewart's sister, Lisette, who died tragically in an accident that also took the life of her father in 1972. Lisette was only 19 years old. Just 14 years later, in 1986, Ms. Ewart's older brother, Alan, died in an accident in his home at the young age of 36.

Siblings significantly affect our lives and shape who we are. Siblings are a major part of our family, and often when our parents are gone our siblings are the only family we have left. And sometimes we lose our siblings at an early age, as with Ms. Ewart's tragic experience. A National Siblings Day would help us honor and celebrate siblings and aid us in remembering the siblings that we have lost.

I applaud Ms. Ewart's hard work over the past 14 years to create a National Siblings Day, and with it a loving tribute to her deceased siblings. Her dedicated efforts are inspirational. Since 1998, 33 governors have issued gubernatorial proclamations in their states for Siblings Day: AL, AR, AZ, CO, CT, FL, IL, IA, IN, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MS, MO, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OK, PA, RI, SC, VT, VA, WV, WA, WI and WY. I urge my colleagues to recognize the importance of siblings by adding their support to Ms. Ewart's endeavors, and to the goals of a National Siblings Day.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DORIS MARIE THOMPSON

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I commemorate the life and service of Doris Marie Thompson, a tireless victims' rights advocate from San Antonio, Texas, who passed away on March 18, 2010.

Doris began her life of service to the cause of victims' rights following the murder of her 26-year-old daughter, J'Anna Marie Tebbs. Over the course of two decades, Doris spent countless hours counseling fellow parents and using her own tragedy to discourage other violent crimes.

In 1999, Doris worked with Raven Kazen Hauge to establish the first Victim Services Division in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. The division allows a victim's family and friends to be notified of the offender's parole hearings and to directly petition parole board members. Doris was also heavily involved with a branch of the division known as the Victim Impact Panel. There, she would retell the story of her daughter's murder to groups of probationers in hopes that hearing it would dissuade them from committing violent crimes.

Doris Marie Thompson dedicated her life to pursuing justice and care for victims. These are the values that the Victims' Rights Caucus seeks to emulate and celebrate. I thank Doris for her work and honor her life as a shining example of tireless advocacy for victims.

IN HONOR OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE V. GEORGE CAREY

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to recognize the career of The Honorable State Representative V. George Carey. A member of Delaware's House of Representatives for the past 26 years and president of Carey Farms, Inc., Representative Carey is a man who has given much to his community and his state, but most of all, has served his constituents of the 36th District with honor and humility. Representative Carey is retiring after an accomplished and unique career in the General Assembly, and his presence in the State House will be greatly missed.

George was elected in 1984 to the State House of Representatives; the same year I was first elected Governor of the State of Delaware. I had the privilege of working with George for eight years while I was in Dover, and have fond memories of that time. George will leave behind an indelible legacy in the General Assembly for his efforts with land conservation, tax-ditch reform, and most of all, an outstanding commitment to the constituents he represented.

As one of only two active farmers serving in the General Assembly, George has built a reputation in the State House as an authority on agricultural issues, and has used that expertise to be a positive force on behalf of farmers throughout Delaware. He has been a member of the Agriculture Committee for more than two decades, and his retirement will leave a void of leadership and knowledge that will be extremely difficult to fill. Representative Carey helped create the Delaware Agricultural Lands Preservation Program, noted to be among the most successful initiatives of its kind in the nation. His leadership with the program extended beyond the halls of the General Assembly, when he became one of the first farmers in the state to enter his farmland into the program. Last year, George was given the Delaware Association of Conservation Districts' Legislative Award for his career service and devotion to conservation efforts. In addition to land conservation, George was instrumental in reforming Delaware's tax-ditch system. He served on the Tax Ditch Right-of-Way Task Force, and sponsored House Bill 452, which addressed and corrected many issues that had resulted from a confusing and archaic system.

Throughout the past two and half decades as the Representative for the 36th District, George has worked diligently as a delegate for his constituents, ensuring that they have a voice in the General Assembly. He has pushed for reform when needed, as shown by his efforts to develop a solution for the tax-ditch issue. And when common sense calls for conservation, he has tirelessly advocated for such measures. As a long-time member of the Joint Bond Bill Committee, he has been instrumental in improving and enhancing the community he serves. George has secured funding to bring a variety of projects to his district, such as the Milford and Milton Riverwalks, the Milford Library, the Greater Milford Boys & Girls Club, and the Milton Museum.

State Representative V. George Carey has had an exemplary career of public service. I am proud to have served with him for the eight years that I did, and relish this opportunity to honor him on the occasion of his retirement. He was steadfast in his mission to champion the wellbeing of his district, and will be remembered for his contributions to Sussex County, and the State of Delaware.

RECOGNIZING MICHELLE ALYSSA CARILLI AS THE NATIONAL VOLUNTEER FIRE COUNCIL JUNIOR FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Michelle Alyssa Carilli, the recipient of the National Volunteer Fire Council's Junior Firefighter of the Year Award. Michelle is currently a senior at Coventry High School, which is located in Coventry, Connecticut.

Each year the National Volunteer Fire Council conducts a national search to honor a junior firefighter who has gone above and beyond the normal call of duty in his or her commitment to the fire and emergency services. Michelle's outstanding contributions to the Coventry Volunteer Fire Association truly embody what it means to be a junior firefighter. Michelle's family is no stranger to public service, with her father serving as chief of the Coventry Volunteer Fire Department, alongside numerous other relatives.

For almost four years, Michelle has dedicated herself to public service in her community. During that time, she raised almost \$2,000 so that the Coventry Fire Department could sponsor the Coventry Special Olympics, organized the Volunteer for Life program for her fellow high school students to become first aid certified and led a recruitment campaign to get more students involved with the department which resulted in many of their parents becoming volunteer firefighters and EMTs. She holds the rank of Junior Firefighter Captain and was the first junior firefighter to be named the Coventry Volunteer Fire Association's Emergency Medical Service Provider of the Year.

Michelle's performance as a Junior Firefighter is mirrored by her success as a scholar and an athlete. She is an honor roll student at Coventry High School and a captain of the school's State Champion volleyball team. She is also a Varsity basketball player and track athlete.

Madam Speaker, public safety in our communities is dependent on outstanding volunteers like Michelle Carilli. Her selfless service to her town, her department, and her school makes her truly deserving of the distinction of Junior Firefighter of the Year. I ask my colleagues to join with me and my constituents in recognizing Michelle's contributions and celebrating her award.

REVEREND DR. HENRY L. FULLER, JR. AND MARILYN W. FULLER

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Reverend Dr. Henry L. Fuller, Jr. and his wife Marilyn W. Fuller as they celebrate 12 years leading the congregation of Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church in my hometown of Flint, Michigan. A dinner was held on Saturday, April 10 to honor the occasion.

Pastor Fuller received his Bachelor's degree from the United Bible Institute of the United Theological Seminary—Flint Branch. He received an honorary doctorate from United Bible Institute of the United Theological Seminary in Monroe Louisiana. He preached his first sermon on December 12, 1971 at Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church. He was inspired to organize a Mission in Holly, Michigan in 1973. The Mission became Faith Baptist Church. Between the years 1983 to 1998, Pastor Fuller headed the Calvary Missionary Baptist Church in Muncie Indiana.

On April 18, 1998, Pastor Fuller returned to his roots and became the Pastor at Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church. In addition to leading the congregation, Pastor Fuller has held several positions with the church and in the community. He has served as president of the Northeastern District Sunday School and BTU Congress of Christian Education of the Northeastern District Missionary Baptist Association in Muncie; president of Indiana Consolidated Congress of Christian Education of the Indiana Consolidated State Convention; served on the Finance Board of the National Baptist Convention of America, Inc.; was a writer with the Publishing Board Sunday School and BTU Literature National Baptist Convention of America, Inc.; as an instructor at the Central Baptist Theological Seminary of Indiana; and served as moderator of the Great Lakes Baptist District Association 2000–2007.

Marilyn W. Fuller has worked by her husband's side in the Flint community and at Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church. A retired registered nurse specializing in substance abuse and addictions counseling, Mrs. Fuller currently serves on the Board of Managers of Hurley Medical Center. She works with the Genesee County focus group for the National Coalition of Pastors' Spouses committed to decreasing HIV/AIDS infection in African American Women. She is active in several ministries at Mt. Calvary and at the Great Lakes District level, the Wolverine State Congress level and the National Baptist Congress level. Pastor and Mrs. Fuller have 4 children and 7 grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me and honor the work of Reverend Dr. Henry L. Fuller, Jr., and his wife, Marilyn W. Fuller. Their enthusiasm and witness have inspired the Mt. Calvary family. May Our Lord, Jesus Christ, continue to bless our community with their service for many, many more years.

IN HONOR OF MR. RICHARD S. CITRON, FACHE

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to recognize the career of Mr. Richard Citron, who is retiring after 42 years of federal service. Mr. Citron has developed a reputation of expertise in delivering state-of-the-art healthcare throughout his 38 years working in Veterans Affairs, and his well-earned retirement will leave a void in the field.

Mr. Citron has served as the Director of the Philadelphia Veterans Affairs Medical Center since August of 2007. Richard served in the United States Army from 1968 to 1971, and began his career in healthcare by working for a year at a Mobile Army Surgical Hospital in Chu Lai, Vietnam during the war. His career has taken him all over America, including stints as Assistant Director of the University Drive VA Medical Center in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and terms as Director of both the Jesse Brown VAMC in Chicago, Illinois, and VAMC in Wilmington, Delaware. In addition to his nearly four decades working as a Veterans healthcare professional, Mr. Citron is a Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives, a defining credential for those in his profession.

As Director of the Philadelphia VAMC, Richard oversaw operations of the medical facilities that serve the sixth largest metropolitan area in the nation, including the city of Philadelphia and surrounding six counties in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. He was responsible for a staff of more than 2,000 dedicated individuals working at the main campus in West Philadelphia and community-based outpatient clinics at Fort Dix, in Gloucester County and Camden, New Jersey, as well as Center City Philadelphia, and Horsham, Pennsylvania. Richard takes particular pride in the advancements made within the Behavioral Health and Women's programs instituted or strengthened during his time as Director at the Philadelphia VAMC.

Having left an indelible legacy in Veterans healthcare, Richard can rest assured that we are indebted to him for his service to our country. I wish him the best in retirement, and thank him for his dedication to assisting those who have sacrificed so much in defense of this great nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 2010 VALOR AWARD RECIPIENT IN THE VIRGINIA STATE POLICE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding member of the Virginia State Police. This individual has demonstrated superior dedication to public safety and has been awarded the prestigious Valor Award by the Prince William Regional Chamber of Commerce.

The Valor Awards recognize remarkable heroism and bravery in the line of duty exemplified by our public safety agencies and their

commitment to the community. Our public safety and law enforcement personnel put their lives on the line everyday to keep our families and neighborhoods safe.

One member of the Virginia State Police is being honored this year for his exceptional service. It is with great pride that I submit his name into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Recipient of the 2010 Investigative Merit Award is: Trooper Edward J. Miskin.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the men and women who serve in the Virginia State Police. Their efforts, made on behalf of the citizens of Virginia, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

COMMEMORATING HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Holocaust Remembrance Day, the 65th anniversary of the liberation of Nazi concentration camps. I would like to specifically recognize the Yom HaShoah observation being held in Bakersfield, California on April 11, 2010 by Temple Beth El and B'Nai Jacob Synagogue.

The Holocaust was the state-sponsored, systematic persecution and annihilation of European Jewry by Nazi Germany. Over six million Jews were murdered and millions of others were slaughtered including the handicapped and those targeted for racial, ethnic or national reasons. During one of the darkest moments in human history, we experienced the human capacity for evil and the catastrophic consequences of indifference in the face of evil.

This year's theme Stories of Freedom: What You Do Matters compels us to remember the victims of the Holocaust and honor the survivors, rescuers and liberators. Their stories of freedom remind us that individuals have the power to make a difference. William Harvey, a Holocaust Survivor, will share his personal testimony during Bakersfield's commemoration service. We must also pay tribute to the U.S. soldiers whose valiant efforts helped defeat Nazi Germany and liberate Holocaust survivors from years of suffering.

To preserve human freedom, we must choose to uphold the moral responsibilities of individuals, societies and governments. Madam Speaker, I urge all of our colleagues to recognize the importance of Holocaust Remembrance Day and actively rededicate ourselves to the principles of individual freedom in a just society and the need of respect for all people.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 2010 VALOR AWARD RECIPIENTS IN THE PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND RESCUE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize outstanding members of the Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue. These individuals have demonstrated superior dedication to public safety and have been awarded the prestigious Valor Award by the Prince William Regional Chamber of Commerce.

The Valor Awards recognize remarkable heroism and bravery in the line of duty exemplified by our public safety agencies and their commitment to the community. Our public safety and law enforcement personnel put their lives on the line everyday to keep our families and neighborhoods safe. The individuals are receiving awards at the 2010 ceremony in three categories: The Bronze Valor Award, the Lifesaving Merit Award, and the Lifesaving Award.

Thirty members of the Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue are being honored this year for their exceptional service. It is with great pride that I submit their names into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Recipients of the 2010 Bronze Valor Award are: Technician II Daniel Beck, Technician I Allan Kehrer, Captain Kim Pumphrey, Technician I Shane Barnett, Technician II Michael Moore and Technician II Michael Mishler

Recipients of the 2010 Lifesaving Award are: Technician II Michael Moore, Technician II Jonathan Moore, Technician II Jeremy Moore, Technician II Rob Ardaiole, Captain Kim Pumphrey, Technician I Shane Barnett, Technician II Scott Coloe, Technician I Andrew Marsh, Captain Scott Dixon, Technician II Sean Trainum, Technician II Jason Scott, Technician I Mike Shannon, Lieutenant Ed McNally and Technician II Michael Mishler

Recipients of the 2010 Certificate of Valor are: Technician II Walt Hunt, Technician II Dan McCleese, Technician I Matt Livingston, Technician I Steve King, Technician II Michael Mishler, Technician II Michael Moore, Technician I Cameron Malone, Technician I Chris Klahr, Technician II Clarence Voundy, Technician II Matt Norman

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the men and women who serve in the Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue. Their efforts, made on behalf of the citizens of Prince William County, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

HONORING MARGARET MARSH FOR HER INDUCTION INTO THE RUTGERS HALL OF DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Margaret Marsh, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, for being chosen by the Rutgers University Alumni Association for induction into the Rutgers Hall of Distinguished Alumni in 2010. Ms. Marsh is one of 195 individuals who have received this award out of 380,000 Alumni. It is the highest honor given to any Rutgers University graduate.

Ms. Marsh earned her undergraduate from Rutgers-Camden University and later received her PhD. in history from Rutgers-New Brunswick in 1974. After becoming Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences in 1998, Ms. Marsh earned a reputation as a renowned expert in women's history, gender history, American cultural history, and the connections between gender and medicine. She has shared her vast knowledge having written several books, articles, and essays on these subjects.

Ms. Marsh has shown immense dedication to the success of her institution, and with her leadership, Rutgers' ability to serve the citizens of New Jersey has grown. Ms. Marsh is both a dedicated administrator and gifted faculty member teaching both undergraduate and graduate students as a Distinguished Professor of History.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Margaret Marsh on this achievement. Her accomplishments represent the very definition of Rutgers pride and should not go unnoticed.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 2010 VALOR AWARD RECIPIENT, THE MANASSAS PARK/MANASSAS CITY/PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY REGIONAL NARCOTICS TASK FORCE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Manassas Park/Manassas City/Prince William County Regional Narcotics Task Force. The Task Force demonstrated superior dedication to public safety and has been awarded the prestigious Valor Award by the Prince William Regional Chamber of Commerce.

The Valor Awards recognize remarkable heroism and bravery in the line of duty exemplified by our public safety agencies and their commitment to the community. Our public safety and law enforcement personnel put their lives on the line every day to keep our families and neighborhoods safe.

The Regional Narcotics Task Force is being honored this year for its exceptional service with an Investigative Merit Award. It is with great pride that I submit the Task Force into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the men and women who serve on the Manassas Park/Manassas City/Prince William County Regional Narcotics Task Force. Their efforts, made on behalf of the citizens of Northern Virginia, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

COMMENDING TO THE HOUSE MR.
EDWARD O. ELLIOTT, II

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize and congratulate Mr. Edward O. Elliott II for his dedication, commitment, and service to the restaurant industry as the 85th Chairman of the Ohio Restaurant Association. Ed was born in Mt. Victory, Ohio, the only son of five children. He is a graduate of Bowling Green State University where he earned a degree in industrial personnel management. Upon graduation, he served our country in the United States Army at Fort Lee in Virginia and also in Frankfurt, Germany.

When he returned from the service, he worked on his family's 2,000 acre farm and helped manage the family's restaurant, the Plaza Inn Family Restaurant. Under his stewardship, the restaurant has received numerous awards, including induction into the Restaurant Hall of Fame, the Best Family-Owned Restaurant in Ohio, and the "Best Cream Pies" and "Best Breakfast" by the readers of Country Living.

Prior to his 2-year term as chairman, Ed served the Ohio Restaurant Association as chair of its Education, Government Affairs and Political Action Committees, and as secretary, and vice-chairman. Ed follows in the footsteps of his father, Ed, who was chairman in 1972, and his sister, Joan, who was chairwoman in 1987.

In addition to being a restaurateur, Ed is currently serving as president of the Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and is a 2-term Hardin County Commissioner.

I would like to thank Ed, his wife Rosalie, their three children and three grandchildren, for their service to their community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 2010
VALOR AWARD RECIPIENTS IN
THE PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY
POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize outstanding members of the Prince William County Police Department. These individuals have demonstrated superior dedication to public safety and have been awarded the prestigious Valor Award by the Prince William Regional Chamber of Commerce.

The Valor Awards recognize remarkable heroism and bravery in the line of duty exemplified by our public safety agencies and their commitment to the community. Our public safety and law enforcement personnel put their lives on the line every day to keep our families and neighborhoods safe. The individuals are receiving awards at the 2010 ceremony in a variety of categories: The Silver Valor Award, the Lifesaving Merit Award, the Lifesaving Award, the Hillary Robinette Award, and Investigative Merit Award.

Seventeen members of the Prince William County Police Department and the Department's Street Crimes Unit are being honored this year for their exceptional service. It is with great pride that I submit their names into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Recipient of the 2010 Silver Valor Award is: Officer Gary Mendoza.

Recipients of the 2010 Lifesaving Merit Award are: Officer Joseph Westerman, Officer Tiffany Hill, Officer Brandon Fields, and Officer Heath C. Oylar.

Recipients of the 2010 Lifesaving Award are: Officer Daniel Carton, Officer Adam Gardner, Officer Mark Depatie, Officer Jennifer Ingraham, and Officer Nelson Rocha.

Recipients of the 2010 Hillary Robinette Award are: Officer Donald A. Hoffman, Officer Juan Sanchez, Detective Melvin Negron, Detective Victor Cordero, and Detective William Colindres.

Recipients of the 2010 Investigative Merit Award are: Detective Cameron B. Crouch, Officer William E. Whited, and the PWCPD Street Crimes Unit.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the men and women who serve in the Prince William County Police Department. Their efforts, made on behalf of the citizens of Prince William County, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

RECOGNIZING THE CITY OF KINGS-
PORT FOR OBSERVING NA-
TIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

HON. DAVID P. ROE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the city of Kingsport, Tennessee for observing the National Day of Prayer on May 6, 2010.

Since the first call to prayer in 1775, when the Continental Congress asked the colonies to pray for wisdom in forming a nation, the call to prayer has continued through our history. In 1952, a joint resolution by Congress, signed by President Truman, declared an annual national day of prayer. In 1988, the law was amended and signed by President Reagan, permanently setting the day as the first Thursday of every May.

I am very proud of Mayor Phillips and the city of Kingsport for observing this important day.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING
THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
FOR THE EDUCATION OF YOUNG
CHILDREN'S WEEK OF THE
YOUNG CHILD FROM APRIL 12
THROUGH 16, 2010

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker, Whereas, the National Association for the Education of Young Children has declared the week of April 12 through 16, 2010, The Week of the Young Child; and

Whereas, the Ross County O.U. Chillicothe Child Development and Family Services Center acknowledges and celebrates The Week of the Young Child and furthers awareness of the need for early-childhood support through family, community, and particularly through education; and

Whereas, the theme of The Week of the Young Child in 2010 is "Early Years are Learning Years;" and

Whereas, The National Association for the Education of Young Children has advocated for the improved well-being of young children since 1926, including through the events of The Week of the Young Child: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That along with The National Association for the Education of Young Children, participating schools and families, and the community of Ohio's 18th District at large, I strongly support the Ross County O.U. Chillicothe Child Development and Family Services Center celebration of The Week of the Young Child from April 12 through 16, 2010.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 2010
VALOR AWARD RECIPIENTS IN
THE OCCOQUAN-WOODBRIDGE-
LORTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DE-
PARTMENT

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize outstanding members of the Occoquan-Woodbridge-Lorton Volunteer Fire Department. These individuals have demonstrated superior dedication to public safety and have been awarded the prestigious Valor Award by the Prince William Regional Chamber of Commerce.

The Valor Awards recognize remarkable heroism and bravery in the line of duty exemplified by our public safety agencies and their commitment to the community. Our public safety and law enforcement personnel put their lives on the line everyday to keep our families and neighborhoods safe.

Eight members of the Occoquan-Woodbridge-Lorton Volunteer Fire Department are being honored this year for their exceptional service. It is with great pride that I submit their names into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Recipients of the 2010 Bronze Valor Award are: Rescue Chief Ed Craig, Chief James McAllister, Captain Richard Slusher, Assistant

Chief John M. McGovern III, Lieutenant Steve Godin, Captain John Roberts, Technician Jason Lowery, and Technician Michael Skeele.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the men and women who serve in the Occoquan-Woodbridge-Lorton Volunteer Fire Department. Their efforts, made on behalf of the citizens of Prince William County, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

**HONORING SISTERS OF CHARITY
OF SAINT ELIZABETH IN CON-
VENT STATION, MORRIS TOWN-
SHIP, NEW JERSEY**

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth in Convent Station, Morris Township, New Jersey, which is celebrating its 150th Anniversary this year.

The Sisters of Charity were founded under the authority of the first American, Catholic bishop, John Carroll, Bishop of Baltimore by Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, in the spirit of Saint Vincent de Paul and Saint Louise de Marillac, in Emmitsburg, Maryland, in 1809. In 1859, Mother Mary Xavier Mehegan founded the New Jersey community known as the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth.

For fifty-six years, from 1859 until her death June 24, 1915, Mother Xavier headed the Sisters of Charity. Parish schools, academies, hospitals, a day nursery, orphanages, a home for the incurably ill, and a residence for working women were established. In 1899, a time when New Jersey had no baccalaureate-degree-granting college for women, Mother Xavier founded the College of Saint Elizabeth, New Jersey's oldest four-year college for women and one of the first colleges for women in the United States.

Since 1859, the Morristown location, now known as Convent Station, has become a center of learning, of spirituality, and of service to others and to the community as a whole. Convent Station is home to the Academy of St. Elizabeth, the Convent of St. Elizabeth, the College of Saint Elizabeth, Saint Anne Villa, and the Xavier Center.

Today the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth are engaged in over 100 education, health care, pastoral and social service ministries in 15 states, and in the U.S. Virgin Islands, El Salvador, Central America, Juarez, Mexico and Haiti. These ministries include: Education, Diocesan and Parish Ministry, Hospitals, Homes for the Aged, Health Care, Community Centers and Social Services.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth as they celebrate 150 dedicated years of service.

**INTRODUCTION OF THE END THE
MANDATE ACT**

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing the End the Mandate Act. This legislation repeals the sections of the recently-passed health reform bill that force all Americans to purchase federally-approved health insurance plans.

Forcing every American to obtain health insurance is a blatant violation of the Constitution. Defenders of this provision claim the Congress's constitutional authority to regulate "interstate commerce" gives Congress the power to mandate every American obtain a federally-approved health insurance plan. However, as Judge Andrew Napolitano and other distinguished legal scholars and commentators have pointed out, even the broadest definition of "regulating interstate commerce" cannot reasonably encompass forcing Americans to engage in commerce by purchasing health insurance.

Forcing every American to obtain a congressionally-approved health insurance plan is not just unconstitutional; it is a violation of the basic freedom to make our own decisions regarding how best to meet the health care needs of ourselves and our families.

Madam Speaker, the new law requires Americans to have what is defined as "minimum essential coverage." Some people may claim that the requirement to have "minimal essential coverage" does not impose an unreasonable burden on Americans. There are two problems with this claim.

First, the very imposition of a health insurance mandate, no matter how "minimal" violates the principles of individual liberty upon which this country was founded.

Second, the mandate is unlikely to remain "minimal" for long. The experience of states that allow their legislatures to mandate what benefits health insurance plans must cover has shown that politicizing health insurance inevitably makes health insurance more expensive. As the cost of government-mandated health insurance rises, Congress will likely respond by increasingly subsidizing health insurance for an ever increasing number of Americans.

When the cost of government-mandated insurance proves to be an unsustainable burden on individuals, small employers, and the government, Congress will likely impose price controls on medical treatments, and even go so far as to limit what procedures and treatments mandatory insurance will reimburse.

Madam Speaker, Congress made a grave error by forcing all Americans to purchase health insurance. The mandate violates fundamental principles of individual liberty, and will lead to further government involvement in health care. I therefore ask all of my colleagues to join me in correcting this mistake by cosponsoring the End the Mandate Act.

HONORING AWREY BAKERIES

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge Awrey Bakeries, upon its 100th anniversary. Awrey Bakeries stands in my hometown of Livonia, Michigan, as a true model of the American Dream and the persevering spirit of those bent on attaining that dream. From its humble beginnings as a one woman shop Awrey's has grown to a more than 200,000 square foot facility employing 400 people, grossing \$90 million in sales.

As Canadian farming foundered in the early 1900s, Fletcher Awrey chose to immigrate to Detroit, Michigan, in hopes of finding work in the burgeoning auto industry. To supplement the family income Fletcher's wife, Elizabeth, baked breads and pastries in her wood-fired stove and sold them to her neighbors. As demand for the baked goods grew, her sons sold them door to door.

The Awrey family opened a retail outlet in 1914 and installed mechanized baking equipment in 1929. In 1930 the company operated 32 stores. Expansion was not slowed by the Great Depression but the sugar shortage due to rationing during World War II put growth on hold. However, by 1950 Awrey's expanded to 120 locations and operated a home delivery service. The company introduced a line of frozen baked goods aimed at the food service market in 1968 and continued to experience growth for several decades after moving its present location in Livonia in the 1970s. In 2002, Awrey's was one of the first companies in the United States to receive the prestigious Bakers Seal Award from the American Institute of Baking.

After 95 years of family ownership, Awrey's Bakeries was purchased by Hilco Equity and Monomoy Capital Partners who have taken great pride in continuing the tradition of high quality baked goods that have placed the Awrey's name among Detroit's homegrown favorites.

Madam Speaker, for 100 years Awrey Bakeries has stood as a tribute to the hard work of Fletcher and Elizabeth Awrey and their family. As the company celebrates this enormous milestone, it personifies a legacy of excellence, ingenuity, and the irrepressible spirit of the American entrepreneur. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Awrey Bakeries and recognizing their years of loyal service to our community and country.

**IN RECOGNITION OF THE 2010
VALOR AWARD RECIPIENTS IN
THE FAIRFAX COUNTY POLICE
DEPARTMENT**

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize outstanding members of the Fairfax County Police Department. These individuals have demonstrated superior dedication to public safety and have been

awarded the prestigious Valor Award by the Prince William Regional Chamber of Commerce.

The Valor Awards recognize remarkable heroism and bravery in the line of duty exemplified by our public safety agencies and their commitment to the community. Our public safety and law enforcement personnel put their lives on the line everyday to keep our families and neighborhoods safe.

Three members of the Fairfax County Police Department are being honored this year for their exceptional service. It is with great pride that I submit their names into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Recipients of the 2010 Bronze Valor Award are: Pilot Chuck Angle, Officer Tim Schilling and Officer Jon Karninski.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the men and women who serve in the Fairfax County Police Department. Their efforts, made on behalf of the citizens of Fairfax County, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

HONORING RONALD J. KELTY

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the long and distinguished career of Ronald J. Kelty. Mr. Kelty, a Citizen of the Ojibwe and Potawatomie Tribes of Wisconsin, and Native Veteran of the United States Army, has dedicated his life to serving the nation, the American Indian Center of Chicago, and our local community.

Mr. Kelty began his work at the American Indian Center by taking on the important leadership role of running a social service food pantry with only the help of a few volunteers. He has played a key role in expanding the American Indian Center, which today provides 14 programs that provide resources, foster economic and educational advancement, and sustain the cultural values of all American Indians. He has also been instrumental in building the AIC team of over 30 employees.

Mr. Kelty served as a Board Member of the American Indian Center for 17 consecutive years. He was Board President for 14 of those years. Mr. Kelty has also been a Traditional Native Dancer for over 40 years, performing for the Native American community countless times.

Mr. Kelty, a loving husband, father and grandfather, served in the United States Army. His service in the U.S. Army further demonstrates his tireless dedication to servicing the nation and the people of the United States.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ronald J. Kelty for his outstanding and invaluable service to the community. He exemplifies the values of compassion and service, and I thank him for his many years of dedication to our community.

STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF H.
RES. 1041 AND H. RES. 1042

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my support for H. Res. 1041 and H. Res. 1042, both offered by my colleague from Idaho, Congressman WALT MINNICK.

The resolutions honor the successes of two excellent college football programs in Idaho and commend them on their historic 2009 seasons.

H. Res. 1041 congratulates the University of Idaho's football team, led by head coach Rob Akey, for their remarkable season, capped by their thrilling come from behind victory in the Rody's Humanitarian Bowl. The success of this team marked an exceptional turnaround for a program that has struggled in the past and now is amongst the best in the conference after a stellar 2009. It can be expected that Coach Akey and his staff will continue to succeed in Moscow, where they have developed a mindset that expects to win.

H. Res. 1042 commends Boise State University for another fantastic football season in 2009. Coach Chris Peterson has developed BSU into one of the most prestigious programs in the nation. Indeed, 2009 was perhaps the most successful in Boise, with the Broncos posting a 14–0 undefeated record, culminating in a convincing victory in the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl and a number four national ranking to end the season. Coach Peterson was also awarded the Paul 'Bear' Bryant Award, as the NCAA college football national coach of the year, a deserved honor. Enough cannot be said about the work of Coach Peterson and the players to transform BSU into a national powerhouse in only a few years.

As we look ahead to 2010, we can expect more good things from both of these programs, and both of these universities. The people of Idaho are truly blessed to have such world class universities in their state.

IN MEMORY OF BOB FRANKS

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise to honor the life of an outstanding Member of Congress from New Jersey, Bob Franks, who passed away on Friday after a battle with cancer.

During his 14 years in the General Assembly and eight years as a member of this body, Bob was dedicated to bettering the lives of New Jerseyans.

Principled, relentless, genial and magnanimous, Bob, like few others, had the ability to work across the aisle and earn the trust and respect of political allies and opponents alike—a skill regrettably in short supply these days.

After leaving Congress, Bob remained active in public affairs—while spending more time with family than the Congressional schedule would permit—leading the HealthCare Institute of New Jersey. It was during his time

as president of the HealthCare Institute of New Jersey that I worked closely with Bob and was able to know his good nature and policy acumen first-hand. I feel fortunate to have had such an opportunity.

I ask that the Members of the House extend sympathy to Bob's wife Fran, his family and friends. He will be missed.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 2010
VALOR AWARD RECIPIENTS IN
THE DALE CITY VOLUNTEER
FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize outstanding members of the Dale City Volunteer Fire Department. These individuals have demonstrated superior dedication to public safety and have been awarded the prestigious Valor Award by the Prince William Regional Chamber of Commerce.

The Valor Awards recognize remarkable heroism and bravery in the line of duty exemplified by our public safety agencies and their commitment to the community. Our public safety and law enforcement personnel put their lives on the line everyday to keep our families and neighborhoods safe.

Two members of the Dale City Volunteer Fire Department are being honored this year for their exceptional service. It is with great pride that I submit their names into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Recipients of the 2010 Bronze Valor Award are: Sergeant Joe McCann and Firefighter Aaron Kollmorgen.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the men and women who serve in the Dale City Volunteer Fire Department. Their efforts, made on behalf of the citizens of Prince William County, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on March 25, 2010, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to record my vote for rollcall No. 191. Had I been present I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 191: "yes"—Supporting the goals and ideals of National Public Works Week, and for other purposes.

HONORING GERALD GAJEWSKI

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and mourn the extraordinary life

of Gerald Gajewski upon his passing at the age of 68.

Born on October 12, 1941, Gerry Gajewski dedicated his life to serving his community and his country. After honorably serving his country as a member of the United States Air Force, Gerry came home to serve Redford Township as Recreation Commissioner and Township Trustee. He also was an active member of the Redford Township Rotary Club, serving as president five times.

Regrettably, on April 8, 2010, Gerry Gajewski passed from this earthly world to his eternal reward. He is survived by his beloved wife, Gloria and his son, Jeffrey. A devoted brother to sisters Gloria Jean and Christina, Gerry leaves a legacy of 17 nieces and nephews. A courageous and honorable man, Gerry will be sorely missed.

Madam Speaker, Gerald Gajewski is remembered as a compassionate father, a dedicated husband, a leader, a soldier and a friend. Gerry was a man who deeply treasured his family, friends, community and his country. Today, as we bid Gerry farewell, I ask my colleagues to join me in mourning his passing and honoring his unwavering patriotism and legendary service to our country and community.

TRIBUTE TO MAYOR JAMES ROBERTS

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, on April 15, 2010, the City of Fulshear, Texas, which is in my congressional district, will host a reception honoring Mayor James Roberts, who is stepping down this year. It is my pleasure to join the people of Fulshear in thanking Mayor Roberts for his years of service.

Mayor Roberts was first elected mayor in 1977, shortly after Fulshear was incorporated. James Roberts was a logical choice to serve as Fulshear's first mayor, as his efforts were instrumental in incorporating Fulshear. Mayor Roberts served as Mayor until 1984. In 2006, he returned to the Mayor's office.

A graduate of Baylor University, James Roberts has worked as a textbook publisher representative, a world history teacher and a coach. In 1973, he founded J.W. Roberts and Company, a wholesale outlet for industrial hoses, clamps, ducting, fittings and tubings. In addition to building a business, working to incorporate Fulshear, and then serving as mayor, James Roberts has also been involved in a variety of community activities, including 20 years on the Board of the Fort Bend County Library, 2 years on the Lamar Consolidated School Board, nine of which he spent as School Board President. Mayor Roberts has also served as the Deacon of Youth of the Graeber Road Church of Christ. Mayor Roberts is currently a member of the Board of Directors of the American Heart Association.

Madam Speaker, I once again wish to express my pleasure in joining the people of Fulshear in thanking James Roberts for his work to incorporate Fulshear, his service as Mayor, and all of his work to better the lives of the people of his community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 2010 VALOR AWARD RECIPIENTS IN THE MANASSAS CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize outstanding members of the Manassas City Police Department. These individuals have demonstrated superior dedication to public safety and have been awarded the prestigious Valor Award by the Prince William Regional Chamber of Commerce.

The Valor Awards recognize remarkable heroism and bravery in the line of duty exemplified by our public safety agencies and their commitment to the community. Our public safety and law enforcement personnel put their lives on the line everyday to keep our families and neighborhoods safe. The individuals are receiving awards at the 2010 ceremony in two categories: The Lifesaving Award and the Investigative Merit Award.

Three members of the Manassas City Police Department are being honored this year for their exceptional service. It is with great pride that I submit their names into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Recipient of the 2010 Lifesaving Award is: Officer Donald W. Hylton.

Recipients of the 2010 Investigative Merit Award are: Senior Detective David E. Abbott, Jr. and Darwin A. Guyton.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the men and women who serve in the Manassas City Police Department. Their efforts, made on behalf of the citizens of Manassas City, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL TREASURY EMPLOYEES UNION

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of America's front-line government workers from Maine to Montana, Spokane to Sarasota and everywhere in between—especially Austin, Texas.

On February 18, an angry and misguided individual took out his personal frustrations and his own failures when he flew a plane into a federal government building outside Austin. The impetus for his deplorable and heinous act: settling a grudge against tax authorities and a government he deemed un-American. But his weapon of choice, mimicking the greatest American tragedy of this generation, shows how confused and simply wrong he was.

His plane took the life of a member of the National Treasury Employees Union, Vernon Hunter. Vernon was a victim of the worst kind—an innocent bystander in the worst place at the worst time. But economic hardship is the fertilizer that grows fear-mongering

and from those depths despair can be a dangerous weapon. We must take the time to educate the public, stand with our friends at the Treasury, and bridge the divide between ignorance and understanding so that we may never again mourn a friend at the NTEU.

Our largest federal employees union, the NTEU is an eclectic and dedicated group that does everything from print our money to guard our borders. Its members can be scientists searching for a cure for cancer or working to preserve our national parks and historical sites. The NTEU has a hand in agriculture, commerce, finance, and health care, and, above all, is a vital part of every community across the country.

It is with a heavy heart that I offer my condolences to all who were touched by February's tragedy, but with a renewed spirit that I pledge my support to the NTEU and each and every one of its members.

HONORING COMMUNITY SOUP KITCHEN AND OUTREACH CENTER IN MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Community Soup Kitchen and Outreach Center in Morristown, New Jersey, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year.

Twenty-five years ago, a small group of people opened the doors of their church armed with chicken noodle soup and a determination to feed the hungry in Morristown. Since then, much has changed in our community, but the primary mission of the Community Soup Kitchen and Outreach Center of Morristown has remained the same: They are committed to providing nutritious meals in a warm, safe, and caring environment.

The Community Soup Kitchen of Morristown was established in 1984 at St. Peter's Episcopal Church to serve the community by serving meals and providing support to the homeless, working poor, and elderly of Morristown and the surrounding towns. Over the past 25 years, the Community Soup Kitchen has developed from an establishment serving people only on Saturday's to one that is open 365 days a year, serving approximately 250 guests per day in a welcoming and safe environment.

Last year alone, the Community Soup Kitchen of Morristown served 53,278 meals. The kitchen has continued to expand, and now has the ability of serving 300 people per day. Recently, the kitchen has incorporated the Healthy Choices . . . Healthy Lives! program, which teaches individuals the importance of eating healthy food and maintaining a well balanced diet. The newly created outreach program provides assistance to guests by encouraging and assisting people to access community resources, services, and educational programs. By providing people with this support, the kitchen is creating countless opportunities for people to succeed and live a better life.

The Community Soup Kitchen and Outreach Center of Morristown has continuously provided valuable support to those in our community, and has achieved the selfless goal of improving our society by providing individuals with much needed food and opportunity.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Community Soup Kitchen of Morristown and Outreach Center as they celebrate 25 dedicated years of service.

IN SUPPORT OF NATIONAL ARTS
IN THE SCHOOL DAY

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to National Arts in the School Day. This great program gives young people the opportunity to experience and be exposed to art of all kinds. Last year, six schools in Port Chester, New York opened their doors to 35 guest artists who shared their work with students from kindergarten through 12th grade, and I am pleased that schools will be participating again this year on April 15th.

Research has shown that arts education is closely linked to academic achievement, social and emotional development, civic engagement, and equitable opportunity. Experiencing art can connect people more deeply to the world around them, encourage students to be open to new perceptions of the world, and create foundations for social bonds and community cohesion.

I encourage all schools around the country to celebrate the arts on National Arts in the School Day. Through projects large or small—school-wide performances or even inviting local artists to help children appreciate art in all forms—we can raise awareness of the importance of art and art appreciation and renew our commitment to arts education.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 10TH AN-
NIVERSARY OF GIRLS ON THE
RUN OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Girls on the Run of Northern Virginia and to congratulate them on the occasion of their 10th Anniversary.

All of us who have a daughter or niece, or even know a young or pre-teen girl, understand very well the difficulties that many experience on their journey to adulthood. Peer pressure, the media, and other external influences can often cause our young daughters to feel inadequate or simply not good enough. Girls on the Run seeks to address this issue by encouraging healthy choices and instilling confidence that all girls belong “just the way they are.”

Girls on the Run was originally founded in 1996 by Molly Barker, a four-time Hawaii Ironman triathlete to celebrate the gifts of girlhood and fight what she calls “Girl-Box” issues. Girl-Box is a place where girls and young teens are valued more for their outward appearance than their character inside. This can result in low self-esteem and a distorted body image which have been linked to eating disorders, teen pregnancy and substance

abuse. Girls on the Run focuses on the development of a healthy, positive self-image and strives to empowers all girls to have a strong sense of identity, resist peer pressure, stand up for themselves in a healthy manner, and understand their importance as individuals and as part of the larger community. In just 15 years, Girls on the Run now serves over 60,000 girls annually throughout the United States and into Canada.

Girls on the Run came to Northern Virginia in 2001 and initially had only 2 sites serving 27 girls. In 2010, Girls on the Run of NOVA, as the largest chapter in the national organization, will offer over 200 programs in 172 locations and serve more than 6,000 girls. Based out of public and private schools in Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William counties as well as the cities of Alexandria, Manassas, Manassas Park, Fairfax City and Falls Church, Girls on the Run NOVA reaches across all ethnic, racial and socio-economic lines. No girl is ever denied because of inability to pay the modest fees assessed for this program—financial aid is offered to qualifying individuals. In 2008 over one-third of all participants received financial assistance.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Girls on the Run of Northern Virginia on the occasion of their 10th Anniversary and also in thanking them for their commitment to instilling self-respect and dignity to all of our daughters in Northern Virginia.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 4992

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. WAMP. Madam Speaker, today I introduced the First Responders Protection Act to better protect the men and women who risk their lives every day on our behalf from the financial hardship related to potentially frivolous lawsuits. Too often, first responders can be forced to deplete their savings, put their own homes in jeopardy or sacrifice their retirement to pay for legal counsel to defend themselves.

The First Responders Protection Act gives employers the authority to provide financial assistance for employees facing litigation after certain events that occur when performing their jobs. This bill would not override the comparable policies that some States already have in place, and it would offer assistance to any States to implement one.

Upon review by attorneys and law enforcement experts, H.R. 413, which I previously supported, simply went too far without fully addressing this real issue affecting these men and women. My legislation, the First Responders Protection Act, is more narrowly crafted to keep first responders and their families from being financially drained as a result of frivolous lawsuits. I urge its passage in lieu of the previous bill.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE
AMERICAN HELLENIC INSTITUTE

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker, Whereas, the American Hellenic Institute was founded in 1974 with a commitment to upholding fairness and justice for the people of Greece and Cyprus;

Whereas, the American Hellenic Institute has sponsored education initiatives to promote peace and mutual understanding between peoples;

Whereas, the American Hellenic Institute has increased cultural awareness and preservation for Greek-Americans and Hellenic people across the world;

Whereas, the American Hellenic Institute has steadfastly worked for the reunification of Cyprus;

Whereas, the American Hellenic Institute has stood by the Ecumenical Patriarchate in Constantinople;

Whereas, the American Hellenic Institute has worked tirelessly to improve U.S. foreign relations with the people of Greece and Cyprus: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That as a proud Greek American, I commend the American Hellenic Institute for its principled commitment to the causes important to Hellenic people across the world, and in honor of the 189th year of Greek Independence, I stand firmly behind the American Hellenic Institute's efforts to represent the interests and values of Hellenic people everywhere.

LADYWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge Ladywood High School, Catholic college preparatory school in the Felician/Franciscan tradition, as they celebrate their 60 years of educating young women in my hometown of Livonia, Michigan.

Named for the beautiful wooded property on which it is located, Ladywood was dedicated to Our Lady under her title Our Lady of the Woods and opened its doors to 45 students on September 11, 1950. The first commencement was celebrated on June 7, 1953, with a graduating class of 12 young women. Having been continually accredited since 1951, Ladywood now educates young ladies from 40 communities, 5 counties and 50 zip codes.

Ladywood was chosen as an “Outstanding American High School” by U.S. News and World Report and is recognized by the American College Testing Education Division for exceeding national performance scores while matriculating 99 to 100 percent of her graduates to colleges and universities. The State of Michigan and the Wayne County Department of Environment have designated the Ladywood High School as an Official Michigan Green School.

Madam Speaker, for 60 years Ladywood High School has maintained a prominent presence in the Metropolitan Detroit area as a national leader for excellence in education by honoring the pledge made by the Felician Sisters not only to ensure academic distinction but to provide for the spiritual and personal formation of the young ladies entrusted to them. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the administration, faculty, staff and students of Ladywood High School and recognizing their years of loyal service to our youth, our community and our country.

IN RECOGNITION OF HELEN CRAM

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Helen Cram and her substantial contributions to political and civic life in Prince William County.

Ms. Cram's political career began when she spent the fall of 1952 handing out "grip cards" for her father's successful candidacy for North Dakota State Secretary. The family's victory launched Ms. Cram into a political career that spanned over four decades and consisted of positions in the offices of local, state and federal elected officials.

After two sessions as a Page in the North Dakota House of Representatives and six years in the personal office of a Public Service Commissioner, Ms. Cram moved to Virginia. She joined the staff of the late U.S. Senator from North Dakota, Quentin Burdick, in 1962 and remained in his office for six years. She spent the rest of her time in the federal government working for U.S. Senator Harry F. Byrd, Jr. until she retired in 1982. Discovering that retirement life was not for her, Ms. Cram ended her retirement one month later when she went to work for Delegate David Brickley in the Virginia General Assembly. Ms. Cram served as Delegate Brickley's legislative assistant until 1998.

Throughout her time as a public servant Ms. Cram has remained active in Democratic politics. Ms. Cram became a member of the Prince William County Democratic Committee in 1970 and served seventeen years as secretary of that committee. She was Campaign Manager many times for David Brickley for Delegate; served as Campaign Manager for Chuck Colgan for Senate in 1988; was co-campaign manager with Charlie Gnadl for Prince William County for Senator Harry Byrd; managed five magisterial districts for Paul Ebert for Commonwealth's Attorney; she was the campaign treasurer for Leo Harrison and Lyle Cram when they each ran for Woodbridge District Board of County Supervisors, and served as campaign manager for the Prince William County Road Bond Committee in 1985. She also served for a short time as the aide to the late Coles Magisterial District Supervisor, G. Richard Pfitzner, when he was on the Prince William Board of County Supervisors.

Somehow Ms. Cram also found time to volunteer for several community organizations in Prince William County. She served on the Board of Directors for the American Red Cross; held every office of the Woodbridge Lit-

tle League Ladies Auxiliary; was District Director for the Little League Ladies Auxiliaries for District 9 (Prince William and part of Fairfax Counties); and was a volunteer for the Boy Scouts of America Troop 1357. Ms. Cram has been the IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program coordinator at Potomac Library for thirty-one years. She currently serves as secretary to the Prince William County Board of Elections and has been on the Board nine years.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending Helen Cram; a truly dedicated community activist. I would like to extend my personal appreciation to Ms. Cram for her immeasurable impact on the Prince William community.

THE PATIENT PROTECTION AND AFFORDABLE CARE ACT OF 2010

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. GRAYSON. Madam Speaker, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 is a triumph for American consumers of health insurance and health care. When fully implemented, it will extend health care insurance to 32 million uninsured Americans, covering 95 percent of American citizens and legal residents. It will extend premium affordability tax credits to 20 million Americans and help 4 million small businesses provide health insurance for their workers. By the end of this year it will end some of the worst insurance company abuses such as post-claims underwriting or lifetime limits on coverage. When fully implemented it will ban even more, including health status underwriting and exclusions of pre-existing conditions. This legislation will "bend the curve" in the unsustainable growth in health care costs while improving the quality of American health care. It encourages wellness and prevention and will help Americans become among the best informed health insurance consumers in the world.

Such sweeping legislation cannot explicitly address every issue that will arise under its provisions. In the near term, the legislation must be implemented through regulations promulgated by the federal executive agencies—in particular Health and Human Services, Labor, and Treasury—and by the states. Ultimately, the courts may need to interpret some of the provisions of the statute.

It is important, therefore, to set down the intention of Congress as to the principles of construction that should be applied in implementing and interpreting the law. The first and foremost of these is captured in the title of the bill. This legislation should always be construed to protect patients and to make health insurance and health care more affordable for consumers. Whenever the bill is silent or ambiguous on a particular issue it should be construed by a federal or state agency or court to accomplish this goal.

Many of the provisions of this bill, including the premium tax credits and cost-sharing assistance, the individual and employer responsibility provisions, and the Medicare and Medicaid reforms and expansions, must be implemented by the federal agencies. In drafting regulations, the agencies must first and fore-

most attend to the interests of patients, consumers, and beneficiaries. Many other provisions will ultimately be implemented by the states. The general interpretive principle of the insurance reform legislation in relation to the states is found in section 1321(d), which states "Nothing in this title shall be construed to preempt any State law that does not prevent the application of the provisions of this title." In other words, state laws more protective of consumers are preserved; state laws less protective of consumers are preempted.

Several issues raised by the legislation illustrate the application of these principles. First, nowhere does section 2719, which prescribes internal and external review procedures that insurance plans must follow when consumers appeal coverage determinations, explicitly state that all state and federal judicial remedies remain available if an appeal is denied both internally and externally. Every state, however, provides for judicial review of insurance claims denials in the nongroup market and 29 U.S.C. sec. 1132 offers judicial review of group health claims. These remedies are not expressly displaced by the law, and it is the intention of Congress that they continue to be available to aggrieved consumers.

Second, grandfathering of insurance plans that pre-date the legislation is not forever. A principle announced repeatedly by the President throughout the debate was that "if you like the insurance coverage you have, you can keep it." Congress never intended, however, that if you had insurance coverage you did not like, you would be stuck with it forever. Section 1251 of the PPACA, therefore, should not be interpreted to mean that an insured who is enrolled in a group health plan will never be extended the consumer protections found in the legislation. If coverage under the plan changes significantly, for example through increased cost-sharing for members, the plan's grandfathered status should be lost and the full protections of the legislation apply.

Third, the ban on pre-existing condition exclusions for children under sec. 10103(e) does not merely mean that plans cannot exclude pre-existing conditions from coverage, but also that they cannot exclude children with pre-existing conditions from coverage. The law must be interpreted broadly to achieve its purposes, not narrowly to encourage evasion.

Fourth, the provisions of sec. 2714 of the Public Health Services Act added by sec. 1001 of the PPACA extending coverage to adult children up to age 26 should be interpreted to require the extension of family coverage to cover adult children, not to permit insurers to separately underwrite such children or to require them to pay the full cost of adult coverage.

Fifth, the provisions of sec. 1332 of the PPACA allowing state waivers for innovation are intended to provide maximum flexibility for the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of Health and Human Services so long as the state plan is at least as comprehensive and affordable, and so long as it covers at least as many people as the law would provide otherwise.

Finally, the provisions of sec. 715 of ERISA added by 1562 of the PPACA should be understood to fully extend all of the protections of the PPACA that apply to group health plans to all employment-related health plans, including self-insured plans. The law should also be understood to intend that the full authority of

the Departments of Labor and Treasury in regulating and enforcing the law against ERISA plans is available to enforce the terms of the PPACA.

These are only a few examples of many issues that will no doubt arise in implementing and interpreting the law. The general principles that they illustrate, however, must be applied throughout by the federal agencies, by

the states, and by the courts. This law is intended to protect patients and consumers, and whenever it is silent or unclear, it must be construed toward these ends.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2215–S2249

Measures Introduced: One bill and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 3196, and S. Res. 478. **Page S2246**

Measures Reported:

S. Res. 409, calling on members of the Parliament in Uganda to reject the proposed “Anti-Homosexuality Bill”.

S. Res. 446, commemorating the 40th anniversary of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and with an amended preamble. **Page S2240**

Measures Passed:

Cell Phone Contraband Act: Senate passed S. 1749, to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the possession or use of cell phones and similar wireless devices by Federal prisoners, after agreeing to the committee amendments, and the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S2248**

Brown (OH) (for Feinstein) Amendment No. 3722, to require a GAO study of cell phone use in prisons. **Page S2248**

Calling on Parliament in Uganda: Senate agreed to S. Res. 409, calling on members of the Parliament in Uganda to reject the proposed “Anti-Homosexuality Bill”. **Page S2249**

Measures Considered:

Continuing Extension Act—Agreement: Senate began consideration of H.R. 4851, to provide a temporary extension of certain programs, after agreeing to the motion to proceed, taking action on the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S2226–35**

Pending:

Baucus Amendment No. 3721, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S2228–35**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 10:30 a.m., on Wednesday, April 14, 2010, with the time until 12:30 p.m., equally divided and controlled between the two Leaders, or

their designees; and that during this time, it be in order for the Republican Leader, or his designee to make a relevant budget act point of order against Baucus Amendment No. 3721, to be modified as specified below, and that after the point of order is made, Senator Baucus, or his designee be recognized to move to waive the applicable point of order, and that the vote on the motion to waive the budget point of order occur at 12:30 p.m., that no intervening motions or amendments be in order during this period of debate, further that it be in order to modify the Baucus amendment with provisions which cover the extension of small business programs. **Page S2233**

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, the notification of the issuance of an Executive Order blocking the property of certain persons contributing to the conflict in Somalia; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–50) **Page S2237**

Messages from the House: **Pages S2237–38**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S2238**

Executive Communications: **Pages S2238–40**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Pages S2240–41**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S2241–42**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S2242–46**

Additional Statements: **Pages S2236–37**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S2246–47**

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Page S2247**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Pages S2247–48**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:12 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 14, 2010. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S2249.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: U.S. COAST GUARD

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2011 for the United States Coast Guard, after receiving testimony from Admiral Thad W. Allen, Commandant, United States Coast Guard.

AIR FORCE AND NAVY TACTICAL AIRCRAFT PROGRAMS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Airland concluded a hearing to examine Department of the Air Force and Department of the Navy tactical aircraft programs in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2011 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Vice Admiral David Architzel, USN, Principal Deputy, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development, and Acquisition, Lieutenant General Mark D. Shackelford, USAF, Military Deputy, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, Major General Johnny A. Weida, USAF, Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, Plans and Requirements, Department of the Air Force, Lieutenant General George J. Trautman III, USMC, Deputy Commandant for Aviation, United States Marine Corps, and Rear Admiral David L. Philman, USN, Director, Air Warfare, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, all of the Department of Defense.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 1382, to improve and expand the Peace Corps for the 21st century, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 2839, to amend the Torture Victims Relief Act of 1998 to authorize appropriations to provide assistance for domestic and foreign programs and centers for treatment of victims of torture, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 624, to provide 100,000,000 people with first-time access to safe drinking water and sanitation on a sustainable basis by 2015 by improving the capacity of the United States Government to fully implement the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act of 2005, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. Res. 409, calling on members of the Parliament in Uganda to reject the proposed "Anti-Homosexuality Bill";

S. Res. 446, commemorating the 40th anniversary of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

Convention Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Malta for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income, signed on August 8, 2008, at Valletta (Treaty Doc. 111-01), Protocol Amending the Convention between the United States of America and New Zealand for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion With Respect to Taxes on Income, signed on December 1, 2008, at Washington (Treaty Doc. 111-03); and

The nominations of Elizabeth L. Littlefield, of the District of Columbia, to be President of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, Carolyn Hessler Radelet, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Director of the Peace Corps, Raul Yzaguirre, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Dominican Republic, Theodore Sedgwick, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Slovak Republic, Bisa Williams, of New Jersey, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Niger, and Robert Stephen Ford, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Syrian Arab Republic, all of the Department of State, Lana Pollack, of Michigan, to be a Commissioner on the part of the United States on the International Joint Commission, United States and Canada, and Walter Isaacson, of Louisiana, to be Chairman of the Broadcasting Board of Governors, and Dennis Mulhaupt, of California, Victor H. Ashe, of Tennessee, Michael Lynton, of California, S. Enders Wimbush, of Virginia, and Susan McCue, of Virginia, all to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors, and a routine list in the Foreign Service.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: On March 10, 2010, committee announced the following subcommittee assignments:

Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations: Senators Levin (Chair), Carper, Pryor, McCaskill, Tester, Kaufman, Coburn, Collins, McCain, and Ensign.

Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia: Senators Akaka (Chair), Levin, Landrieu, Burriss, Kaufman, Voinovich, Brown (MA), and Graham.

Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security: Senators Carper (Chair), Levin, Akaka, Pryor, McCaskill, Burriss, McCain, Coburn, Voinovich, and Ensign.

Ad Hoc Subcommittee on State, Local, and Private Sector Preparedness and Integration: Senators Pryor (Chair),

Akaka, Landrieu, Tester, Ensign, Voinovich, and Graham.

Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Disaster Recovery: Senators Landrieu (Chair), McCaskill, Burris, Graham, and Brown (MA).

Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight: Senators McCaskill (Chair), Levin, Carper, Pryor, Tester, Kaufman, Brown (MA), Collins, Coburn, McCain, and Graham.

Senators Lieberman and Collins are ex-officio members of the subcommittees.

WALL STREET AND FINANCIAL CRISIS

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations concluded a hearing to examine Wall Street and the financial crisis, focusing on high-risk home loans, after receiving testimony from James G. Vanasek, Scottsdale, Arizona, Ronald J. Cathcart, and Kerry K. Killinger, both of Seattle, Washington, Randy Melby, Miami, Florida, David Schneider, Princeton, New Jersey, David Beck, New Canaan, Connecticut, and Stephen J. Rotella, New York, New York, all former employees of Washington Mutual Bank.

GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security concluded a hearing to examine making the government more transparent and accountable, after receiving testimony from John Wonderlich, Sunlight Foundation, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Stephen W. T. O'Keeffe, MeriTalk, London, England; and Thomas Blanton, George Washington University National Security Archive, Bogalusa, Louisiana.

ESEA REAUTHORIZATION

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) reauthorization, focusing on school turnaround, after receiving testimony from Robert Balfanz, Center for Social Organization of Schools, Baltimore, Maryland; Beverly Donohue, New Visions for Public Schools, and Joel Klein, New York City Public Schools, both of New York, New York; Timothy Mitchell, Chamberlain School District 7-1, Chamberlain, South Dakota; and Marco Petruzzi, Green Dot Public Schools, Los Angeles, California.

Impeachment Trial Committee (Porteous): Committee held an organizational meeting to examine the articles of impeachment against Judge G. Thomas Porteous, Jr.

BUSINESS MEETING

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

INTELLIGENCE

Committee recessed subject to the call.

PRESCRIPTION PSEUDOEPHEDRINE IN OREGON

United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control: Caucus concluded a hearing to examine the status of making pseudoephedrine prescription only, focusing on Oregon, after receiving testimony from R. Gil Kerlikowske, Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy; Charles J. Ganley, Director, Office of Drug Evaluation IV, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services; John R. Kroger, Oregon Attorney General, Salem; Kent Shaw, California Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement, Sacramento; Gary W. Kendell, Iowa Governor's Office of Drug Control Policy, Des Moines; Keith Cain, Davies County Police Department, Davies County, Kentucky; and Linda Suydam, Consumer Healthcare Products Association, Washington, D.C.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 21 public bills, H.R. 4992-5012; and 11 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 260; and H. Res. 1236-1245 were introduced.

Pages H2502-04

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H2504-06

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 1174, to establish the Federal Emergency Management Agency as a cabinet-level independent agency in the executive branch, with an amendment (H. Rept. 111-459, Pt. 1);

H. Res. 197, to commend the American Sail Training Association for its advancement of character

building under sail and for its advancement of international goodwill, with an amendment (H. Rept. 111–460, Pt. 1);

H.R. 1258, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to prohibit manipulation of caller identification information, with amendments (H. Rept. 111–461); and H.R. 3125, to require an inventory of radio spectrum bands managed by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration and the Federal Communications Commission, with an amendment (H. Rept. 111–462). **Page H2502**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Jackson (IL) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H2463**

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Reverend Dr. Alan Keiran, Office of the Chaplain, United States Senate. **Page H2463**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and agree to the following measures:

Supporting the goals and ideals of National Library Week: H. Res. 1222, to support the goals and ideals of National Library Week, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-and-nay vote of 397 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 196; **Pages H2465–67, H2474–75**

Congratulating and commending the University of Idaho's football team for winning the 2009 Humanitarian Bowl in Boise, Idaho: H. Res. 1041, to congratulate and commend the University of Idaho's football team for winning the 2009 Humanitarian Bowl in Boise, Idaho, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-and-nay vote of 394 yeas to 1 nay with 2 voting “present”, Roll No. 197; **Pages H2467–68, H2476**

Commending the Boise State University Broncos football team for winning the 2010 Fiesta Bowl: H. Res. 1042, to commend the Boise State University Broncos football team for winning the 2010 Fiesta Bowl, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-and-nay vote of 385 yeas to 1 nay with 3 voting “present”, Roll No. 198; **Pages H2468–69, H2476–77**

Congratulating Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania for 140 years of excellence in higher education: H. Res. 1198, amended, to congratulate Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania for 140 years of excellence in higher education; and **Pages H2469–70**

Remembering the victims of the attack on the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma: H. Res. 1206, amended, to remember the victims of the attack on the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and to support the goals and ideals of the National Week of Hope. **Pages H2470–74**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “Remembering the victims of the attack on the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.”. **Page H2474**

Recess: The House recessed at 3 p.m. and reconvened at 6:31 p.m. **Page H2474**

Moment of Silence: The House observed a moment of silence in honor of Robert Franks, former Member of Congress. **Page H2475**

Moment of Silence: The House observed a moment of silence in honor of Stanford Parris, former Member of Congress. **Pages H2475–76**

Moment of Silence: The House observed a moment of silence in honor of the victims of the coal mine tragedy in West Virginia on April 5, 2010. **Page H2476**

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he transmitted to Congress a copy of an Executive Order he has issued with respect to Somalia—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered printed (H. Doc. 111–103). **Pages H2477–78**

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appear on pages H2463–64.

Senate Referrals: S. 3162 and S. 3191 were held at the desk. **Page H2463**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three ye-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2474, H2476, H2477. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 10:08 p.m.

Committee Meetings

INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a hearing on the Transformative Impact of Art: The National Endowment for the Arts FY 2011 Budget Request. Testimony was heard from Rocco Landesman, Chairman, National Endowment for the Arts, National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities.

The Subcommittee also held a hearing on American Advocates for the Arts. Testimony was heard from Representative Slaughter; Michael Nutter, Mayor, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and public witnesses.

SELECT INTELLIGENCE OVERSIGHT

Committee on Appropriations: Select Intelligence Oversight Panel met in executive session to hold a hearing on Military Intelligence Program and Defense Intelligence Agency Fiscal Year 2011 Budget. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: GEN James Clapper, USAF (ret.), Under Secretary (Intelligence); and LTG Ronald L. Burgess, Jr., USA., Director, Defense Intelligence Agency.

DOD MEDICAL CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Military Personnel held a hearing on Department of Defense Medical Centers of Excellence. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Charles Rice, M.D., Performing the Duties of the Assistant Secretary, Health Affairs, and President, Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences; and the following Surgeon Generals: LTG Eric Schoomaker, USA, VADM Adam Robinson, USN, and LTG Charles Bruce Green, USAF.

FORECLOSURE MITIGATION

Committee on Financial Services: Held a hearing entitled "Second Liens and Other Barriers to Principal Reduction as an Effective Foreclosure Mitigation Program." Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D359)

H.R. 4621, to protect the integrity of the constitutionally-mandated United States census and prohibit deceptive mail practices that attempt to exploit the decennial census. Signed on April 7, 2010. (Public Law 111-155)

H.J. Res. 80, recognizing and honoring the Blind Veterans Association on its 65th anniversary of representing blinded veterans and their families. Signed on April 7, 2010. (Public Law 111-156)

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY,
APRIL 14, 2010**

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2011 for the Department of Education and the education jobs crisis, 9:30 a.m., SD-138.

Subcommittee on Defense, to hold closed hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2011 for national and military intelligence, 10:30 a.m., SVC-217.

Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2011 for the Consumer Product Safety Commission, 2:30 p.m., SD-138.

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine United States policy towards the Islamic Republic of Iran; to be immediately followed by a closed hearing in SVC-217, 10:30 a.m., SR-253.

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, to hold hearings to examine strategic forces programs of the National Nuclear

Security Administration in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2011, 2:30 p.m., SR-222.

Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support, to hold hearings to examine the current readiness of United States forces, 2:30 p.m., SD-562.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine reviewing the national broadband plan, 2:30 p.m., SR-253.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold hearings to examine opportunities to improve transportation safety, 10 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine using unemployment insurance to help Americans get back to work, focusing on creating opportunities and overcoming challenges, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on European Affairs, to hold hearings to examine Southeast Europe, focusing on opportunities and challenges in the Western Balkans, 2:30 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia, to hold hearings to examine deployed Federal civilians, focusing on advancing security and opportunity in Afghanistan, 2:30 p.m., SD-342.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Department of Justice, 9:30 a.m., SD-226.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Subcommittee on Department Operations, Nutrition, and Forestry, hearing to review access to healthy foods for beneficiaries of Federal nutrition programs and explore innovative methods to improve availability, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies, to continue appropriation hearings, 9 a.m., H-309 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Defense, on National Guard and U.S. Army Reserve Readiness, 1:30 p.m., H-140 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies, on Bureau of Reclamation FY 2011 Budget, 2 p.m., 2362B Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Homeland Security, on Update on Southwest Border: The Challenges that DHS Continues to Face, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, on Maintaining National Cultural and Scientific Centers: FY 2011 Budget Request for the Smithsonian Institution, National Gallery of Art, Kennedy Center, Woodrow Wilson Center, and Presidio Trust, 9:30 a.m., B-308 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, on FY 2011 Budget Overview: Social Security Administration, 10 a.m., 2358C Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, on Quality of Life—Senior Enlisted, 10 a.m., H-143 Capitol.

Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Agencies, on Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), 10 a.m., H-140 Capitol, and on Security Assistance, 1:30 p.m., 2362A Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, hearing on the United States nuclear weapons policy and force structure, 10:30 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Terrorism, Unconventional Threats and Capabilities, hearing on the FY 2011 National Defense Authorization Budget Request for the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, Chemical Biological Defense Program and counterproliferation initiatives, 2 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and Labor, hearing on How Data Can Be Used to Inform Educational Outcomes, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled “Smokeless Tobacco: Impact on the Health of Our Nation’s Youth and Use in Major League Baseball, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, hearing entitled “Housing Finance—What Should the New System Be Able to Do?: Part II—Government and Stakeholder Perspectives,” 9:30 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity, hearing entitled “The Recently Announced Revisions to the Home Affordable Modification Program (HAMP),” 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight, hearing on Combating Anti-Semitism: Protecting Human Rights, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, hearing entitled “Federal Protective Service: Would Federalization of Guards Improve Security at Critical Facilities?” 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties, hearing on the Report by the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Justice on the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Use of Exigent Letters and Other Informal Requests for Telephone Records, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, to consider the following measures: H.R. 1722, Telework Improvements Act of 2009; H.R. 4865, Federal Employees and Uniformed Services Retirement Equity Act of 2010; H.R. 3913, Major General David F. Wherley, Jr., District of Columbia National Guard Retention and College Access Act; S. 806, Federal Executive Board Authorization Act of 2009; S. 1510, United States Secret Service Uniformed Division Modernization Act of 2009; H. Con. Res. 255, Commemorating the 40th anniversary of Earth Day and honoring the founder of Earth Day, the late Senator Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin; H. Res. 855, Expressing support for designation of May 1 as “Silver Star Service Banner Day”; H.R. 1103, Celebrating the life of Sam Houston on the 217th anniversary of his birth; H.R.

1187, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with respect to raising public awareness of and helping to prevent attacks against Federal employees while engaged in or on account of the performance of official duties; H. Res. 1189, Commending Lance Mackey on winning a record 4th straight Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race; H.R. 4861, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1343 West Irving Park Road in Chicago, Illinois, as the “Steve Goodman Post Office Building”; H.R. 4543, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4285 Payne Avenue in San Jose, California, as the “Anthony J. Cortese Post Office Building”; and H.R. 4909, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2168 7th Avenue in Anoka, Minnesota, as the “Richard K. Sorenson Post Office Building,” 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Domestic Policy, hearing entitled “ONDCP’s Fiscal Year 2011 National Drug Control Budget: Are We Still Funding a War on Drugs?” 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Government Management, Organization, and Procurement, hearing entitled “Oversight of Federal Financial Management,” 10 a.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Committee on Rules, to consider H.R. 4715, Clean Estuaries Act of 2010, 3 p.m., H-313 Capitol.

Committee on Science and Technology, Subcommittee on Research and Science Education, to mark up a Committee Print—National Science Foundation programs, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, hearing entitled “Entrepreneurs and Tax Day: How IRS Policies and Procedures Impact Small Businesses” 2 p.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, hearing on “Using Innovative Financing to Deliver Highway and Transit Projects,” 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, hearing on energy tax incentives and the green job economy, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, executive, hearing on Defense Intelligence Agency Budget for Fiscal Year 2011, 3 p.m., 304-HVC.

Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming, hearing entitled “The Role of Coal in a New Energy Age,” 9:30 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Joint Meetings

Joint Economic Committee: to hold hearings to examine the economic outlook, 10 a.m., SD-106.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Wednesday, April 14

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond one hour), Senate will continue consideration of H.R. 4851, Continuing Extension Act. If a point of order is raised against Baucus Amendment No. 3721, Senate will proceed to a roll call vote on the motion to waive the budget point of order at 12:30 p.m.

(After the Senate convenes, a moment of silence will be observed to express solidarity with the people of Poland.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, April 14

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of the following suspensions: 1) H. Res.—Honoring the coal miners who perished in the Upper Big Branch Mine-South in Raleigh County, West Virginia, extending condolences to their families and recog-

nizing the valiant efforts of emergency response workers at the mine disaster; 2) H. Res.—Honoring the life of Wilma Pearl Mankiller; 3) H.R. 4954—Providing recourse under the patent law for persons who suffer competitive injury as a result of false markings; 4) H. Con. Res. 222—Recognizing the leadership and historical contributions of Dr. Hector Garcia; 5) S.J. Res. 25—Granting the consent and approval of Congress to amendments made by the State of Maryland, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the District of Columbia to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Regulation Compact; 6) H.R. 3506—Eliminate Privacy Notice Confusion Act; 7) H.R. 1258—Truth in Caller ID Act; 8) H.R. 3125—Radio Spectrum Inventory Act; 9) H. Res. 197—To commend the American Sail Training Association; 10) H.R. 4275—The “John C. Godbold United States Judicial Administration Building” Designation Act; 11) H. Res. 1062—Recognizing the Coast Guard Group Astoria’s more than 60 years of service to the Pacific Northwest; 12) H. Con. Res. 243—Authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for an event to celebrate the birthday of King Kamehameha; 13) H. Res. 1185—Congratulating Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin on his tenth year of service as Chaplain of the House of Representatives; and 14) H.R.—Taxpayer Assistance Act.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Adler, John H., N.J., E514, E516, E521
 Andrews, Robert E., N.J., E527
 Arcuri, Michael A., N.Y., E518
 Brown-Waite, Ginny, Fla., E521
 Cao, Anh “Joseph”, La., E522
 Carnahan, Russ, Mo., E518
 Castle, Michael N., Del., E525, E526
 Coffman, Mike, Colo., E525
 Connolly, Gerald E., Va., E526, E527,
 E527, E528, E528, E529, E530, E531,
 E532, E533
 Costa, Jim, Calif., E527
 Courtney, Joe, Conn., E526

Frelinghuysen, Rodney P., N.J., E529,
 E531
 Garamendi, John, Calif., E520
 Gordon, Bart, Tenn., E513
 Graves, Sam, Mo., E513, E514
 Grayson, Alan, Fla., E533
 Hastings, Alcee L., Fla., E516, E522
 Higgins, Brian, N.Y., E513
 Holt, Rush D., N.J., E530
 Jordan, Jim, Ohio, E528
 Kagen, Steve, Wisc., E519
 Kildee, Dale E., Mich., E526
 Kucinich, Dennis J., Ohio, E520, E521,
 E521, E522, E523

Latham, Tom, Iowa, E516, E517, E518,
 E518, E518, E519, E519, E519, E520
 Lowey, Nita M., N.Y., E532
 McCotter, Thaddeus G., Mich., E529,
 E530, E532
 McMorris Rodgers, Cathy, Wash., E520
 Maloney, Carolyn B., N.Y., E515, E525
 Matsui, Doris O., Calif., E518
 Moore, Gwen, Wisc., E514
 Moran, James P., Va., E523
 Murphy, Patrick J., Pa., E514, E517,
 E519, E522, E524
 Myrick, Sue Wilkins, N.C., E517
 Norton, Eleanor Holmes, D.C., E516,
 E524

Pallone, Frank, Jr., N.J., E513, E517,
 E520, E522
 Pascarelli, Bill, Jr., N.J., E514
 Paul, Ron, Tex., E529, E531
 Poe, Ted, Tex., E525
 Quigley, Mike, Ill., E530, E531
 Roe, David P., Tenn., E528
 Rogers, Harold, Ky., E523
 Simpson, Michael K., Idaho, E530
 Smith, Lamar, Tex., E522
 Space, Zachary T., Ohio, E528, E532
 Towns, Edolphus, N.Y., E513
 Wamp, Zach, Tenn., E532
 Woolsey, Lynn C., Calif., E530
 Wu, David, Ore., E524



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