

Buchanan	Heller	Olson
Burgess	Hensarling	Paul
Burton (IN)	Herber	Paulsen
Buyer	Hoekstra	Pence
Calvert	Hunter	Petri
Camp	Inglis	Pitts
Campbell	Issa	Poe (TX)
Cantor	Jenkins	Posey
Capito	Johnson (IL)	Price (GA)
Carter	Johnson, Sam	Putnam
Castle	Jordan (OH)	Rehberg
Chaffetz	King (IA)	Reichert
Coble	King (NY)	Roe (TN)
Coffman (CO)	Kingston	Rogers (AL)
Cole	Kirk	Rogers (KY)
Conaway	Kline (MN)	Rogers (MI)
Connolly (VA)	Kosmas	Rohrabacher
Cooper	Lamborn	Rooney
Costa	Lance	Ros-Lehtinen
Crenshaw	Latham	Roskam
Critz	Latta	Royce
Culberson	Lee (NY)	Scalise
Dahlkemper	Lewis (CA)	Schmidt
Dent	Lofgren, Zoe	Schock
Diaz-Balart, L.	Lucas	Sensenbrenner
Diaz-Balart, M.	Luetkemeyer	Sessions
Dreier	Lummis	Shadegg
Driehaus	Lungren, Daniel	Shimkus
Duncan	E.	Shuster
Ehlers	Mack	Simpson
Fallin	Manzullo	Smith (NE)
Flake	Marchant	Smith (TX)
Fleming	McCarthy (CA)	Stearns
Forbes	McCaul	Sullivan
Fortenberry	McClintock	Terry
Fox	McCotter	Thompson (PA)
Franks (AZ)	McHenry	Thornberry
Frelinghuysen	McKeon	Tiahrt
Galleghy	McMorris	Tiberi
Garrett (NJ)	Rodgers	Turner
Gerlach	Mica	Upton
Gingrey (GA)	Miller (FL)	Walden
Gohmert	Miller (MI)	Wamp
Goodlatte	Miller, Gary	Westmoreland
Granger	Minnick	Whitfield
Griffith	Moran (KS)	Wilson (SC)
Guthrie	Moran (VA)	Wittman
Hall (TX)	Myrick	Wolf
Harper	Neugebauer	Young (AK)
Hastings (WA)	Nunes	Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—12

Boren	Graves	Radanovich
Brown-Waite,	Hastings (FL)	Ryan (WI)
Ginny	Linder	Sablan
Davis (AL)	Melancon	
Davis (KY)	Pierluisi	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining in this vote.

□ 2216

Mr. BOYD changed his vote from "no" to "aye."

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Mr. SKELTON, Madam Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise. The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CAPUANO) having assumed the chair, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5136) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2011 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Lorraine C. Miller, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly en-

rolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 5128. An act to designate the United States Department of the Interior Building in Washington, District of Columbia, as the "Stewart Lee Udall Department of the Interior Building".

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 1404 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 5136.

□ 2218

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 5136) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2011 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes, with Mr. SCHRADER (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose earlier today, amendment No. 47 offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) had been disposed of.

AMENDMENTS EN BLOC NO. 8 OFFERED BY MR. SKELTON

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Chairman, pursuant to House Resolution 1404, I offer amendments en bloc No. 8.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendments en bloc.

Amendments en bloc No. 8 offered by Mr. SKELTON consisting of amendments numbered 56, 58, 59, 65, 69, 71, 76, and 78 printed in House Report 111-498:

AMENDMENT NO. 56 OFFERED BY MRS. DAHLKEMPER OF PENNSYLVANIA

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 122, after line 18, insert the following:
SEC. 359. AUTHORITY TO MAKE EXCESS NONLETHAL SUPPLIES AVAILABLE FOR DOMESTIC EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE.

(a) DOMESTIC AUTHORITY.—Section 2557 of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1), by adding at the end the following new sentence: "In addition, the Secretary may make nonlethal excess supplies of the Department available to support domestic emergency assistance activities."; and

(2) in subsection (b)—
(A) by inserting "(1)" before "Excess"; and
(B) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(2) Excess supplies made available under this section to support domestic emergency assistance activities shall be transferred to the Secretary of Homeland Security. The Secretary of Defense may provide assistance in the distribution of such supplies at the request of the Secretary of Homeland Security."

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(1) SECTION HEADING.—The heading of such section is amended to read as follows:

"§2557. Excess nonlethal supplies: availability for humanitarian relief, domestic emergency assistance, and homeless veterans assistance".

(2) TABLE OF SECTIONS.—The item relating to such section in the table of sections at the beginning of chapter 152 of such title is amended to read as follows:

"2557. Excess nonlethal supplies: availability for humanitarian relief, domestic emergency assistance, and homeless veterans assistance."

AMENDMENT NO. 58 OFFERED BY MRS. KIRKPATRICK OF ARIZONA

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 122, after line 18, insert the following:
SEC. 359. RECOVERY OF MISSING DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROPERTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2789 of title 10, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"§2789. Recovery of Department of Defense property: unauthorized or improper disposition

"(a) PROHIBITIONS.—No member of the armed forces, civilian employee of the Government, employee or agent of a contractor, or any other person may sell, lend, pledge, barter, give, transfer, or otherwise dispose of any clothing, arms, articles, equipment, or any other military or Department of Defense property—

"(1) to any person not authorized to receive the property in accordance with applicable requirements established by the Department of Defense or a component thereof; or

"(2) in violation of applicable demilitarization regulations of the Department of Defense or a component thereof.

"(b) SEIZURE OF IMPROPERLY DISPOSED OF PROPERTY.—If a member of the armed forces, civilian employee of the Government, employee or agent of a contractor, or any other person has improperly disposed of military or Department of Defense property in violation of subsection (a), any civil or military officer of the United States or any State or local law enforcement official may seize the property, wherever found. Title to military or Department of Defense property disposed of in violation of subsection (a) remains with the United States. Possession of such property by a person who is neither a member of the armed forces nor an official of the United States is prima facie evidence that the property has been disposed of in violation of subsection (a).

"(c) DELIVERY OF SEIZED PROPERTY.—Any official who seizes property under subsection (b) and is not authorized to retain it for the United States shall immediately deliver the property to an authorized member of the armed forces or other authorized official of the Department of Defense or the Department of Justice.

"(d) RETROACTIVE ENFORCEMENT AUTHORIZED.—This section shall apply to any military or Department of Defense property which was the subject of unauthorized disposition any time after January 1, 2002. This section shall apply to significant military equipment which was the subject of unauthorized disposition at any time.

"(e) SEVERABILITY CLAUSE.—In the event that any portion of this section is held unenforceable, all other portions of this section shall remain in full force and effect.

"(f) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term 'significant military equipment' means defense articles on the United States Munitions List for which special export controls are warranted because of their capacity for substantial military utility or capability."

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The item relating to such section in the table of sections at

the beginning of chapter 165 of such title is amended to read as follows:

“2789. Recovery of Department of Defense property: unauthorized or improper disposition.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 59 OFFERED BY MS. KOSMAS OF FLORIDA

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 99, after line 23, insert the following:
SEC. 336. STUDY AND REPORT ON FEASIBILITY OF JOINT USAGE OF THE NASA SHUTTLE LOGISTICS DEPOT.

(a) **STUDY.**—The Secretary of Defense, in conjunction with the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, shall conduct a study of the feasibility of joint usage of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Shuttle Logistics Depot in Cape Canaveral, Florida, to supplement requirements for products and services in support of reset initiatives, Advanced Technology Clusters, engineering and reverse engineering analysis, and development of innovative technology and processes to improve product procurement and reduce risk, cost, and cycle time of system delivery.

(b) **REPORT.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the committees on Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representatives a report on the study required under subsection (a).

AMENDMENT NO. 65 OFFERED BY MR. PERRIELLO OF VIRGINIA

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 92, after line 24, insert the following:
SEC. 326. TREATMENT OF EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS TO HEALTH BENEFITS AND RETIREMENT PLANS FOR PURPOSES OF COST-COMPARISONS OF CONTRACTOR AND CIVILIAN EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FUNCTIONS.

Section 2463 of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (e) as subsection (f); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (d) the following new subsection (f):

“(f) **TREATMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO HEALTH AND RETIREMENT PLANS.**—For purposes of conducting a cost comparison to determine whether to convert a function from contractor performance to performance by Department of Defense civilian employee, the costs of employer contributions made by the Department of Defense or by a contractor towards employer-sponsored health benefits and retirement benefits plans shall not be considered unless, in the case of such contributions made by a contractor, the contractor does not receive an advantage for reducing costs for the Department of Defense by—

“(1) not making an employer-sponsored health insurance plan available to the contractor employees who perform the function under the contract;

“(2) offering to such employees an employer-sponsored health benefits plan that requires the employer to contribute less towards the premium or subscription share than the amount that is paid by the Federal Government for health benefits for civilian employees under chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code; or

“(3) offering to such employees a retirement benefit that, in any year, costs less than the annual retirement cost factor applicable to Federal employees under chapter 84 of title 5, United States Code.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 69 OFFERED BY MS. TITUS OF NEVADA

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of subtitle G of title VI, add the following new section:

SEC. 674. FLEXIBLE COMMENCEMENT DATES FOR AVAILABILITY OF HOMEOWNER ASSISTANCE FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES PERMANENTLY REASSIGNED DURING MORTGAGE CRISIS.

(a) **MODIFICATION OF REASSIGNMENT, PURCHASE, AND SALE DATES.**—Subsection (a)(3) of section 1013 of the Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 3374) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (C), by striking “or an earlier end date designated by the Secretary” and by inserting “or an earlier start or end date designated by the Secretary under subsection (c)(3)(C) for a specific military base or installation”;

(2) in subparagraph (D), by inserting “, or a later purchase date designated by the Secretary under subsection (c)(3)(C) for a specific military base or installation” after “July 1, 2006”; and

(3) in subparagraph (E), by striking “between July 1, 2006, and September 30, 2012, or an earlier end date designated by the Secretary” and inserting “between the purchase date in effect for the military base or installation under subparagraph (D) and the end date in effect for the military base or installation under subparagraph (D)”.

(b) **MODIFICATION PROCESS.**—Subsection (c)(3) of such section is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) **MODIFICATION OF REASSIGNMENT, PURCHASE, AND SALE DATES.**—In exercising the authority under subsection (a)(3) to designate different reassignment, purchase, and sale dates for a specific military base or installation, the Secretary of Defense shall consult with the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development and the Secretary of the Treasury regarding the condition of housing markets in the area of the base or installation so that the Secretary of Defense has the information needed to effectively assist members of the Armed Forces and their families.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 71 OFFERED BY MR. CRITZ OF PENNSYLVANIA

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of subtitle F of title III, insert the following:

SEC. 3 . . . AUTHORITY FOR PAYMENT OF FULL REPLACEMENT VALUE FOR LOSS OR DAMAGE TO HOUSEHOLD GOODS IN LIMITED CASES NOT COVERED BY CARRIER LIABILITY.

(a) **CLAIMS AUTHORITY.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Chapter 163 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“**§ 2740. Property loss: reimbursement of members and civilian employees for full replacement value of household effects when contractor reimbursement not available**

“The Secretary of Defense and the Secretaries of the military departments, in paying a claim under section 3721 of title 31 arising from loss or damage to household goods stored or transported at the expense of the Department of Defense, may pay the claim on the basis of full replacement value in any of the following cases in which reimbursement for the full replacement value for the loss or damage is not available directly from a carrier under section 2636a of this title:

“(1) A case in which—

“(A) the lost or damaged goods were stored or transported under a contract, tender, or solicitation in accordance with section 2636a of this title that requires the transportation service provider to settle claims on the basis of full replacement value; and

“(B) the loss or damage occurred under circumstances that exclude the transportation service provider from liability.

“(2) A case in which—

“(A) the loss or damage occurred while the lost or damaged goods were in the possession of an ocean carrier that was transporting, loading, or unloading the goods under a Department of Defense contract for ocean carriage; and

“(B) the land-based portions of the transportation were under contracts, in accordance with section 2636a of this title, that require the land carriers to settle claims on the basis of full replacement value.

“(3) A case in which—

“(A) the lost or damaged goods were transported or stored under a contract or solicitation that requires at least one of the transportation service providers or carriers that handled the shipment to settle claims on the basis of full replacement value pursuant to section 2636a of this title;

“(B) the lost or damaged goods have been in the custody of more than one independent contractor or transportation service provider; and

“(C) a claim submitted to the delivering transportation service provider or carrier is denied in whole or in part because the loss or damage occurred while the lost or damaged goods were in the custody of a prior transportation service provider or carrier or government entity.”.

(2) **CLERICAL AMENDMENT.**—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“2740. Property loss: reimbursement of members and civilian employees for full replacement value of household effects when contractor reimbursement not available.”.

(b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—Section 2740 of title 10, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), shall apply with respect to losses incurred after the date of the enactment of this Act.

AMENDMENT NO. 76 OFFERED BY MR. CONNOLLY OF VIRGINIA

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 465, after line 23, add the following:

SEC. 1110. FEDERAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Subchapter I of chapter 31 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 3111 the following:

“**§ 3111a. Federal internship programs**

“(a) **INTERNSHIP COORDINATOR.**—The head of each agency operating an internship program shall appoint an individual within such agency to serve as an internship coordinator.

“(b) **ONLINE INFORMATION.**—

“(1) **AGENCIES.**—The head of each agency operating an internship program shall make publicly available on the Internet—

“(A) the name and contact information of the internship coordinator for such program; and

“(B) information regarding application procedures and deadlines for such internship program.

“(2) **OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT.**—The Office of Personnel Management shall make publicly available on the Internet links to the websites where the information described in paragraph (1) is displayed.

“(c) **CENTRALIZED DATABASE.**—The Office shall establish and maintain a centralized electronic database that contains the names, contact information, and relevant skills of individuals who have completed or are nearing completion of an internship program and are currently seeking full-time Federal employment.

“(d) **EXIT INTERVIEW REQUIREMENT.**—The agency operating an internship program

shall conduct an exit interview of each intern that completes such program.

“(e) REPORT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The head of each agency operating an internship program shall annually submit to the Office a report assessing such internship program.

“(2) CONTENTS.—Each report required under paragraph (1) for an agency shall include, for the 1-year period ending on September 1 of the year in which the report is submitted—

“(A) the number of interns that participated in an internship program at such agency;

“(B) information regarding the demographic characteristics of interns at such agency, including educational background;

“(C) a description of the steps taken by such agency to increase the percentage of interns who are offered permanent Federal jobs and the percentage of interns who accept the offers of such jobs, and any barriers encountered;

“(D) a description of activities engaged in by such agency to recruit new interns, including locations and methods;

“(E) a description of the diversity of work roles offered within internship programs at such agency;

“(F) a description of the mentorship portion of such internship programs; and

“(G) a summary of exit interviews conducted by such agency upon completion of an internship program by an intern.

“(3) SUBMISSION.—Each report required under paragraph (1) shall be submitted to the Office between September 1 and September 30 of each year. Not later than December 30 of each year, the Office shall submit to Congress a report summarizing the information submitted to the Office in accordance with paragraph (1) for such year.

“(f) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) the term ‘internship program’ means—

“(A) a volunteer service program under section 3111(b); and

“(B) the Student Educational Employment Program established under section 213.3202 of title 5, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on January 1, 2009;

“(2) the term ‘intern’ means an individual serving in an internship program.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 31 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 3111 the following:

“3111a. Federal internship programs.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 78 OFFERED BY MR. GRAYSON OF FLORIDA

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of title VIII, add the following new section:

SEC. 839. REQUIREMENT TO JUSTIFY THE USE OF FACTORS OTHER THAN COST OR PRICE AS THE PREDOMINATE FACTORS IN EVALUATING COMPETITIVE PROPOSALS FOR DEFENSE PROCUREMENT CONTRACTS.

(a) REQUIREMENT.—Subparagraph (A) of section 2305(a)(2) of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking “and” at the end of clause (i); and

(2) by inserting after clause (ii) the following new clause:

“(iii) in the case of a solicitation in which factors other than cost or price when combined are more important than cost or price, the reasons why assigning at least equal importance to cost or price would not better serve the Government’s interest; and”.

(b) REPORT.—Section 2305(a)(3) of such title is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) Not later than 180 days after the end of each fiscal year, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to Congress, and post on a publicly available website of the Department of Defense, a report describing the solicitations for which a statement pursuant to paragraph (2)(A)(iii) was included.”.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 1404, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON) and the gentleman from California (Mr. MCKEON) each will control 10 minutes. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Chairman, I urge the committee to adopt the amendments en bloc, all of which have been examined by both the majority and the minority.

Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to my friend and colleague, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. BOSWELL).

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

Mr. BOSWELL. Mr. Chairman, I rise to support the en bloc amendments, of course.

When we did this in committee last week, I was called to the floor and I didn’t get to talk about the little item I had in there to do with a study on breast cancer in women soldiers. It passed. I am proud of that, and I want to thank you for it. I want to thank the ranking member as well. But it occurs to me we need to talk about this just a little bit.

I stand before you as a person that a surgeon told me what I went through was Agent Orange, but we didn’t do anything about it until way down the line.

I have a lady veteran in my office that went to a reunion after Iraq. In that small group, five of the women got breast cancer, and they had no connection to anything else in their lives.

I feel like that we can’t just let this go. Fifteen percent of our force is women. It is going to be 20 percent in a short time. We have to do some things different. So I appreciate the fact that we have asked the Department of Defense to take a look at this and see if it is something they will study.

I don’t want it to be another Agent Orange. I hope it won’t. But I am very adamant about supporting the troops, you know that, you know my history, and I am not going to ever back off from that. We have to do all the things we have to do.

But the women of the United States Armed Forces deserve some special attention in this, and I think that we ought to give some serious thought as we go into the future, maybe the very near future, to give this consideration beyond what we have done.

My intuition tells me that this is important. What checking we have done, there seems to be a problem, and we ought to get to the bottom of it as fast as we can for the sake of these outstanding women that serve in our Armed Forces.

For one little reunion, to find out that five women soldiers are afflicted,

is kind of a startling thing. It needs some attention, and I just would hope that as we go forth, in the time ahead, that we will make the effort to be sure that this is looked into, and we don’t look back a few years from now, like we have on Agent Orange, and say oh, my, I wish we had known. It won’t cost us that much to find out when we decide to do it, and I hope we decide to do it relatively soon.

Mr. MCKEON. Mr. Chairman, I rise to claim the time in opposition to the amendment, although I am not opposed to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the gentleman from California is recognized for 10 minutes.

There was no objection.

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

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to my friend the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER).

Mr. BLUMENAUER. I rise in support of this amendment and for purposes of engaging in a colloquy with the gentleman from Maryland to clarify the intent of his amendment regarding the Army’s M915 truck program.

I would yield to the gentleman.

Mr. BARTLETT. I thank the gentleman from Oregon for the opportunity to clarify my amendment on the M915 truck program.

It was my intent to submit a request for unanimous consent to consider a revised version of my original amendment that had been made in order by the Rules Committee. In fact, I read the revised version into the official record.

The revised amendment only encourages the Secretary of the Army to consider full and open competition for future M915 truck procurements beginning in fiscal year 2012. The revised amendment also requires the Secretary of the Army to provide possible courses of action if it helps to accelerate meeting the Army’s current requirement for M915 trucks.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Reclaiming my time, I want to thank the gentleman for his remarks and clarification of the amendment. I want to acknowledge that the M915 truck program is a critical asset to the United States Army Reserves, and note the current M915 truck program is on cost and schedule and meets all performance requirements.

Mr. BARTLETT, would you be willing to work with me on this critical issue during your conference deliberations with the Senate regarding H.R. 5136, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011?

Mr. BARTLETT. As we proceed to conference with the other body, I would welcome the opportunity to work with the gentleman from Oregon on this critical issue.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. I thank the gentleman. I appreciate the clarification and look forward to working with you.

Mr. MCKEON. I continue to reserve.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to my colleague, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY).

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Chairman, I thank Chairman SKELTON for the opportunity to offer this amendment to improve Federal internship programs, and his staff for their collaboration on the text before us.

The Federal Government faces a daunting challenge in recruiting and retaining the workforce of the future. We actually have a desultory record in terms of student internship programs and their retention rate when compared to the private sector. I believe this amendment will systematize that program, will set some standards that all Federal agencies have to meet, and a reporting requirement that will give the Congress the information it needs in moving forth.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

Mr. MCKEON. I continue to reserve.

Mr. SKELTON. I yield 2 minutes to my friend the gentleman from California (Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN).

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

I rise for the purpose of a colloquy with the chairman concerning amendment No. 15 introduced by the gentleman from Florida. I would ask the chairman to confirm that the amendment does not envision any shortcuts in the process of checking the background of any Iraqi nationals applying to come to the United States, nor does it ask for a shortcut in any process designed to protect American national security.

Mr. SKELTON. That is correct. The amendment is simply asking for a plan to speed up the process, as appropriate. The sponsor of the amendment believes, as do I, that all appropriate security and background checks must be carried out in the right way to best protect our national security.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. I thank the chairman for that clarification.

Mr. MCKEON. I continue to reserve.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to my friend the gentleman from Nevada (Ms. TITUS).

Ms. TITUS. I thank the chairman.

The purpose of this amendment is to provide the Secretary of Defense the flexibility to change the effective date of the Homeowners Assistance Program for members of the Armed Forces permanently reassigned during the mortgage crisis. The program, as approved by Congress last year, allows active-duty servicemembers to be partially reimbursed for losses occurring as a result of having to sell their home upon being reassigned. Under current law, a servicemember must have purchased his or her home before July 1, 2006, in order to qualify for assistance.

My congressional district is home to a number of servicemembers from Nellis Air Force Base and the Remotely Piloted Aircraft Program at Creech Air Force Base.

□ 2230

Many of these armed servicemembers were assigned to southern Nevada at

the height of the housing boom when prices were fueled by out-of-control and reckless speculators. They, and others around the country, purchased homes at what was then a fair market price. Now, due to no fault of their own, however, many of these homes have lost a significant amount of their value. A problem arises because servicemembers are now receiving Permanent Change of Station orders and are being reassigned to a new area.

A number of servicemembers from around the world have contacted us saying that this date, July 1, 2006, was set too early to achieve the intended goals of the program. Accordingly, our amendment provides the necessary flexibility to the Secretary of Defense to change this date in specific geographic areas where housing price declines trended behind the national average.

It's important to keep in mind that most of these servicemembers had no choice in the timing of their transfer and relocation and are, therefore, unintended victims of the arbitrary deadline.

This amendment is modeled after legislation introduced in December, which had 27 bipartisan cosponsors. It's also been endorsed by a number of military family organizations who recognize its importance.

I thank Chairman SKELTON for his support in working with me, and I urge our colleagues to vote for the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. Without objection, the gentleman from New Jersey will control the time.

There was no objection.

Ms. KOSMAS. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of my amendment to enable the Department of Defense and NASA cooperation in the utilization of a unique strategic capability. The NASA Shuttle Logistics Depot (NSLD) employs approximately 300 highly-skilled workers who service and fabricate about 700 individual pieces of shuttle hardware, including avionics, cargo bay hydraulics, and cockpit windows.

Due to the scheduled ending of the shuttle program later this year or early next year, the Space Coast is facing the loss of up to 10,000 direct jobs. As part of an effort to maintain this unique workforce, the NSLD has partnered with DoD on several pilot projects, including the fabrication of M2 50 Caliber Machine Gun parts and F-16 wing spar attach fittings, in an effort to diversify work, maintain the unique skills and capabilities, and fulfill DoD needs.

In order to allow this important work to go forward, my amendment would direct DoD and NASA to conduct a study on the feasibility of joint usage of the NSLD so that the military can utilize its unique capabilities such as engineering and reverse-engineering analysis and development of innovative manufacturing techniques. The facility could also take part in developing innovative technology and processes to improve product procurement and reduce risk, cost, and cycle time of system delivery.

I urge the adoption of this important amendment in order to enable the continued utilization of this unique capability.

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Chairman, I would advise my friend on the other

side we have no further speakers, so I will yield back the balance of my time.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendments en bloc offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON).

The amendments en bloc were agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 68 OFFERED BY MR. TEAGUE

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 68 printed in House Report 111-498.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 68 offered by Mr. TEAGUE: Page 219, after line 5, insert the following:
SEC. 599. INCREASE OF MAXIMUM AGE FOR CHILDREN ELIGIBLE FOR MEDICAL CARE UNDER CHAMPVA PROGRAM.

(a) INCREASE.—Section 1781(c) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking “twenty-three” and inserting “twenty-six”; and

(2) by striking “twenty-third birthday” and inserting “twenty-sixth birthday”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to medical care provided on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 1404, the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. TEAGUE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Mexico.

Mr. TEAGUE. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to offer this amendment to increase the maximum age for children eligible for medical care under the CHAMPVA program.

My amendment will ensure that our disabled veterans benefit from one of the most popular provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, allowing dependents to stay on the parents' health care insurance until age 26.

CHAMPVA is the health insurance program for dependents of veterans who have been rated permanently and totally disabled and surviving dependents of servicemembers whose deaths were due to service-connected injuries. Currently, under CHAMPVA, health insurance coverage can be provided to dependent children up to the age of 23. Under the PPACA that was signed into law earlier this year, individuals with private health insurance will be able to provide coverage to their dependent children up to the age of 26. CHAMPVA is a Department of Veterans Affairs program and governed by a different section of the United States code. It was not altered by the PPACA. As such, the maximum age for dependent children under CHAMPVA remains 23.

Our disabled veterans have sacrificed so much for our country, and it is our duty to make sure that they and their families have access to quality affordable health care. This amendment

would amend title 38 to increase the maximum age for coverage of dependent children under CHAMPVA from 23 to 26. At the very least, we must provide these heroes with the same health insurance benefits afforded civilians.

We should correct this wrong immediately. We should do what's right for our veterans. Vote "yes" on this amendment.

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

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Chairman, I claim time in opposition, but I do not oppose the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. Without objection, the gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. McKEON. I do not oppose the amendment; in fact, I support the amendment, and I thank the gentleman for taking care of this problem.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ANDREWS. Will the gentleman yield?

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

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for offering this outstanding amendment. Our side of the committee strongly supports it. We think it does a great deal of good for some great heroes. We would urge a "yes" vote.

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

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. TEAGUE). The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 81 OFFERED BY MS. SHEA-PORTER

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 81 printed in House Report 111-498.

Ms. SHEA-PORTER. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 81 offered by Ms. SHEA-PORTER:

At the end of title VIII, add the following new section:

SEC. 839. PENALTIES ON CONTRACTORS NOT PROVIDING INFORMATION TO DATABASES ON CONTRACTS IN IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN.

Section 861 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 (Public Law 110-181; 10 U.S.C. 2302 note) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(e) PENALTIES.—Any contract in Iraq or Afghanistan entered into or modified after September 1, 2011, shall include a clause requiring the imposition of a penalty, by the department or agency awarding the contract, on any contractor that does not comply with requirements under this section, including requirements in the memorandum of understanding required by subsection (a), to provide information for the common databases identified under subsection (b)(4), including updating the information required. The penalty shall consist of the withholding of award and incentive fees."

Page 304, line 15, strike "and".

Page 304, line 21, strike the period and insert ":", and".

Page 304, after line 21, insert the following: "(C) the penalties, if any, imposed by the departments and agency on contractors for failing to comply with requirements under section 861(e), including requirements to provide information for the common databases identified under section 861(b)(4).

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 1404, the gentlewoman from New Hampshire (Ms. SHEA-PORTER) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New Hampshire.

Ms. SHEA-PORTER. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chair, for too long the American people have been the victims of theft and fraud by contractors working in Iraq and Afghanistan. Over the past few years, Congress has taken steps to rein these contractors in. One of these steps was to create a database to keep information on these contractors and their subcontractors. Unfortunately, Mr. Chair, they are not entering the information.

My amendment would impose a penalty on those contractors that do not comply with the requirement to report this contract information. Their non-compliance prevents oversight agencies from conducting proper audits and investigations. Therefore, it prevents these agencies from uncovering waste and contract fraud. We cannot protect taxpayer dollars from theft if we can't follow the money.

Just this week, a witness before the Commission on Wartime Contracting said that the contracting environment in our overseas operations was highly vulnerable to fraud. The GAO recently reported that Federal agencies face difficult challenges in tracking and overseeing contractor personnel and contracts.

We have been using contractors in both wars for 9 years now. The scale of waste and contract fraud is enormous, and the criminal activity is diverse: fraud, bribery, kickbacks, extortion, embezzlement, theft of cash or equipment, etc cetera. But we have not given our Federal agencies all the tools they need to catch these bad actors. We often don't even know who we are doing business with.

This amendment will penalize contractors who do not comply with the reporting requirements. Taxpayers are spending billions of dollars in Iraq and Afghanistan. They deserve accountability.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment and the underlying bill.

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

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Chairman, I rise to claim the time in opposition; however, I do not oppose the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. Without objection, the gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. McKEON. I will support the amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ANDREWS. Will the gentle lady yield?

Ms. SHEA-PORTER. I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey.

Mr. ANDREWS. I'd like to, on behalf of the committee, thank the gentle lady for crafting this amendment. I think it's an invaluable tool for our investigators and, if necessary, prosecutors, to track down fraud, protect our servicemembers, and protect the taxpayers. So we're very happy to support this very worthy amendment.

Ms. SHEA-PORTER. Mr. Chair, I want to thank Chairman SKELTON for his continued work and leadership on this bill. I urge my colleagues to support this amendment and the underlying bill, and I yield back the remainder of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from New Hampshire (Ms. SHEA-PORTER).

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

Ms. SHEA-PORTER. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

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

□ 2240

AMENDMENTS EN BLOC NO. 9 OFFERED BY MR. SKELTON

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Chairman, pursuant to House Resolution 1404, I offer amendments en bloc No. 9, including modifications to amendment No. 32.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendments en bloc.

Amendments en bloc No. 9 offered by Mr. SKELTON consisting of amendments numbered 8, 15, 30, 32, 55, 61, 64, 66, 67, 74, and 77 printed in House Report 111-498:

AMENDMENT NO. 8 OFFERED BY MR. COURTNEY OF CONNECTICUT

The text of the amendment is as follows:

SEC. 599(a). TRANSFER OF TROOPS-TO-TEACHERS PROGRAM FROM DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.

(a) TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS.—

(1) TRANSFER.—The responsibility and authority for operation and administration of the Troops-to-Teachers Program in chapter A of subpart 1 of part C of title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6671 et seq.), is transferred from the Secretary of Education to the Secretary of Defense.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The transfer under paragraph (1) shall take effect on the first day of the first month beginning more than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, or on such earlier date as the Secretary of Education and the Secretary of Defense may jointly provide.

(b) ENACTMENT OF PROGRAM AUTHORITY IN TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 58 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“§1154. Assistance to eligible members and former members to obtain employment as teachers: Troops-to-Teachers Program

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) PROGRAM.—The term ‘Program’ means the Troops-to-Teachers Program authorized by this section.

“(2) MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES.—The term ‘member of the armed forces’ includes a former member of the armed forces.

“(3) CHARTER SCHOOL.—The term ‘charter school’ has the meaning given that term in section 5210 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7221i).

“(4) ADDITIONAL TERMS.—The terms ‘elementary school’, ‘highly qualified teacher’, ‘local educational agency’, ‘secondary school’, and ‘state’ have the meanings given those terms in section 9101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

“(b) PROGRAM AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary may carry out a program (to be known as the ‘Troops-to-Teachers Program’)—

“(1) to assist eligible members of the armed forces described in subsection (d) to obtain certification or licensing as elementary school teachers, secondary school teachers, or vocational or technical teachers, and to become highly qualified teachers; and

“(2) to facilitate the employment of such members—

“(A) by local educational agencies or public charter schools that the Secretary of Education identifies as—

“(i) receiving grants under part A of title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et. seq.) as a result of having within their jurisdictions concentrations of children from low-income families; or

“(ii) experiencing a shortage of highly qualified teachers, in particular a shortage of science, mathematics, special education, or vocational or technical teachers; and

“(B) in elementary schools or secondary schools, or as vocational or technical teachers.

“(c) PLACEMENT ASSISTANCE AND REFERRAL SERVICES.—The Secretary may provide placement assistance and referral services to members of the armed forces who meet the criteria described in subsection (d), including meeting the education qualification requirements under subsection (d)(3)(B). Such members shall not be eligible for financial assistance under paragraphs (3) and (4) of subsection (e).

“(d) ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATION PROCESSES.—

“(1) ELIGIBLE MEMBERS.—The following members of the armed forces are eligible for selection to participate in the Program:

“(A) Any member who—

“(i) on or after October 1, 1999, becomes entitled to retired or retainer pay under this title or title 14;

“(ii) has an approved date of retirement that is within one year after the date on which the member submits an application to participate in the Program; or

“(iii) has been transferred to the Retired Reserve.

“(B) Any member who, on or after January 8, 2002—

“(i)(I) is separated or released from active duty after six or more years of continuous active duty immediately before the separation or release; or

“(II) has completed a total of at least ten years of active duty service, ten years of service computed under section 12732 of this title, or ten years of any combination of such service; and

“(ii) executes a reserve commitment agreement for a period of not less than three years under paragraph (5)(B).

“(C) Any member who, on or after January 8, 2002, is retired or separated for physical disability under chapter 61 of this title.

“(2) SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS.—(A) Selection of eligible members of the armed forces to participate in the Program shall be made on the basis of applications submitted to the Secretary within the time periods specified in subparagraph (B). An application shall be in such form and contain such information as the Secretary may require.

“(B) An application shall be considered to be submitted on a timely basis under subparagraph (A)(i), (B), or (C) of paragraph (1) if the application is submitted not later than four years after the date on which the member is retired or separated or released from active duty, whichever applies to the member.

“(3) SELECTION CRITERIA; EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND REQUIREMENTS AND HONORABLE SERVICE REQUIREMENT.—(A) Subject to subparagraphs (B) and (C), the Secretary shall prescribe the criteria to be used to select eligible members of the armed forces to participate in the Program.

“(B)(i) If a member of the armed forces is applying for assistance for placement as an elementary school or secondary school teacher, the Secretary shall require the member to have received a baccalaureate or advanced degree from an accredited institution of higher education.

“(ii) If a member of the armed forces is applying for assistance for placement as a vocational or technical teacher, the Secretary shall require the member—

“(I) to have received the equivalent of one year of college from an accredited institution of higher education and have six or more years of military experience in a vocational or technical field; or

“(II) to otherwise meet the certification or licensing requirements for a vocational or technical teacher in the State in which the member seeks assistance for placement under the Program.

“(C) A member of the armed forces is eligible to participate in the Program only if the member’s last period of service in the armed forces was honorable, as characterized by the Secretary concerned. A member selected to participate in the Program before the retirement of the member or the separation or release of the member from active duty may continue to participate in the Program after the retirement, separation, or release only if the member’s last period of service is characterized as honorable by the Secretary concerned.

“(4) SELECTION PRIORITIES.—In selecting eligible members of the armed forces to receive assistance under the Program, the Secretary shall give priority to members who—

“(A) have educational or military experience in science, mathematics, special education, or vocational or technical subjects; and

“(B) agree to seek employment as science, mathematics, or special education teachers in elementary schools or secondary schools or in other schools under the jurisdiction of a local educational agency.

“(5) OTHER CONDITIONS ON SELECTION.—

“(A) The Secretary may not select an eligible member of the armed forces to participate in the Program and receive financial assistance unless the Secretary has sufficient appropriations for the Program available at the time of the selection to satisfy the obligations to be incurred by the United States under subsection (e) with respect to the member.

“(B) The Secretary may not select an eligible member of the armed forces described in paragraph (1)(B)(i) to participate in the Program under this section and receive financial assistance under subsection (e) unless the

member executes a written agreement to serve as a member of the Selected Reserve of a reserve component of the armed forces for a period of not less than three years (in addition to any other reserve commitment the member may have).

“(e) PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—

“(1) PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT.—(A) An eligible member of the armed forces selected to participate in the Program under subsection (b) and receive financial assistance under this subsection shall be required to enter into an agreement with the Secretary in which the member agrees—

“(i) within such time as the Secretary may require, to obtain certification or licensing as an elementary school teacher, secondary school teacher, or vocational or technical teacher, and to become a highly qualified teacher; and

“(ii) to accept an offer of full-time employment as an elementary school teacher, secondary school teacher, or vocational or technical teacher for not less than three school years with a high-need local educational agency or public charter school, as such terms are defined in section 2102 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (20 U.S.C. 6602), to begin the school year after obtaining that certification or licensing.

“(B) The Secretary may waive the three-year commitment described in subparagraph (A)(ii) for a participant if the Secretary determines such waiver to be appropriate. If the Secretary provides the waiver, the participant shall not be considered to be in violation of the agreement and shall not be required to provide reimbursement under subsection (f), for failure to meet the three-year commitment.

“(2) VIOLATION OF PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT; EXCEPTIONS.—A participant in the Program shall not be considered to be in violation of the participation agreement entered into under paragraph (1) during any period in which the participant—

“(A) is pursuing a full-time course of study related to the field of teaching at an institution of higher education;

“(B) is serving on active duty as a member of the armed forces;

“(C) is temporarily totally disabled for a period of time not to exceed three years as established by sworn affidavit of a qualified physician;

“(D) is unable to secure employment for a period not to exceed 12 months by reason of the care required by a spouse who is disabled;

“(E) is a highly qualified teacher who is seeking and unable to find full-time employment as a teacher in an elementary school or secondary school or as a vocational or technical teacher for a single period not to exceed 27 months; or

“(F) satisfies the provisions of additional reimbursement exceptions that may be prescribed by the Secretary.

“(3) STIPEND FOR PARTICIPANTS.—(A) Subject to subparagraph (B), the Secretary may pay to a participant in the Program selected under this section a stipend in an amount of not more than \$5,000.

“(B) The total number of stipends that may be paid under subparagraph (A) in any fiscal year may not exceed 5,000.

“(4) BONUS FOR PARTICIPANTS.—(A) Subject to subparagraph (B), the Secretary may, in lieu of paying a stipend under paragraph (3), pay a bonus of \$10,000 to a participant in the Program selected under this section who agrees in the participation agreement under paragraph (1) to become a highly qualified teacher and to accept full-time employment as an elementary school teacher, secondary school teacher, or vocational or technical teacher for not less than three school years in a high-need school.

“(B) The total number of bonuses that may be paid under subparagraph (A) in any fiscal year may not exceed 3,000.

“(C) For purposes of subparagraph (A), the term ‘high-need school’ means a public elementary school, public secondary school, or public charter school that meets one or more of the following criteria:

“(i) At least 50 percent of the students enrolled in the school were from low-income families (as described in subsection (b)(2)(A)(i)).

“(ii) The school has a large percentage of students who qualify for assistance under part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1411 et. seq.).

“(5) TREATMENT OF STIPEND AND BONUS.—A stipend or bonus paid under this subsection to a participant in the Program shall be taken into account in determining the eligibility of the participant for Federal student financial assistance provided under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070 et. seq.).

“(f) REIMBURSEMENT UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.—

“(1) REIMBURSEMENT REQUIRED.—A participant in the Program who is paid a stipend or bonus under this subsection shall be required to repay the stipend or bonus under the following circumstances:

“(A) The participant fails to obtain teacher certification or licensing, to become a highly qualified teacher, or to obtain employment as an elementary school teacher, secondary school teacher, or vocational or technical teacher as required by the participation agreement under subsection (e)(1).

“(B) The participant voluntarily leaves, or is terminated for cause from, employment as an elementary school teacher, secondary school teacher, or vocational or technical teacher during the three years of required service in violation of the participation agreement.

“(C) The participant executed a written agreement with the Secretary concerned under subsection (d)(5)(B) to serve as a member of a reserve component of the armed forces for a period of three years and fails to complete the required term of service.

“(2) AMOUNT OF REIMBURSEMENT.—A participant required to reimburse the Secretary for a stipend or bonus paid to the participant under subsection (e) shall pay an amount that bears the same ratio to the amount of the stipend or bonus as the unserved portion of required service bears to the three years of required service. Any amount owed by the participant shall bear interest at the rate equal to the highest rate being paid by the United States on the day on which the reimbursement is determined to be due for securities having maturities of 90 days or less and shall accrue from the day on which the participant is first notified of the amount due.

“(3) TREATMENT OF OBLIGATION.—The obligation to reimburse the Secretary under this subsection is, for all purposes, a debt owing the United States. A discharge in bankruptcy under title 11 shall not release a participant from the obligation to reimburse the Secretary under this subsection.

“(4) EXCEPTIONS TO REIMBURSEMENT REQUIREMENT.—A participant shall be excused from reimbursement under this subsection if the participant becomes permanently totally disabled as established by sworn affidavit of a qualified physician. The Secretary may also waive the reimbursement in cases of extreme hardship to the participant, as determined by the Secretary.

“(g) RELATIONSHIP TO EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE UNDER MONTGOMERY GI BILL.—The receipt by a participant in the Program of a stipend or bonus under this subsection (e) shall not reduce or otherwise affect the entitlement of the participant to any benefits

under chapter 30 or 33 of title 38 or chapter 1606 of this title.

“(h) PARTICIPATION BY STATES.—

“(1) DISCHARGE OF STATE ACTIVITIES THROUGH CONSORTIA OF STATES.—The Secretary may permit States participating in the Program to carry out activities authorized for such States under the Program through one or more consortia of such States.

“(2) ASSISTANCE TO STATES.—(A) Subject to subparagraph (B), the Secretary may make grants to States participating in the Program, or to consortia of such States, in order to permit such States or consortia of States to operate offices for purposes of recruiting eligible members of the armed forces for participation in the Program and facilitating the employment of participants in the Program as elementary school teachers, secondary school teachers, and vocational or technical teachers.

“(B) The total amount of grants made under subparagraph (A) in any fiscal year may not exceed \$5,000,000.”

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“1154. Troops-to-Teachers Program.”

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 1142(b) (4)(C) of such title is amended by striking “under sections 1152 and 1153 of this title and the Troops-to-Teachers Program under section 2302 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6672)” and inserting “under sections 1152, 1153, and 1154 of this title”.

(d) TERMINATION OF ORIGINAL PROGRAM.—

(1) TERMINATION.—

(A) Chapter A of subpart 1 of Part C of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6671 et seq.) is repealed.

(B) The table of contents in section 2 of Part I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act 1965 is amended by striking the items relating to chapter A of subpart 1 of Part C of said Act.

(2) EXISTING AGREEMENTS.—The repeal of such chapter shall not affect the validity or terms of any agreement entered into before the date of the enactment of this Act under chapter A of subpart 1 of Part C of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6671 et seq.), or to pay assistance, make grants, or obtain reimbursement in connection with such an agreement as in effect before such repeal.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the effective date of the transfer under subsection (a).

SEC. 599B. ENHANCEMENTS TO THE TROOPS TO TEACHERS PROGRAM.

(a) YEARS OF SERVICE REQUIREMENTS.—Subsection (d) of section 1154 title 10, United States Code, as added by section 599A, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking “or” at the end of subparagraph (B);

(B) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (C) and inserting “; or”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(D) commencing on or after September 11, 2001, serves at least four years on active duty (as such term is defined in section 101(d)(1) of this title, except that such term does not include a period of service described in paragraphs (1) through (3) of section 3311(d) of title 38) in the Armed Forces (excluding service on active duty in entry level or skills training) and, after completion of such service, is discharged or released as follows:

“(i) A discharge from active duty in the armed forces with an honorable discharge.

“(ii) A release after service on active duty in the armed forces characterized by the Secretary concerned as honorable service and placement on the retired list, transfer to the Fleet Reserve or Fleet Marine Corps Reserve, or placement on the temporary disability retired list.

“(iii) A release from active duty in the armed forces for further service in a reserve component of the armed forces after service on active duty characterized by the Secretary concerned as honorable service.”; and

(b) DEFINITION OF LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCY AND PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS.—Such section is further amended as follows:

(1) Clause (i) of subsection (b)(2)(A) of such section is amended to read as follows:

“(i) receiving grants under part A of title I, a Bureau-funded school (as such term is defined in section 1141 of the Education Amendments of 1978 (25 U.S.C. 2021(3)), or public charter school;”

(2) In subsection (e)(1)(A)(ii), by striking “or public charter school receiving grants under part A of title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311 et seq.)” and inserting “receiving grants under part A of title I, a Bureau-funded school (as such term is defined in section 1141 of the Education Amendments of 1978 (25 U.S.C. 2021(3)) or public charter school”.

(c) TROOPS TO TEACHERS ADVISORY BOARD.—Such section is further amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(f) ADVISORY BOARD.—

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of section 1154 of this title, the Secretary of Education and the Secretary of Defense shall establish an advisory board composed of—

“(A) a representative from the Department of Defense;

“(B) a representative from the Department of Education;

“(C) representatives from 3 State offices that operate to recruit eligible members of the armed forces for participation in the Program and facilitating the employment of participants in the Program as elementary school teachers, secondary school teachers, and vocational or technical teachers; and

“(D) a representative from each of 3 veteran service organizations.

“(2) DUTIES.—The advisory board established under subsection (a) shall—

“(A) collect, consider, and disseminate feedback from participants and State offices described in subsection (a)(4) on—

“(i) the best practices for improving recruitment of eligible members of the Armed Forces in States, local educational agencies, and public charter schools under served by the Program;

“(ii) ensuring that high-need local educational agencies and public charter schools are aware of the Program and how to participate in it;

“(iii) coordinating the goals of the Program with other Federal, State, and local education needs and programs; and

“(iv) other activities that the advisory board deems necessary; and

“(B) not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of section 1154 of this title, and annually thereafter, prepare and submit a report to the Committees on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and Armed Services of the Senate and the Committees on Education and Labor and Armed Services of the House of Representatives, which shall include—

“(i) information with respect to the activities of the advisory board;

“(ii) information with respect to the Program, including—

“(I) the number of participants in the Program;

“(II) the number of States participating in the Program;

“(III) local educational agencies and schools in where participants are employed;

“(IV) the grade levels at which participants teach;

“(V) the academic subjects taught by participants;

“(VI) rates of retention of participants by the local educational agencies and public charter schools employing participant;

“(VII) other demographic information as may be necessary to evaluate the effectiveness of the program; and

“(VIII) a review of the stipend and bonus available to participants under paragraphs (3) and (4)(A) of subsection (d); and

“(iii) recommendations for—

“(I) improvements to local, State, and Federal recruitment and retention efforts;

“(II) legislative or executive policy changes to improve the Program, enhance participant experience, and increase participation in the program; and

“(III) other changes necessary to ensure that the Program is meeting the purpose described in subsection (b).”

AMENDMENT NO. 15 OFFERED BY MR. HASTINGS
OF FLORIDA

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1237. REPORT ON CERTAIN IRAQIS AFFILIATED WITH THE UNITED STATES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, and the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies (as determined by the Secretary of Defense), shall submit to the Congress a report containing the information described in subsection (b). In preparing such report, the Secretary of Defense shall use available information from organizations and entities closely associated with the United States mission in Iraq that have received United States Government funding through an official and documented contract, award, grant, or cooperative agreement.

(b) INFORMATION.—The information described in this subsection is the following:

(1) The number of Iraqis who were or are employed by the United States Government in Iraq or who are or were employed in Iraq by an organization or entity closely associated with the United States mission in Iraq that has received United States Government funding through an official and documented contract, award, grant, or cooperative agreement.

(2) The number of Iraqis who have applied—

(A) for resettlement in the United States as a refugee under section 1243 of the Refugee Crisis in Iraq Act of 2007 (subtitle C of title XII of division A of Public Law 110-181; 122 Stat. 395 et seq.); or

(B) to enter the United States as a special immigrant under section 1244 of such Act.

(3) The status of each application described in paragraph (2).

(4) The estimated number of individuals described in paragraph (1) who have been injured or killed in Iraq.

(c) EXPEDITED PROCESSING.—The Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of State, and the Secretary of Homeland Security shall develop a plan using the report submitted under subsection (a) to expedite the processing of the applications described in subsection (b)(2) in the case of Iraqis at risk as the United States withdraws from Iraq.

AMENDMENT NO. 30 OFFERED BY MR. SHADEGG
OF ARIZONA

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 260, after line 19, insert the following:

SEC. 674. EXCLUSION OF PERSONS CONVICTED OF COMMITTING CERTAIN SEX OFFENSES FROM RECEIVING CERTAIN BURIAL-RELATED BENEFITS AND FUNERAL HONORS.

(a) PROHIBITION AGAINST INTERMENT OR MEMORIALIZATION IN NATIONAL CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION, ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY, AND CERTAIN STATE VETERANS' CEMETERIES; PROHIBITION AGAINST PROVISION OF PRESIDENTIAL MEMORIAL CERTIFICATE, FLAG, AND HEADSTONE OR MARKER.—Section 2411(b) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(4) A person who is classified as a tier III sex offender under the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act.”

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to terminate any benefit available to any person except those benefits specifically terminated by the amendment made by subsection (a).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to interments and memorializations that occur on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY.—The constitutional authority on which this section rests is the power of Congress to make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces, as enumerated in article I, section 8, clause 14 of the United States Constitution.

AMENDMENT NO. 32 OFFERED BY MR. HOLT OF
NEW JERSEY

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 266, after line 8, insert the following:

SEC. 706. SUICIDE AMONG MEMBERS OF THE INDIVIDUAL READY RESERVE AND INDIVIDUAL MOBILIZATION AUGMENTEES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that a veteran who is a member of the Individual Ready Reserve (or who is an individual mobilization augmentee) and is not assigned to a unit that musters regularly and has an established support structure is less likely to be helped by existing suicide prevention programs carried out by the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

(b) IN GENERAL.—

(1) SUICIDE PREVENTION.—Chapter 55 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding after section 10741 the following new section:

“§ 1074m Suicide prevention for members of the Individual Ready Reserve and individual mobilization augmentees

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that each covered member receives a telephone call described in subsection (b) not less than once every 90 days during the period in which—

“(1) the covered member is a member of the Individual Ready Reserve; or

“(2) the Secretary determines that the covered member is an individual mobilization augmentee.

“(b) COUNSELING CALL.—A telephone call described in this subsection is a call from properly trained personnel to determine the emotional, psychological, medical, and career needs and concerns of the covered member.

“(c) REFERRAL.—(1) The personnel making a telephone call described in subsection (b) shall refer a covered member identified as being at-risk of self-caused harm to the nearest military medical treatment facility or

accredited TRICARE provider for immediate evaluation and treatment by a qualified mental health care provider.

“(2) If a covered member is referred under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall confirm that the member has received the evaluation and any necessary treatment.

“(d) REPORTS.—Not later than January 31 of each year, beginning in 2011, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the number of covered members who have been referred for counseling or mental health treatment under this section, as well as the health and career status of such members.

“(e) COVERED MEMBER DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘covered member’ means—

“(1) a member of the Individual Ready Reserve described in section 10144(b) of this title who has deployed to Afghanistan or Iraq in support of a contingency operation; or

“(2) a member of a reserve component who the Secretary determines is an individual mobilization augmentee who has deployed to Afghanistan or Iraq in support of a contingency operation.”

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 10741 the following new item:

“1074m. Suicide prevention for members of the Individual Ready Reserve and individual mobilization augmentees.”

AMENDMENT NO. 55 OFFERED BY MR.

LUETKEMEYER OF MISSOURI

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of subtitle H of title V, add the following new section:

SEC. 5. REVIEW REGARDING AWARD OF MEDAL OF HONOR TO JEWISH AMERICAN WORLD WAR I VETERANS.

(a) REVIEW REQUIRED.—The Secretary of the Army and the Secretary of the Navy shall review the service records of each Jewish American World War I veteran described in subsection (b) to determine whether that veteran should be posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor.

(b) COVERED JEWISH AMERICAN WORLD WAR I VETERANS.—The Jewish American World War I veterans whose service records are to be reviewed under subsection (a) are the following:

(1) Any Jewish American World War I veteran who was previously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the Navy Cross, or other military decoration for service during World War I.

(2) Any other Jewish American World War I veteran whose name is submitted to the Secretary concerned for such purpose by the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America before the end of the one-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) CONSULTATIONS.—In carrying out the review under subsection (a), the Secretary concerned shall consult with the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America and with such other veterans service organizations as the Secretary considers appropriate.

(d) RECOMMENDATION BASED ON REVIEW.—If the Secretary concerned determines, based upon the review under subsection (a) of the service records of any Jewish American World War I veteran, that the award of the Medal of Honor to that veteran is warranted, the Secretary shall submit to the President a recommendation that the President award the Medal of Honor posthumously to that veteran.

(e) AUTHORITY TO AWARD MEDAL OF HONOR.—A Medal of Honor may be awarded posthumously to a Jewish American World

War I veteran in accordance with a recommendation of the Secretary concerned under subsection (a).

(f) **WAIVER OF TIME LIMITATIONS.**—An award of the Medal of Honor may be made under subsection (e) without regard to—

(1) section 3744, 6248, or 8744 of title 10, United States Code; and

(2) any regulation or other administrative restriction on—

(A) the time for awarding the Medal of Honor; or

(B) the awarding of the Medal of Honor for service for which a Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, or other military decoration has been awarded.

(g) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) The term “Jewish American World War I veteran” means any person who served in the Armed Forces during World War I and identified himself or herself as Jewish on his or her military personnel records.

(2) The term “Secretary concerned” means—

(A) the Secretary of the Army, in the case of the Army; and

(B) the Secretary of the Navy, in the case of the Navy and the Marine Corps.

(3) The term “World War I” means the period beginning on April 6, 1917, and ending on November 11, 1918.

AMENDMENT NO. 61 OFFERED BY MS. MARKEY OF COLORADO

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 258, after line 12, insert the following:

SEC. 674. SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR VETERANS FOR PURSUIT OF GRADUATE AND POST-GRADUATE DEGREES IN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SCIENCES.

(a) **SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.**—

(1) **PROGRAM.**—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall carry out a program to provide scholarships to qualifying veterans for pursuit of a graduate or post-graduate degree in behavioral health sciences.

(2) **DESIGNATION.**—The program carried out under this section shall be known as the “Department of Veterans Affairs HONOR Scholarship Program” (in this section referred to as the “scholarship program”).

(b) **QUALIFYING VETERANS.**—For purposes of this section, a qualifying veteran is any veteran who—

(1) during service on active duty in the Armed Forces, participated for such period as the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, shall specify for purposes of the scholarship program in a theater of combat or during a contingency operation overseas;

(2) was retired, discharged, separated, or released from service in the Armed Forces on or after a date (not earlier than August 2, 1990) specified by the Secretary of Defense for purposes of the scholarship program;

(3) at the time of the submittal of an application to participate in the scholarship program, holds an undergraduate or graduate degree, as applicable, from an institution of higher education that qualifies the veteran for pursuit of a graduate or post-graduate degree in behavioral sciences; and

(4) meets such other qualifications as the Secretary of Veterans Affairs may establish for purposes of the scholarship program.

(c) **APPLICATION.**—Each qualifying veteran seeking to participate in the scholarship program shall submit to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs an application therefor setting forth such information as the Secretary shall specify for purposes of the scholarship program.

(d) **AGREEMENT.**—Each qualifying veteran selected by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for participation in the scholarship program shall enter into an agreement with the Sec-

retary regarding participation in the scholarship program. The agreement shall contain such terms and conditions as the Secretary shall specify for purposes of the scholarship program.

(e) **SCHOLARSHIPS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall provide to each qualifying veteran who enters into an agreement under subsection (d) a scholarship for such number of academic years as the Secretary shall specify in the agreement for pursuit of a graduate or post-graduate degree in behavioral health sciences at an institution of higher education offering such degree that is approved by the Secretary for purposes of the scholarship program.

(2) **ELEMENTS.**—The scholarship provided a qualifying veteran for an academic year shall consist of payment of the following:

(A) Tuition of the qualifying veteran for pursuit of the graduate or post-graduate degree concerned in the academic year.

(B) Reasonable educational expenses of the qualifying veteran (including fees, books, and laboratory expenses) in pursuit of such degree in the academic year.

(C) A stipend in connection with the pursuit of such degree in the academic year in such amount as the Secretary shall specify in the agreement of the qualifying veteran under subsection (d).

(f) **OBLIGATED SERVICE.**—Each qualifying veteran who participates in the scholarship program shall, after completion of the graduate or post-graduate degree concerned and as jointly provided by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Defense in the agreement of such qualifying veteran under subsection (d), perform service as follows:

(1) Such service for the Department of Veterans Affairs in connection with the furnishing of mental health services to veterans, and for such period, as the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall specify in the agreement.

(2) Such service for the Department of Defense in connection with the furnishing of mental health services to members of the Armed Forces, and for such period, as the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, specify in the agreement.

(3) Such combination of service described by paragraphs (1) and (2), and for such period, as the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, specify in the agreement.

(g) **BREACH OF AGREEMENT.**—Each qualifying veteran participating in the scholarship who fails to complete satisfactorily the terms of the agreement of such qualifying veteran under subsection (d), whether through failure to obtain the graduate or post-graduate degree concerned or failure to perform service required of the qualifying veteran under subsection (f), shall be liable to the United States in such form and manner as the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, specify in the agreement.

(h) **CONTINGENCY OPERATION DEFINED.**—In this section, the term “contingency operation” has the meaning given that term in section 101(a)(13) of title 10, United States Code.

AMENDMENT NO. 64 OFFERED BY MR. MINNICK OF IDAHO

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of title V, add the following new section:

SEC. 5. SUPPORT FROM DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO HELP COVER COSTS OF NEW STATE PROGRAMS UNDER NATIONAL GUARD YOUTH CHALLENGE PROGRAM.

Paragraph (2) of section 509(d) of title 32, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“(2) The limitation in paragraph (1) may not be construed as a limitation on the amount of assistance that may be provided to a State program of the Program for a fiscal year from sources other than the Department of Defense. Using funds available to the Department of Education, the Secretary of Education may provide assistance to cover the difference between the amount provided by the Department of Defense and the total costs of operating a new State program of the Program during the first three full fiscal years in which the new State program is in operation.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 66 OFFERED BY MR. SCHRADER OF OREGON

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 266, after line 8, insert the following:

SEC. 706. PROVISION OF INFORMATION TO MEMBERS OF THE RESERVE COMPONENTS REGARDING HEALTH CARE BENEFITS.

(a) **PROVISION OF INFORMATION.**—The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that each member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces who is mobilized or demobilized is provided, together with the orders providing for such mobilization or demobilization, a clear and comprehensive statement of the medical care and treatment to which such member is entitled under Federal law by reason of being so mobilized or demobilized.

(b) **FREQUENCY.**—The statement required to be provided a member under subsection (a) upon a mobilization or demobilization shall be provided to the member each time the member is mobilized or demobilized, as the case may be.

(c) **ELEMENTS.**—The statement provided a member under subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) A clear, comprehensive statement of the medical care and treatment to which the member is entitled under Federal law by reason of being mobilized or demobilized, as applicable, including—

(A) the nature and range of the care and treatment to which the member is entitled;

(B) the departments and agencies of the Federal Government that will provide such care and treatment;

(C) the period for which such care and treatment will be so provided; and

(D) the obligations, if any, of the member in connection with the receipt of such care and treatment.

(2) A clear, comprehensive statement of the health care insurance available under Federal law for the member’s family, if any, by reason of the mobilization or demobilization of the member.

(3) A clear, comprehensive description of the mental health assessments available to the member before, during, and after deployment pursuant to section 708 of the national defense authorization act for fiscal year 2010 (public law 11184; 123 Stat. 2376; 10 U.S.C. 1074f note).

(4) Such other matters as the Secretary considers appropriate.

AMENDMENT NO. 67 OFFERED BY MR. SCHRADER OF OREGON

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 219, after line 5, insert the following:

SEC. 599. STUDY OF TREATMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE RESERVE COMPONENTS.

(a) **STUDY.**—The Inspector General of the Department of Defense shall conduct a study of the treatment of members of the reserve components.

(b) **MATTERS INCLUDED.**—The study under subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) An analysis of the treatment of members of the reserve components—

(A) at mobilization and demobilization sites of the Army, including warrior transition units and joint medical battalions; and

(B) during predeployment and postdeployment medical examinations under section 1074(f) of title 10, United States Code.

(2) An analysis of the quality of care, treatment, and information that members of the reserve components receive before, during, and after deployment.

(3) An analysis of patterns of treatment of members of the reserve components during the period following a deployment, including during medical examinations or other actions that could affect health care and disability benefits, as compared to the treatment of members of the regular components during such period.

(4) Identification of any improvements needed so that members of the reserve components and members of the regular components are treated equally.

(c) **REPORT.**—Not later than December 31, 2010, the Inspector General shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report on the study under subsection (a).

AMENDMENT NO. 74 OFFERED BY MR. KLEIN OF FLORIDA

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 296, line 5, add after “Defense” the following: “, beginning 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.”

Page 296, lines 13 and 14, strike “with actual knowledge, engages” and insert “when entering into a contract with the Department of Defense for goods and services, fails to certify to the contracting officer that the entity does not engage”.

Page 296, line 15, strike “have been imposed” and insert “may be imposed”.

Page 296, strike line 17 and all that follows through page 297, line 22, and insert the following:

(b) **REMEDIES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—If the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of State, determines that an entity has submitted a false certification under subsection (a)(2), the Secretary of Defense may terminate a contract with such entity or debar or suspend such entity from eligibility for Department of Defense contracts for a period of not more than 3 years. Any such debarment or suspension shall be subject to the procedures that apply to debarment and suspension under the Federal Acquisition Regulation under subpart 9.4 of part 9 of title 48, Code of Federal Regulations.

(2) **INCLUSION ON LIST OF PARTIES EXCLUDED FROM FEDERAL PROCUREMENT AND NON-PROCUREMENT PROGRAMS.**—The Administrator of General Services shall include on the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Nonprocurement Programs maintained by the Administrator under part 9 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation issued pursuant to section 25 of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act (41 U.S.C. 421) each entity that is debarred, suspended, or proposed for debarment or suspension by the Secretary on the basis of a determination of a false certification under paragraph (1).

(c) **WAIVERS.**—

(1) **AUTHORITY.**—The Secretary of Defense may on a case-by-case basis waive the requirement that an entity make a certifi-

cation under subsection (a)(2) if the Secretary determines that it is in the interest of national security to do so.

(2) **CONTENTS OF CERTIFICATION.**—Upon issuing a waiver under paragraph (1) with respect to an entity, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representatives, the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives a notification that identifies the entity involved, the nature of the contract, and the rationale for issuing the waiver.

AMENDMENT NO. 77 OFFERED BY MS. PINGREE OF MAINE

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 251, after line 18, insert the following:

SEC. 654. CONTINUED OPERATION OF COMMISSARY AND EXCHANGE STORES SERVING BRUNSWICK NAVAL AIR STATION, MAINE.

The Secretary of Defense shall provide for the continued operation of each commissary or exchange store serving Brunswick Naval Air Station, Maine, through September 30, 2011, and may not take any action to reduce or to terminate the sale of goods at such stores during fiscal year 2011.

AMENDMENT NO. 82 OFFERED BY MR. HOLT OF NEW JERSEY, AS MODIFIED

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the modification to amendment No. 82.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 266, after line 8, insert the following:

SEC. 706. SUICIDE AMONG MEMBERS OF THE INDIVIDUAL READY RESERVE AND INDIVIDUAL MOBILIZATION AUGMENTEES.

(a) **FINDINGS.**—Congress finds that a veteran who is a member of the Individual Ready Reserve (or who is an individual mobilization augmentee) and is not assigned to a unit that musters regularly and has an established support structure is less likely to be helped by existing suicide prevention programs carried out by the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

(b) **IN GENERAL.**—

(1) **SUICIDE PREVENTION.**—Chapter 55 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding after section 10741 the following new section:

“§ 1074m Suicide prevention for members of the Individual Ready Reserve and individual mobilization augmentees

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that each covered member receives a telephone call described in subsection (b) not less than once every 90 days during the period in which—

“(1) the covered member is a member of the Individual Ready Reserve; or

“(2) the Secretary determines that the covered member is an individual mobilization augmentee.

“(b) **COUNSELING CALL.**—A telephone call described in this subsection is a call from properly trained personnel to determine the emotional, psychological, medical, and career needs and concerns of the covered member.

“(c) **REFERRAL.**—(1) The personnel making a telephone call described in subsection (b) shall refer a covered member identified as being at-risk of self-caused harm to the nearest emergency room for immediate evaluation and treatment by a qualified mental health care provider.

“(2) If a covered member is referred under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall confirm that the member has received the evaluation and any necessary treatment.

“(d) **REPORTS.**—Not later than January 31 of each year, beginning in 2011, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the

number of covered members who have been referred for counseling or mental health treatment under this section, as well as the health and career status of such members.

“(e) **COVERED MEMBER DEFINED.**—In this section, the term ‘covered member’ means—

“(1) a member of the Individual Ready Reserve described in section 10144(b) of this title who has deployed to Afghanistan or Iraq in support of a contingency operation; or

“(2) a member of a reserve component who the Secretary determines is an individual mobilization augmentee who has deployed to Afghanistan or Iraq in support of a contingency operation.”.

(2) **CLERICAL AMENDMENT.**—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 10741 the following new item:

“1074m. Suicide prevention for members of the Individual Ready Reserve and individual mobilization augmentees.”.

Mr. McKEON (during the reading). Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that we dispense with the reading.

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 1404, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON) and the gentleman from California (Mr. McKEON) each will control 10 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Chairman, I urge the committee to adopt the amendments en bloc, all of which have been examined by both the majority and the minority.

Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to my friend, the gentlelady from California (Ms. MATSUI).

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of the Courtney-Petri-Matsui amendment regarding Troops to Teachers. The amendment includes provisions of the bipartisan 9/11 Troops to Teachers Enhancement Act, which I worked on with my colleagues and has 170 cosponsors.

Our amendment would make the program more accessible to those returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. Additionally, it is the clear intent of this amendment to expand the number of school districts eligible to participate in the Troops to Teachers program.

With their proven service, diverse backgrounds, and leadership traits, our Nation’s veterans can serve their country again by serving as teachers in our Nation’s most vulnerable schools. Witnessing the success of this program in schools in my community has strengthened my determination to expand the Troops to Teachers program.

I urge the Members to vote in support of this amendment.

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Chairman, I rise to claim the time in opposition to the amendment; however, I don’t intend to oppose the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. Without objection, the gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. McKEON. At this time I would like to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SHADEGG).

Mr. SHADEGG. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the en bloc amendment, but in particular in support of my amendment in that amendment, number 30.

Under current American law, veterans are entitled to certain emoluments when they pass. These include burial in a veterans cemetery or in one of our national cemeteries or in a State cemetery supported by veterans' funds, a flag to drape the coffin, a military honor guard, and a certificate from the President.

In 1997, however, following the bombing in Oklahoma City, this Congress recognized that those benefits were still accorded to veterans who had committed even capital offenses, and they recognized that Timothy McVeigh, the Oklahoma City bomber, would have been entitled under current law to be buried with all of those honors.

So this Congress, in good judgment, decided to revoke those emoluments, those honorary benefits from veterans who had been convicted of the violent crime of murder. And, indeed, we revoked it for all capital offenses. In 1997, we expanded that and said it would be applicable to anybody convicted of a capital offense, whether they were sentenced to death or not, but we left a gaping hole in the law.

My amendment simply seeks to fill that hole. It's a gaping hole which says that if you have been convicted of the violent rape of a woman, you may still receive all of those honorary emoluments, you may still be buried in a veterans cemetery with an American flag, with a certificate from the President, and with a military honor guard. That dishonors all of our Nation's veterans who are indeed buried in those cemeteries as appreciation for their great service to this country.

I believe, and I believe that this body recognizes that rape is one of the most violent of all crimes. It's not committed in the heat of passion as murder sometimes is. It is indeed a plotted, carried-out crime, a crime of immense violence.

This issue came to my attention when Jenny Bush, a recent college graduate, went home on Halloween evening from her job, entered her home, and was accosted there by a man who had entered during the day through a first-story window. He taped her with duct tape, held her at knifepoint, and violently raped her. Fortunately, her rapist was caught, and in the course of the proceedings it was determined that he was a serial rapist. He had indeed raped 10 other women, including a 9-year-old girl. And yet under the law in America, he was entitled, upon his death, to receive all of the military honors we give to those who have not committed such heinous crimes. That is an injustice, and it is

an injustice that this amendment corrects.

This amendment was brought to me by Jenny Bush's father following the incident where the rapist, the serial rapist who raped this young lady committed suicide on the morning of his sentencing and then was buried with all of those military honors.

I don't think that we should say that our veterans cemeteries are open to the burial and to utilization by sex offenders who have committed violent rape against America's women. This has been a 3-year struggle where we have sought to amend the law.

I want to thank the Rules Committee for making this amendment in order. I want to thank Steve Bush and his daughter Jenny for their courage in raising this issue. I want to thank Ann Ream, who is with the Voices and Faces Project; Stephanie Hanson and Joanne Archambault with End Violence Against Women International for their work in trying to help pass this legislation. It seems to me that it is well time for us to correct the injustice which exists in our law on this issue. I commend the committee for making it possible for us to correct this.

I want to make it clear that this amendment only takes away those honorary emoluments. It does not financially punish the family of the perpetrator of these crimes. It simply says that we are not going to give these special honors to someone convicted of such a heinous crime as rape.

I want to thank the chairman of the committee and the ranking member of the committee. I believe this is something that will in fact honor this Congress by recognizing we do not, as a Nation, tolerate violent crimes against women. Our Uniform Military Code of Justice indeed already provides that rape is in fact a capital crime. So this brings our code in line with the current provision of the law.

The FBI ranks rape second only to murder. And as I have already indicated, I believe you can make the argument that rape is indeed a more heinous crime than murder because it is always carried out with forethought and planning and perpetrated often with great violence, as it was against Jenny Bush.

This legislation mirrors a bill which I have introduced in the Congress for the last 3 years called Jenny's Law, named after Jenny Bush. It has been officially endorsed by the RAINN Network, which is the Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network, and has also been endorsed by the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

I will insert a letter from the Military Order of the Purple Heart in support of this amendment for the RECORD at this point.

MILITARY ORDER OF THE
PURPLE HEART,
Springfield, VA, March 1, 2010.

Hon. JOHN SHADEGG,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SHADEGG: I am writing to inform you that the Military Order of the Purple

Heart (MOPH) is in total support of H. R. 731 "Jenny's Law."

MOPH shares your view that regardless of the service to America, if following that service, those individuals who are convicted of committing certain sex crimes should not receive certain burial benefits and funeral honors. These individuals should not be eligible for burial in National cemeteries administered by the Department of Veterans' Affairs, Arlington National Cemetery and certain State Veterans' Cemeteries.

While these individuals may have served honorably in the Armed Forces, their crimes following that service are so onerous that the crimes, in our opinion, negate that service.

Respectfully,

JAMES M. SIMS,
National Commander.

Let me simply conclude that I encourage my colleagues to support the en bloc amendment.

I yield to the ranking member.

Mr. McKEON. I want to thank the gentleman for bringing this amendment. This is something I was totally unaware of. I appreciate his work. This is a great addition to the bill. I support it wholeheartedly.

Mr. SHADEGG. Reclaiming my time, let me just briefly say I have spent a great deal of my life advocating for the victims of crime. It seems to me this is an outrage that exists in current law. The victims of crime should not be revictimized. In this case, American law does revictimize those victims of rape under these circumstances. I think it is high time that we correct it.

I thank, again, the chairwoman of the Rules Committee and the chairman and ranking member of the Armed Services Committee for making the correction of this injustice possible.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to my friend, a member of the Armed Services Committee, the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. COURTNEY).

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Chairman, first of all I want to congratulate Chairman SKELTON for the outstanding work that he has performed bringing this bill onto the floor and, in particular, salute the fact that this bill will actually, for the first time since the beginning of the Virginia-class submarine program, bring the production level up to two submarines a year. That was a target that we were supposed to reach as a Nation in 2002. It had been delayed year in and year out. And through his leadership, we are finally going to reach that level, which will be important for our submarine force and our Navy.

□ 2250

I also rise in support of the en bloc amendment in particular to talk about the Troops to Teachers Enhancement Act that Congresswoman MATSUI referred to earlier. Again, she described her efforts to try and expand the scope of this program to the Title I school district.

In addition to that, this is an amendment which will move the program into the Department of Defense from the Department of Education, a place

where it has been almost de facto over the last few years in any case. And even more importantly, it will shorten the service requirements from 6 years to 4 years for our military personnel, which will allow many more Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans to participate in this program, which, as she indicated, is a program that has provided a pathway for some of the finest Americans to participate and be in the classroom with all of the qualities of team work, discipline, particularly their strengths in the STEM area, which the Troops to Teachers Program in its present program's limited scope has demonstrated and recruited, again, outstanding teachers into the classrooms.

In addition to that as also introduced, male teachers and minority teachers—something which, again, I think is going to benefit our public education system greatly. It is an amendment that's been endorsed by veterans services organizations across the board from the American Legion to the VFW. In addition to that, education groups such as NEA and AFT have endorsed this measure.

And I thank the chairman for including this amendment in the en bloc amendment and urge support and passage of the entire en bloc amendment in the bill as a whole.

Mr. MCKEON. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. LUETKEMEYER).

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am proud to rise in support of en bloc amendment number 9 and particularly my amendment, which is included, which directs a review of the service records of eligible Jewish American veterans from World War I.

I want to particularly thank Chairman SKELTON, Ranking Member MCKEON, and other members of the committee for their support on this important issue.

We owe much to the patriotic Americans who have worn and are wearing uniforms of our Nation's Armed Forces. Our country has been blessed to have citizens who have selflessly volunteered to defend our Nation and freedom. Unfortunately, qualified soldiers have not been considered for the Medal of Honor, the highest military decoration awarded by our government, due to discrimination.

In 2001, Congress passed the Leonard Kravitz Jewish War Veterans Act, which had broad bipartisan support. This important piece of legislation presented Jewish soldiers the opportunity to receive the Medal of Honor for their service in World War II.

However, Jewish veterans of World War I have faced the same discrimination and have not been afforded the opportunity to receive recognition for their service. William Shemin, for whom this act is named, was a Jewish American who earned the Distinguished Service Cross in 1918 for saving three of his fellow soldiers' lives during

an intense 3-day battle in France while also leading his platoon in combat after more senior soldiers were wounded or killed. Shemin passed away in 1973 but his daughter, Elsie Shemin Roth, a resident of my district, has passionately worked on behalf of her father and other Jewish soldiers' legacies.

This amendment would build on past legislation and recognize the sacrifices of Jewish soldiers during World War I.

I urge my colleagues to support this en bloc amendment number 9 and honor the work of these veterans and brave soldiers.

Mr. SKELTON. I might make a comment about the gentleman from Missouri. It was our fellow Missourian, Harry Truman, upon awarding a Medal of Honor to a World War II marine, said he would rather have that than be President. And it is quite an honor, and it's a good thing that you do.

Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to my friend, the gentlelady from Colorado (Ms. MARKEY).

Ms. MARKEY of Colorado. Thank you, Chairman SKELTON.

I rise today in support of this en bloc amendment, which contains my amendment to create a scholarship program for veterans to work toward advanced degrees in behavioral health.

One in three veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan have some form of invisible injury like PTSD or TBI. The VA has diagnosed nearly 250,000 vets as having some mental health injury. Yet it is well known that less than half of those with these injuries are ever diagnosed or treated.

The Department of Veteran Affairs Honor Scholarship Program is a critical investment in the treatment of veterans suffering from invisible injuries like posttraumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injuries.

This amendment will help veterans receive professional behavioral health training so that they can provide peer-to-peer training to other combat veterans. Who better to counsel recently returned veterans than those who have shared similar experiences in combat. The veterans who have served our country deserve the best possible mental health treatment.

I urge my colleagues to stand with American veterans, to honor America's veterans, and to support this amendment.

Mr. MCKEON. Mr. Chairman, I guess this is the end of our debate. This is the last of the amendments.

I want to thank the chairman for the good work that he's done on this bill. I want to thank all of the staff. Everybody has worked very hard. The subcommittee chairs, ranking members, for all of the work that they've done to get us to this point.

I'm sorry that Democratic leadership didn't give us more time to debate Don't Ask, Don't Tell so I had to spend a lot of time talking about it at other times. In fact the time they gave us for the debate was less time than we had

to vote on it. Ten minutes to debate, 15 minutes to vote.

But I announced with my opening statement that if that amendment passed, the Don't Ask, Don't Tell amendment passed, that I would reluctantly have to vote against the bill. It will be the first time in my 18 years here that I will vote against the defense reauthorization bill. And I do that with a very heavy heart.

But I, again, thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's been a joy, a pleasure, working with you, and I appreciate your integrity and the leadership that you provide to the committee.

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

Mr. SKELTON. I yield 2 minutes to my colleague, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. KLEIN).

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. I thank the gentleman from Missouri for his great leadership on defense issues.

Mr. Chairman, I rise today to support the en bloc amendment number 9, which includes my amendment to H.R. 5136, the Defense Authorization Act. As Congress continues to consider robust Iran sanctions, we must work every day to ensure that Iran does not get a nuclear weapon in the meantime.

Therefore, I've offered an amendment to require Department of Defense contractors to certify that they do not conduct business in Iran. For months, I and others have been urging the State Department to enforce existing law on Iran sanctions, to investigate and punish those companies who are breaking the law by investing in Iran's energy sector or facilitating a weapons program.

While the State Department is making progress in these investigations, these investments continue. According to the Congressional Research Service, several companies have violated the Iran Sanctions Act over the last number of years. And according to The New York Times, over \$107 billion in government contracts have gone to companies that are doing business in Iran.

That is why we cannot wait for companies to be designated as violators of the Iran Sanctions Act. Taxpayer money is being spent now on goods and services to companies that are thwarting the law. Companies must be able to self-certify that they are not conducting illegal business in Iran or not do business with the United States government.

All companies with U.S. operations, especially those who receive taxpayer funds intended for our national defense, should not be undermining U.S. foreign policy and our troops or our national security.

□ 2300

The certification requirement reflects the choice that each of these companies must make: either do business with the United States Government or do business with Iran. Iran must not get a nuclear weapon, not on our watch, and certainly not on our dime.

I would like to thank Chairman SKELTON and Ranking Member MCKEON for their leadership in beginning the fight to prevent U.S. defense contractors from contributing to Iran's dangerous nuclear program.

I urge support of the amendment.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to my friend, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT).

Mr. HOLT. I thank the chairman of the Armed Services Committee, Mr. SKELTON, for joining me in this. And I also want to recognize the cosponsors, Mr. BISHOP and Mr. HIMES, for their support of this amendment, which seeks to address a serious gap in our military suicide prevention efforts, a gap that cost the life of one young constituent of mine, Sergeant Coleman Bean of East Brunswick, New Jersey, and has cost the lives of an unknown number of others.

During two tours of duty in Iraq, Coleman saw the horrors of war firsthand; and like others, he sought treatment for post-traumatic distress disorder when he returned home in 2004. Unfortunately, because Coleman was a member of the Individual Ready Reserve, neither the Army nor the VA would take the lead on treating him. Tragically, only months after returning from his second tour in Iraq, Sergeant Coleman Bean took his life in September 2008.

Our amendment seeks to prevent future such tragedies by requiring the Secretary of Defense to ensure that members of the IRR or those who serve as Individual Mobilization Augmentees who have completed at least one tour in either Iraq or Afghanistan receive a counseling call from properly trained personnel not less than once every 90 days so long as the servicemember remains in the IRR or as an IMA, to take whatever follow-up measures are required to help identify at-risk Reservists, and to report to Congress on the program's effectiveness.

I ask my colleagues to support this important and I think very necessary amendment.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Chairman, I wish to pay special tribute to the ranking member, BUCK MCKEON, a gentleman of the first order who has not only continued the bipartisan attitude and bipartisan work in our committee, but has made it work very, very well. We all owe him a debt of gratitude, and I want to say a special word of thanks to him for his excellent work and cooperation in making our committee so bipartisan in nature.

A special thanks also to the fantastic staff that we have. We Members take credit for all of the good work that they do. So often they go as unsung heroes, but they really make this committee work so well and so solidly; and to each one of them, who are professionals, I express deep thanks and gratitude.

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Chair, the Courtney/Petri/Matsui amendment would transfer the successful Troops to Teachers Program back to

the Department of Defense and make important changes to the program to ensure it will continue to provide opportunities for veterans to transition into second careers as educators.

I have been a supporter of the Troops to Teachers program since its authorization in the 1994 Defense Authorization Act, and I am proud of its success in placing over 12,000 veterans in our Nation's classrooms. Troops to Teachers is a unique program that provides veterans with a \$5,000 stipend to help cover the costs of obtaining a teaching certification in exchange for 3 years service in an eligible school. An additional bonus of \$5,000 is available for teaching in a "high need school."

This structure has proven very effective in transitioning qualified retiring military personnel into second careers in teaching. Indeed, Troops participants fill several critical needs among educators: 80 percent are male, over one-third are ethnic minorities, and a majority bring an expertise in science and math to the classroom. Furthermore, these troops also bring valuable life experience and character traits that are uncommon in our Nation's classrooms.

However, the success of this program is in jeopardy without the needed changes that are included in the Courtney/Petri/Matsui amendment. When the program was transferred to the Education Department, a simple drafting error in the 2002 No Child Left Behind Act resulted in an Education Department ruling restricting the number of school districts in which veterans can fulfill their teaching requirement. Since the implementation of this ruling in September 2005, retiring military have found the number of schools at which they would be eligible to teach drastically reduced.

The Department's new interpretation locks out schools in many rural areas and small communities. This is a shame, especially given the success of this program and its ability to meet some of our Nation's greatest teaching needs. In my own State of Wisconsin, only 11 out of 426 school districts qualify for participants to fulfill their teaching requirements. A 2006 Government Accountability Report, GAO, of the program found that the 2005 ruling had reduced interest and participation in the program, as schools in regions where troops lived were no longer considered eligible.

Our amendment would correct this ruling and ensure that veterans participating in the Troops to Teachers program receive a \$5,000 stipend for teaching 3 years in any school that is in a district receiving Title 1 funds. This would result in a 49 percent increase in the number of schools eligible under the program. The amendment does not change the criteria for the additional \$5,000 bonus, maintaining the incentive for troops to teach in the highest need schools.

Let me be clear, as the language of H.R. 3943 would provide, it is the intent of this amendment to strike "high need" from the stipend participation language in the Troops to Teachers statute. There was a late night drafting error that mistakenly did not delete the term "high need" as was contemplated and is consistent with the language in H.R. 3943. So as this provision is finalized in conference, it is important that this technical change be made to implement the original intent of the amendment.

The amendment also makes the Troops to Teachers Program more accessible by reduc-

ing the length of service requirements for active military. The make-up of our military has drastically changed since this program was first authorized 16 years ago. Many of our young men and women returning from service in Iraq and Afghanistan who would like to pursue teaching careers are currently ineligible for the program.

Third, to ensure continued success of the program the amendment creates an advisory board charged with improving awareness, increasing participation and ensuring the program meets the needs of schools and veterans.

Earlier this year, Representatives COURTNEY, MATSUI and I introduced H.R. 3943, the Post 9/11 Troops to Teachers Enhancement Act, that contains these needed improvements to the program. This bill has 169 bipartisan cosponsors and the support of both military and educational organizations. These include: the American Legion, National Education Association, Association of the United States Army, Association of the United States Navy, Military Order of the Purple Heart, National Association of the State Boards of Education and many more.

Finally, our amendment transfers the Troops to Teachers Program back to the Department of Defense. Currently, the program is operated by the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support, DANTES. The Department of Education simply transfers funds to DANTES. Both the Department of Defense and the Department of Education support this transfer, which is reflected in the Administration's Fiscal Year 2011 budget request.

I want to thank Representative COURTNEY and Representative MATSUI for their work on this amendment, as well as both the Armed Services and Education and Labor Committees for their assistance. I urge my colleagues to support the amendment.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendments en bloc offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON).

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

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

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendments en bloc offered by the gentleman from Missouri will be postponed.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DEUTCH) having assumed the chair, Mr. SCHRADER, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5136) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2011 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Armed Services:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 27, 2010.

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

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: This letter serves as my intent to resign from the Committee on Armed Services, effective today, May 27, 2010.

Sincerely,

BILL SHUSTER,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted. There was no objection.

ADMINISTRATION GIVES FALSE
IMPRESSION

(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, one day after the administration announced that President Obama would send National Guard troops to secure the border, the State Department announced that—surprise—the Guard troops would not be used to stop illegal immigration. This suggests the National Guard announcement was designed to leave Americans with a false impression that the administration was going to strengthen border security.

There appears to be a contradiction within the administration; we don't know who to believe from one day to the next. We are starting to learn on health care, on taxes, on transparency, on the stimulus, and now on immigration policy that the administration's words are seldom what they appear to be.

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.

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

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

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

(Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from 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.)

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

(Ms. WOOLSEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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

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

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

(Ms. KAPTUR addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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

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

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

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

□ 2310

LEGAL CESSPOOLS

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

Mr. GOHMERT. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

There are certain requirements of this body that the Constitution sets forth. This is the body that controls the purse strings of the country. This body has an obligation to make sure that we act cautiously and carefully in spending the money that we legally steal from those who produce it. It would be theft except we are authorized to pass laws to make it legal theft when we take it from people who produce that money in this country, but it should come home to folks around this body that we have an obligation to those people to be conscientious in the things we do; and, accordingly, it is the obligation of this body to prepare a budget in order to have control over our appropriations.

The people who I serve with, who have been here for years, say this is the first year they recall ever not voting on a budget in the House of Representatives. There is no budget. When politics is more important than actually protecting the country that we are sworn to protect, then from a political viewpoint, it's easy to see why someone might want to do this for the first time in so many years and avoid putting forth a budget. Because if a budget were brought forth in this election year with so many people already upset—with tea parties so angry at the vast overspending—they would be able to see exactly how off the charts this body's spending has been and is projected to be with that money that we legally steal from people who produce it in the country.

So we haven't had time or the political fortitude to step up in this body and to prepare a budget as is required. We have an obligation to protect private property; but as we have seen with the gulf coast, that hasn't happened.

We heard this week from the Minerals Management Service and from those with the Department of the Interior that they have been on guard since day one, since this bill happened. Well, why wouldn't they have been on guard since day one when drilling commenced?

We know from the records and from the hearings we've had that, when the Deepwater Horizon platform was put in place back in 2001, for the first 40 months it was in place, every month, as is supposed to occur, there were offshore inspections done. From there, it gets very fuzzy. We find out that MMS can't tell us exactly how many inspections there have been since then of the Deepwater Horizon platform and of their drilling operations.

We did hear in our hearing and during the question-and-answer time—it was part of the public record yesterday in Natural Resources—that they're not really sure how many times the inspections occurred, but what some of us, through some digging, had found out is that there is one entity, and one alone, in the Minerals Management Service that is allowed to be unionized, and that is the offshore inspectors.

Now, that struck some of us as strange because the offshore inspectors