

on what we remember as D-day marked the turning point in the Allies defeat of the Nazi army during World War II.

On June 6, 1944, more than 31,000 American troops and a total of 100,000 Allied soldiers were carried by more than 5,000 ships across the English Channel. At Normandy, in what has become one of the great symbols of American bravery, they stormed the beaches. The efforts of these ground troops were supported by 31,000 Allied airmen, which made it the largest amphibious invasion in history.

Of these courageous men, more than 6,000 United States soldiers died in battle and close to 9,000 Allied soldiers were injured or killed. It is because of their dedication to the cause of freedom that the Allied forces prevailed. These fallen soldiers were laid to rest in the Colleville-sur-Mer United States cemetery in Northern France. The 9,386 graves face west toward the United States, and serve as a much deserved honor and remembrance of the sacrifice made by our Nation's heroes.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the lives lost in Normandy. We owe these soldiers our deepest gratitude and reverence for playing such a crucial role in ending the tyranny of Nazi-controlled Germany and helping to shape the world we live in today.

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. TAYLOR) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1251, as amended.

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

The title of the resolution was amended so as to read: "Recognizing and honoring the American troops who gave their lives on D-day at the Battle of Normandy."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXTENDING MULTI-YEAR PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY FOR F-18 AIRCRAFT

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6102) to amend the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 to extend the authority of the Secretary of the Navy to enter into multiyear contracts for F/A-18E, F/A-18F, and EA-18G aircraft.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6102

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. MULTIYEAR PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY FOR F/A-18E, F/A-18F, AND EA-18G AIRCRAFT.

(a) EXTENSION OF CERTIFICATION.—Paragraph (2) of section 128(a) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Public Law 111-84; 123 Stat. 2217) is amended by striking "a reference to March" and inserting "a reference to September".

(b) REQUIRED AUTHORITY.—Such section 128 is further amended by adding at the end the following:

"(e) REQUIRED AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, with respect to a multiyear contract entered into under subsection (a), this section shall be deemed to meet the requirements under subsection (1)(3) and (1)(3) of section 2306b of title 10, United States Code."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. TAYLOR) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. AKIN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Mississippi.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAYLOR. I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6102, a necessary amendment to section 128 of the Fiscal Year 2010 National Defense Authorization Act which granted permission for the Secretary of the Navy to enter into a multiyear procurement contract for F/A-18 series aircraft.

Madam Speaker, I mention this is a necessary amendment, and I ask the patience of the House as I briefly explain the technical issue in law which will prevent the Navy from entering into this cost-saving contract unless the House passes this bill and it is taken up in the Senate and passed before the end of this month.

In the 2010 National Defense Authorization Act, Congress granted permission to the Navy for a multiyear contract if they could meet the intent of the requirements contained in title 10 of the United States Code for projected cost savings. The authority granted the Navy one-time permission to miss the title 10 reporting timelines as long as they submitted the required reports by March of this year. The Navy subsequently reported the significant cost savings this type of contract would achieve but missed the reporting requirement by a month, due to a variety of factors.

As a result of the missing of this reporting requirement, the letter of the law prevents them from entering into this cost-savings contract. To fix this new problem, this House subsequently agreed to the exact language contained in this bill when H.R. 5136, the Fiscal Year 2011 National Defense Authorization Act, passed the House in May.

This stand-alone bill is necessary because the Senate has yet to take up the Fiscal Year 2011 National Defense Authorization Act, which means we may not have an authorization act signed into law by the end of this fiscal year.

Madam Speaker, this is not an argument about the number of strike fighters the Navy needs. That is a debate for

another day. This is an argument that we know that we can save hundreds of millions of dollars by using a multiyear contract to purchase the remaining 84 aircraft that are scheduled to be built.

The majority of economic savings in a multiyear contract come from savings in the cost of materiel and equipment. As any businessman or woman who has been successful will tell you, the more of any item you order, the lower the per-unit cost will be. In this case, a multiyear contract will allow the prime vendor, in this case the Boeing Company, to contract with their vendor supply base for the materiel and equipment for the remaining 84 aircraft all at once instead of contracting for 25 to 30 per year. They will get a much better price with the larger order and save our Nation \$590 million. Madam Speaker, with just the savings on this contract alone the Navy will be able to purchase an additional Littoral Combat Ship.

Madam Speaker, an almost \$600 million savings is too large a figure just to sweep under the rug. The bill that I offer today along with my cosponsor, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. AKIN), and, I must add, strongly supported by the Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Gary Roughead, and the Secretary of the Navy, Ray Mabus, will allow the Navy to enter into this contract by the end of this month. I am assured by Assistant Secretary of the Navy Stackley that all the contracting negotiations are complete, and, as soon as this bill is passed by the House and Senate and signed into law by the President, the Navy and the Boeing Company will complete the contract.

Madam Speaker, to use a phrase popular today, this is a "no-brainer." I urge my colleagues to support this bill which will result in an almost \$600 million savings to the taxpayers.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. AKIN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I appreciate the good comments from the chairman of the Navy and Marine Corps Subcommittee, Chairman TAYLOR, and he has got it absolutely right. This is pretty straightforward. This is whether you want a good deal on buying something. There is a little more to it. And I would join with the many members of the Armed Services Committee, including GENE TAYLOR from Mississippi, and rise in support of H.R. 6102.

This legislation was included in section 122 of the Fiscal Year 2011 National Defense Authorization Act, which was passed unanimously by the subcommittee, the full committee, and by a majority of this House in May. Unfortunately, the Senate has not yet passed its version of the Fiscal Year 2011 Defense bill. It's essential we pass the authorities contained in H.R. 6102 prior to the end of fiscal year 2010, which is why the chairman and I have co-authored this stand-alone bill today.

Simply put, the legislation would ensure that the Navy can enter into a

multiyear procurement contract for F/A-18E/F/G aircraft, which would save the Navy and taxpayers almost \$600 million. The Navy plans to buy 124 of these aircraft between now and 2013.

This bill would make no changes to the quantity to be procured. Rather, the Navy has a choice between buying these aircraft in four 1-year increments or spend nearly \$600 million less by using one 4-year contract.

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Basically you are just getting a volume discount. The Congress already gave the Navy the authority to use the multiyear contract in the fiscal year 2010 National Authorization Act. But the Department of Defense was late in submitting a required report to Congress regarding the terms of the contract. It was due in March, and the Navy submitted the report in May. Due to the Department's delay, unless we provide a one-time fix or extension of this due date, the authority to sign the multiyear contract will expire by the end of the month. This is the correction that was made by the 2011 defense authorization bill passed by the House, also captured by H.R. 6102.

It is true that the Department of Defense was slow to embrace the F/A-18 multiyear contract, but it eventually saw the wisdom in entering into this 4-year contract for 124 of the Navy fighter planes. The House Armed Services Committee has been pushing the Navy to consider this contracting strategy for nearly 3 years. In 2008, I inserted language into the 2009 Defense Authorization Act requiring the Department of Defense to report to Congress on the potential cost savings of a multiyear contract for F/A-18s. Last year, I successfully added an amendment to the Defense Authorization Act giving the Navy the authority to enter into a multiyear contract for F/A-18s. This year, I added an amendment to the House-passed Defense Authorization Act adding eight additional F/A-18s to help address the Navy's looming fighter shortfall.

Although this bill would not have been necessary had Secretary Gates embraced this cost-savings measure from the outset, I am nonetheless pleased to see that his eleventh hour efforts to secure approval for the multiyear contract are in keeping with his well-publicized position on reducing wasteful defense spending. Likewise, I am hopeful that the Secretary will remain consistent with his new and positive stance on savings and competition as the Armed Services Committee considers additional ways in which to maximize taxpayer dollars.

In conclusion, Madam Speaker, this bill will save over half a billion dollars in taxpayer money while providing vital stability to the fine Americans who build these planes in St. Louis and across the country. I want to thank Congressman TAYLOR for his leadership and support on this issue, and I urge the Senate to pass this bill quickly.

I yield back the balance of my time. Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. TAYLOR) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6102.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONGRATULATING MIAMI DADE COLLEGE ON 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1571) acknowledging and congratulating Miami Dade College on the occasion of its 50th anniversary of service to the students and residents of the State of Florida, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1571

Whereas Miami Dade College opened its doors in 1960 as an institute of higher learning for the residents of Miami-Dade County, Florida;

Whereas the College became the first integrated junior college in the State of Florida, leading the way for other institutions to adopt policies of offering a higher education to persons of all races and ethnicities;

Whereas the College has the most diverse student populations in the United States with students from 178 countries, speaking 86 languages;

Whereas the College has one of the largest enrollments of all colleges and universities in the United States;

Whereas the College offers more than 300 major areas of study, providing educational and workforce opportunities for students seeking associate and bachelor's degrees, as well as short-term certifications in critical areas of study;

Whereas the College provides an affordable, comprehensive higher education to individuals of all incomes and backgrounds;

Whereas 55 percent of students attending the College receive Pell Grants;

Whereas 52 percent of students are the first in their families to attend college;

Whereas the College ranks first in the United States in the amount of Pell Grant funds awarded to public colleges and universities;

Whereas the College is one of only 40 community colleges nationwide to be named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll;

Whereas the College is a leader in cultural programming;

Whereas the College's Miami International Book Fair is the largest literary event in the United States;

Whereas the College's Miami International Film Festival is world renowned;

Whereas the College is the home of the National Historic landmark Freedom Tower;

Whereas the College adheres to its guiding principle to change lives through the opportunity of education; and

Whereas 2010 marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment of Miami Dade College: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives acknowledges and congratulates Miami Dade College on the occasion of its 50th anniversary of academic excellence and service to the residents of the State of Florida.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend their remarks, and insert extraneous material on House Resolution 1571 into the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1571, which celebrates Miami Dade College on the occasion of their 50 years of service in higher education to the residents of the State of Florida.

In 1960, Miami Dade first opened its doors under the name Dade County Junior College. By 1967, the college was the largest institution of higher education in the State of Florida. Today, Miami Dade College boasts eight campuses and the largest public institution of higher education in the Nation, welcoming nearly 170,000 students annually. The college offers more than 300 major areas of study to its students, and as of 2003, began offering bachelor's degrees in addition to associate's degrees. Miami Dade College has awarded more associate's degrees than any college in the United States.

Miami Dade College also has a rich history of diversity. The college became the first integrated junior college in the State of Florida, and now has students from 178 countries speaking 86 languages. The college ranks first in the United States among public colleges and universities for the number of Pell Grant recipients in attendance. At Miami Dade College, 61 percent of students are from low-income families, and 52 percent are the first in their families to attend college. The college also contributes to the region's cultural landscape via the nationally acclaimed Cultura del Lobo Performance Series and the Miami International Film Festival, both of which provide student artists with unique learning opportunities.

Additionally, the annual Miami Dade International Book Fair is the largest literary event in the United States. Does this have something to do with the college? Not clear from the name.

Furthermore, Miami Dade College has consistently worked to produce students with skills in high demand by local and regional employers. The Emerging Technologies Center of the