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

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
The Speaker pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC, February 27, 2012. I hereby appoint the Honorable JEFF DENHAM to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
The Speaker pro tempore, Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

COMMENDING DETROIT CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
(Mr. MCCOTTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MCCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commend my alma mater, Detroit Catholic Central High School, for winning Michigan’s 2012 Division I State Wrestling Championship. It is the team’s ninth State wrestling championship.

After winning the Catholic High School League title, CC dominated the district and regional meets; and, in the finals, defeated Oxford to cap a 25–3–0 season.

Coach Mitch Hancock’s team not only claimed their second title in 3 years, they are sending 10 Shamrock wrestlers to the individual State finals. Truly, the toil and devotion of every CC teammate is inspiring and well reflects upon the entire Catholic Central family, which celebrates these student-athletes’ achievement.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Coach Hancock’s Catholic Central Shamrocks for having earned the 2012 State wrestling title and for exemplifying the Basilian Fathers’ teachings of goodness, discipline, and knowledge. Live and die for CC High.

NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH KYRGYZSTAN
(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, last week, I was grateful to be part of a Congressional delegation, led by Chairman DAVID DREIER, that established a partnership with the parliament of Kyrgyzstan, the Jogorku Kenesh. We traveled as members of the House Democracy Partnership, which works with parliaments in new democracies to build stronger legislatures.

Following parliamentary elections in 2010, the Kyrgyz Republic last year completed the first peaceful democratic transition of Presidential power in Central Asia after an open and competitive election. New President Almazbek Atambayev is committed to parliamentary democracy.

Under the leadership of Speaker Asylbek Jeebekov, the parliament and HDP will work together to strengthen committee operations, budget analyses, constituent relations, and other institutional reforms.

Kyrgyzstan is a bright star in Central Asia, with a growing economy, dedicated President, the prestigious American University of Central Asia, and dynamic parliamentarians working with an engaged population to establish a democracy.

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

SAY YES TO DOMESTIC ENERGY
(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, when the President took office, gasoline cost $1.96. Now it’s almost $4 a gallon. Spring breakers in Disney World can...
expect to pay nearly $6 a gallon to fill up their individual cars.

Americans have no choice but to pay the higher price because the government is stonewalling a domestic energy policy. Deana from Huffman, Texas, put it best:

I go to work to make money to pay for the gas just to go to work.

The President’s energy policy is “nothing from below”—nothing from below the ground, nothing from below the sea.

We’re the only Nation in the world that places most of our offshore territory off limits to oil and gas exploration. Meanwhile, the government continues to subsidize failed green energy projects.

We should be saying yes to all types of American energy: Yes to more offshore drilling; yes to ANWR; yes to faster approval of permits; and yes to the Keystone XL pipeline.

Let’s make gasoline affordable for Deana and all Americans.

And that’s just the way it is.

DOCUMENTARY FILM “UNDEFEATED” WINS OSCAR

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, this weekend many of us watched the Oscars, and among the winners of an Oscar was a documentary film called “Undefeated.”

“Undefeated” was about a football team at Manassas High School in Memphis, Tennessee, and a gentleman named Bill Courtney, who was a volunteer coach. They went to Manassas during their 2009–2010 season to try to help the kids, help them get through and have a better life. It’s in a tough part of the city—a lot of poverty and a lot of one-parent households and a lot of things to overcome.

They had a football player named O.C. Brown, who was an outstanding offensive tackle. He got a scholarship eventually, because of this, to go to Southern Mississippi. He’s a great ball player. Coach Courtney worked with him and others to make sure that he got an opportunity to advance.

It’s a lot like “The Blind Side,” except that it was a story about Coach Courtney and O.C. Brown of Manassas. It won an Oscar, and it deserved it. It’s about people not giving up and making a success of things. In just under half a semester, O.C. Brown was able to achieve a 3.0 grade point average and get that scholarship at Southern Mississippi.

Manassas High School is filled with talented young people. We wish them good luck.

This hat belonged to Isaac Hayes, a proud alumnus of Manassas High School.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CHARLIE PEAVYHOUSE

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

Mr. FLEISCHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a great man who lived in my district.

Charlie Peavyhouse, a graduate of Detroit Country Day School, arrived in Rhea County, Tennessee, in 1962. He taught in the county for 25 years.

In 1978, Charlie Peavyhouse was elected as the Republican member of the Tennessee State House of Representatives from Rhea County. He served as Speaker of the House of Representatives for 15 years.

In 1987, Charlie Peavyhouse was elected as the Republican member of the Tennessee State Senate. He served as Senate Majority Leader for 10 years.

In 1997, Charlie Peavyhouse was elected as the Republican member of the United States House of Representatives. He served as a member of the House of Representatives for 14 years.

Charlie Peavyhouse was a dedicated public servant who served his community with honor and distinction. He was a leader in the Tennessee General Assembly and a respected member of Congress.

We honor the memory of Charlie Peavyhouse and his commitment to public service. May he rest in peace.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH OBSERVES RARE DISEASE DAY

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

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, this week is Rare Disease Day, which will take place on February 29. I want to acknowledge the work of the National Institutes of Health in their efforts to bring down rare diseases. I also want to acknowledge the thousands of Americans who are afflicted with diseases whose systems are so complex that they simply remain undiagnosed. The majority of these disorders have genetic causes, and over half affect children.

The National Institutes of Health has joined a worldwide effort with more than 40 countries to recognize and seek better ways to diagnose and treat patients. On February 29, the NIH is observing the fifth annual Rare Disease Day and hosting a daylong program of activities highlighting the rare disease research community.

In conjunction with that, NIH Director Dr. Francis Collins will announce the launch of the Genetic Testing Registry. This is an online tool developed by NIH scientists providing health care providers and patients access to information on genetic tests. I also have legislation that would expand on these efforts.

This Wednesday, February 29, the rarest of days on the calendar, we will pause to honor those who are working hard to research, diagnose, treat, and empower patients with the rarest of diseases. I want to acknowledge the work of the NIH. I’m grateful that they’re organizing an event like Rare Disease Day.

TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENT

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

Mr. DeFAZIO. Last December, the Speaker told us that the Republican signature jobs bill was going to be the surface transportation reauthorization. Yet, under pressure from the extreme right in his caucus 2 weeks ago, he said in the Republican caucus that this transportation bill is not a jobs bill. And they wrote for the first time since the founding of the Dwight D. Eisenhower National Highway System a purely partisan transportation bill in the hope of jamming it through.

Well, it’s all fallen apart now. Yet there are 150,000 bridge failures in the Federal system. Forty percent of the pavement on the national system needs to be restored, and there’s a $700 billion investment in the surface transportation reauthorization. It happens to be a jobs bill.
billion backlog for critical equipment in our transit systems. These could be jobs—Made in America jobs.

But we need to work together. Transportation is not, never has been, and should not be a partisan issue. By trying to make it partisan, they’ve stalled and failed. It’s time to go back to the drawing board and put together a bill that’s good for America. We don’t have to have partisan politics on every issue, and transportation investment should not be one of those.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DR. LAWRENCE NEWMAN

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

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Lawrence Newman, a beloved educator, writer, and deaf advocate who passed away on July 4, 2011.

In 1953, Lawrence joined the faculty of the California School for the Deaf in Riverside. He distinguished himself as a talented and devoted teacher, becoming the first deaf person to be awarded the California Teacher of the Year Award in 1968.

Lawrence’s contributions extend far beyond the classroom. As two-term president of the National Association of the Deaf, Lawrence was a tireless public advocate for deaf students, raising awareness of their unique needs and fighting for reforms in the law to support residential schools. He also fought for change from within the deaf community, encouraging sign language and total communication.

Perhaps Lawrence’s most important role, however, was that of father of five and husband to Betty, his wife of 61 years. He is missed and will always be remembered for his contributions to the deaf community.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o’clock and 14 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1600

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. Poe of Texas) at 4 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

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

FEDERAL RESTRICTED BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2011

Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 347) to correct and simplify the drafting of section 1752 (relating to restricted buildings or grounds) of title 18, United States Code.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the Senate amendment is as follows:

Senate amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

S. 1752. Restricted buildings or grounds

(a) Whoever—

(1) knowingly enters or remains in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority to do so;

(2) knowingly, and with intent to impede or disrupt the orderly conduct of Government business or official functions, engages in disorderly or disruptive conduct in, or within such proximity to, any restricted building or grounds when, or so that, such conduct, in fact, impedes or disrupts the orderly conduct of Government business or official functions;

(3) knowingly, and with the intent to impede or disrupt the orderly conduct of Government business or official functions;

(b) The punishment for a violation of subsection (a) is—

(1) a fine under this title or imprisonment for not more than 10 years, or both, if—

(A) the person DAMAGES AND IN RELATION TO THE OFFENSE, USES OR CARRIES A DEADLY OR DANGEROUS WEAPON OR FIREARM; OR

(2) the offense results in significant bodily injury as defined by section 218(c)(5); and

(2) a fine under this title or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both, in any other case.

(c) In this section—

(1) the term `restricted buildings or grounds' means any posted, cordoned off, or otherwise restricted area—

(A) of the White House or its grounds, or the Vice President’s official residence or its grounds;

(B) of a building or grounds where the President or other person protected by the Secret Service is or will be temporarily visiting; or

(C) of a building or grounds so restricted in conjunction with an event designated as a special event of national significance; and

(2) the term `person protected by the Secret Service' means any person whom the United States Secret Service is authorized to protect under section 3056 of this title or by Presidential memorandum.

(d) In section 1752 of title 18, the United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the `Federal Restricted Buildings and Grounds Improvement Act of 2011'.

SEC. 2. RESTRICTED BUILDING OR GROUNDS.

Section 1752 of title 18, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

§ 1752. Restricted building or grounds

(a) Whoever—

(1) knowingly enters or remains in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority to do so;

(2) knowingly, and with intent to impede or disrupt the orderly conduct of Government business or official functions, engages in disorderly or disruptive conduct in, or within such proximity to, any restricted building or grounds when, or so that, such conduct, in fact, impedes or disrupts the orderly conduct of Government business or official functions;

(3) knowingly, and with the intent to impede or disrupt the orderly conduct of Government business or official functions;

(b) The punishment for a violation of subsection (a) is—

(1) a fine under this title or imprisonment for not more than 10 years, or both, if—

(A) the person DAMAGES AND IN RELATION TO THE OFFENSE, USES OR CARRIES A DEADLY OR DANGEROUS WEAPON OR FIREARM; OR

(2) the offense results in significant bodily injury as defined by section 218(c)(5); and

(2) a fine under this title or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both, in any other case.

(c) In this section—

(1) the term `restricted buildings or grounds' means any posted, cordoned off, or otherwise restricted area—

(A) of the White House or its grounds, or the Vice President’s official residence or its grounds;

(B) of a building or grounds where the President or other person protected by the Secret Service is or will be temporarily visiting; or

(C) of a building or grounds so restricted in conjunction with an event designated as a special event of national significance; and

(2) the term `person protected by the Secret Service' means any person whom the United States Secret Service is authorized to protect under section 3056 of this title or by Presidential memorandum.

This Act may be cited as the `Federal Restricted Buildings and Grounds Improvement Act of 2011'.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I urge unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the Senate amendment to H.R. 347, currently under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 347, the Federal Restricted Buildings and Grounds Improvement Act of 2011, introduced by Congressman Tom Rooney, makes commonsense improvements to an existing Federal law that prohibits unlawful access to the White House, the Vice President’s residence, and other restricted areas.

The current law prohibits unlawful entries upon any restricted building or ground where the President, Vice President, or other protectee is temporarily visiting. However, there is no Federal law that expressly prohibits unlawful entry to the White House and its grounds or the Vice President’s residence and its grounds. The United States Secret Service must therefore rely upon a provision in the District of Columbia Code, which addresses only minor misdemeanor infractions when someone attempts to or successfully climbs the White House fence or, worse, breaches the White House itself.

H.R. 347 remedies this problem. It specifically includes the White House, the Vice President’s residence, and their respective grounds in the definition of restricted buildings and grounds. The bill also clarifies that the penalties in section 1752 of title 18 apply to those who knowingly enter or remain in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority to do so. Current law does not include this important element.

The House passed this bill 1 year ago by a vote of 399–3. Earlier this month, the Senate passed the bill by unanimous consent. The Senate also clarified that the revised law applies to individuals the Secret Service is required to protect by statute or by Presidential memorandum.

H.R. 347 ensures that the President, the First Family, the Vice President, and others are protected whether they are in the White House or attending an event in a convention center or meeting hall.

I commend my colleague from Florida (Mr. Rooney) for sponsoring this legislation, which enjoys overwhelming bipartisan and bicameral support.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.
I support H.R. 347, as amended by the Senate, which will assist the Secret Service in performing its protective duties.

The bill before us today will help the Secret Service carry out its role in protecting the President, Vice President, and other dignitaries. Current Federal law prohibits individuals from entering or remaining in areas cordoned off as “restricted” because of protection being provided by the Secret Service.

This bill would simply clarify that the prohibition under the existing statute only applies to those who do not have lawful authority to be in those areas. The bill would also add the White House and Vice President’s residence to the definition of restricted areas protected under current law.

The Senate made minor changes to the bill, including expanding the bill’s protections to areas in which the Secret Service is protecting a person by the direction of a Presidential memorandum.

I support this amendment. This bill will assist the Secret Service, which did not have this protective function when it was created.

The role of the Secret Service has expanded greatly since it was established in 1865 to fight the counterfeiting of U.S. currency.

The Service became part of the Treasury Department in 1883 and took on many additional investigative responsibilities with respect to safeguards the payment and financial systems of the United States. It wasn’t until 1894 that the Secret Service first started protecting our Presidents; and that protective role with respect to the President, Vice President, and other dignitaries has grown substantially since that time.

The men and women of the Secret Service conduct themselves with valor and professionalism while carrying out the protective function of their agency. They provide protection for a variety of people and events, including the President and national special security events.

The Secret Service has other important functions which also deserve recognition. For example, the investigative role of the Secret Service has expanded greatly from protecting the currency against counterfeiting to investigating a variety of crimes related to this country’s financial institutions and credit systems.

I commend the gentleman from Florida, Representative Tom Rooney, for his work on this bill, and I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 347.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 388, nays 3, not voting 42, as follows:

[Roll No. 73]

YEAS—388

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DENHAM) at 6 o’clock and 30 minutes p.m., the House stood in recess.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2117, PROTECTING ACADEMIC FREEDOM IN HIGHER EDUCATION ACT

Ms. FOXX, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 112-404) on the resolution (H. Res. 563) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2117) to prohibit the Department of Education from overreaching into academic affairs and program eligibility under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

FEDERAL RESTRICTED BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2011

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 347) to correct and simplify the drafting of section 1752 (relating to restricted buildings or grounds) of title 18, United States Code, on which the yea and nay votes were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 388, nays 3, not voting 42, as follows:
Ms. BARLETTA and JONES changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendment was concurred in.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for: Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, on February 27, 2012, I missed the one rollcall vote of the day.

Had I been present I would have voted “yea” on rollcall vote No. 73, on the Motion to Concur in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 347—Federal Reserved Buildings and Grounds Improvement Act of 2011.

Mr. FERNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 73, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, February 27, 2012 I had a previously scheduled meeting with constituents in Urbana, Illinois. As a result, I am unable to attend, Mr. Speaker. Had I been present, I would have voted “aye” on the Senate Amendment to H.R. 347, the Federal Reserved Buildings and Grounds Improvement Act of 2011.

REMEMBERING FORMER U.S. REPRESENTATIVE KATIE HALL

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

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask for a moment of silence. I had a previously scheduled meeting with constituents in Urbana, Illinois. As a result, I am unable to attend.

Mr. Speaker. I would have voted “aye” on the Senate Amendment to H.R. 347, the Federal Reserved Buildings and Grounds Improvement Act of 2011.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PALAZZO). The gentleman from Indiana would be so kind, we would like to have a moment of silence.

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, February 27, 2012 I had a previously scheduled meeting with constituents in Urbana, Illinois. As a result, I am unable to attend.

Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness and great respect that I take this time to remember one of northwest Indiana’s most valued citizens and my predecessor, former Congresswoman, Katie Beatrice Hall.

As a result, I am unable to attend.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask for a moment of silence. I had a previously scheduled meeting with constituents in Urbana, Illinois. As a result, I am unable to attend.

Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness and great respect that I take this time to remember one of northwest Indiana’s most valued citizens and my predecessor, former Congresswoman, Katie Beatrice Hall.

Ms. BARLETTA and JONES changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendment was concurred in.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

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So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendment was concurred in.

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Mr. Speaker, I would have voted “aye” on the Senate Amendment to H.R. 347, the Federal Reserved Buildings and Grounds Improvement Act of 2011.
Representatives from 1974 to 1976 and was then elected to the Indiana Senate, serving from 1976 to 1982. As a member of the Indiana General Assembly, Mrs. Hall was influential in establishing the Genesis Center, Hudson-Campbell Fitness Center, and the Adam Benjamin Metro Center, in Gary. She also served as the Chair for the Lake County Democratic Committee from 1978 to 1980 and for the Indiana Democratic Convention in 1980. In 1982, following the untimely passing of United States Congressman Adam Benjamin, Jr., Katie won the special election to complete his term in office and to represent the First Congressional District of Indiana in the 98th Congress, becoming the first African American from Indiana elected to serve in the United States House of Representatives. While in office, Katie served as chairwoman of the Post Office and Civil Services Subcommittee on Census and Population. During her time in Congress, Representative Hall made a truly historic contribution through her sponsorship of the bill that made Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s birthday a national holiday. This bill had been stalled in the House for 32 years, and through her passion and persistence, Katie was successful in establishing this recognition of Dr. King.

Mrs. Hall was a trailblazer for the Civil Rights Movement and a devoted public servant to her community, state, and Nation. In the years following her term, Katie continued her life of public service as city clerk for Gary, Indiana from 1988 to 2003.

Katie Hall leaves behind a loving family. She is survived by her cherished husband, John Henry Hall, as well as her adoring daughters, Jacqueline and Junifer, and her beloved granddaughter, Kristina. She also leaves behind many other dear friends and family members, as well as a saddened community and a grateful nation.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in remembering the Honorable Katie Hall for her tremendous contributions to the people of her community, the State of Indiana, and the United States of America. Her life of public service is to be admired. Her legacy will serve as an inspiration to all.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. I thank the gentleman for his remarks, and I would be very happy to yield to my colleague from Indianapolis.

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to join my colleagues in honoring the life of former Congresswoman Katie Hall who passed last week at the age of 73. I met her as a young man. In fact, I had a chance to spend some time with her in the early eighties in San Francisco during the Democratic National Convention.

But she quickly made a name for herself, to my colleague’s point, not only as a strong advocate and leader in the State of Indiana, but as an educator. She knew that America’s children were suffering, and she supported alternative education. Mr. Speaker, she understood that children had different needs, and she made sure that she was an advocate of different educational models to meet those needs.

So my deepest sympathies go out to her family and friends who are mourning her passing. And we know that Indiana politics will not be the same. I thank my colleague for acknowledging me.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, Katie Hall will be missed. And once again, our sympathy goes out to her family and all of her loved ones.

HONORING SERGEANT T.J. CONRAD

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

Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, February 23, Virginia and our Nation lost a true hero. Sergeant T.J. Conrad was killed in action in the Nangarhar Province of Afghanistan in the rioting there.

Sergeant Conrad, just 22 years old, was a husband, a son, and a brother. Outgoing, determined, and a man of true grit, Sergeant Conrad truly personified the Army’s old slogan, “Be All You Can Be.”

Born in Newport News and raised in Roanoke County, Sergeant Conrad grew up at Seasons Cove Elementary School, Northside Middle School, and Northside High School. In high school, he was an outstanding wrestler. In his senior year, he helped lead his team to the Blue Ridge District title for both the regular season and the tournament. Today, I wish to extend my prayers and our prayers and condolences to Sergeant Conrad’s wife, Holly; his infant son, Bentley; his parents, his relatives, and his friends. His father has stated that he will always be remembered for his great sense of humor, his infectious smile, his kind heart, and his desire to brighten anyone’s day.

On behalf of a grateful Nation, we grieve the loss of our warrior brother, but we honor Sergeant Conrad for his courage, his sacrifice, and his selfless commitment to duty, honor, and country. He gave his all in service for the sake of our safety, our freedom, and our liberty.

MINNETONKA 2A GIRLS HOCKEY TITLE

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Minnetonka girls high school hockey team on winning their second consecutive Minnesota 2A State title this weekend at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul.

Mr. Speaker, after winning last year’s championship in a nail-biting game, the Minnetonka Skippers girls skate the competition out of Minnesota 2A State title this weekend at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul. Mr. Speaker, after winning last year’s championship in a nail-biting game, the Minnetonka Skippers girls high school hockey team on winning their second consecutive Minnesota 2A State title this weekend at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul.

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Mr. Speaker, after winning last year’s championship in a nail-biting game, the Minnetonka Skippers girls high school hockey team on winning their second consecutive Minnesota 2A State title this weekend at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul. The Skippers, led by the fantastic first period by defender Holly Korn, who scored on a power play. After that, forward Diana Drayard followed up with a second goal late in the third period. And then finally, there was a third goal by junior Laura Bowman, who scored the final goal. Of course this victory could not have happened were it not for the outstanding goaltending of goalie Sydney Rosenson, who blocked 23 shots in the shutout.

Mr. Speaker, I just want to congratulate all the girls on the Minnetonka Skippers hockey team, as well as their coaches. I also want to thank them and recognize their hard work, their training, their perseverance, and their commitment because it really paid off. We’re proud of these student athletes, and so is our entire community.

GET OUR TROOPS OUT OF AFGHANISTAN

(Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I serve on the Homeland Security Committee and have the privilege of serving on the committee dealing with foreign affairs here in the House.

I rise today to, as usual, offer our deepest sympathy for all of our soldiers that have fallen in battle. But I am particularly outraged at the incidents that are occurring around the unfortunate burning of the Koran—for which our President appropriately extended his apology, as we would want if someone had burned Bibles. But it is outrageous for our soldiers to be in harm’s way, for them to lose their lives. It is time now for the Afghan national security forces to stand up and be security forces. It’s time for President Karzai to indicate that he will not be driven out by the Taliban. And it’s time for us not to allow the Taliban to again to grip ahold of the Afghan people.

This is a tragic and horrible situation. None of us would have wanted it to occur. But we cannot stand for our soldiers to be in the storm of events and be shot for something that they did not do, intentionally or individually.

So I would ask that our soldiers be taken out of harm’s way around any Afghan national security forces that we cannot vet and ensure that they are adequate. And as usual, I need to hear from President Karzai in a way that denounces this horrible action. And we must stand up to the Taliban and have a tradition out of Afghanistan in which the Afghan national security forces are protecting their people, and they’re allowed, in essence, to have a nation that protects women and children and families, and have the adherence to the law that requires human decency.

HOUSE REPUBLICANS ON JOB CREATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. GRIFFIN) is recognized for
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CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE

H957

60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GRIFIN OF Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I came here to the floor tonight to talk with some of my colleagues and the American people about what I believe are the most pressing issues facing our country.

A lot of us have been home working in our districts over the last week, seeing our constituents, speaking at local Rotary clubs, visiting with constituents in the office and around the district, I think that the top priority for the American people over the last year remains the same, and that is jobs. People back home are encouraged and are optimistic about the future, but they need some signs that jobs are increasing here in the United States. Jobs remain the number one issue.

Since I got here a little over a year ago with some of my freshman colleagues, a lot of us have made jobs our sole focus. There are a lot of different things we do to encourage job creation. My focus has been on the private sector. Private sector job creation, in my view, is the way that we get our economy going again, not through government stimulus. We’ve tried that to the tune of almost $1 trillion—almost $1 trillion—and it has not done what the President promised.

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It seems to me the best approach is to create an environment here in this country where the private sector can flourish, where people want to take risks, where they want to invest and compete with other countries. How do we do that? There are a variety of ways and that’s why we’re here tonight, to talk about some of these.

I’m joined by some of my colleagues, and I think that they would agree that one of the ways that we can encourage the private sector to grow and create jobs is fundamental tax reform. Another way is regulatory reform. Job creators around my district tell me what a lot of us know and that is that not regulation but overregulation, not regulation but excessive regulation, is a tax on businesses and it is a tax on job creators. So we need tax reform and we need regulatory reform.

We need to further pursue our energy resources here in the United States. We need to construct, for example, the Keystone XL pipeline that the President first delayed and then denied. Thirdly, we need to further explore our energy resources. Fourthly, we need to construct, for example, the alternative that Canada has talked about, which is shipping it to China for refined. The issue is do we refine them, no one will. The fact is they will be refined. The issue is not if we don’t refine, they do a lot more damage to the environment than we do. We are a better steward of the Earth when it comes to using some of those traditional energy sources.

Let’s talk about gas prices because that affects jobs. Listen, some of this has to do with looking at the world market. If we signaled immediately that we were ready to start using our resources, the prices would come down because people would speculate that oil is not going to be available in the future and the not-so-distant future, but also even 2 or 3 years from now, would realize that the giant in the world of energy was finally awaked from its slumber and ready to go on the market for jobs. So I think it is important that we look at drilling. I don’t think we should be mocking it.

Dig. Obviously we have a lot of coal resources in this country. My district has a lot of coal. It also has natural gas and for oil, we can turn natural gas and for oil, we can turn around a lot of the things that are happening in this country.

Let’s talk about gas prices because that affects jobs. Listen, some of this has to do with looking at the world market. If we signaled immediately that we were ready to start using our resources, the prices would come down because people would speculate that oil is not going to be available in the future and the not-so-distant future, but also even 2 or 3 years from now, would realize that the giant in the world of energy was finally awaked from its slumber and ready to go on the market for jobs. So I think it is important that we look at drilling. I don’t think we should be mocking it.

Dig. Obviously we have a lot of coal resources in this country. My district has a lot of coal. It also has natural gas and for oil, we can turn around a lot of the things that are happening in this country.

That brings me actually to the Keystone pipeline. The President first delayed it, then he denied it so that the extreme environmentalists would be happy with him. If you apply what you are talking about, it seems to me we would rather be refining the oil sands from Canada in this country instead of the alternative that Canada has talked about, which is shipping it to China for refining. Why? Because we refine cleaner, we refine safer, and we do a better job.

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Those oil sands are going to be refined. The issue is not if we don’t refine them, no one will. The fact is they will be refined. The issue is do we refine them or do the Chinese refine them? I think what you’re saying, and I wholeheartedly agree, we do a better job here.

Mr. GRIFFITH OF Virginia. Absolutely. I would have to say we do a much better job here.
It’s almost like I can remember when I was much younger, liberals always said to conservatives, Well, you all act like the United States is the only country in the world, and we have to look at the whole world. Now the liberals are looking at it and saying, Well, the United States can help people in the world. We have to only look at the United States and we don’t look at the big picture.

I think, inadvertantly, even with good intentions, there are, in fact, greater pollution risks by us not using our energy than there are with us using our energy with the reasonable regulations that have been in place for some time.

That being said, let’s take a look at how that impacts on jobs. Not only do we get the pollution, but we don’t get the jobs. We don’t get the money.

You talked about living within our means and so forth. Let’s take a look at my district.

AEP, American Electric Power, is the biggest power provider in my district. There are others. They have estimated, with new regulations, energy costs are going to go up 10 to 15 percent as the traditional Second District will go from $8 billion. Ten to 15 percent on hard-working America is tough, but when you look at the job component, when you look at that job component, that means it’s going to cost more in my district to make the chips. It’s going to cost more in my district to work the family farm. It’s going to cost more in my district to make furniture. It’s going to cost more in my district to make paper products, whiteboard. I just touched on the surface.

Every single retail establishment, every single business has to use electricity; but when you raise the cost of manufacturing goods or using electricty to manufacture goods by 10 to 15 percent over the course of the next few years, you’re making us less competitive in the world, and we lose more jobs and we have more people who are unemployed and more people who aren’t able to go out and buy products, which then means more people lose their jobs because they’re not selling those Fords down at the Ford place. They’re not selling washing machines and TVs and all of the products that are out there. We lose even more jobs because we can’t afford to recognize that the regulations are killing our jobs, and our jobs are going elsewhere.

I have to say, getting back to what I call the four Ds—drill, dig, discover, and deregulate—I’m not saying we don’t look at all of the above. The President was in Florida. He said we only wanted to drill, drill, drill, and he was talking about algae. I’m not one of those people who’s going to criticize the President for looking at algae. I think algae actually has a positive future. I think it’s because to recognize that the regulations are killing our jobs, and our jobs are going elsewhere.

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the need for a solid energy policy that allows our country to access its own resources, American energy resources to solve America’s energy challenges; and, of course, he’s talked about the deficits and the debt.

Now, if you look at the plight that we’re in today insofar as job creation— one greater than 8 percent unemployment, sustained unemployment of over 8 percent—and when you look at the fact that people are out here scrambling to find work—meaningful jobs as they want to be productive and want to contribute to American exceptionalism—then the way you do that is not by taking a welfare check; it’s by having a paycheck. If you’re looking at this plight today like you would an impending storm, it’s a dark, dark cloud of uncertainty that hangs over the job creators.

I submit to you that the reason so many people are sitting on trillions of dollars of cash, those who would like to get into the game and create jobs and expand the American economy, is that they have a difficult time computing their real costs, and they don’t know how energy is going to affect their ability to create jobs. They don’t know how the next regulation, the next rule that is going to come down from Washington, is going to impact their ability to earn a profit. As evidenced by the downing of the Dow, as we’ve read last year by the S&P, they’re not confident that Congress, these people who gather in this Chamber every day, is capable of making the decisions, of having the courage to make the decisions to put America on a different fiscal path. It’s a dark, dark cloud of uncertainty. I don’t blame them for sitting on the sidelines right now, but there is a lot of cash ready to get in the game if we’ll just do some of the right things.

The two who have spoken tonight talked about regulation, but that’s not why I came to the floor tonight, and that’s not what I wanted to talk about primarily. I came from a meeting right before votes today that talked about an issue totally unrelated to my district and unrelated to most of America. It’s out in California.

Later this week, we’re going to vote on H.R. 1837, the San Joaquin Valley Water Reliability Act. I heard my colleagues talking last night, particularly about this issue, as he has done a number of times from the well of this House, in that, back in 2009, Federal regulations to protect a 3-inch fish, the delta smelt, led to the deliberate diversion of over 300 billion gallons of water away from the San Joaquin Valley and its farmers. It cost thousands of farm workers their jobs; it inflicted up to 40 percent unemployment in certain communities; and it fallored hundreds of thousands of acres of fertile farmland. Those were real jobs.

Because of Federal regulations and this desire on the part of this Congress—of this Federal Government, I should say—to protect a 3-inch fish, we turned our backs on American workers. In so doing, we affected millions of people nationwide because, when you affect the fertile farmlands of California the way we put by diverting this water, you have, indeed, taken a step toward increasing the price of food.

The bill that we will consider later this week is a comprehensive solution that would restore water deliveries that have been cut off through the Federal regulatory process and environmental lawsuits and through a plethora of things facing the California farmers.

Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas. I hear what the gentleman is saying. I agree wholeheartedly. Correct me if I’m wrong, but what you’re saying is that the issue is not regulation. The issue is excessive regulation. The issue is overregulation. I’ve got a 2-year-old and a 4-year-old. I love them dearly and I look to get on that plane where I happen to come up here from Arkansas and have to leave them back at the house. I want them to have clean air and clean water, and I don’t know anyone—the folks here tonight included—who are against regulation. Regulation that is properly designed and that protects our kids, et cetera.

This is not about whether to regulate or not. This is about excessive regulation, overregulation, the regulatory process that does not consider cost-benefit analysis. And the impact on jobs, that does not employ common sense. Washington regulators who don’t speak with folks impacted on the ground, well-intentioned though they may be, who don’t look at the impact and at the potential impact of their overregulation. That’s what I hear from my colleagues.

I agree wholeheartedly, and I think that is a critical distinction to point out because we always hear folks saying, You’re overregulation. That’s a false choice. That’s a straw man. That’s not anyone’s argument that I’ve heard. The issue is one of overregulation, of excessive regulation.

Mr. WOMACK. Let me take it a step further because I can relate to what the gentleman is talking about and can relate it back to my home district.

I think the gentleman would agree that, over the last several years in Arkansas, there has been a phenomenal rate of growth in the northwest part of our State, the area that I happen to represent, which is the great Third District of Arkansas. It’s known for its incredible growth over the last several years. Now, it is home to some pretty well-known companies, companies like Walmart and J.B. Hunt trucking and Tyson Foods.

If you look at northwest Arkansas, there is really no compelling reason why prior to the establishment of those major companies that northwest Arkansas would be an area where you would have this unprecedented growth. But for the entrepreneurial spirit and drive of guys like Sam Walton and Don Tyson and J.B. Hunt—and I could go down another list of people who have provided jobs and who have created and expanded businesses and who have made a meaningful impact on the greater mid-South and the entire Nation—northwest Arkansas, by my account, be kind of an average area with no great infrastructure, until recently there, and with no real compelling reason why it would be anything special.

Yet we’re fighting an issue in the greater northwest Arkansas area that could, indeed, impact our ability to continue to grow. I’m talking about EPA’s desire, insatiable appetite, to put a total maximum daily load, a TMDL, you and I to be the phosphorus loading in the Illinois River watershed, which flows into Oklahoma, because of a loading standard imposed on northwest Arkansas by our neighboring State, a standard that many say is not even achievable.

So all of the great development and job creation and the elevated quality of life is in jeopardy. The future is in jeopardy as a result of a Federal agency imposing on the region a standard that may or may not even be able to be achieved.

I bring that up for this reason: back when I was a mayor of a city in northwest Arkansas, I challenged EPA to give us the science, to show us exactly how they can calculate that this standard has been impacted by the farmers and ranchers of northwest Arkansas and those who manage the point sources of pollution, the municipalities. I happened to be the mayor who presided over one of those. As I understand it, the science was a collection of data from about 20 streams somewhere in America, streams not known to us. They took, I think, the 75th percentile of the average phosphorus loading into those streams. I doubt seriously that they used streams and rivers that were similar to what we were dealing with in northwest Arkansas.

I bring up this subject only because we’re talking about job creation tonight, and our ability to continue to expand the economy in northwest Arkansas is dependent on our ability to have a good, clean water supply and to be able to treat our wastewater and to be able to discharge it properly and sufficiently in order to be able to create growth.

Yet I’m afraid, one day, we’re going to look up, and because of these standards, based on what we call bullshit bureaucracy, this overregulation that we’ve talked about, that we’re not going to have an opportunity to grow because we’re going to be into moratoria on growth and development in the northwest area as a result of these unfair standards. But that’s a whole other story.

I really came tonight to talk with my colleague about tax reform because, as we’ve indicated, the threat of higher taxes, or the tax structure as we now know it, is, in my strongest opinion, one of the great barriers to job creation.
You know, just the other day, in this very Chamber, the President of the United States stood on the dais and he talked to this Congress about the need for comprehensive tax reform. In his proposal to reform the corporate tax code, I was pleased to see the President show some leadership in this regard, and I look forward to working with the administration and my colleagues in the House and Senate to do something that I think is in my strong opinion long overdue.

I, along with many of my colleagues, agree on the need for corporate tax reform. The U.S. has one of the highest corporate tax structures in the world, second only to Japan. This discourages job growth and job creation in the United States.

It’s time to broaden the base, time to get the government out of the business of picking winners and losers, time to eliminate special interest loopholes, and it’s time to lower the corporate tax rate once and for all. But corporate tax reform is not the only piece of the puzzle. There are many other pieces. If we are going to grow the economy and give our job creators the certainty they need to invest, we also should look at the individual rates—not just the corporate rates, but the individual structure as well.

There’s an opportunity to simplify the individual tax code. In December of 2010, according to the Compendium of Tax Expenditures prepared by the Congressional Research Service that we all use, there were more than 300 tax expenditures in the form of special exclusions, exemptions, deductions, credits, rates, and deferrals. We need to re-evaluate every single one of these expenditures.

There are many other benefits of comprehensive tax reform. For example more than 90 percent of the Treasury’s budget goes to the IRS. If we simplify the Tax Code and make it easier to follow and enforce, the IRS doesn’t need the resources it currently needs.

What’s more, IRS reported, and I think these numbers were back in 2006, hundreds of billions—I think some were just short of $400 billion—of what we call a tax gap. Again, simplification of the Tax Code makes it easier to follow and enforce, and we can significantly narrow that gap.

I look forward to working with my colleagues from both sides of the aisle who are looking forward to working on comprehensive tax reform. I believe in my heart that it is, as my colleague from Arkansas has indicated, one of four things, four basic things, or the basic issues facing America today that can help put our job creators back into the business of doing what they do best. And that is having ideas, incubating those ideas, making those ideas come to reality, taking the necessary risks, having access to the capital, to the support structures, to expand those businesses by hiring people, by growing things, by making things.

And as my friend from Virginia said a moment ago, we have proven that the American worker is the most productive worker in the world. And that’s what we need to do: Corporate tax reform; ending this excessive over-regulatory environment that we’re in; to access American energy solutions to solve America’s energy challenges; and once and for all doing something about the extraordinary deficits—four straight trillion-plus-dollar deficits—facing America today that can help put our job creators back into the business, our job creators in this country, long overdue.

But one of the real specific reasons why we must deal with the individual tax rates to grow jobs is because many businesses pay their taxes, particularly LLCs, sole proprietorships, partnerships, mom and pop businesses all around the country in Arkansas and in my state. They pay their taxes using the individual income tax brackets. So you can’t just address corporate tax code, although the President’s corporate tax “reform” has got a lot of tax hikes in it that will make our businesses, our job creators in this country, less competitive.

But you can’t just reform the Tax Code by dealing with corporate tax reform. You’ve got to look at individual tax reform, corporate tax reform across the board. You have to make it simpler, fairer, and flatter. Some of the terms that we’ve talked about, we’ve certainly advocated for that in our budget last year, and we are going to do it again this year.

It’s critical, not only for job creation by larger businesses but by small business, mom and pop businesses. So tax reform is a critical part of what we need to do to get jobs going.

As I’ve talked about earlier, some of my colleagues talked about, there are a number of reforms that we have been pursuing for over a year now that relate directly to private sector job creation.

As I indicated earlier, it’s tax reform, its regulatory reform, it’s more energy development. It’s living within our means. Individually, these issues may not have jobs in the title, but they are the columns, the supports, that hold up the private sector job building, if you will.

I want to say a couple of things about the regulatory issue because I’ve just introduced a bill, H.R. 4078, Regulatory Freeze for Jobs Act. A lot of us said, I’m not antiregulation. I don’t know anyone that’s against regulations across the board. What I’m against is the Federal Government failing to apply common sense when regulating. What I’m against is excessive regulations, overly burdensome regulations.

I’ll give you an example. I had a jobs conference down in my district in Little Rock at the Clinton Presidential Library. We had a jobs conference. We invited a number of job creators. It seems to me if you want to know what to do to create private sector jobs or encourage private sector job creation, you’d ask someone who had actually created them, folks from the private sector, experts on this issue. We invited them in and said, Hey, what’s the biggest obstacle to job creation? We had Democrats and Republicans both. And we asked them just point blank, and the number one answer was regulation.

And what does that mean? Well, it means that folks have money that they might want to invest, but they hold on tight.
to that money because they’re not quite sure what’s going to happen. They’re not sure whether we’re going to get our debt under control or not. They’re not sure how much ObamaCare, the President’s health care law, is going to cost them. They’re not sure whether regulations that they’ve heard proposed by the EPA as potentially being proposed, they’re not sure whether those are going to be implemented or not. It’s just uncertainty everywhere. And I had someone say to me this week, Well, there’s always uncertainty.

Yes, there is always uncertainty. If you’re a farmer, there’s uncertainty whether there will be enough rain for the crops that year. There will always be some uncertainty in life because we don’t have crystal balls. I get that. But what we don’t want is a Federal Government that needlessly creates additional uncertainty.

You know, sometimes we say, I had enough uncertainty before, this came along. Well, that’s what we’re talking about. You have enough to deal with naturally. You have enough uncertainty as it is. You don’t need the Federal Government creating more uncertainty.

If you talk to community banks who have been impacted by the President’s Dodd-Frank law, they’ve got a lot of uncertainty. They’re having to hire new folks to comply with the law. What are the new regulations going to be? You know that, just now, they’re coming. Don’t know what they’re going to be yet, just know they’re coming and they’re going to be burdensome. The same with the health care law.

Here’s a quote from, actually, a well-known Democrat businessman, commissioner on the Arkansas Highway Commission appointed by our Democrat Governor in Arkansas, former chairman of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission. John Burkhalter. He said at my jobs conference:

Every project I look at now, I’ve got to wonder if I’m going to get to build it because, are the regulations going to stop me? The high school students get it. Young children. I have an 11-year-old, a 6-year-old, and a 4-year-old, and I’m concerned about them.

Well, that’s true? If you just look at the numbers, it’s true, if you just look at the number of regulations. But if you look at the number of what are called major regulations and the burden that it puts, the cost of the regulations, the President has done far exceeds what we’ve seen before.

The previous administration issued an average of 63 major regulations per year. This administration has issued an average of 88, an increase of 40 percent. Under President Bush, the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs reviewed an average of 77 economically significant regulations biennially. These are the ones that really impact business. About a minor regulation here or there. We’re talking about the ones that really impact job creators. Under President Bush, his Office of Regulatory Affairs reviewed about 77 every 2 years. Under this President, twice a year. They’re added, but not far from it. If the administration maintains its current pace, it would add nearly $150 billion annually in new regulatory costs over 8 years.

I’m going to yield to my friend from Virginia, but before I do, I just want to mention that I have proposed the Regulatory Freeze for Jobs Act, H.R. 4078. What it would do, it would basically freeze the introduction and progression of major regulations, those having an impact greater than $100 million, and it would freeze those with exceptions for emergencies, health issues, what have you. There are exceptions in the bill. But it would freeze them until our unemploy- ment rate gets down to 6 percent to show that we’re getting our footing. What the regulatory environment is doing to our job creators is stifling their ability to create jobs.

I’m going to yield now to my colleague from Virginia.

Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia. I thank you so much.

I struck around just because I wanted to hear more about your Regulatory Freeze for Jobs Act. I think that is a great concept. I look forward to reading it. It is the way and the direction that we ought to be going, because I’m willing to bet that those regulations that have been approved are probably, if you looked at the inches of the regulations, it might only be one reg, but I would bet that this administration beats the Bush administration on inches of regulation by a mile.

That being said, I have to also say that I go out and talk to not only the Rotary Clubs and other civic organizations, but I like talking to high school students, because what we do here in Washington will be a far greater impact on their lives than what we do on our own lives. It’s our children.

You distributed you have young children. I have an 11-year-old, a 6-year-old, and a 4-year-old, and I’m concerned about them.

But the high school students get it. When I start talking about the regulations and I talk about what would you do if you were a factory that was faced with having to pay big fines because you couldn’t comply—couldn’t comply, not didn’t want to—couldn’t physically and timewise comply with an EPA regulation, what happens to those jobs? You know what they say? I don’t have to teach them this. They already know it. Those jobs go somewhere else, usually to China.

Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas. Sure. Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia. And they know, and we talk about the money issue. You talked about that, and you’re absolutely right. They know that if we create a regulatory environment that’s conducive to creation of jobs—not no regulations but conducive to creating jobs—that we end up with more jobs. If you end up with more jobs, you have more taxpayers. If you have more taxpayers, you have more taxes. And guess what. Just like in our households, if you have more money coming in, it’s a whole lot easier to pay your bills going out.

And so when we talk about living within our means, we can live within our means at a higher level if we just have the ability for the American entrepreneurial spirit and the American entrepreneur to go out and take the normal risks that are associated with any business enterprise and create the jobs, the jobs that over the last century have kept generation after generation of people that we know and love, hard to create, and in a mere 200 years created the greatest economic system, the greatest economic country ever seen on this planet.

I have to say, it comes back, and you talk about the ones that really impact job creators. I am from a very rural district compared to a lot of the others, and the community banks are the heart and soul of those communities; and yet they are afraid to lend money to people they know are going to make a hard to create, and in a mere 200 years created the greatest economic system, the greatest economic country ever seen on this planet.

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And so when we talk about living within our means, we can live within our means at a higher level if we just have the ability for the American entrepreneurial spirit and the American entrepreneur to go out and take the normal risks that are associated with any business enterprise and create the jobs, the jobs that over the last century have kept generation after generation of people that we know and love, hard to create, and in a mere 200 years created the greatest economic system, the greatest economic country ever seen on this planet.

I have to say, it comes back, and you talk about the ones that really impact job creators. I am from a very rural district compared to a lot of the others, and the community banks are the heart and soul of those communities; and yet they are afraid to lend money to people they know are going to make
banks got the brunt of a lot of this because the big banks can afford the extra regulation and compliance. The small banks cannot. So, what the President’s bill did is it ignored Fannie and it ignored Freddie—the problems—and then it went after banks. It made Wall Street tiny, and they didn’t have any of them got on board and endorsed it. And then who took the brunt of the burden, the regulatory burden? Small-town banks. Small-town banks.

Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas. You said that Wall Street backed it, but I can guarantee you, Main Street didn’t back it. Main Street had problems with it. I feel personal about this because as a young lawyer right out of law school, I took some risks. I had to go to the bank. The bank that I had been dealing with wouldn’t work with me on buying a building. But one of my community banks stepped up to the plate, and they said, do you know what? We know that as long as you’re alive, you’ll pay this loan. We’re not interested in the house. You can count on you because we have known you since you were a kid, and we know exactly that you’re going to be there, and you’re going to do things.

Without that money, I daresay that I would not have a successful law practice for 26 years. A lot of times people don’t think of lawyers as businessmen, but if you’re a sole practitioner like I was for many, many years, you’ve got to make the payroll, you’ve got to make the mortgage payments, and you’ve got to do the things that you have got to do. Well, guess what’s happening? That loan wouldn’t have been made to me today.

Another young man in a situation like I was in who wanted to go out and practice on his own and make his way in his hometown wouldn’t be allowed to do that under the current regulatory scheme—and that’s that job plus the jobs of all the people who I had working for me. So I am not going to go out and make a success because we have been relentless in this House—relentless in this House—pushing the President to allow for the construction of that pipeline. We’ve got a long way to go, but we’ll keep pushing.

On the budget and living within our means, we’ve been fighting this battle for over a year. So none of this is brand spanking new. A lot of these ideas we’ve been fighting for for over a year, and we’ll continue to. But we’ve got to keep talking about them, keep talking about them.

So what’s happened after we passed them? Well, a significant number, about 30 or so, have passed this House, and they go right down to the other side of the building, and they sit in the Senate. Many of us grew up in the 1970s and saw the little cartoon, “Schoolhouse Rock,” the little bill sitting on the Capitol Hill steps out here somewhere. That little cartoon taught me the fundamentals of our democracy, how a bill becomes law. It passes this House, and then what happens? Well, it has to go down to the Senate.

Unfortunately, they haven’t passed a budget out of the Senate in over a year, where I come from. And when we look at any bills that haven’t passed our bills, either. So we’ve addressed a lot of this stuff. And we’re going to keep talking about it and keep pushing and keep pushing. But a lot of it is sitting right down there in the Senate waiting for action, going nowhere. So if you’re wondering what’s happened to these ideas, that’s where they are. And we are continuing to work on them there, continuing to pressure the Senate and the President to try to work with us to get this stuff done. So we’ve got to keep pushing for tax reform, regulatory reform, energy exploration, getting the Federal Government to live within its means and having a commonsense budget, and as part of that, addressing our infrastructure issues, all those together, they all relate to jobs. So we’ll keep fighting for jobs.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOHMERT. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

These are the best of times and in some ways the worst of times. Our freedoms are under assault, and some people in places of leadership do not appreciate the threat to our freedoms and therefore are naively assisting those who would take them away.

We know that in recent days in Afghanistan we had some soldiers who were given the responsibility to burn Korans which were being used by prisoners to write messages of an incendiary nature to other prisoners. Well, it’s my understanding of sharia law that to write in such a Koran could be considered a desecration; yet there’s been no protest, no outrage over prisoners using the Koran to pass inflammatory messages to other prisoners. Well, it’s our duty to protect our freedoms.

We’ve also seen the death of Americans as a result. Two officers, along with others, have been killed and injured. Our Commander in Chief has seen fit to apologize to those who house the killers of our two American officers.

When I think about the feelings of the family members of the two American officers who were serving, to have a commander not do as Lincoln and so many Commanders in Chief that I have done in the past wherein they sent those troubling letters to grieving families to thank them for their service and to truly grieve with the families, no, in this case, the Commander in Chief sent messages instead to the home of the killer.

Now, we’re led to believe by some internationally that, gee, it just overwhelmed the killer of the two officers. But then we hear that he may have taken a slencer with him to work. We’ve seen the Commander in Chief say that they haven’t addressed that in any way. And I’ve been in to prosecute, my court as a judge, my region as a chief justice, that would be considered evidence of premeditation, of first degree murder; and yet we apologize to those who truly integrate into the hearts of the American people.

I haven’t heard a demand for an apology from Afghanistan and from the leaders of Afghanistan, who would not be in office but for the lives and sacrifice of American soldiers. They wouldn’t be there but for American soldiers who have done their jobs. So I think we have to look a little deeper at what is really going on here.
We know that in the United States it's been deemed to be just fine to stick a cross that symbolizes the death and sacrifice of Jesus Christ in a beaker of urine. Now, some of us believe that anybody that would do such a thing is committing a terrible wrong, but this life will have its special price to pay by the Judge of all judges, by that chief justice, I took an oath to support the Constitution. Yet we even have great Americans who have risked their life for this country, who see the death and loss of lives, say you know what, maybe we ought to have a law that says you can't shoot a Koran or you can't shoot at a Koran. Some may recall that on May 22, 2008, there was a U.S. soldier that shot at a Koran. That sparked unrest, and there were two civilians and an American that were killed as a result of that. Some people may remember last year when a pastor in Florida burned a Koran; it sparked rioting and 11 were killed, including seven U.N. workers.

What's really going on here? Well, I think it's important to look back to the Organization of Islamic—what used to be Islamic Conference—now it's been changed to Islamic Cooperation—and we can find some things. I've got a chart here to show. This is from the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit. It outlines the 10-year Program of Action to Meet the Challenges Facing the Muslim Ummah in the 21st Century. This is the Cairo Conference results. It's important to note that the term ‘Islamophobia’ was invented for just such occasions to try to demonize Americans—or so-called ‘Westerners’—who might try to say there's such a thing as freedom of speech, freedom of religion, who would seek to subjugate our First Amendment rights to the Islamic Conference, their rules and sharia law.

The plan, the 10-year plan from December 2005, the plan is, here at number two. Affirm the need to counter Islamophobia through the establishment of an observatory at the OIC General Secretariat to monitor all forms of Islamophobia, issue an annual report thereon, and ensure cooperation with the relevant governmental and non-governmental organizations, NGOs, in order to counter Islamophobia. Endeavor to have the United Nations adopt an international resolution to counter Islamophobia, and call upon all States to enact laws to counter it, including deterrent punishments.

That's right. This is in compliance with the 10-year plan from 2005 to subjugate Americans’ First Amendment rights under our Constitution to sharia law. □ 2020

It's not a terribly complicated effort, but it is brutal. It has cost so many lives, all in an effort to not only to subjugate their freedoms but it is brutal. It has cost so many lives, both in the Revolution, in all 57 states—that's right, 57 states—and related attacks since the incident occurred, both in the Revolution, in the civil rights movement that resulted in the abolition of slavery, in the civil rights movement of the 1950s and '60s. Let's not forget, Martin Luther King, Jr., was an ordained Christian minister. He knew and espoused the true way, truth and light. When we hear about the cause for human rights under sharia's law, it is important to understand what that means. This is from the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam from August of 1990. Article 25:

All the rights and freedoms stipulated in this Declaration are subject to the Islamic sharia.

Article 25:

Islamic sharia is the only source of reference for the explanation or clarification of any of the articles of this Declaration.

That's what we're talking about. When the term ‘human rights’ is utilized, it's important for people to understand that under this declaration of human rights that is still being for this day and today, it's important to note that those are considered human rights only under the definition of sharia.

When we're told about the OIC believing and pushing human rights, that no one one has ever desecrated a Koran in any way, although they can burn Bibles and American flags all day long. It means no one has the freedom of speech to draw a cartoon about Mohammed because if they don't have the human right to be executed.

If someone is a Muslim and they pronounce that Jesus Christ has become their Lord, then they have the human right to be executed. If someone is a woman testifying under the laws of sharia, she has the right to have her testimony only count as half that of a man. Under these terms, if a woman inherits from a male, she has the human right to receive just one-half of the inheritance that a man would. Under sharia, as to those women on whose part you fear disloyalty and ill conduct, admonish them first, next refuse to share their beds, and, last, beat them. If a husband is displeased with his wife, the woman has the human right to be beaten.

This goes on and on. I'm surprised that the women's rights movement has not been more assertive in pointing out the inequalities that occur in countries that espouse sharia and the threat that it imposes to women's rights all over the world and in America.

Under sharia’s, to bring a claim of rape, a Muslim woman must present four male Muslim witnesses in good standing. Islam places the burden of avoiding illicit sexual encounters entirely on the woman. In fact, under sharia’s, women who bring a claim of rape without being able to produce four male Muslim witnesses, admitting to having had illicit sex, if she or the man is married, this amounts to an admission of adultery and she should be punished. Some believe she should be stoned to death and at a minimum
She has the human right to be flogged or in some eyes to be stoned to death. Those are those who are saying we should get out of Afghanistan now. Actually, we could have done that a long time ago if a different course had been pursued. It is not inappropriate to note that in so many circumstances the enemy of our enemy should be considered our friend.

Along with Dana Rohrabacher and Steve King, we met twice with Northern Alliance leaders, and although these brave leaders and their soldiers, their horse soldiers, did what some intelligence and special ops individuals have indicated, performed acts of heroism and gallantry such as they’d never seen before on their behalf and on behalf of America.

The Taliban was initially defeated, people forget, when we had initially less than 200, at no point more than 1,500, American special ops and intelligence just embedded with the Northern Alliance, assisting them as the enemy of the Taliban.

Our friends, the Northern Alliance, they’re Muslim. They’re our Muslim friends, but they did not want the intolerance of the Taliban and were willing to pay any price, just as the Founders were, to prevent having the Taliban take them over and, as they had done before, burn films, burn books, burn art, dictate to the women, prevent their freedoms. The Northern Alliance helped us by basically being the people who defeated the Taliban. We provided them the arms to do it, we provided them the aerial support, and they did it.

We disarmed them, told them they had nothing to worry about. We added over 100,000 troops and became occupiers, we tried to nation build. We gave them a constitution that provides for shari’a law.

Where is the apology to Afghan Christians for getting them a constitution that does not permit public churches? The last Christian church in Afghanistan has closed. At last account, I’d seen there was one acknowledged Jewish person living in Afghanistan.

Now there’s intolerance. We have a $12.5 billion government in Afghanistan. That’s their budget, and they provide about $1.5 billion of their own. You know what happens to that government when we pull out? That’s why the Taliban is telling people, even on Afghan television, We’re going to be in charge as soon as the U.S. pulls out.

There are ways to deal with this issue. If you look at the map, you get a good idea what we’re talking about.

During a recent trip to Afghanistan and meeting with Baluch people—let’s first look at the map itself.

Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iran, India. Now, before 1948, this area in here was Baluchistan. In 1948, the arbitrary lines that were drawn put Baluchistan in with Pakistan. This used to be a Baluch area. As a recent Pakistan Daily News editorial pointed out, most of Pakistan’s natural resources come from this area. As people have advised us in Afghanistan when I was over there recently, the Taliban are being supported by supplies, arms. They’re getting their support from southern Pakistan into southern Afghanistan. They’re coming through the Baluch area.

The Baluch don’t want that. They’re Muslim. They’re our friends. They want to be our friends. They would be wonderful friends. They have been terrorized by the Pakistani Government for decades, and we’ve stood by and didn’t seem to care, the world has.

Well, perhaps it is time to recognize an independent Baluchistan, where we’d have a friend who would not keep supplying the enemy of America, those people that helped train and prepare for 9/11 to kill as many thousands of Americans as they could.

We don’t want to leave Afghanistan in the hands of the Taliban and all of the American life and treasure be for nothing. But there is an easy answer. We leave, but we empower the enemy of our enemy, the Northern Alliance, and the Baluch people. Let them take care of their own area. Let them prevent the Taliban from taking over. Let them prevent Pakistan from becoming such a focused enemy as they have unabated. Let India wants to be our friend.

If we look at the area of Pakistan, well, this shows the different major ethnic groups. Pink here is the Baluch people; green is the Pashtun. And, of course, only a tiny percentage of the Pashtun people make up the Taliban, but virtually all of the Taliban is made up of Pashtun. They do come over here into Pakistan. Then we have brown as the Punjabi and the yellow as the Sindi.

Northern Alliance is up here. You’ve got a number of different groups up there, but these are people who do not want the Taliban to ever take over. They’re the enemy of our enemy, and that’s where we can do some real good. It’s time to stop the support of those who would take away our First Amendment rights.

There’s an article, this is from CNN, May 20, 2009:

Military personnel threw away, and ultimately burned, Bibles that were printed in the two most common Afghan languages amid concerns that they would be used to try to convert Afghans, a Defense Department spokesman said Tuesday.

The unsolicited Bibles sent by a church in the United States were confiscated about a year ago at Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan because military rules forbid troops of any religion from proselytizing while deployed there.

Such religious outreach can endanger American troops and civilians in the devoutly Muslim nation.

Would it endanger civilians if they have burned Bibles that Americans say we’re fighting for? Why? We’re burning Bibles, the American military did, back in 2009?

I was given this Bible by my aunt, told that it was provided during World War II to my uncle, says, “May the Lord be with you.” It’s a New Testament, and inside the front cover it says:

As Commander in Chief, I take pleasure in commending the reading of the Bible to all who serve in the Armed Forces of the United States. Throughout the centuries, men of many faiths and diverse origins have found in the sacred book words of wisdom, counsel, and inspiration. It is a fountain of strength, and now, as always, an aid in attaining the highest aspirations of the human heart.

Signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

That wasn’t signed by President Obama. It was signed by Franklin Roosevelt, and it was given to our soldiers.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, let me just say, if the President takes more action to demean the American rights and to eliminate our own rights, then it’s time for the President to apologize, not to Afghanistan but to the American people.

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

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. Jackson of Illinois (at the request of Ms. Pelosi) for today on account of business in the district.

Mr. Bilbray (at the request of Mr. Corder) for today on account of a family medical issue.

Mr. Culberson (at the request of Mr. Corder) for today on account of illness.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Goehmert. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o’clock and 40 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, February 28, 2012, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker’s table and referred as follows:

5695. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Admiral Robert F. Willard, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

5696. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General John D. Gardner, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

5697. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department’s final

5098. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Equal Access to Housing in HUD Programs and Activities, by Gender Identity [Docket No.: FR-5539-F-02] (RIN: 2501-AD49) received February 15, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

5099. A letter from the Associate Secretary, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Group Health Plans and Health Insurance Issuers Relating to Coverage of Preventive Services Under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (RIN: 1219-AB44) received February 15, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

5100. A letter from the Associate Secretary, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Summary of Benefits and Coverage and Uniform Glossary — Temporaries as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

5101. A letter from the Associate Secretary, Employee Benefits Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Summary of Benefits and Coverage and Uniform Glossary (RIN: 1210-AB52) received February 15, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

5102. A letter from the Director, Defense Finance and Accounting Service, Department of Defense, transmitting Pursuant to Section 27(f) of Title 5, United States Code, the Service’s final rule — Foreign Tax Credit Splitting Events [TD 9577] (RIN: 1545-BK50) received February 15, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5103. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service’s final rule — Foreign Tax Credit Splitting Events (TD 9577) (RIN: 1545-BK50) received February 15, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.


5105. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the final rule — Report to Congress for the year 2010; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing, in accordance with the provisions of the rules of the House; and the following:

Mr. FOX: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 563. A resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2117) to prohibit the Department of Education from overseeing or participating in academic affairs and program eligibility under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (Rept. 112–404). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. MILLER of Florida (for himself, Mr. BENISHEK, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. ROSS of Arkansas, Mr. BOSLEY, Mr. LAMAR, Mr. ROGERS, Mr. KAPITO, Mr. SMITHERS, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. HOBBS, Mr. NOLAN, Mr. HULTEN, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. MCKINLEY), H.R. 4089. A bill to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing and shooting; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CARNAHAN, H.R. 4090. A bill to reauthorize the National Highway Safety Program Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. DEGETTE, H.J. Res. 4091. A bill to prohibit low-income individuals in obtaining medically recommended dental care; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GIBSON, H.R. 4092. A bill to amend the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 to provide clarification of certain constitutional rights to provisions of law relating to the military detention of certain covered person; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SEWELL (for herself and Mrs. ROBY), H. Res. 682. A resolution directing the Office of the Historian to compile oral histories from current and former Members of the House of Representatives involved in the historic 2008 Montgomery, Alabama, marches, as well as the civil rights movement in general, for the purpose of expanding or augmenting the historic record and for public dissemination and education; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY (for herself, Mr. BACA, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. CHILLINE, Mr. CLARKE of Michigan, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. DAVIDY, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. GUTTENBERG, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. HOLT, Mr. HONDA, Ms. JACKSON Lee of Texas, Ms. KAPUR, Mr. KUCINICH, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. MOORE, Mr. MURDOCH, Mr. ROSEN, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. SEKANEN, Ms. SPEIZER, Ms. WOLSEY, and Mr. WELCH), H. Res. 684. A resolution recognizing the critical importance of the supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP), formerly called the food stamp program; to the Committee on Agriculture.
HASTINGS OF FLORIDA, AND MR. MILLER OF FLORIDA:
H. RES. 555. A resolution commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Palm City Community, St. Lucie County, Florida; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted, specifying the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. MILLER of Florida:
H. R. 4089.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2; Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. CARNahan:
H. R. 4090.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution and Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. GIBSON:
H. R. 4092.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution (clauses 10, 11, 14, and 18), which grants Congress the power to define and punish offenses against the laws of nations, to make rules concerning captures on land and water, to make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces; and to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the foregoing powers.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:
H. R. 12: Mr. OLIVER.
H. R. 23: Mr. ROTHSCHILD OF NEW JERSEY.
H. R. 32: Mr. REYES.
H. R. 104: Mr. LANDGREN AND MS. BALDWIN.
H. R. 205: Mr. PEARCE.
H. R. 207: Mr. BACA.
H. R. 218: Mr. HINOJOSA.
H. R. 329: Mr. BROOKS, Ms. DOUGETT, and Mr. KINZINGER.
H. R. 385: Mr. SCHAowski AND Mr. JACKSON OF ILLINOIS.
H. R. 409: Mr. BURKE.
H. R. 492: Mr. KLINE AND Mr. PASCUell.
H. R. 450: Mr. LIPINSKI AND Mr. CONAWAY.
H. R. 481: Mr. MURPHY OF CONNECTICUT.
H. R. 511: Mr. BERMAN AND Mr. PHILGiLUS.
H. R. 633: Mr. GENE GREEN OF TEXAS AND Mr. ROTHSCHILD OF NEW JERSEY.
H. R. 640: Ms. SCHWARTZ.
H. R. 757: Mr. DEUTCH.
H. R. 819: Mr. BISHOP OF NEW YORK AND Ms. Beryl.
H. R. 799: Ms. LER OF CALIFORNIA, Mr. JACKSON OF ILLINOIS, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. WEST, AND Mr. ROTHSCHILD OF NEW JERSEY.
H. R. 807: Mr. STARK.
H. R. 812: Mr. SCHILLING.

H. R. 876: Mr. LANGEVIN.
H. R. 892: Mr. Kucinich.
H. R. 930: Mr. Ryan Of Ohio.
H. R. 931: Mr. Nunnelee.
H. R. 941: Mr. BLACK.
H. R. 1114: Mr. CAPUANO.
H. R. 1164: Mr. FINCHER.
H. R. 1167: Mr. CONAWAY.
H. R. 1296: Mr. RUNyan, Mr. DESJarlais, AND Mr. GIBBS.
H. R. 1380: Mr. Gutiérrez.
H. R. 1382: Ms. DeLauro AND Mr. Doyle.
H. R. 1384: Mr. BLACK.
H. R. 1432: Mr. Meshan.
H. R. 1370: Mr. Huelskamp.
H. R. 1386: Mr. Rangel.
H. R. 1404: Mr. Garamendi.
H. R. 1418: Mr. Gene Green Of Texas.
H. R. 1505: Mr. Runyan.
H. R. 1558: Mr. MurpHy Of Pennsylvania.
H. R. 1581: Mr. GraVACK.
H. R. 1588: Mr. ForbEs.
H. R. 1672: Mr. Stresn, Mr. Andrews, Mr. Ryan Of Ohio AND Mr. Platts.
H. R. 1681: Ms. BASS Of California.
H. R. 1738: Mr. Doyle.
H. R. 1895: Mr. Moran, Mr. Clay, AND Mrs. Napolitano.
H. R. 1912: Mr. Honda.
H. R. 2071: Ms. Bonamici.
H. R. 2085: Mr. Tierney AND Mr. Capuano.
H. R. 2131: Mr. Haul.
H. R. 2168: Mr. Clarke OF Michigan.
H. R. 2179: Mr. Benshnek.
H. R. 2245: Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Blumenauer, AND Mr. courtney.
H. R. 2267: Mr. ForbEs, Mr. Kissell, Mr. sires, Mr. Gonzalez, Mr. Keating, Mr. Jackson Of Illinois, AND Mr. Baca.
H. R. 2288: Mrs. Capps, Ms. Zoe Lopreono Of California, Ms. Slaughter, AND Ms. hahn.
H. R. 2328: Mr. Langevín.
H. R. 2353: Mr. cruZ.
H. R. 2494: Mrs. Davis Of California.
H. R. 2437: Mr. Fattah.
H. R. 2446: Mr. Meeks AND Mr. McCOTter.
H. R. 2499: Mr. Payne, Mr. Ellison, AND Mr. Posey.
H. R. 2513: Mr. Moran AND Mrs. Davis Of California.
H. R. 2529: Mrs. Lummmus.
H. R. 2634: Ms. Pingree Of Maine AND Mr. McGovern.
H. R. 2657: Mr. Clay.
H. R. 2738: Mr. Raul AND Ms. Matsui.
H. R. 2896: Mr. Lance, Mr. Rothman OF New Jersey, Mr. Holt, Mr. sires, Mr. Andrews, Mr. Frelinghuysen, Mr. Pallone, AND Mr. Runyan.
H. R. 2955: Ms. Sutton.
H. R. 2969: Mr. Gene Green Of Texas.
H. R. 3014: Mr. Marvin.
H. R. 3059: Mrs. Napolitano.
H. R. 3066: Mr. Wilson OF South Carolina.
H. R. 3083: Mr. Rothman OF New Jersey.
H. R. 3086: Mr. Rothman OF New Jersey, Mr. Alex Green OF Texas, Mr. Quegley, Ms. Linda T. Sánchez OF California, Mr. Honda, Mr. Thompson OF Mississippi, Mrs. Davis OF California, AND Mr. Volkosky.
H. R. 3297: Mr. Meshan.
H. R. 3299: Mr. Tonko, Mr. Womack, Mr. King, Mr. Young OF Indiana, Ms. Capito, Mr. Schakard, Ms. Zoe Lopreono OF California, Ms. schakowski, AND Mr. Ryan OF Ohio.
H. R. 3275: Mrs. Myrick.
H. R. 3324: Mr. Cohen.
H. R. 3353: Mr. Price OF North Carolina.
H. R. 3356: Mr. Sam Johnson OF Texas, Mr. Bera, AND Mr. Biggers.
H. R. 3384: Mr. Braly OF Iowa AND Mr. Loebsack.
H. R. 3373: Ms. Moore, Ms. chu, Ms. Ler OF California, AND Ms. Speier.
H. R. 3462: Mr. Kirkle.
H. R. 3464: Mr. Jackson OF Illinois.
H. R. 3476: Mr. Connolly OF Virginia.
H. R. 3485: Mr. Heinrich.
CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

The amendment to be offered by Representative Raul M. Grijalva, or a designee to H.R. 2117 the Protecting Academic Freedom in Higher Education Act, does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.
The Senate met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable Richard Blumenthal, a Senator from the State of Connecticut.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God: We make our earnest prayer that Thou wilt keep the United States in Thy holy protection; that Thou wilt incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to the government, and entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another and for their fellow citizens of the United States at large. And finally that Thou wilt most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility, and pacific temper of mind which were the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion, and without a humble imitation of whose example in these things, we can never hope to be a happy Nation. Grant our supplication, we beseech Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable Richard Blumenthal led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. Inouye).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable Richard Blumenthal, a Senator from the State of Connecticut, to perform the duties of the Chair.

Daniel K. Inouye, President pro tempore.

Mr. Blumenthal thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. Reid. Mr. President, following leader remarks, Senator Shaheen will be recognized to deliver Washington’s Farewell Address. This is the 150th anniversary of that tradition, and we are very pleased that Senator Shaheen is going to do this. No one could be more exemplary of his service than she.

SCHEDULE

Mr. Reid. Mr. President, following the address, the Senate will be in morning business until 4:30 p.m. today. At 4:30 p.m., the Senate will proceed to executive session to consider the nomination of Margo Brodie to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York. At 5:30 p.m., the Senate will vote on confirmation of the Brodie nomination.

I ask unanimous consent that following the vote and resumption of legislative session, the Senate be in a period of morning business for up to 1 hour, with the time equally divided and controlled between Senators Pryor and Alexander or their designees.

Without objection, it is so ordered.

REMEMBERING SENATOR RAGGIO

Mr. Reid. Mr. President, last week Nevada lost a great statesman and I lost a friend and mentor. William Raggio was the longest serving State senator in Nevada’s history. He died last week while traveling in Australia. My heart is with his wife Dale, whom I spoke with, children Leslie and Tracy and, of course, my thoughts go to Mark, the son Bill lost in 2004, six grandchildren, and they have a great-grandchild.

I hope it is some small comfort to know that all of Nevada mourns the loss of this very effective and fine Nevada citizen.

He was a second-generation Nevadan born and raised in Reno, NV. Senator Randolph Townsend said, “Bill was part of the fabric of the city.” That is true. He lived to serve.

In addition to his four decades of service in the State legislature, he volunteered to serve in the Armed Forces during World War II. He enlisted in the Navy at age 17, but the war ended before he graduated from officer training school.

When he finished his service, he attended the University of Nevada, and then went to law school in California. But he continued to serve in the U.S. Marine Corps as a United States Navy Reservist.

He was the district attorney of Washoe County, which is the Reno metropolitan area, for 18 years, including 3 terms before he became a State legislator. He was president of the National DAs Association.

He rooted out corruption wherever he served. There was nothing more corrupt, in his mind, and the minds of all Nevadans, than an illegal brothel. That illegal brothel went on by virtue of Joe Conforte being able to pass out money to people for a long time. Bill Raggio, as DA, picked a fight with him, and that fight is legend. Bill got the last word. Conforte spent 22 months in prison for trying to bribe Bill Raggio. And in 1965, Bill Raggio, to get the last word, had the local authorities declare that facility a nuisance and burn it.
down. He was there watching the fire as it destroyed that place.

It wasn’t until 1972 that Bill brought his integrity and dedication to the State House as a member of the Nevada State Senate. For 38 years, there wasn’t a piece of legislation that passed the Nevada legislature that didn’t have his imprint on it in some way. He worked to help pass thousands of different pieces of legislation. He was an expert in the process. Nobody knew how to craft a budget better than Bill Raggio.

He was a Republican who believed government should be “lean but not mean.” He was never afraid to work with Democratic members, even though he was Republican leader for several terms. Here is what he said recently: I think the present leadership of the Republican Party is a little too radical and has been taken over by what I think is a radical element.

He went on to say in an interview, after he decided to retire:

The party has to reshape itself, or it won’t win general elections down the road.

That is Bill Raggio, speaking as we should all speak—not as a Republican but as a Nevadan and an American. So it is no surprise to see the outpouring of grief of Democrats and Republicans at his passing.

“Nothing has ever loved this state more or has had a more passionate desire to make things better for the people who live here,” said Democratic Assemblywoman Jill Dickerson.

If there was a Mount Rushmore of Nevada politics, Bill Raggio’s image would forever be carved there. The Nevada family has lost a great patriarch.

That was what Republican Governor Brian Sandoval said.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD four pages of statements made by Nevada-elected and appointed officials, and citizens of Nevada about Bill Raggio.

The objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

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Saddened by the passing of Senator Bill Raggio. A true statesman. My thoughts & prayers are with his family.—Nevada Sen. Ruben Kihuen, D Las Vegas, via Twitter.

Feels odd to tweet about Bill Raggio but odd not to. He was my friend and a mentor. The world lost 4 Nev Hwy to know what a life he lived.—Nevada Assemblywoman Debbie Smith, D Reno, via Twitter.

For those of us in higher education, indeed the whole education community, we pause to thank this man who came from humble immigrant roots and rose to great power, in part because of public education and the contribution of education to his life. We have lost a member of our family today—indeed, our patriarch and champion.—Board of Regents, Nevada System of Higher Education.

Raggio was a champion for our Airport Authority and he had the vision to create a transportation entity that plays a vital role in the economy of our region. He was also a wonderful mentor to me and I will miss his sage advice and wise counsel. The legacy of his forward thinking will be felt in our community for years to come.—Krys Bart, president and CEO of the Reno-Tahoe Airport Authority.

He championed our state’s heritage and he made our values a priority. He ensured that preserving our environment was a non-partisan position in Carson City as he worked across the aisle to support conservation funding and wildlife. Regardless of your politics—Bill Raggio was the guy who led and will be missed.—Nevada Conservation League.

Those who have followed NPRI’s work over the years know that we have both agreed and disagreed with Mr. Raggio’s views on various policy issues. But there was never any doubt about his love for Nevada and his commitment to making it a better place to live. For that, he will always have our respect and our admiration.—Andy Matthews, president of Nevada Policy Research Institute.

He was every bit as good and as genuine and as committed to public service as what’s described. That’s the real person. It’s a huge loss.—Nevada Sen. Greg Brower, R Reno.

No one has ever loved this state more or had a more passionate desire to make things better for the people who live here. His ability to bring people together and get things done was legendary. . . . At times, he may have been an adversary on a particular issue, but he was always a true leader, a teacher and a friend.—Nevada Speaker of the Assembly John Oceguera, D Las Vegas.

He was one of the greatest friends and a true mentor to me. Our great state is better because of his leadership and service. He will be sorely missed.—Reno Mayor Bob Cashell.

The thing that was great about Senator Raggio and the time that I spent with him in the Legislature was his ability to bring the two sides together to get things done. He was a master at doing that.—Reno City Manager Andrew Cinger.

He understood that politics is really filled with compromise. The public still owns this process and they send people of all stripes, different backgrounds, different sections of the state. He knew in order to move things forward, you had to compromise.—Former Nevada Sen. Randolph Townsend, D Las Vegas.

Today Nevada Republicans across the state mourn the loss of a great leader and the loss
of an even greater friend. While it is a sad day for all Nevadans, it is only appropriate to remember the legacy and leadership he left behind for us to follow. A loss of a true icon in Nevada politics will not be forgotten... We will miss you.—Nevada Republican Party Chairman James Smack.

Shocked to hear of Sen Raggio’s passing—last time we spoke, he ranted about legislators needing to put aside politics & work together.—Nevada Sen. Sheila Leslie, D Reno, via Twitter.

Rest in peace Senator Raggio. You will be missed, but never forgotten.—Nevada Sen. Michael Roberson, R Henderson, via Twitter.

But Raggio also saw his Republican Party transform around him. In 2008, when a group of Assembly Republicans refused to vote for a tax plan, Raggio didn’t hesitate to exca-

ve a pejorative from earlier in his storied career: He called them “John Birchers.” By 2008, he was battling ex-Assemblywoman Sharron Angle in a primary fight for the dis-

trict he’d held comfortably since 1972.

When Raggio exercised his legendary inde-

pendence and stood up for personal pic es and principle, Democrat Harry Reid over Angle in the 2010 U.S. Senate race, his party finally let him. He was ousted from his leadership role by Fallon Republican Mike McGinness, and he tendered his res-

ignation from the Legislature for good.

“I think the present leadership of the Repub-

lican Party is too radical. An old idea has been taken over by what I think is a radical element,” Raggio said in an interview after he quit, using a term conservatives’ worst pejorative. “The party has to reshape itself or it won’t win general elections down the road.”

Mark his words for November.

In January 2011, Raggio told me in an interview that the state would go on without him. Nobody is irreplaceable. You will find that out soon, I hope Raggio will forgive me one last time if I simply don’t agree.

Mr. REID. He believed in doing what was right for Nevada, even when it wasn’t right for his political party. I admired him and respected him. I re-

spected him even when he and I dis-

agreed, and that happened. But we agreed far more than we disagreed.

I can remember the first time I met him. The person I worked for had worked as a deputy district attorney for Bill Raggio. He came to visit me in our law office, and he was always very funny, very articulate, and somebody I admired and, as I indicated, was my mentor. But I can remember him being in that office as if it were 10 minutes ago.

Upon his retirement last year, Bill told a local reporter, “Nobody is irre-

placeable.” That was another time, again, though, Bill and I disagreed. No one can replace Bill Raggio. The mark he left on Nevada politics could never be erased, but his powerful political voice and his true personal friendship will live on.

Senator Raggio was an effective leg-

islator and leader in part because of his willingness to cooperate with those with whom he disagreed. It would serve this Chamber well to emulate his bi-

 partisan approach.

WORKING TOGETHER

We have a great deal to accomplish this work period. We need to consider postal reform legislation. It is manda-
tory that we do that. We have a pressing cyber-security piece of legislation that the Pentagon says is the most im-

portant thing we can do for our coun-

try. We have to clear a backlog of judicial nominations that threatens the effec-
tiveness of our court system. But first, we must complete one of the most im-

portant tasks facing this Congress: strengthening our economy by rebuild-

ing our Nation’s crumbling infrastruc-
ture.

Today we will resume progress on the Transportation bill that will put 2 mil-

lion Americans back to work rebuild-

ing roads, bridges, trains, and their tracks.

The House is also considering trans-

portation legislation. I was glad to see that House Republicans have moved away from that extreme proposal they were considering a few weeks ago. They are going to now try to pass something similar to our bipartisan legislation.

This is bipartisan legislation.

Too much has been said about the prob-

lems this measure has to be科教了 by partisanship. President Dwight Eisen-

hower, a Republican, was the original champion of national infrastructure in-
vestment a half century ago. He once said:

Only strength can cooperate. Weakness can only beg.

He was right that it takes strength to work together. But working to-
gether also makes us strong. I look for-

ward to working together with my col-

leagues on both sides as we complete the transportation legislation that will make our economy strong.

We have 5 weeks during this work pe-

riod. We have a lot to do. I hope we can work together to get it done.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tem-
pore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

READING OF WASHINGTON’s FAR EWELL ADDRESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tem-
pore. Pursuant to the order of the Sen-
ate of January 24, 1901, as amended by the order of February 14, 2012, the Sen-
ator from New Hampshire, Mrs. SHA-
HEEN, will now read Washington’s Fare-
well Address.

Mrs. SHAHEEN, at the rostrum, read the Farewell Address, as follows:

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES

Friends and Fellow-Citizens: The period for a new election of a citizen to administer the executive government of the United States is being not far distant, and the time actually arrived when your thoughts must be em-

ployed in designating the person who is to be clothed with that important trust. It appears to me proper, especially as it may conduce to a more distinct expression of the public voice, that I should now apprise you of the decision I have arrived at, and which is considered among the number of those out of whom a choice is to be made.

I beg you at the same time to do me the justice to be assured that this resolution has not been taken without a strict regard to all the considerations appertaining to the rela-
tions which bind a dutiful citizen to his country—and that, in withdrawing the tender of service which silence in my situation might imply, I am influenced by no diminu-
tion of esteem for your defici-
cy of grateful respect for your past kind-
ness, but am supported by a full conviction that the step is compatible with both.

The acceptance of, and continuance hith-
erto in, the office to which your suffrages were cast was called me a uniform sacrifice of inclination to the opinion of duty and to a deference for what appeared to be your desire. I constantly hoped that it would have been much earlier in my power, consist-
ently with motives which I was not at lib-
erty to disregard, to return to that retire-
ment from which I had been reluctantly drawn. The strength of my inclination to do this, previous to the last election, had even led to the preparation of an address to de-
clare to it; but mature reflection on the purposes for which I exerted and continued my aff airs with foreign nations, and the unani-
mous advice of persons entitled to my con-


dience, impelled me to abandon the idea.

I rejoice that the state of your concerns, external as well as internal, renders the pursuit of inclination incompatible with the sentiment of duty or propriety and am persuaded, whatever partiality may be retained for my services, that in the present circumstances of our country you will not disapprove my determination to retire.

The impressions with which I first under-
took the arduous trust were explained on the proper occasion. In the discharge of this trust I will only say that good intentions, contributed towards the organi-

zation and administration of the government the best exertions of which a very fallible judgment was capable. Not unconscious in the outset of the inferiority of my qualifica-

tions, experience in my own eyes, perhaps still more in the eyes of others, has strength-

ened the motives to diffuse myself, and every day the increasing weight of years ad-

monishes me more and more that the shade of retirement is as necessary to me as it will be to you. Satisfied, in the present circum-
stances that we have given peculiar value to our services, they were temporary, I have the consolation to believe that, while choice and pun-

ishment invite me to the political scene, patriotism does not forbid it.

In looking forward to the moment which is intended to terminate the career of my pub-
lic life, my feelings do not permit me to sus-
pend the deep sense of gratitude of that debt of gratitude which I owe to my beloved coun-
try for the many honors it has conferred upon me, still more for the steadfast con-

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to my grave as a strong incitement to unceasing vows that Heaven may continue to you the choicest tokens of its beneficence; that your union and brotherly affection may be permanent and unalterable. The bonds which is the work of your hands, may be sacredly maintained; that its administration in every department may be stamped with wisdom and virtue, that the rights of the people of these states, under the auspices of liberty, may be made complete by so careful a preservation and so prudent a use of every power and trust as will acquire to them the glory of recommending it to the applause, the affection, and adoption of every nation with which they have the honor to be concerned.

Here, perhaps, I ought to stop. But a solicitude for your welfare, which cannot end but with my life, and the apprehension of danger natural to a man who is the friend of his country, and who has a right to concentrate your affections. The name of American, which belongs to you and me, has a right to the indulgent reception of my sentiments on a former and not dissimilar occasion. I am not unmindful of the love of liberty which I have for every ligament of your hearts, no recommendation of mine is necessary to fortify or confirm the attachment.

The unity of government which constitutes the work of joint councils and joint efforts—of political principles. You have in a common concern, in the management of the common interests, in the same intercourse, benefitting by the agency of the North, sees its agriculture grow and its commerce expand. Turning partly into its own channels, and finding for the national navigation invigorated; and while it contributes, in different ways, to nourish and increase the national, it looks forward to the protection of a maritime strength to which itself is unequally adapted. The East, in a like intercourse with the West, already finds, and in the progressive improvement of interior communications by land and water will more and more find a valuable vent for the manufactures which spin and weave within or manufactures at home. The West derives from the East supplies requisite to its growth and improvement; and is perhaps of still greater consequence, it must of necessity owe the secure enjoyment of indisputable outlets for its own productions to the strength and weight, increasing every year, of maritime strength of the Atlantic side of the Union, directed by an indissoluble community of interest as one nation. Any other tenure by which the Western states could enjoy an essential advantage, whether derived from its own separate strength or from an apostate and unnatural connection with any foreign power, must be in vain.

While then every part of our country thus feels an immediate and particular interest in union, and the impossibility to find in the united mass of means and efforts greater strength, greater resource, proportionally greater security from external danger, we have an interest in union an exemption from those broils and wars between one another which their own rivalships alone would be sufficient to produce, but which opposite forms of government would of their own nature, and which their own rivalships alone would be sufficient to produce, but which opposite forms of government would be merely the work of jealous anxiety; discountenancing every attempt to alienate any portion of our strength to our welfare, which cannot end but with the decay of the Constitution, and with the support of the people to make and to alter their constitutions of government. But the Constitution which at any time exists, until changed by an explicit and authentic act of the whole people to which alone the right of amendment, has a just claim to your confidence and your support. Respect for its authority, compliance with its laws, acquiescence in its measures, are duties enjoined by the fundamental maximis of true liberty. The basis of our political systems is the right of every individual to make such alliances as he thinks proper and to transmit them to his heirs for their benefit. If one generation should forget the光荣 of recommending it to the applause, the affection, and adoption of every nation with which they have the honor to be concerned.

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public administration the mirror of the ill concurred and inconsiderable projects of fact- tion, rather than the organ of consistent and wholesome plans digested by common coun- cils and sanctioned by mutual interests. How- ever combinations or associations of the above description may now and then answer popular ends, the likelihood is that another time of things and time, to become potent engines by which cunning, ambitious, and unprinci- plized men will be enabled to subvert the power of the people, to usurp to themselves the reins of government, destroying afterwards the very engines which have lift- ed them to unjust dominion.

The alternation of your govern- ment and the permanency of your present happy state, it is requisite not only that you steady the course that experiments of time and habit are at least as necessary to fix the true character of governments as of other institutions that exist, and that the pre- cedent must be as necessary as to institute them. If in- dividuals to the purposes of his own ele- vation within the limits prescribed by the laws, and to maintain all in the secure and tran- qul enjoyment of the rights of person and property. I have already intimated to you the danger of parties in the state, with particular ref- erence to the founding of them on geo- graphical discriminations. Let me now take a moment to survey our own views and way of government, in the most solemn manner against the baneful effects of the spirit of party, generally.

This spirit, unfortunately, is inseparable from our nature, having its root in the most form and permanent despotism. The disorders and miseries which result gradu- ally into wrong and danger of men to liberty and repose in the absolute power of an individual; and sooner or later the chief of the public weal against invasions by the others, has been evinced by experiments ancient and modern, some of them in our country and to bear. The execution of these maxims be- longs a uniform vigilance to prevent its suage it. A fire not to be quenched, it de- mens itself. It serves always to distract the public councils and enfeeble the public administra- tion. It agitates the community with ill founded jealousies and false alarms, kindles the animosity of one part against another, and foments occasionally riot and insurrection. It opens the door to foreign influence and corruption, which perhaps may disburse for the spirit of party. But in those of the popular character, in governments purely elective, it is a spirit not to be encouraged. And constituting each the guardian of the public weal against invasions by the others, has been evinced by experiments ancient and modern, some of them in our country and to bear. The execution of these maxims be- longs a uniform vigilance to prevent its suage it. A fire not to be quenched, it de- mens itself. It serves always to distract the public councils and enfeeble the public administra- It is substantially true that virtue or mo- rality is a necessary spring of popular gov- ernment. The rule indeed extends with more or less force to every species of free govern- ment that is a mixture or a compound. It can look with indifference upon attempts to shake the foundation of the fabric?

The necessity of reciprocal checks in this national morality can prevail in exclusion of national morality can prevail in exclusion of

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reason would reject; at other times, it makes the animosity of the nation subservient to projects of hostility instigated by pride, ambition and other sinister and pernicious motives. Peace often, sometimes perhaps, is the liberty, of nations has been the victim.

So likewise, a passionate attachment of one nation for another produces a variety of evils. It is an imitation of the favors and cessions which should facilitate the illusion of an imaginary common interest in cases where no real common interest exists. It is the usual method of serving our own purposes under false pretenses. The first, which is fair and honest, as will cause the neutrality we may at some time lose, if it be not our own choice, unless we pursue policies of peace or war, as our interest guided by justice shall counsel.

Why forgo the advantages of so peculiar a situation? Why quit our own to stand upon foreign ground? Why, by interweaving our destiny with that of any part of Europe, entangle our peace and prosperity in the toils of European ambition, rivalship, interest, honor, or caprice?

It is our true policy to steer clear of permanent alliances with any portion of the foreign world—so far, I mean, as we are now at liberty to do it, for let me not be understood as capable of patronizing infidelity to existing engagements (I hold the maxim no less applicable to public than to private affairs, that honesty is always the best policy)—I repeat it, therefore, that those engagements be observed in their genuine sense. But in my opinion it is unnecessary and would be unwise to extend them.

Taking care always to keep ourselves, by suitable establishments, on arespectably defensive posture, we may safely trust to temporary alliances for extraordinary emergencies.

Harmony, liberal intercourse with all nations, are recommended by policy, humanity, and interest. To our national policy it should hold an equal and impartial hand; neither seeking nor granting exclusive favors or preferences; consulting the natural course of things; diffusing and diversifying by gentle means the streams of commerce but forcing nothing; establishing with powers so disposed—in order to give a stable course, define the rights of our merchants, and enable the government to support them—conventional rules of intercourse, the best that present circumstances and mutual sentiments and liable to be from time to time abandoned or varied, as experience and circumstances shall dictate; constantly keeping in view, that it is folly in one nation to look for disinterested favors from another—that it must pay with a portion of its independence for whatever it may accept under that character—that by the same token it may place itself in the condition of having given equivalents for nominal favors and yet of receiving real emoluments for nothing or giving more. There can be no greater error than to expect or calculate upon real favors from nation to nation. It is an illusion which experience has proved to be as shapeless as a delusion, which a just pride ought to discard.

In offering to you, my countrymen, these counsels of an old and affectionate friend, I dare not hope they will make the strong and lasting impression I could wish—that they will control the usual current of the passions or prevent the current of opinion running the course which has hitherto marked the destiny of nations. But if I may even flatter myself that they may be productive of some partial, though an essential good, that they may now and then recur to moderate the fury of party spirit, to warn against the mischiefs of foreign intrigue, to guard against the impositions of pretended patriotism—this hope will be a full recompense for the solicitude for your welfare by which they have been dictated.

How far is it from the discharge of my official duties I have been guided by the principles which have been delineated, the public record of which the public conduct of my conduct must witness to you and to the world. To myself, the assurance of my own conscience is that I have at least believed myself to be guided by external motives.

In relation to the still subsisting war in Europe, my proclamation of the 22d of April 1793 is the index to my plan. Sanctioned by your approving voice and by that of your representatives in both houses of Congress, the spirit of that measure has continually been, in the one instance, until any attempts to deter or divert me from it.

After deliberate examination with the aid of the best lights I could obtain and wise, and satisfied that our country, under all the circumstances of the case, had a right to take—and was bound in duty and interest to take—a neutral position. Having determined, as far as should depend upon me, to maintain it with moderation, perseverance, and firmness.

The considerations which respect the right to hold this conduct it is not necessary on this occasion to detail. I will only observe that, according to my understanding of the character of the route to which no right not denied by any of the belligerent powers, has been virtually admitted by all. I cease to view them with indulgence and that, after forty-five years of my life dedicated to its service with an upright zeal, the faults of incompetent abilities will be consigned to oblivion, as myself must soon be to the mansions of rest.

Relying on its kindness in this as in other things, and actuated by that fervent love to the best lights of all times, the spirit of that measure has continually been, in the one instance, to maintain the relations of peace and amity towards other nations.

The inducements of interest for observing that conduct will best be referred to your own reflections and experience. With me, a predominant motive has been to endeavor to facilitate the commerce of the United States with all foreign nations, to secure and to maintain the tranquility and happiness of the parent country and the security of the Indian title, and a disposition to retaliate in the parties to whom equal privileges are withheld.

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Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about what people all across the country are talking about; that is, the high price of energy, what people are paying at the pump. I just returned from a week in Alaska. It is fair to say that in a State such as ours, that is as rich as we are with energy wealth, we are being killed by energy prices.

So I wanted to comment on some of the statements the President made over the weekend and Friday when he spoke to the country about energy. I have to tell you, I was pleased to hear the President say he is joining us in an "all-of-the-above" approach to energy.

I think that is good news. It is certainly something I have been saying ever since I arrived in the Senate.

It is about domestic production, it is about efficiencies and conservation and it is about renewables. So that is good. We heard the President say we need to be doing more with oil and gas. You are not going to find any disagreement with me. Wind and solar, nuclear, biofuels, efficiency, this is all good, but the problem we are seeing is the words coming from President Obama are not matching his actions when it comes to what we can be doing with our own domestic production.

I will speak specifically to oil and gas. The actions coming out of the administration, whether through this budget or through some of the other proposals pushing for higher taxes, higher royalties on the industry, when we think about what goes on with the oil and gas leases in the gulf, we have certainly seen the impact flow down there.

In Alaska, we have been pushing, pushing administratively for 4 years to get the OCS leases advanced through exploration with Shell, not only 4 years to get the OCS leases advanced through exploration with Shell, but also to get the OCS leases advanced through exploration with Shell, not only 4 years to get the OCS leases advanced through exploration with Shell, but also to get the OCS leases advanced through exploration with Shell.

I urge the Senate to work with the Government of Saudi Arabia to increase its oil production, as they are currently producing well under their capacity.

Well, our pipeline is certainly well under capacity at 600,000 barrels a day. When we were pushing it through at full tilt, we were over 2 million barrels a day. That is exactly what the Senator from New York has asked Saudi Arabia to do. We could be doing it from Alaska. We could be doing it from this country with our people gaining access to our resources, and we are not doing that.

The President said the Republican plan is just to drill, drill, drill. He said: "We hear this every year. Well, why do we hear this every year? Because it is part of the solution. It is not the whole solution, but it is part of the solution, in addition to conservation, efficiency, renewables, and other areas of our domestic production. But drilling is part of it."

The President said, and I would agree:

The American people are not stupid on this. They know that we are not just going to be able to snap our fingers and have oil coming out of ANWR or having oil coming out of the OCS in the Chukchi or the Beaufort.

They know it takes a while. They know in some cases it might take decades to come. So why would we not start now? If we had started in 1995, think about where we would have been.

He said: "There are no short-term silver bullets."

But there is a long silver bullet in Alaska, and that is our Trans-Alaska Pipeline that has been moving oil for 30 years now for this country. That silver bullet could be filled, and it would be helping this country just as we are asking for help from Saudi Arabia.

The statement that I think most upset me this weekend was the statement that the President made when he said: Some politicians see this—being higher oil prices—as a political opportunity. He repeated a quote that "Republicans are licking their chops," and stated: "Only in politics do people root for bad news."

Well, the people of my State are not rooting for bad news when it comes to higher energy prices. I will tell you, I am a little offended by the President's statement. I would invite him to come to Alaska, spend a week with me, go to where I was last Saturday in Fairbanks where people are paying $4.29 for their home heating oil. My sister pays over $1,000 a month for home heating fuel to fill her tanks. She lives within 20 minutes of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline. You can see it. You can drive by it, this line that is half full, and it is not, again, because we are running out of resources. It is because we have been locked out of ANWR, we have been delayed on NPPA, and we are still waiting on OCS. There are certainly plenty of leases out there. But it is getting the permits out of this administration that has been holding us back from doing more, from doing more to help the people of Alaska and to help the people of this country.

Last month I was out in Bethel in southwest Alaska. There was a native elder who came to a little gathering we had. He is from Eek, AK. He was telling me that he pays $7.46 for home heating fuel. I asked him if he would tell me how he pays $7.46 for home heating fuel. He is from Eek, AK. He was telling me that he pays $7.46 for home heating fuel. I asked him if he would tell me how he is able to pay $7.46 for home heating fuel, and he said: "Well, the people of my State are not upset me this weekend was the statement that the President made when he said: Some politicians see this—being higher oil prices—as a political opportunity. He repeated a quote that "Republicans are licking their chops," and stated: "Only in politics do people root for bad news."

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power—54 cents. That is for the businesses that get a subsidy from the State of Alaska for 30 cents a kilowatt hour. The small grocery store we visited paid $10,000 for its energy prices in January alone—$10,000 a month for a little grocery store. They are paying $5.19 per gallon right now, but it is going up with the next fuel barge that comes in.

Alaskans in villages who rely on diesel for their power can pay between 40 and 45 percent of their income for their energy costs. Compare that to the rest of the country, where you are looking at between 3 and 6 percent of your income going toward energy. We are paying almost 50 percent in some of our villages.

Mr. President, I don’t view high oil prices as a political opportunity and neither do my constituents. What we view as an opportunity is the resource our State holds—a resource that we continue to be denied access to that opportunity. We learned late last week that the USGS has come back with an estimate that the shale oil in Alaska would come close to 2 billion barrels of oil. ANWR’s estimate is about 10.6 billion barrels. In the OCS, we anticipate over 26 billion barrels of oil. We have the resources. We have the ability to access the resources and to do so in an environmentally safe way. This needs to be part of an all-of-the-above solution, in addition to what we do with renewables and our efficiencies and conservation. We must be doing more domestically. Alaska holds the opportunity.

I agree, again with the President that there is no short-term fix, but if we don’t get started today, there is not going to be a tomorrow for communities such as Yakutat and Eek and Bethel and Fairbanks. We have to get started today.

I yield the floor.

The Acting President pro tempore, the Senator from Arizona is recognized.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, first let me commend my colleague from Alaska who is seeing this battle of the high price of gasoline firsthand in a State that could contribute greatly to the country’s solution to the problem if the President and administration would but let it. I was led on a trip by her father several years ago to the northern part of Alaska, where there are huge unexplored reserves that literally, if they had been allowed to be sent to the lower 48 at that time, could have significantly ameliorated the problem we have today, I appreciate her comments. We will talk more about that.

**EARNED SUCCESS**

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, President Obama has ignited a national debate about the importance of fairness and American values. In his campaign narrative, “fairness” means greater redistribution of income by the Federal Government, and expanding government control over the economy represents what he calls a “renewal of American values.” He argues that income inequality is the “defining issue of our time”—his words—and that it prevents the American dream from enjoying their right to pursue happiness.

While the President cloaks his rhetoric in the language of liberty—and often misconstrues quotations from Presidents Lincoln and Reagan in the process—he combines key American concepts and values that are shallow, materialistic, and distortive of the true American dream.

We don’t need more government interventionist and redistributor policies, which reduce freedom, in order to achieve greater measures of fairness and to pursue happiness. Having the government arbitrarily decide how much money should be taken from person A and given to person B is not fair in any accord, we don’t own it make Americans happier. Indeed, even though America has become a much wealthier country during the last few decades and average income is higher, studies show that happiness levels in the United States are unchanged. In 1972, for example, 30 percent of Americans described themselves as happy. In 2004, 31 percent of Americans described themselves that way. That is because, contrary to what President Obama suggests, the key determinant of lasting happiness and satisfaction is not income; rather, it is what American Enterprise Institute President Arthur Brooks calls “earned success.” People are happiest when they have earned their income, whatever the level. When the government tries to take all of the trouble out of life by taking care of our every need, it makes earned success that much harder to achieve.

In his 2010 book “The Battle,” Brooks describes the connection between earned success and happiness: EARNED success gives people a sense of meaning about their lives. And meaning also is key to human flourishing. It reassures us that what we have is significant and valuable, for ourselves and those around us. To truly flourish, we need to know that the ways in which we occupy our waking hours are not based on mere pursuits of pleasure or money or any other superficial goal. We need to know that our endeavors have a deeper purpose.

Earned success is attained not simply through wealth, but also through raising children, donating time to charitable or religious causes, and cultivating strong relationships with friends and family. That is why successful parents and more religious people tend to be very happy. The earned success that comes from doing a job also explains why self-made millionaires and billionaires continue to work hard after they have earned their fortunes. These people are driven by the satisfaction that comes from creating, innovating, and solving problems. In many cases, they are making products or providing services that improve our quality of life. They are not content merely to rest on their laurels and enjoy their wealth; they want to continue experiencing the pride and satisfaction that comes from earned success.

The importance of earned success and why it makes people to subsist when the lottery usually wind up depressed when they discover that the excitement of being rich and buying things wears off fast. The same is true of recipients of other sources of unearned income. Studies show that welfare programs make people need them to help some people to subsist, but they don’t yield true happiness or satisfaction because the money is not earned.

If earned success is the path to happiness, public policies should be geared toward promoting opportunity and freedom for everyone. No economic system does more to promote earned success and freedom than free market capitalism. As social scientist Charles Murray writes in his new book, “Coming Apart”:

“...All the good things in life . . . require freedom in the only way that freedom is meaningful: freedom to act in all arenas of life, conventional and nonconventional, with responsibility for the consequences for those actions.

In a true free market system, everyone is guaranteed equal rights and opportunities under the law, all individuals and institutions play by the same rules, and the government acts primarily as a neutral umpire, not a redistribution of income or a venture capitalist. Property rights are upheld, contracts are enforced, and hard work is rewarded. As Brooks points out, free enterprise is the only economic system that addresses the root causes of poverty by enlarging the economic pie rather than allowing government officials and bureaucrats to decide how to slice the existing one.

The President’s concept of fairness is different from what most believe. I recently read an anecdote that helps illustrate the fundamental disagreement about the difference between “fair” and “earned.” Two siblings are fighting about who gets the last cookie. The brother says he should get it because his sister has already had two and that is not fair. The sister responds that she helped make the cookies, so she earned it. The brother believes it is fair to equalize rewards, regardless of effort. The sister believes that forced equality is unfair. Those of us who believe in the ultimate fairness of the free market system subscribe to the sister’s view of meritocratic fairness. She earned it.

Free market capitalism is the most fair system in the world—and the most moral. It is premised on voluntary transactions that make both sides happy by meeting their needs. Unfortunately, the past few years have shown us what unfair economic policies look like.

When the government picks winners and losers in the marketplace, it is being unfair. When it rewards certain
companies or industries for ideological reasons while effectively punishing and demonizing others, it is being unfair. That is crony capitalism. When it shapes a corporate bailout to favor organized labor over secured debtholders, as the Obama administration did in the Chrysler case, it is being unfair. When it plays venture capitalist and gives a taxpayer-funded $454 million loan guarantee to a doomed company such as Solyndra, it is being unfair. When it makes the Tax Code even more complex and more tilted in favor of special interests, it is being unfair. When it adopts financial regulations that institutionalize “too big to fail,” putting taxpayers on the hook, it is being unfair. I could go on, but you get the point. Does anyone really think America's economic system is “fairer” today than in January 2009?

Is it fair that, after the first 3 years of the Obama administration, the poor are poorer, the poverty rate is rising, the median income is down, and 5.5 million fewer Americans have jobs to do than in 2007? Is it fair that the three counties with the highest median family income happen to be located in the Washington, DC, area? Finally, is it fair that the wealthiest 1 percent of Americans are constantly being attacked by the President even though they now pay nearly 40 percent of all Federal income taxes and the richest 10 percent pay two-thirds of all Federal taxes? These are some of the questions Stephen Moore recently posed in the Wall Street Journal.

If the President wants to continue claiming that his policies are fostering economic “fairness” and ignoring the virtues of the free enterprise system, then let the debate begin. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MANCHIN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM H. GRAY, III

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I rise this afternoon to honor William H. Gray, III.

As I have every year since my election to the Senate, starting back in January 2007, I have come to the floor at this time of the year in commemoration of Black History Month.

The honor to be privileged to honor a man whose outstanding accomplishments are of vital importance to African Americans as well as to all of America. For his entire life Bill Gray has been a minister and a shepherd for his congregation, his constituents, his community and concern about their welfare. His life's work is an example of how to live a life of service to others, and I know his life's work is a testament to a single principle, one that has infused all of his work at the Bright Hill Baptist Church in Philadelphia, as a Member and leader in Congress, and with the United Negro College Fund.

Bill grew up knowing that the ministry was not just something one did on Sunday morning but, rather, the work one took on the streets on issues ranging from housing to economic justice to excellence in education. Bill has called his position as pastor of the Bright Hope Baptist Church the most important job he has ever had, one that cultivated the skills and priorities that have shaped his life's work.

Today, I am proud to share some of the achievements that have resulted from Bill Gray's dedication to a "whole ministry." Bill grew up in a family of educators and ministers who taught him the value of both professions to empower others. He was born in the State of Louisiana to parents who were both educators. His father was president of two historically Black colleges: Florida Normal and Industrial College and Florida Agricultural and Mechanical School. His mother was both a high school teacher and served as dean of Southern University in Baton Rouge, LA.

When Bill was 8 years old, his grandfather passed away and the family moved from Louisiana back to Philadelphia, PA. There in Philadelphia, Bill's father assumed his own father's position as pastor of the Bright Hope Baptist Church in north Philadelphia, and Bill cemented his roots in that community. He has spoken of the powerful impact of those years, moving from a region where Jim Crow laws prevented him from attending school to a city where his family had strong ties to other clergy and community leaders. Because of de facto segregation in housing at the time, north Philadelphia was a neighborhood with African Americans from all walks of life, including many role models for the young Bill Gray.

Hobson Reynolds across the street was the leader of the Elks. Cecil B. Moore, a future member of the city council and head of the NAACP of Philadelphia, lived two doors down from Bill's family at the time. Other neighbors included the renowned architect Frederick Messiah and Sadie Alexander, the first woman of any race to obtain a Ph.D. in economics in the United States of America.

Of course, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was a frequent visitor to Bill Gray's home at that time, as were Dr. King's parents who were close family friends of Bill Gray's family. Both the elder and younger Kings as well as other ministers encouraged Bill's understanding of the "whole ministry" and encouraged his education and career as a minister.

Bill graduated from Simon Gratz High School and went on to Franklin and Marshall College. When Bill considered leaving Franklin and Marshall before graduation to join civil rights protests in the South, Dr. King encouraged him to stay in college and use the skills necessary to continue the struggle later in life. This idea of education as a key to African-American advancement would guide Bill for the rest of his life.

Bill graduated from Franklin and Marshall, and in 1966 he obtained a master's degree in divinity at Drew Theological Seminary and in 1970 a master's degree in theology from Drew Theological Seminary. While at Drew, Bill's talents were recognized by the prestigious Union Baptist Church in Montclair, NJ, and he was later chosen to be a pastor there as well. The King family presided over the installation ceremony.

In his first parish, Bill Gray worked to serve the "whole community," advocating aggressively for the needs of his congregation and the community's most vulnerable members. As the city of Montclair underwent renewal, he helped to form a development corporation to ensure that relocation resulted in safe, decent housing for his parishioners and their neighbors. This issue of housing hit Bill Gray personally when he tried to rent an apartment while studying at Princeton and was told the unit was unavailable. He sensed immediately that it was because of his race, and he found a friend who was White who volunteered to go look at the apartment, at which point the landlord said it was open.

Bill filed a lawsuit and for the first time sought damages for the psychological impact of discrimination. While the monetary award was small, his victory in the suit set a precedent that those who discriminated based on race could be held liable for monetary damages.

In 1971 Bill married Andrea Dash, with whom he has raised three sons, William IV, Justin, and Andrew. In 1972 Bill's father died unexpectedly and tragically, and the congregation of Bright Hope Baptist Church called on Bill to return home as the new pastor. Bill was reluctant to go back as the preacher's son, but two church elections finally convinced him to return. He became the third generation of his family to serve as pastor of Bright Hope. Under his leadership, the congregation quickly grew to over 4,000 souls.

Bill also taught as a professor at Jersey City State College from 1968 to 1969, St. Peter's College in Jersey City from 1974 to 1977, Montclair State College from 1970 to 1972, and Rutgers University in 1971. He also continued his important advocacy on fair access to housing, and he cofounded the Philadelphia mortgage plan to help low-income individuals obtain homes. This dedication to helping his community and concern about their welfare led him back to the political
world. In 1976 Bill ran an underdog campaign to challenge Congressman Robert N.C. Nix, a long-time congressional incumbent. Despite a close defeat in 1976, Bill launched another campaign in 1978 and successfully earned nomination for election to Congress. The U.S. House of Representatives provided another pulpit from which Bill could pursue his "whole ministry," and he did not squander the opportunity. He said:

If you can pastor a black Baptist church, managing in Congress is easy. It's nothing comparing to the choir, the usher board, the deacon board. You run a volunteer organization and you run it on persuasion.

Despite his lack of previous formal political experience, after winning the 1978 primary election Bill started working to persuade other Members of Congress from his party to support him in committee elections. Through dogged determination, thoughtful strategy, and a strong explanation of his goals, Bill earned himself the freshman seat on the policy and steering committee which sets committee assignments for the party and influences policy. This established him as a rising star and a friend to many other incoming congressmen from Congress who had helped land desirable committee spots.

Bill obtained seats on the following committees: the District of Columbia Committee, the Budget Committee, the Foreign Affairs Committee, and later a seat on the Appropriations Committee, the Joint Committee on Deficit Reduction, and the House Administration Committee. Leaders of the Congressional Black Caucus elected Bill Gray as its secretary, and in his second term he served as the vice chairman of the caucus.

In Congress, he acquired a reputation as a thoughtful, honest, and effective leader in a diverse party, often building surprising alliances as he maintained his commitment to budgets that provided for the neediest Americans.

Bill rose quickly through the ranks of leadership during his 12 years in Congress. In 1985 he assumed the chairmanship of the Budget Committee just 6 years after the time he was elected. Just a few years later, in 1988, he was elected to chair his party's House caucus, and then in 1999 he became the House majority whip, the third ranking leadership in the House of Representatives.

While serving in Congress, Bill remained an active minister, tightly connected with his district in Philadelphia through his actions on the issues for which he fought. I just happened to be a constituent of Bill's in 1982 and 1983 when I was serving in the Jesuit Volunteer Corps in north Philadelphia, and I know at that time he returned to Bright Hope Baptist Church twice a month to preach, and in Congress he supported the programs upon which his constituents and his congregation relied.

In a time of concern about fiscal discipline, Bill believed that compassionate spending was also critical and said:

A balanced budget is good for the country, poor and the affluent alike. I seek a budget that doesn't sacrifice programs for the poor and minorities, one that is fair and equitable.

He produced budgets in line with his priorities, challenging opponents to produce spending cuts that did not hit the most vulnerable. On the Foreign Affairs Committee, Bill championed aid for Africa and sponsored a bill to provide aid to African villages as well as appropriations to ensure minority-owned business participation in African aid programs. Bill took a strong and early stand against the Ethiopian Government and its role in making the famine worse. He was also a prominent critic of the South African apartheid regime.

In 1991 Bill Gray made a bold transition to minister in a new way on a topic of paramount importance to him, his family, and others. Of course, that topic was higher education.

He said at the time, and I am quoting:

Woodrow Wilson used to say, "My constituency is the poor," and you know, that's why I left Congress, because my constituency, really, is the next generation.

He accepted the position as president and CEO of the United Negro College Fund, the so-called UNCF, a philanthropic organization that helps more than 60,000 minority students each year to obtain a higher education. The United Negro College Fund not only manages 400 scholarship and internship programs which benefit 10,000 students but also provides operating funds for 38 historically Black colleges and universities. Tuition at these colleges averages 30 percent less than tuition at similar universities.

Bill Gray has said he wanted to support historically Black colleges and universities, where historically Black students were choosing to attend a wider range of colleges. During Bill's 12 years as president and CEO of the United Negro College Fund, his success in supporting these institutions was unprecedented—and that is an understatement. Bill sought innovative ways to attract new investment and increase existing funding. By the time he left the United Negro College Fund 12 years later, Bill and his team had raised $6 billion. Put this in context, UNCF had raised a total of $3.3 billion in its 67-year history. He found new ways to solicit donations, increase the amount of in-kind contributions, and solicited from previously untapped foundations and individuals.

In 1999, Bill Gray secured a $1 billion grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to advance minority students' access to higher education in the science, math, engineering, and education fields. That grant created the Gates Millennium Scholarship Program and marked the largest philanthropic donation in the history of higher education in the United States of America. Bill's success at the United Negro College Fund put higher education within reach and ensured brighter futures for thousands of students across America.

We know, and those who know him know, that Bill Gray has never rested and he is never satisfied with one job at a time. While leading the United Negro College Fund, he was asked by President Clinton in 1994 to lead the efforts to restore democracy in Haiti. His work there earned him a Medal of Honor from the President of Haiti.

After leaving the Fund in the year 2001, Bill started Gray Global Strategies, Inc., and has served as director on multiple corporate boards including Dell, JPMorgan Chase, and Pfizer. He has also served as vice chairman for the Pew Commission on Children in Foster Care and has served on the United States Holocaust Memorial Council. He is currently the chairman of Gray Global Strategies, a worldwide business consulting and government affairs strategies firm.

Bill Gray has said that he has "always been taught by my folk, parents, grandparents, that service is a sort of the rent you pay for the space you occupy. And so, what I've tried to do is direct my life towards service based on faith and commitment and social justice."

Well said by a great leader, Bill Gray.

In the Senate today we express our gratitude for the excellent work of Rev. Bill Gray. Congressman Bill Gray, and you could add a few other titles as well. We express that gratitude for the excellent work of his "whole ministry," a commitment that has touched literally millions of men, women, and children across the world. His vision and achievements have reached far beyond the walls of his church and the Capitol where we stand today. We honor him on behalf of the people of the Bright Hope Baptist Church, the U.S. Congress, historically Black colleges and universities, and many more people around the world. We commend Bill Gray today. I congratulate him. We look forward to seeing him with us today.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. TESTER). Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The morning business is closed.
EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF MARGO KTTSY BRODIE TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to consider the following nomination which the clerk will report.

The assistant editor of the Daily Digest read the nomination of Margo Kitsy Brodie, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, am I correct that the order is such that the vote will be at 5:30?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The order is actually for 60 minutes of debate.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the vote be at 5:30.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, certainly if the ranking member comes to the floor and wishes to change that, I would not object.

Earlier this month the Senate finally ended a four-month and two-day filibuster of the confirmation of Judge Adalberto Jordan and he is now the first Cuban-American to serve on the Eleventh Circuit. We also finally ended the five-month filibuster of the nomination of Jesse Furman, a former counselo to Attorney General Mukasey, and he is now a confirmed Federal trial judge in the Southern District of New York.

The Majority Leader should not have had to file cloture petitions for the Senate to vote on these outstanding judicial nominations. Senate Republicans have filibustered nine of President Bush's judicial nominations despite the fact that he has reached out to both Republican and Democratic home state Senators and nominated qualified, ideologically moderate men and women to fill vacancies on our Federal courts.

Before I turn to the nomination of Margo Brodie, another nomination that should have been confirmed last year after being reported by the Senate Judiciary Committee unanimously in October, I want to spend a moment reflecting on Senate Republicans' treatment of Jesse Furman. Judge Furman was a Federal prosecutor who also served as a top legal advisor to Attorney General Michael Mukasey during the George W. Bush administration. He was involved with the prosecutions of the Times Square bomber, the infamous Russian spies, and a Pakistani scientist with ties to Al Qaeda whose bombings of the U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania. He has impeccable credentials including having clerked for Justice David Souter on the United States Supreme Court. Based on his superior qualifications and bipartisan support, the Senate Judiciary Committee reported his nomination last September unanimously, without a single Republican Senator dissenting.

His nomination, like so many others, was then subjected to obstruction and stalling and delay. From the start of his term, Republican Senators have applied a double standard to President Obama's nominees. Senate Republicans have chosen to depart dramatically from the long tradition of deference to home state Senators on district court nominees. Instead, an unprecedented number of President Obama's highly-qualified district court nominees have been targeted for opposition and obstruction. That approach is a serious break from the Senate's practice of advice and consent. Since 1945, the Judiciary Committee has reported more than 2,100 district court nominees to the Senate. Of these 2,100 nominees, only six have been reported by party-line votes—one every last 65 years. Five of those six party-line votes have been by Republican Senators against President Obama's highly-qualified district court nominees. In fact, only 22 of those 2,100 district court nominees were initially nominated by any kind of split roll call vote at all, and eight of those, more than a third, have been by Republican Senators choosing to oppose President Obama's nominees.

President Obama's nominees are being treated more poorly than any of his recent predecessors. Republican Senators are refusing to give him the benefit of the doubt by voting on his nominees before the end of the year. Eighteen of these nominees received strong bipartisan support from the Senate Judiciary Committee.

These nominees should be confirmed without further delay. Now in the fourth year of President Obama's first term, the number of judicial vacancies remains at 85. That is nearly double what they were at this point in President Bush's administration. One hundred and thirty million Americans live in circuits or districts with a judicial vacancy that could be filled if Senate Republicans would vote on judicial nominees that have already been voted on by the Senate Judiciary Committee and are stalled awaiting final Senate consideration.

The Senate is more than 40 confirmations behind the pace we set confirming President Bush's judicial nominees in 2001 through 2004. For the second year, Bipartisanship has disappeared. Senate Republican leadership ignored long-established precedent and refused to allow votes before the December recess on the nearly 20 consensus judicial nominees who had been favorably reported by the Judiciary Committee.

Ultimately, it is the American people who pay the price for Senate Republican's unnecessary and harmful delay in confirming judges to our Federal courts. It is unacceptable for hard-working Americans who pay the price for Senate Republican's unnecessary and harmful delay in confirming judges to our Federal courts. It is unacceptable for hard-working Americans to wait years for a court to resolve their cases. I urge Senators, as I have for years, not to be swayed by mischaracterizations of a brief he had written in a religious freedom case or by something he wrote as an old professor in college. As I urge Senators, as I have for years, not to listen to the extreme special interests but to make their own judgments. I suspect that in this case it was the last-minute campaign by narrow special interests groups that accounted for the number of negative votes.

Today the Senate will vote on the confirmation of another highly-qualified, consensus nominee to the Federal bench. Margo Brodie has practiced law for 20 years including working as a Federal prosecutor in Brooklyn for the last 12. She has risen from the ranks of Assistant U.S. Attorney to Deputy Chief of General Crimes to Deputy Chief of the Criminal Division. Ms. Brodie has successfully prosecuted numerous cases on matters ranging from violent crimes and drug offenses to white collar crimes. She has also led public corruption cases, successfully prosecuting criminals who embezzled funds and tried to bribe government agencies in her home state of New York.

Ms. Brodie has the support of both her home state Senators and was reported by the Senate Judiciary Committee on October 6, 2011, without a single dissent. She has demonstrated her commitment to the rule of law, her legal abilities and knowledge of the law. It is past time for the Senate to confirm this outstanding African-American woman to the Federal bench.

Margo Brodie is one of 20 judicial nominations approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee still awaiting a final vote. Fifteen of these nominations have been pending since last year and should have been before the end of last year. Eighteen of these nominees received strong bipartisan support from the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Today the Senate will vote on the confirmation of another highly-qualified, consensus nominee to the Federal bench. I urge Senators to listen to the extreme special interests but to make their own judgments. I urge them to stop the slow-walking of highly-qualified, consensus nominees. The American people deserve no less.
Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, today we turn to the nomination of Margo Brodie to be U.S. District judge for the Eastern District of New York. This will be the 69th judicial nominee of President Obama which the Senate has confirmed during this Congress. Over 80 percent of President Obama’s judicial nominees have been confirmed.

We continue, on the Senate floor and in the Judiciary Committee, to work together to reduce the number of judicial vacancies. We have held 21 nominations hearings during this Congress, with 80 judicial nominees appearing at those hearings. All in all, over 85 percent of President Obama’s judicial nominees have received a hearing. We will hear from additional judicial nominees later this week.

So even as we continue to hear concerns about the judicial vacancy rate and claims of obstructionism, I would note we are making progress as we continue to reduce judicial vacancies. But let me emphasize again that for more than half of the vacancies, including those designated as “judicial emergencies,” the President has failed to submit a nomination. So critics need to look at the beginning of the process when commenting on vacancies.

I would like to say a little about our nominee today. Ms. Brodie earned a BA from St. Francis College in 1988, and her JD from the University of Pennsylvania School of Law in 1991. She began her legal career as an assistant corporation counsel for the City of New York in 1991. In this role, she defended city agencies and officials in the performance of their duty to manage municipal affairs.

In 1994, Ms. Brodie became an associate with Carter, Ledyard & Milburn, representing clients in various types of civil litigation. Since 1999, Ms. Brodie has served as an assistant U.S. attorney with the Eastern District Court of New York. From May 2005 to March 2006, she served as a legal advisor to the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offices Commission, ICPC, in Nigeria. From 2006 to 2009, she supervised new AUSAs in the General Crimes Section in roles as deputy chief and chief. In October 2009, she rose to become Deputy Chief and supervising all 100-plus criminal AUSAs in the Eastern District of New York—and she has already graced her community with outstanding and dedicated service. In 1996, Ms. Brodie became a citizen of the Bahamas, and in the neighborhoods served by this court in the Eastern District of New York—and she has already graced her community with outstanding and dedicated service. In 1996, Ms. Brodie became a citizen of the Bahamas, and in the neighborhoods served by this court in the Eastern District of New York—and she has already graced her community with outstanding and dedicated service. In 1996, Ms. Brodie became a citizen of the Bahamas, and in the neighborhoods served by this court in the Eastern District of New York—and she has already graced her community with outstanding and dedicated service. In 1996, Ms. Brodie became a citizen of the Bahamas, and in the neighborhoods served by this court in the Eastern District of New York—and she has already graced her community with outstanding and dedicated service.

Ms. Brodie’s story is a classic immigrant’s story—one that is born from our country’s finest and deepest traditions. It’s a story that speaks to our acceptance of people from all over the world who want to come to the United States to work hard, prosper, and become a part of our social fabric.

Ms. Brodie was born in St. John, Antigua. She and her brother Euan were raised by a single mother, with the help of her mother’s parents and 14 siblings. After graduating from high school at the age of 16, she attended St. Francis College in Brooklyn, where she worked full time and graduated magna cum laude. She went on to the University of Pennsylvania Law School. After graduating from law school, Ms. Brodie worked for the New York City Law Department for three years, where she learned how to litigate cases. She then spent five years at Carter, Ledyard & Milburn, founded in 1854 and known for alums that include Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Ms. Brodie returned to public service in 1999 by joining the United States Attorney’s Office in the Eastern District of New York, one of the preeminent U.S. Attorney’s offices in the Nation. She rose to become Deputy Chief and then Chief of the General Crimes Unit, where she trained more than half of the current AUSA’s in the Eastern District. Since 2010, she has been the deputy chief of the Criminal Division, supervising all 100-plus criminal AUSAs in cases involving public corruption, civil rights, business and securities fraud, terrorism, organized crime, narcotics, and many other areas.

Ms. Brodie has also lent her considerable talents to training prosecutors and law enforcement officers on the rule of law in many developing countries. She spent 10 months in Nigeria as a legal advisor on behalf of the DOJ’s overseas training program, and has conducted and assisted in human trafficking training for prosecutors in the Bahamas, Jordan, Swaziland, and Tanzania.

In a short while, Ms. Brodie will be confirmed as a Federal judge—an honor she deserves and a position that she has more than earned. I am proud to have supported her nomination, and to vote for her today.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, have the yeas and nays been ordered?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. They have not.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second? There is a sufficient second.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Margo Kitsy Brodie, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant editor of the Daily Digest called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), the Senator from Hawai’i (Mr. INOUYE), the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDREAU), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. LUTTENBERG), the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL), and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), are necessarily absent.

Mr. KYL. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. CORBETT), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN), and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. HAGAN). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 86, nays 2, as follows:
I ask unanimous consent that Senator and then back to Senator COLLINS, if we may. 

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam President, the Senate shall resume legislative session.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate shall resume legislative session.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will be a period of morning business up to 60 minutes, equally divided and controlled by Senators PRYOR and ALEXANDER.

The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that Senator PRYOR and I and designated Senators be allowed to speak in a colloquy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MAKING THE SENATE WORK

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam President, some of the Senators on the Republican side have other appointments to make, so I am going to defer my remarks until the end of the colloquy. What I will do is first state why we are here; second, go to Senator ISAKSON, then we will go to Senator PRYOR, and then back to Senator COLLINS, if we may.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam President, our leaders—the Democratic leader, the majority leader, and the Republican leader—sometimes get criticized. They have hard jobs, and we recognize that. We also recognize that they can’t do their jobs unless we do our jobs well. So tonight what some of us thought we would do, on the Democratic side and the Republican side, is apply a management principle that is called “catching people doing things right.”

We believe the majority leader and the minority leader, Senator INOUYE, the chairman of the Appropriations Committee, and Senator COCHRAN, the ranking member, are doing things exactly right when they say it is their intention to move all 12 of our appropriations bills through the Appropriations Committee and get them to the floor so we can deal with them before the next fiscal year starts. We are here not just to compliment them but to pledge to them our support in helping them achieve that goal.

There are many important reasons we should do that, but basically it is our constitutional responsibility to appropriate money. It is a time when we need to save every penny we can. This is our best opportunity for oversight, and it is also good management, and it allows the Senate to do what the Senate ought to do, which is consider legislation, have a hearing, ask questions, cut out what ought to be cut out, add what ought to be added, vote on it, bring it to the floor, amend it, debate on it, and pass or defeat it. That is what we should be doing. Only twice since 2000 has this Senate actually considered every single one of the 12 appropriation bills.

In 2000 and 2001, it looked as though for the years we have had a situation where we couldn’t understand why the Federal Government and the Congress of the United States could not wrap their arms around fiscal responsibility, have a budget, and have appropriation acts that came to the floor, are debated, are amended, and the spending of the United States of America’s government is spent like the households of the United States of America have to spend their money.

So I commend Senator ALEXANDER and Senator PRYOR for bringing this to the floor, and I want to commend our leaders for making affirmative statements about the desire to bring the 12 appropriations bills to the floor of the Senate, debate them, let us amend them, and let us bring them together.

If you think about it, in the last 3 years we have had a situation where we either had continuing resolutions or omnibus appropriations. During a difficult period of time where we have had deficits of $1.3 trillion to $1.5 trillion, we haven’t taken the time to debate how we are spending our money, where we are spending our money, and we are debating all 12 of these bills. It is also our best opportunity for oversight, our constitutional responsibility to appropriate money, to pledge to them our support in helping them achieve that goal.

We believe the majority leader and the minority leader, Senator INOUYE and Senator ALEXANDER and Senator PRYOR, and I thank our leadership for making the statement of the desire to do so. I have already seen Senator INOUYE and I have already seen Senator COCHRAN working diligently in the basic appropriations subcommittees to try to move all 12 of those bills to the floor.

I think it is time we do our business just as the American people do their business, and I commend Senator ALEXANDER and Senator PRYOR for making this statement of the desire to do so. I have already seen Senator INOUYE and I have already seen Senator COCHRAN working diligently in the basic appropriations subcommittees to try to move all 12 of those bills to the floor. I think it is time we do our business just as the American people do their business, and I commend Senator ALEXANDER and Senator PRYOR for calling for this colloquy tonight.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Georgia.

Mr. ISAKSON. I thank Senator ALEXANDER for giving me a moment on the floor.

It is ironic that when I received the call last week asking if I would participate in this colloquy, I was traveling my State doing town hall meetings. I was near Ooltewah, TN, on Thursday night, north of Dalton, GA, and Murray County. We had a town hall meeting, and this fellow in the back of the room raised his hand when it came time for questions.

He said: Mr. ISAKSON, I have got a question for you. I said: What is that?

He said: Last night, my wife and I went to see a movie that we established in December for this year because some things have not gone so well, and we had to recast how we are spending our money so we wouldn’t go any further in debt than we already are. Why can’t you all do the same thing? “You all,” talking about us.

A few days earlier in Dublin, GA, a great, prosperous town in south Georgia, a similar question was asked by a Chamber of Commerce director who couldn’t understand why the Federal Government and the Congress of the United States could not wrap their arms around fiscal responsibility, have a budget, and have appropriations acts that came to the floor, are debated, are amended, and the spending of the United States of America’s government is spent like the households of the United States of America have to spend their money.

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There are many important reasons we should do that, but basically it is our constitutional responsibility to appropriate money. It is a time when we need to save every penny we can. This is our best opportunity for oversight, and it is also good management, and it allows the Senate to do what the Senate ought to do, which is consider legislation, have a hearing, ask questions, cut out what ought to be cut out, add what ought to be added, vote on it, bring it to the floor, amend it, debate on it, and pass or defeat it. That is what we should be doing. Only twice since 2000 has this Senate actually considered every single one of the 12 appropriation bills. Only twice, in 2001 and 2005. So it has been 7 years since we considered every single one of the appropriation bills, which is our most basic responsibility: appropriate and oversight.

That is why we are here tonight. Our leaders have said this is what their intention is. We are here to say: You are right. Congratulations. We compliment you, and we are here to help you succeed. Because it is very difficult for our leaders to succeed if they don’t have our attention. We are here to say: You are right. Congratulations. We compliment you, and we are here to help you succeed. Because it is very difficult for our leaders to succeed if they don’t have any followers making it possible for them to achieve their goals.

I would refer to Senator ISAKSON and then to Senator PRYOR.

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Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam President, I appreciate the courtesy of the Senator from Arkansas. The Senator from Maine is here. She has another appointment, and I await hearing what she has to say.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine is recognized.

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, first let me thank the Senator from Arkansas and the Senator from Tennessee for their usual courtesies but also for organizing a day on the Senate floor this evening. I am very pleased to join my colleagues as we talk about the goal of taking up the fiscal year 2013 appropriations bills in what we in the Senate call the regular order.

What does that mean? As the Presiding Officer is well aware, that means we would bring up each of the individual bills, they would be open to full and fair debate, they would be amended, they would be voted on, and we would avoid having some colossal bill at the end of the year that combines all the appropriations bills. Those bills are often thousands of pages in length. A lot of times some of the provisions that have not had the opportunity to be thoroughly vetted. They really are not very popular. They contribute to the public’s concern about the way we do business here in Washington.

I too join in commending the majority leader, the Republican leader, the chairman of the Appropriations Committee, who I will yield to the Appropriations Committee for their commitment to try to work together in a bipartisan fashion so each and every one of the appropriations bills can be brought before the full Senate so that we can work our will on each of these bills. I suggest that it is important to the Senate as an institution that we achieve this goal. It is also important for the American people to see that we can carry out our constitutional responsibilities. As all, it is important for restoring trust in government that we work together in an open and bipartisan manner to establish priorities, to make the tough spending decisions that will be required, and to complete on time the work the Constitution requires of us.

I believe it is important to remember that these bills make important investments in research, economic development, infrastructure, our national defense, education, and health care, and that work not only create jobs now when they are needed most but also establish the foundations for future growth.

Just as important to our economic future is the need to reign in Federal spending, and that work must continue toward the goal of getting our national debt under control.

The best way for us to achieve these goals is for each and every one of the appropriations bills to come before the full Senate and for us to work our will on those bills. That is the way the Senate should operate. It is the way we must operate in order to restore the faith of the American people in this institution.

Let me conclude my remarks by thanking Senator ALEXANDER and Senator PRYOR for initiating this colloquy tonight. This is the way we can come together, and America will be better for it.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam President, I see the Senator from Virginia, Mr. WARNER, has arrived. He, with Senator PRYOR, has been very active in the last several months in working across party lines to try to make the Senate function more effectively. I would leave it to Senator PRYOR as to what comes next.

Mr. PRYOR. If it is agreeable with the Senator from Tennessee, I will ask the Senator from Virginia to say a few words. We understand he has a pressing engagement. I don’t think there is anything more pressing than when it is your wife’s birthday, if you would like to say a few words, that is agreeable to the Senator from Tennessee.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. WARNER. Madam President, I thank the Senator from Arkansas and my good friend from Tennessee for instigating this effort. Again, as a relatively new Senator—in fact, I jumped the line. I apologize. As the Presiding Officer would support, it is in the interest of family values; if I were not getting to my wife’s birthday in about 30 minutes, I would be able to give much more extended remarks.

As a Senator who has only had the opportunity to serve in this body for 3 years, I hear my more senior colleagues talk about the old days or the days when the Senate took up in an orderly fashion the business of the people and debated it in vigorous fashion but was far less ideological. We confronted the country. We have done some of that in the years when I came in with the Presiding Officer. There were issues of major importance that we have debated and often in recent times, we have not had the favor of those kinds of debates.

While we can disagree about many of the grave issues of the day, as a former businessperson, I know there is nothing more important than to give predictability to the enterprise we call the Federal Government. The way we do that is by passing spending bills—the appropriations bills—where hard choices are made about which programs to fund, which programs not to fund.

Like my friend the Senator from Tennessee and both Senators from Arkansas and the Presiding Officer, I have enormous concerns about our debt burden and about having to make hard choices. But if we are going to make those choices, we need a full and vigorous debate, a debate where amendments are offered, where procedural tactics are not used to slow that debate, and where the will of the Senate is enacted.

I understand that the majority leader and the Republican leader have reached some accommodation to try to start a new way of business, and the first step of that business should be having us, in a fair and orderly process, debate appropriations bills, make those hard choices, and move on.

I yield the floor.

Mr. ALEXANDER. I congratulate the Senator from Virginia, who has worked in many different ways to try to get a result here. People say: I see your goal is to try to be more bipartisan. My goal is not to be more bipartisan. My goal is a result. We can start with these appropriations bills, which are our basic work.

Not only is the senior Senator from Arkansas here today, having been a part of these discussions to try to help the members of the Appropriations Committee as well as Majority Leader REID and Republican Leader MCCONNELL as they commit to doing their best to pass all 13 appropriations bills, I also thank the other Senator from Arkansas. I look forward to hearing his remarks. I thank him for his leadership.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam President, I am also here tonight to compliment my Senate colleagues, Senators INOUYE and COCHRAN, and the members of the Appropriations Committee as well as Majority Leader REID and Republican Leader MCCONNELL as they commit to doing their best to pass all 13 appropriations bills. I also thank the senior Senator from Tennessee and my senior Senator from Arkansas for making this possible.

I do think it is very important. Each one of us in this Chamber owes it to the American people to work together to help our country today and build a path for success in the future. Our Founding Fathers laid the foundation that allows the Senate to function effectively and efficiently, but it requires working together. The American people are tired of the finger-pointing that has stalled much of the work they sent us here to do, but today I am hopeful that we are seeing the light at the end of the tunnel which starts with the members of the Appropriations Committee for agreeing to do their very best to move the appropriations bills forward.
Determined how we spend our hard-earned taxpayer dollars is the basic responsibility for Congress. We know tough choices will have to be made on the appropriations bills, but moving forward is the right decision. This is an important step to reducing government spending and supporting a budget while investing in programs upon which Americans have come to rely. Moving forward on these bills returns the Senate to its proper function and provides a framework of spending so that the people can see and understand where their hard-earned money is going, as the Senator from Georgia alluded to earlier.

In recent days Members of Congress have worked together to find solutions to the troubles Americans are facing. This level of cooperation was evident in headlines. One newspaper reported that “Washington is talking again.” This should not be the exception. This needs to be the rule.

It is good to have him here. He is an intuitive leader R EID, because they have a common track. So far so good. I thank the agreement on moving forward with the appropriations bills through our regular process sets a new trend that will become a standard. I can see from the people who have spoken before me tonight and those who are waiting to talk that there is widespread bipartisan support for these efforts to continue.

Our leaders’ efforts show the proper way for the Senate to function, and I encourage all of my colleagues to come together only to help move forward on these bills, but also, as we work through regular order of the Senate, that will help us get our economy and our country back on track.

I again thank our senior Senator from Tennessee and my senior Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam President, before we go to the senior Senator from Arkansas, I wish to thank Senator BOOZMAN for his comments and his attitude. The Senator is the chairman of the Appropriations Committee and the Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development. Mr. Chairman, I am hopeful that the agreement on moving forward with the appropriations bills through our regular process sets a new trend that will become a standard. I can see from the people who have spoken before me tonight and those who are waiting to talk that there is widespread bipartisan support for these efforts to continue.

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Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam President, I thank the Senator from Arkansas for his leadership. I will answer his question to the best of my ability.

I suppose some people may be watching and say what we are talking about is a lot of "inside baseball." When it would be like telling a bunch of people that talking about singing at the Grand Ole Opry “inside baseball.” This is what we do.

I went out to see Johnny Cash at the House of Cash when I was Governor of Tennessee many years ago, and I didn’t know quite what to say to him, and so I said: Johnny, how many nights do you appear on the road?

With that big-old deep voice of his, he said: Oh, about 200.

I said: My goodness. Why do you do that?

He looked at me and said: That is what I do.

Well, this is what we do or at least what we are supposed to do. I mean, we are elected by the people from Arkansas, Tennessee, North Carolina, and all over this country expecting us to get results. They sent us up here to put the country first, put our States next, and try to get the job done. We have our partisan differences, but in the end one of the things we are supposed to do is to appropriate dollars. It says in the Constitution, section 9, article 1, that “no money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in consequence of appropriations made by law.” That is us. So this is what we do.

In addition to that, we are supposed to oversee the spending of that money. This is not the whole budget, this is only about 38 percent of it, but it is over $1 trillion. And at a time when we are borrowing 40 cents of every dollar we spend, maybe the people of this country have a right to expect that we take up each one of these 12 appropriations bills, that we have our hearings on them, that we vote on them, and pass or reject them. That is what we do, as Johnny Cash said about his 200 nights on the road, and we should not be singing it. We should be doing it.

The idea that we have not taken these 12 appropriations bills and brought them to the floor but 2 times since the year 2000 is a bad commentary on this body. It means it is hard to get things done. It should be the function, I do think it functioned better in the 1970s and 1980s. When Senator Byrd and Senator Baker were the Democratic and Republican leaders, they would get unanimous consent agreements to bring bills to the floor. The minority would allow that, and the majority would allow a lot of amendments until people got tired of voting. But they could not have done that just by themselves. Senator Byrd and Senator Baker were very good leaders, but they couldn’t have gotten that done if the Senators themselves didn’t make it possible for the leaders to succeed.

So I am delighted to see this discussion. I see the Senator from North Carolina is here, and I would be interested in hearing about this. My feeling is that there are a large number of Republicans—and I believe a large number of Democrats—who prefer to see the Senate work together to get results. I mean, we worked pretty hard to get, and the people of Tennessee, Arkansas, and North Carolina expect us to get results, so here is a chance for us to do that. I believe our leaders are saying: OK, let’s get this done. And we are saying: Senator REID, Senator MCCONNELL, Senator INOUYE, Senator COCHRAN, we are going to help. We know it will not always be peaches and cream. There will be problems, but, as Senator WARNER talked about a volunteer fire department, maybe when the bell rings and we all show up, we will make the Senate effective and we will be more effective.

Let me stop my remarks for a moment and yield to the Senator from North Carolina, who has been a regular participant in the discussions we have had about this, and I say: We are not going to make the Senate be a more effective institution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PRYOR). The Senator from North Carolina.

Mrs. HAGAN. Mr. President, I am pleased to join this colloquy and to hear the Senator from Tennessee and the senior Senator from Arkansas work together on this issue. I think it is something of prime importance. Just as Senator from Tennessee was at Cross Georgia this past week, I was in many cities and communities in North Carolina, and people are concerned, as he said, with such a low approval rating of the Congress. They are asking us: Why can’t you work together? And, as the Senator from North Carolina said, when we have 47 Members in one party and 53 Members in the other party and today we need 60 votes in order to get some-thing done, we are going to have to work together in this Chamber. That also means the Senate and the House are going to have to come together and have conferences that actually work so we can get legislation passed—in the case we are talking about right now, getting the 12 appropriations bills passed.

When I was in the North Carolina Senate, I was one of the cochairs of the Budget Committee. We know how to do this. We know how to get things done. Obviously this is a much bigger piece of the pie up here, but it is important to the people throughout our country that we work together to get these bills passed. So I am very pleased to hear this debate and colloquy and the commitment we have standing here and talking about and pledging to work together.

I am pleased that Senator INOUYE, the chairman of this committee, and the ranking member, Senator COCHRAN, are putting this thing forward. I applaud both the Senator from Tennessee and the Senator from Arkansas for holding this colloquy and bringing this out so the American people can hear what we are talking about and the commitment to move forward.

I thank the Chair. We are here to make this place work, to make our country work better every day. We are going to have our differences of opinion. The way the Senate is structured, we should bring the bill to the floor and offer amendments. Let’s have a vote. Let’s have our differences of opinion. When we don’t do that, we are not doing our job.

I see the Senator from South Carolina has arrived. I wish to say this to him: For the last 45 minutes, we have had a stream of Democratic and Republican Senators who have come to the floor and who have congratulated the chairman, the leader, the floor leader, and the chairman and the ranking member of the Appropriations Committee, for saying we should take all 12 appropriations bills this year, bring them through committee properly, have all of our hearings, do our oversight, bring them to the floor, and then let’s pass them.

More than that, we have said we know our leaders can’t be leaders if they don’t have any followers, and it is their job to create an environment in which they can succeed. So we have come to the floor to say that, to pledge we are going to do that. It is not just those who come tonight. We represent a preponderance of Senators on our side of the aisle, and I am told, a preponderance of the Democrats as well.

I would say to the Senator from South Carolina that the Senator from Virginia, Mr. WARNER, was here a little earlier and he said the exercise tonight reminded him of a volunteer fire department. I believe I first heard those words from the Senator from South Carolina. The Senator from South
Carolina has seen the House of Representatives and he has seen the Senate and he has seen the condition of our country. I wish to yield to him in this colloquy for his thoughts on what we are doing here tonight.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. HAGAN): The Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. GRAHAM. Madam President, my first thought is that the American people are not very impressed with what we are doing up here. We have a congressional approval rating of about 10 to 15 percent. I think it would help all of us if we could go back home and say: This coming week we are going to be talking about the Department of Education budget; we are going to be talking about Veterans Affairs; we are going to be talking about Energy and Water.

We want to be able to tell our mayors and people—county council, city council, or whatever—we are going to be debating how much money we will allocate for different parts of the government, even knowing we are broke. I think that would resonate, I say to the Senator from Tennessee.

This week is going to be of a volunteer fire department, when we think about it—particularly in the South, and I am sure it is true everywhere—volunteer fire departments have citizens who have a lot of things to do but feel as though their work together to protect their community from the inevitable by fire, that would be a good thing. They are all volunteers. They don't get any money. They lower everybody's insurance premiums by having a volunteer fire department. I think a lot of Members of the Senate feel very frustrated, as does the average person on the street. We want to do better. So we are volunteering our services here to the body so that if we will do things that make sense to the American people, it will give us an opportunity. For those who want to set priorities, this allows you to do it.

To the leaders of the Senate: If you will follow through with this, it will pay enormous dividends for the body. And to Senators ALEXANDER, PYOR, and others who have been in the volunteer fire department, and we think this is a good moment for the Senate and I am proud to be associated with it, and if it happens, it will be because of what they have done.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam President, before we go back to the Senator from Arkansas, I have a question I wish to ask the Senator from South Carolina. First, I am not sure he was here when I referred to the Grand Ole Opry. I haven't been doing that because it is in Mississippi. But, it has occurred to me over the last several months that there is a lot about what we do that is like the Grand Ole Opry. I know a lot of performers of the Opry, members of the Opry. They sing and pick in every little bar in the South for 20 years until finally, by skill and by accident, they get an invitation to join the Grand Ole Opry. What would they think if they joined the Grand Ole Opry and then they weren't allowed to sing? That is what we are in. We are not allowed to sing.

The Senator from South Carolina reminded me of a specific example of that—the deep ports in the United States. If we are going to export American-made goods and create more jobs in our country, we are going to have to have deep ports. We have a real problem in the way we finance that in the Federal Government, and we would be a stronger country if we could discuss that in the Appropriations Committee. If we can't, we should bring the bill and have amendments and have a debate and let people see what is going on.

Would the Senator agree that would be a perfect example of what we should be doing?

Mr. GRAHAM. I think the Senator from Tennessee picked the best example. I can think of simply because the Charleston harbor deepening is probably the No. 1 issue for the State of South Carolina.

The Panama Canal is going to be widened and the cargo ships that are going to be on the oceans of the world in the next few years are three times the size of the cargo ships that exist today. The deep ports are going to be very important. If we do not go back to Congress and to the Appropriations Committee, we would have to be deeper to accept these ships.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam President, with all due respect, what does it mean for shipping? Ships that would normally deposit their goods in California can now access the east coast. So east coast ports, based on common sense and merit, have to be deepened. If we brought the Energy and Water appropriations bill through the committee and to the floor, it would make us all think about that. Because when I hear the President say we want to double exports in the next 5 years, count me in. We would be thousands of jobs—millions of jobs—created in America. How do we get those products to the customers overseas if our ports are not modernized to adjust to the change in shipping? Then it is a statement that will go to bear fruit. Go to Shanghai, go to Hong Kong and other ports, go to Mideast ports, and we are 20 years behind.

This is a good example of how, if we took the Energy and Water appropriations bill, among other things, could create a national vision to deepen ports to adjust to shipping changes. If we keep continuing to appropriate in the last week of the session in a bill that nobody reads, not only will our fellow citizens think poorly of us, we won't have a vision. So this is a good example of why if we took every appropriations bill, put it through committee and brought it to the floor, we could come up with ways to make smart decisions. This is what we are talking about is that spending $2 trillion or $3 trillion in a week where only four of five people know what is in the bill is not smart. We all did come here to have our say, and we have a thousand ideas about ports.

So, my friend in Arkansas, if the port of Charleston is deepened and other east coast ports are deepened and the cargo containers are three times the volume we have today, what does that mean for the Mississippi River? It means it has to be widened and deepened. Because the cargo we unload on
the east coast has to get to the interior of the country. I want to have a vision for interior ports, because one thing could affect the other. And the only way the Senate can make smart decisions is to break the government into 12 parts, as we have been doing for a long time, and get back to doing business in a more traditional fashion.

This is a classic example: If we brought the Energy and Water appropriations bill to the floor, people other than me would have a say about what to do with the ports. And if we don’t do it in the normal course of business—if we keep doing this in the last week of the session—we are going to be left behind as a Nation.

This is a great example of why we should do appropriations bills in the normal course of business. If we can pull this off in 2012, it will not be a lost year; it will be where we can do some good for the public.

So I thank you very much. I yield the floor.

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I have one thing to say in closing while my two colleagues are still on the floor: Today, Senator SHAHEEN read Washington’s Farewell Address which we have been quoting in the Senate since 1888. One of the reasons we do that is because President Washington calls to us through history to do our best.

We talk about this issue in South Carolina—being the Port of Charleston. Certainly President Washington knew about the port of Charleston. It was a huge asset for this fledgling Nation of ours. He had no idea about a Panama Canal. He had no idea about goods coming over from China. He certainly had no idea about goods coming in from the west coast because at that point he was hoping we would get to Appalachia. He had no idea what was going to happen here. But he calls to us from history to do our job and accept that comes our way.

The appropriations bills shouldn’t be a challenge. That is nuts-and-bolts good government.

This week in Arkansas we had five townhall meetings and they were great. I got lots of good questions; a few pointed questions. My colleagues know how it goes because they have participated in those as well. It was great. It is democracy in action. When people can show up in a community and ask the question, that is what means the system is working. It is working back home, but we need to get it to work up here. That is what I heard over and over this week in Arkansas, is the expectations for this Congress are very low for this year. We talk about a 10-percent approval rating. I am sometimes surprised it is that high.

Mr. GRAHAM. Madam President, if the Senator will yield, here is the good news: It wouldn’t take much to exceed expectations. I want to say to the west coast Senators that their ports need to be modernized too. They need transportation hubs around their ports.

The whole infrastructure regarding export opportunities in this country has deteriorated because of a lack of vision.

Wal-Mart is a pretty good model of how business works. They get thousands of millions of products a day out to stores all over the country. They do it in a business fashion: FedEx—Federal Express—UPS. The Federal Government is stuck in the 1950s and we need to change that. I think the appropriations process is the right vehicle to do it.

Mr. PRYOR. That does go back to the appropriations process, because obviously those things require money, they take investment in our future. But one truth is if we are stymied in our appropriations process, there are a lot of good things that we can’t get done. But when they go through, we can take care of the challenges that present themseives about the country. We have a lot of need in this country. I am certainly a promoter of investing in infrastructure, and the ports are very important to our Nation.

With that I yield to the Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam President, I wish to thank the Senator from South Carolina for his leadership in helping to make the Senate work and for his good example for giving us a specific example—the deep ports—as to why it is important that we set out to do what we are elected to do, which is to say, the Port of Charleston and the Port of Savannah have to be deepwater ports to keep our jobs. That needs to be said in the Senate. It needs to be said in the subcommittee and in the full committee, and it needs to be said on the floor.

It is encouraging to me when Senators such as the Senator from North Carolina and Arkansas and Virginia from that side of the aisle, and the Senator from South Carolina and the Senator from Maine and the junior Senator from Louisiana and the Senator from Georgia on this side of the aisle—I think we would all say firmly that while we are only several Senators on both sides of the aisle—those of us who have spoken and many others who feel the same way—pledge our support to help our leaders achieve that result.

I yield the floor.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I rise to recognize Thomas Culbertson of Fremont, OH, for many years of outstanding leadership and service to The Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center and stockbroker. Mr. Culbertson began his service to the center in 1988 as a manuscripts curator and rose to the position of executive director in 2004.

Mr. Culbertson was instrumental in developing two workshop series for educators. The first series, “History Links: A Partnership to Teach American History,” helped 300 area schoolteachers implement State standards for social studies that focused on American history. The second series included three workshops for more than 200 community college faculty that focused on America’s Gilded Age. Mr. Culbertson also led the effort to gain

One last thing: When these spending bills come to the floor and we debate them and approve them, we can show the American people that discretionary spending is not the biggest problem we have with spending in this country. Discretionary spending is 38 percent of the budget, and the President’s and Congressional Budget Office it is scheduled to go up over the next 10 years at the rate of inflation. The rest of the budget, which is largely our entitlement programs, is scheduled to grow up to four times the rate of inflation. If it does that, we will be a bankrupt country after about 10 or 12 years. So there is every reason in the world for us to bring these bills to the floor.

My concluding sentence is this: We congratulate the Democratic and Republican leaders and the chairman and ranking member of the Appropriations Committee. We believe our job is to bring all 12 bills through committee and to the floor and pass them before the fiscal year starts. We, on both sides of the aisle—those of us who have spoken and many others who feel the same way—pledge our support to help our leaders achieve that result.

I yield the floor.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I thank Senator ALEXANDER from Tennessee for his leadership on this issue. He is the one who wanted to come here and praise the two leaders for their leadership. Again, they are demonstrating leadership by reaching this agreement and trying to change recent practice around here. They want to set a new standard for getting it done as we are supposed to get it done.

So I thank my friend and colleague from Tennessee for all of his hard work, and this is just the tip of the iceberg. He is working on many ways to try to make this institution run better and make it work for the American people proud of the Senate. So I thank the Senator for that.

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS CULBERTSON

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I rise to recognize Thomas Culbertson of Fremont, OH, for many years of outstanding leadership and service to The Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center and stockbroker. Mr. Culbertson began his service to the center in 1988 as a manuscripts curator and rose to the position of executive director in 2004.

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accreditation for the Hayes Museum from the American Association of Museums in 2002.

Of utmost importance to Mr. Culbertson’s legacy is the $1.2 million restoration of the first floor of the Hayes home to how it looked when our 19th President and his wife, Lucy, lived there. With the help of the late U.S. Representative Paul Gillmor, the Hayes Center was awarded a $400,000 Save America’s Treasures grant through the U.S. Department of Interior. In addition, the center received $500,000 in State capital funding, and Mr. Culbertson helped raise $300,000 in donations to pay for the restoration. The project included replicating wallpaper, carpets, and other features that had been altered over the years. The home renovation will be completed in July 2012.

For his commitment to public service and the many contributions he has made to the Hayes Presidential Center, I would like to recognize and thank Mr. Culbertson for his years of service and wish him well in his retirement.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO WILLIE O’REE

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, Willie O’Ree made history on the night of January 18, 1958. But for too long, the significance of what he accomplished that night went largely unacknowledged. Every American should know Willie O’Ree for his rightful place in history: he is the Jackie Robinson of hockey—the first player of African heritage to play in the National Hockey League.

Unlike Jackie Robinson’s widely heralded debut with the Brooklyn Dodgers 11 years earlier, Willie O’Ree’s appearance on the Boston Bruins’ roster 54 years ago got little notice in the press. The New York Times simply reported: “The Boston Bruins, with a Negro, Billy O’Ree, in the line-up for the first time in National Hockey League history, scored once in every period tonight to beat the first-place Montreal Canadiens for the first time in eight games, 3-0.”

But it was a milestone for hockey—and a dream come true for the 22-year-old Willie O’Ree, who had spent his boyhood in New Brunswick, Canada—the youngest of 13 children— idolizing such NHL legends as Gordie Howe and Maurice Richard. He liked baseball, too, landing a tryout with the Milwaukee Braves minor league team in Waycross, GA, in 1956. He even got to meet Jackie Robinson on a trip his baseball team made to New York in 1949.

Willie was as good at shortstop as he was at second base. He was good at the plate, too. And with his speed, he stole a lot of bases. But to him, baseball was just a way to stay in shape for hockey. To him, “there was just something about hockey,” he always said. He started skating when he was 2 years old and began playing organized hockey when he was a boy.

He explains his love of hockey in words all of us who share his passion for the game can appreciate. “When I put a pair of skates on and a hockey stick in my hand and started maneuvering the puck,” he says, “I just knew I could do something with it. I had that burning desire within me.”

That burning desire—that deep ambition—drove Willie O’Ree through almost two minor league seasons with the Quebec Aces before being called up by the Boston Bruins for that historic game in Montreal against the Canadiens in 1958. But after that memorable night, he would play only one more game with Boston before being sent back to the minors for the rest of the season.

But in 1960, Willie O’Ree was back with the Bruins for 43 games, including one memorable game at the Boston Garden in which he scored the winning goal in a 2-1 victory over Montreal. It came in the third period. Willie broke away from his check, got a perfect pass from Leo Boivin, stick handled past two Canadiens players, then from 10 feet out fired a shot past goaltender Charlie Hodge. More than 13,000 Bruins fans jumped to their feet and gave Willie a 2-minute standing ovation.

That year, Willie had a total of four goals and 10 assists with the Bruins, but that was the end of his NHL career. He spent the next six seasons in the Western Hockey League, then nine more seasons in the Pacific Hockey League until he retired in 1979 at the age of 44. Most seasons were productive despite the fact that at 19 he had suffered an injury that left him blind in his right eye. Doctors said he would never play hockey again. They were wrong. With aggressiveness, fearlessness and speed, he scored nearly 500 goals in his 21 years playing professional hockey.

His own impairment was no obstacle to Willie O’Ree. Neither was the blind bigotry of those who filled his mailbox with anonymous death threats, those who screamed racial epithets at him from the stands, those who even tossed black cats out on the ice, even those players who took countless cheap shots at him, in a time when players did not wear helmets or face shields. Willie responded the same way as Jackie Robinson had in 1947 when he broke the color barrier in baseball—with quiet strength and a calm dignity. “I just want to be a hockey player,” he said, “and if they couldn’t accept that fact, that was their problem, not mine.”

It wasn’t until 1974 that another black player, the Washington’s Mike Marson, made it to the NHL. It is undeniable that Willie O’Ree—his talent and his character—opened the NHL to other minorities. But Willie’s groundbreaking days are far from over. For the last 14 years, he has served as the NHL’s Director of Youth Development and ambassador for NHL Diversity, part of the NHL Foundation supporting hockey programs for boys and girls throughout North America. He continues on the go, running clinics and speaking at schools all across the continent, teaching not only hockey but also how to live life off the ice. He continues to spread the word that “hockey is for everyone.”

We should also honor Willie O’Ree who is the ultimate ambassador not just for hockey, but for dignity and respect and even courage in the world of sports. The world weathered so many storms and so much uncertainty, but at the center of each we find people of character who reviwe our hope and give us strength. Willie O’Ree is such a man, and we are all blessed to have his strength as an example. 

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL HISTORY DAY

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize National History Day, a yearlong academic program focused on improving the teaching and learning of history for 6th to 12th grade students, for receiving a 2011 National Humanities Medal. The National Humanities Medals honor achievements in history, literature, education, and cultural policy. For the first time ever, a K 12 education program has received this prestigious award. National History Day was recognized as “a program that inspires in American students a passion for history.”

Each year more than half a million students, encouraged by thousands of teachers nationwide, participate in the yearlong National History Day program. Students choose historical topics related to a theme and conduct extensive primary and secondary research through libraries, archives, museums, oral history interviews, and historic sites. After analyzing and interpreting their sources and drawing conclusions about the significance of their topics in history, students present their work in original papers, Web sites, exhibits, performances, and documentaries. These products are entered into competitions in the spring, at local, State, and national levels where they are evaluated by professional historians and educators. The program culminates in a national competition each June. National History Day programs operate in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. territories, engaging students with its unique approach to the hands-on learning of history.

In addition to discovering the exciting world of the past, National History Day also helps students develop the attributes that are critical to making them college and career ready. This includes:

...
critical thinking and problem-solving skills, research and reading skills, oral and written communication and presentation skills, self-esteem and confidence, and a sense of responsibility for and involvement in the democratic process. With schools spending more resources on teaching English language arts and mathematics education, it is important that programs like National History Day are recognized and supported to ensure students receive a quality history and civics education.

The impact of National History Day is also supported by data. A recent comprehensive study by Rockman et al found that students who participate in National History Day develop a range of college and career-ready skills, and outperform their peers on State standardized tests across all subjects—including science and mathematics.

National History Day is much more than a day, it is an evidence-based history education program that gives our young people the tools to succeed in school and post secondary careers as well as a valuable understanding of how the world they live in has been shaped by people and events of the past. National History Day is a unique program that has benefited over 15 million students since 1982. I congratulate them on winning the 2011 National Humanities Medal and wish them many more years of continued success.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of January 5, 2011, the Secretary of the Senate, on February 21, 2012, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker pro tempore had signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 3030. An act to provide incentives for the creation of jobs, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. REID).

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 1173. An act to repeal the CLASS program.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC 5056. A communication from the Acting Chief of the Planning and Regulatory Affairs Division, Federal Emergency Management Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Nutritional Standards in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs” (RIN0581 AD59) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 15, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC 5057. A communication from the Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Dairy Product Mandatory Reporting” (Docket No. AMS DA 10 0089: DA 11 01) (RIN0581 AD12) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC 5058. A communication from the Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “National Organic Program (NOP); Amendment of NOP Certified Producers Program; and NOP Certification Procedures” (Docket No. AMS NOP 19 0079; NOP 09 02FR) (RIN0581 AD06) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC 5059. A communication from the Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Updated Final Flood Elevation Determinations” (44 CFR Part 67) (Docket No. FEMA 2011 0002) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 15, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC 5060. A communication from the Acting Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Final Flood Elevation Determinations” (44 CFR Part 67) (Docket No. FEMA 2011 0002) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 15, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC 5061. A communication from the Acting Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Suspension of Community Eligibility” (44 CFR Part 64) (Docket No. FEMA 2012 0003) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 15, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC 5062. A communication from the Acting Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment to Existing Validated End User Authorization for Classified Information for Foreign Governments” (Docket No. BIS-2012-0001) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 15, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC 5063. A communication from the Acting Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Updated Statements of Legal Authority To Reflect
Continuation of Emergency Declared in Executive Orders 12947 and 13244 (RIN0694 AF30) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 21, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC 5073. A communication from the Secretary, Division of Investment Management, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Investment Advisers Performance Comparison” (RIN 17-10-AQ71) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 17, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC 5074. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Interpretation of Protection System Reliability Standard” (RIN 058002 AE21) (Docket No. RM10 S 000) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 22, 2012; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC 5075. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Special Regulations, Areas of the National Park System National Rainforest National Scenic Area (RIN0246 AD88) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 15, 2012; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC 5076. A communication from the Chief of the Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Duty-Free Treatment of Certain Visual and Auditory Materials” (RIN15151 AD75) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 17, 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC 5077. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Determination of Housing Cost Amounts Eligible for Exclusion or Deduction for 2012” (Notice 2012 19) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 15, 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC 5078. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Work Opportunity Tax Credit—Vow to Hire Heroes Act” (Notice 2012 13) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 14, 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC 5080. A communication from the Program Manager, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Summary of Benefits and Coverage and Uniform Glossary—Templates, Instructions, and Related Materials; and Guidance for Compliance” (CMS 9982 FN) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 14, 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC 5082. A communication from the Program Manager, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Summary of Benefits and Coverage and Uniform Glossary” (RIN1545 BJ94, RIN210 AD52, and RIN0968 AD60 received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 14, 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, pursuant to request of Mr. PORTMAN—To authorize an extension of highway-related taxes and trust funds through December 31, 2012, and for other purposes. (S. 179.) A bill to expand the boundaries of the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary and the Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 112 149).

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 646. A bill to reauthorize Federal natural hazards reduction programs, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 112 150).

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment:

S. 962. A bill to reauthorize the Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative Act to promote the protection of the resources of the Northwest Straits, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 112 151).

By Mr. BAUCUS, from the Committee on Finance, without amendment:

S. 2131. An original bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the extension of highway-related taxes and trust fund expenditures, to provide revenues for highway programs, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 112 152).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. CASEY:

S. 251L. An original bill to reauthorize the Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area, the Lackawanna Valley National Heritage Area, and the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

S. 2166L. An original bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the extension of highway-related taxes and trust fund expenditures, to provide revenues for highway programs, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 112 152).

By Mr. BAUCUS:

The bills were introduced:

S. 17. A bill to extend the Federal Credit for Production, Modernization, and Expansion of Propane Fuels to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

S. 28. A bill to amend the Employee Free Zone Act of 1984, and to extend the authority of the Secretary of Commerce to issue zone designations to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

S. 1321. A bill to provide for the extension of highway-related taxes and trust fund expenditures, to provide revenues for highway programs, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 112 152).

By Mr. HARKIN:

S. 2131L. An original bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the extension of highway-related taxes and trust fund expenditures, to provide revenues for highway programs, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Finance; placed on the calendar.

S. 2134L. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for certain requirements relating to the retirement, adoption, care, and recognition of military working dogs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 17

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 17, a bill to repeal the job-killing tax on medical devices to ensure continued access to life-saving medical devices for patients and maintain the standing of United States as the world leader in medical device innovation.

S. 64

At the request of Mr. INOUYE, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 64, a bill to establish a fact-finding Commission to extend the study of a prior Commission to investigate and determine facts and circumstances surrounding the relocation, internment, and deportation to Axis countries of Latin Americans of Japanese descent from December 1941 through February 1948, and the impact of those actions by the United States, and to recommend appropriate remedies, and for other purposes.

S. 296

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from New Jersey (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 296, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide the Food and Drug Administration with improved capacity to prevent drug shortages.

S. 424

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 424, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to preserve access to ambulance services under the Medicare program.

S. 491

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 491, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to recognize the service in the reserve components of the Armed Forces of certain persons by honoring them with status as veterans under law, and for other purposes.

S. 807

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOVEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 807, a bill to authorize the Department of Labor’s voluntary protection program and to expand the program to include more small businesses.

S. 1004

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1004, a bill to support Promise Neighborhoods.
At the request of Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1167, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve the diagnosis and treatment of hereditary hemorrhagic telangiectasia, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUYE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1299, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of the establishment of Lions Clubs International.

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1421, a bill to authorize the Peace Corps Commemorative Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. DE MINT, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1425, a bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to ensure fairness in election procedures with respect to collective bargaining representatives.

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1577, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase and make permanent the alternative simplified research credit, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) and the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEES) were added as cosponsors of S. 1591, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Raoul Wallenberg, in recognition of his achievements and heroic actions during the Holocaust.

At the request of Mr. BEGICH, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1665, a bill to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal years 2012 and 2013, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors of S. 1884, a bill to provide States with incentives to require elementary schools and secondary schools to maintain, and permit school personnel to administer, epinephrine at schools.

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1925, a bill to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act of 1994.

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1930, a bill to prohibit earmarks.

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1967, a bill to amend title XVII of the Social Security Act to provide for the treatment of certain physician pathology services under the Medicare Program.

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1981, a bill to provide that Members of Congress may not receive pay after October 1 of any fiscal year in which Congress has not approved a concurrent resolution on the budget and passed the regular appropriations bills.

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1990, a bill to require the Transportation Security Administration to comply with the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act.

At the request of Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2005, a bill to authorize the Secretary of State to issue up to 10,500 E 3 visas per year to Irish nationals.

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2046, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to modify the requirements of the visa waiver program and for other purposes.

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. Tester) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2084, a bill to require the Secretary to Transportation to establish accelerated licensing procedures to assist veterans to acquire commercial driver’s licenses, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KOLOUCHEK) were added as cosponsors of S. 2127, a bill to protect State and local witnesses from tampering and retaliation, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 380, a resolution to express the sense of the Senate regarding the importance of preventing the Government of Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons capability.

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNES), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 919 intended to be proposed to H.R. 872, a bill to amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to clarify Congressional intent regarding the regulation of the use of pesticides in or near navigable waters, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1599 intended to be proposed to S. 1813, a bill to reauthorize Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1601 intended to be proposed to S. 1813, a bill to reauthorize Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1606 intended to be proposed to S. 1813, a bill to reauthorize Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1647 intended to be proposed to S. 1813, a bill to reauthorize Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1652 intended to be proposed to S. 1813, a bill to authorize Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs, and for other purposes.
At the request of Ms. Collins, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. McCaskill) was added as a co-sponsor of amendment No. 1660 intended to be proposed to S. 1813, to reauthorize Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1736. Mr. PORTMAN (for himself and Mr. COBURN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1813, to reauthorize Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1737. Mr. COBURN (for himself and Mr. Udall of Colorado) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1813, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1738. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1730 proposed by Mr. Reid to the bill S. 1813, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1740. Mrs. MURRAY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1730 proposed by Mr. Reid to the bill S. 1813, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1741. Mr. LEVIN (for himself and Mr. CONRAD) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1813, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

At the appropriate place, add the following:

Subtitle—State Transportation Flexibility

SEC. 01. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the “State Transportation Flexibility Act”.

SEC. 02. DIRECT FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAY PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1115(b)), is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 111(b) the following:

§168. Direct Federal-aid highway program

"(1) ELECTION BY STATE NOT TO PARTICIPATE.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a State may elect not to participate in any Federal program relating to highways, including a Federal highway program under the SAFETEA LU (Public Law 109-59; 119 Stat. 114), this title, or title 49."

(b) DIRECT FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAY PROGRAM.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning in fiscal year 2011, the Secretary shall carry out a direct Federal-aid program in accordance with the requirements of this section under which the legislature of a State may elect, not fewer than 90 days before the beginning of a fiscal year—

"(A) to waive the right of the State to receive amounts apportioned or allocated to the State under the Federal-aid highway program for the fiscal year to which the election relates; and

"(B) to receive an amount for that fiscal year that is equal to the amount apportioned or allocated to the State under subsection (e) for that fiscal year.

"(2) EFFECT.—On making an election under paragraph (1), a State—

"(A) assumes all Federal obligations relating to each program that is the subject of the election; and

"(B) shall fulfill those obligations using the amounts transferred to the State under subsection (e).

"(c) STATE RESPONSIBILITY.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Governor of a State making an election under subsection (b) shall—

"(A) agree to maintain the Interstate System in accordance with the current Interstate System program;

"(B) submit a plan to the Secretary describing—

"(i) the purposes, projects, and uses to which amounts received under the program will be put; and

"(ii) which programmatic requirements of this title the State elects to continue;

"(C) agree to obligate or expend amounts received under the direct Federal-aid highway program for projects that would be eligible for funding under section 159(b) if the State was not participating in the program;

"(D) agree to report annually to the Secretary on the use of amounts received under the direct Federal-aid highway program and to make the report available to the public in an easily accessible form;

"(E) agree to retain in the State—

"(i) shall be made at the same time as deposits to the Highway Trust Fund are made by the Secretary of the Treasury; and

"(ii) shall not be reallocated or distributed to any other State under the Federal-aid highway program.

"(f) APPLICATION WITH OTHER AUTHORITY.—Any contract authority under this chapter (other than any obligation limitation) and the authority for a State for a fiscal year for which an election by that State is in effect under subsection (b) shall—

"(1) shall not be rescinded or canceled; and

"(2) shall not be reallocated or distributed to any other State under the Federal-aid highway program.

"(g) MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a State making an election under subsection (b) shall—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which an amount is distributed to a State or State agency under the State Highway Flexibility Act or an amendment made by that Act, the Governor of the State shall certify to the Secretary that the State will maintain the effort of the State with regard to State funding for the types of projects that are funded by the amounts.

"(2) AMOUNTS.—As part of the certifica- tion intended to be proposed to the Secretary a statement identifying the amount of funds the State plans to expend from State sources during the covered period, for the types of projects that are funded by the amounts.

"(h) TREATMENT OF GENERAL REVENUES.—For purposes of this section, any general revenues appropriated to the Highway Trust Fund shall be transferred to a State under the program in the manner described in subsection (e)(1).

"(i) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The analysis for title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1115(b)), is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 101 the following:

"168. Direct Federal-aid highway program.

SEC. 03. ALTERNATIVE FUNDING OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 3 of title 49, United States Code (as amended by section 2003), is amended by adding at the end the following:

§5341. Alternative funding of public transportation programs

"(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

"(1) ALTERNATIVE FUNDING PROGRAM.—The term ‘alternative funding program’ means the program established under subsection (c).

"(2) COVERED PROGRAMS.—The term ‘covered programs’ means the programs authorized under—

"(A) sections 5306, 5307, 5308, 5309, 5311, 5315, 5317, 5326, 5335, 5339, L 5340, and 5344; and


"(b) ELECTION BY STATE NOT TO PARTICIPATE.—In general—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a State may elect not to participate in all Federal programs relating to public transportation under the Mass Transit Account of the Highway Trust Fund, including the Federal public transportation programs under the SAFETEA LU (Public Law 109-59; 119 Stat. 114), title 23, or this title.

"(2) EFFECT.—On making an election under paragraph (1), a State—

"(A) waives all Federal obligations relating to each program that is the subject of the election; and
“(B) shall fulfill those obligations using the amounts transferred to the State under subsection (e),”

“(c) PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM.—

“(1) PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.—Beginning in fiscal year 2011, the Secretary shall carry out an alternative funding program under which the lead entity of a State may elect, not fewer than 90 days before the beginning of a fiscal year—

“(A) to waive the right of the State to receive amounts apportioned or allocated to the State under the covered programs for the fiscal year to which the election relates; and

“(B) to receive an amount for that fiscal year that is determined in accordance with subsection (e).”

“(2) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Governor of a State that participates in the alternative funding program shall—

“(i) submit a plan to the Secretary describing—

“(I) the purposes, projects, and uses to which amounts received under the alternative funding program will be put; and

“(II) which programmatic requirements of this title to which the State seeks to conform.

“(ii) agree to obligate or expend amounts received under the alternative funding program for projects that would be eligible for funding under the covered programs if the State was not participating in the alternative funding program; and

“(iii) submit to the Secretary an annual report certifying amounts received under the alternative funding program, and to make the report available to the public in an easily accessible format.

“(B) NO FEDERAL LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—Except as provided in subparagraph (A), the expenditure or obligation of funds received under a State’s alternative funding program shall not be subject to the provisions of this title (except for this section), title 23, or any other Federal law.

“(C) ELECTION IRREVOCABLE.—An election under paragraph (1) shall be irrevocable during the applicable fiscal year:

“(d) EFFECT ON PREEXISTING COMMITMENTS.—Participation in the alternative funding program shall not affect any responsibility or commitment of the State under this title for any fiscal year with respect to—

“(1) a project or program funded under this title (other than under this section); or

“(2) any project or program funded under this title for any fiscal year for which the State elects not to participate in the alternative funding program.

“(e) REPORTED LEGISLATION.—Paragraph 11 by redesignating subparagraph (c) and inserting after the item relating to section 5340 the following:

“5341. Alternative funding of public transportation programs.”

SA 1738. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1813, to reauthorize Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. 3. PREVENTING DUPLICATIVE AND OVERLAPPING GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the “Preventing Duplicative and Overlapping Government Programs Act.”

(b) REPORTED LEGISLATION.—Paragraph 11 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate is amended—

“(1) in subparagraph (c), by striking “and” and inserting “(b), (c),”;

“(2) by redesignating subparagraph (c) and subparagraph (d); and

“(3) by inserting after subparagraph (b) the following:

“(c) The report accompanying each bill or joint resolution creates any new Federal program, office, or initiative that would duplicate or overlap any existing Federal program, office, or initiative with similar mission, purpose, goals, or activities along with a listing of all of the overlapping or duplicative Federal program or programs, office or offices, or initiative or initiatives; and

“(2) an explanation provided by the committee as to why the creation of each new program, office, or initiative is necessary if a similar program or programs, office or offices, or initiative or initiatives already exist.”

SA 1738. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1813, to reauthorize Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. 3. CONSOLIDATING UNNECESSARY DUPLICATIVE AND OVERLAPPING GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall coordinate with the heads of the relevant departments and agencies to—

“(1) review and identify all overlapping or duplicative programs and agencies with duplicative and overlapping missions identified in the—

(A) March 2011 Government Accountability Office report to Congress entitled “Opportunities to Reduce Potential Duplicative and Overlapping Government Programs, Save Tax Dollars, and Enhance Revenue” (GAO 11-318SP); and

(B) February 2012 Government Accountability Office report to Congress entitled “2012 Annual Report: Opportunities to Reduce Potential Duplicative in Government Programs, Save Tax Dollars, and Enhance Revenue” (GAO 12-342SP);

“(2) identify and report to Congress any legislative changes required to further eliminate, consolidate, or streamline Government programs and agencies with duplicative and overlapping missions identified in the—

(A) March 2011 Government Accountability Office report to Congress entitled “Opportunities to Reduce Potential Duplicative and Overlapping Government Programs, Save Tax Dollars, and Enhance Revenue” (GAO 11-318SP); and
SA 1739. Mrs. MURRAY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1730 proposed by Mr. REED to the bill S. 1813, to reauthorize Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 6, strike lines 15 through 17, and insert the following:

“(A) in which a substantial portion of each line operates in a separated right-of-way that is semi-dedicated for public transportation use during peak periods;

SA 1740. Mrs. MURRAY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1730 proposed by Mr. REED to the bill S. 1813, to reauthorize Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 13, line 24, insert “and other high occupancy vehicles” before the semicolon at the end.

SA 1741. Mr. LEVIN (for himself and Mr. CONRAD) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1813, to reauthorize Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

DIVISION 1—CUT LOOPHOLES

SECTION 101. SHORT TITLES; ETC.

(a) This division may be cited as the “CUT Unjustified Tax Loopholes Act” or “CUT Loopholes Act”.

(b) AMENDMENT OF 1986 CODE.—Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this division an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference is to be understood to be to a section in this division or to a section or other provision of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(c) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The first sentence of this division, as follows:

DIVISION 1—CUT LOOPHOLES

Sec. 101. Short title; etc.

TITLE I—ENDING OFFSHORE TAX ABUSES

Subtitle A—Ending the Use of Tax Havens for Tax Evasion

Sec. 101. Authorizing special measures against foreign jurisdictions, financial institutions, and others that impede United States tax enforcement.

Sec. 102. Strengthening the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA).
"SEC. 7492. PRESUMPTIONS PERTAINING TO ENTITIES AND TRANSACTIONS INVOLVING NON-FATCA INSTITUTIONS.

(a) Control.—In any case where a United States civil judicial or administrative proceeding to determine or collect tax, there shall be a rebuttable presumption that—

(1) a foreign entity or entity with shares regularly traded on a non-FATCA institution who, directly or indirectly, exercises control over an entity with shares regularly traded on a non-FATCA institution is a United States person;

(2) a non-FATCA institution (as defined in section 1471(b)) that holds an account, or in any other manner has assets, that is a United States person.

(b) Transfers of Income.—For purposes of any United States civil judicial or administrative proceeding to determine or collect tax, there shall be a rebuttable presumption that any amount or thing of value received by a United States person (other than an entity with shares regularly traded on an established securities market) who, directly or indirectly, received money or property or the use thereof from an entity (other than an entity with shares regularly traded on an established securities market) that holds an account, or in any other manner has assets, to an entity with shares regularly traded on an established securities market, that holds an account, or in any other manner has assets, in a non-FATCA institution is tax income from the use thereof from an entity (other than an entity with shares regularly traded on an established securities market) that holds an account, or in any other manner has assets, in a non-FATCA institution (as defined in section 7701(a)(51) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986), exercised control over such entity. The presumption of control created by this subsection shall not be applied to prevent the Commission from determining or arguing the absence of control.

(2) Beneficial Ownership.—For purposes of any United States civil judicial or administrative proceeding under this title, there shall be a rebuttable presumption that any foreign entity is a United States person if—

(A) a non-FATCA institution (as defined in section 1471(b)) that holds an account, or in any other manner has assets, to an entity with shares regularly traded on an established securities market, that holds an account, or in any other manner has assets, in a non-FATCA institution.

(c) Withholding Payments to Other Foreign Financial Institutions.—Section 1472 is amended—

(1) by inserting "as a result of any customer identification, anti-money laundering, anti-terrorism, and transactional evidence, establishing that—"

(2) by inserting "or as a beneficial owner" after "indirectly."
(q) and by inserting after subsection (o) the following new subsection:

"(p) CERTAIN CORPORATIONS MANAGED AND CONTROLLED IN THE UNITED STATES TREATED AS DOMESTIC CORPORATIONS.—(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsection (a)(4), in the case of a corporation described in paragraph (2) if—

"(A) the corporation would not otherwise be treated as a domestic corporation for purposes of this title, but

"(B) the management and control of the corporation are exercised, directly or indirectly, primarily within the United States,

then, solely for purposes of chapter 1 (and any other provision of this title relating to chapter 1), the corporation shall be treated as a domestic corporation if—

"(2) CORPORATION DESCRIBED.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—A corporation is described in this paragraph in—

"(I) the stock of such corporation is regularly traded on an established securities market, or

"(II) the aggregate gross assets of such corporation (or any predecessor thereof), including assets under management for investors, whether held directly or indirectly, at any time during the taxable year or any preceding taxable year, are $50,000,000 or more.

"(B) GENERAL EXCEPTION.—A corporation shall not be treated as described in this paragraph if—

"(i) such corporation was treated as a corporation described in this paragraph in a preceding taxable year,

"(ii) such corporation—

"(I) is not regularly traded on an established securities market, and

"(II) has, and is reasonably expected to continue to have, aggregate gross assets (including assets under management for investors, whether held directly or indirectly) of less than $50,000,000, and

"(iii) the Secretary grants a waiver to such corporation under this subparagraph.

"(3) MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall prescribe regulations for purposes of deter- mining the management and control of a corporation is to be treated as occurring primarily within the United States.

"(B) EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT.—Such regulations shall provide that—

"(i) the management and control of a corporation described as occurring primarily within the United States if substantially all of the executive officers and senior management of the corporation who exercise day-to-day responsibility for making decisions involving strategic, financial, and operational policies of the corporation are located primarily within the United States, and

"(ii) individuals who are not executive officers and senior management of the corporation (including individuals who are officers or employees of other corporations in the same chain of corporations as the corporation) shall be treated as executive officers and senior management if such individuals exercise the day-to-day responsibilities of the corporation described in clause (i).

"(C) CORPORATIONS PRIMARILY HOLDING INVESTMENTS.—The Secretary shall also provide that the management and control of a corporation shall be treated as occurring primarily within the United States if—

"(i) the assets of such corporation (directly or indirectly) consist primarily of assets being managed on behalf of investors, and

"(ii) decisions about how to invest the assets are made in the United States.

"(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2016.

"(a) REQUIREMENT OF RETURN.—Any financial institution directly or indirectly opening a bank, brokerage, or other financial account for or on behalf of an offshore entity, including a trust, corporation, limited liability company, partnership, or foundation (other than an entity with shares regularly traded on an established securities market) in a non-FATCA institution (as defined in section 701(a)(51)) at the direction of, on behalf of, or for the benefit of a United States person shall make a return according to the forms or regulations prescribed by the Secretary.

"(b) REQUIRED INFORMATION.—For purposes of subsection (a) the information required to be included on the return shall include—

"(1) the name, address, and taxpayer identification number of such United States person,

"(2) the name and address of the financial institution at which a financial account is opened, the type of account, the account number, the name under which the account was opened, and the amount of the initial deposit,

"(3) if the account is held in the name of an entity, the name and address of such entity, the type of entity, and the name and address of any company formation agent or other professional employed to form or acquire such entity, and

"(4) such other information as the Secretary may by forms or regulations provide.

"(c) STATEMENTS TO BE FURNISHED TO UNITED STATES PERSONS WITH RESPECT TO FOREIGN ACCOUNTS.—For purposes of this section—

"(1) the information required to be shown on such return shall be furnished to each United States person whose name is required to be set forth in such return a statement showing—

"(I) the name, address, and telephone number of the information contact of the person required to make such return, and

"(2) the information required to be shown on such return with respect to such United States person.

The written statement required under the preceding sentence shall be furnished to the United States beneficial owner on or before January 31 of the year following the calendar year for which the return under subsection (a) was required to be made. In the event the person filing such return does not have a United States beneficial owner, such written statement may be mailed to the address of the foreign entity.

"SEC. 654D. RETURNS BY FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS REGARDING ESTABLISHMENT OF ACCOUNTS IN NON-FATCA INSTITUTIONS.—

"(a) REQUIREMENT OF RETURN.—Any financial institution directly or indirectly opening a bank, brokerage, or other financial account for or on behalf of an offshore entity, including a trust, corporation, limited liability company, partnership, or foundation (other than an entity with shares regularly traded on an established securities market) in a non-FATCA institution (as defined in section 701(a)(51)) at the direction of, on behalf of, or for the benefit of a United States person shall make a return according to the forms or regulations prescribed by the Secretary.

"(b) REQUIRED INFORMATION.—For purposes of subsection (a) the information required to be included on the return shall include—

"(1) the name, address, and taxpayer identification number of such United States person,

"(2) the name and address of the financial institution at which a financial account is opened, the type of account, the account number, the name under which the account was opened, and the amount of the initial deposit,

"(3) if the account is held in the name of an entity, the name and address of such entity, the type of entity, and the name and address of any company formation agent or other professional employed to form or acquire such entity, and

"(4) such other information as the Secretary may by forms or regulations provide.

"(c) STATEMENTS TO BE FURNISHED TO UNITED STATES PERSONS WITH RESPECT TO FOREIGN ACCOUNTS.—For purposes of this section—

"(1) the information required to be shown on such return shall be furnished to each United States person whose name is required to be set forth in such return a statement showing—

"(I) the name, address, and telephone number of the information contact of the person required to make such return, and

"(2) the information required to be shown on such return with respect to such United States person.

The written statement required under the preceding sentence shall be furnished to such United States person on or before January 31 of the year following the calendar year for which the return under subsection (a) was required to be made. In the event the person filing such return does not have a United States beneficial owner, such written statement may be mailed to the address of the foreign entity.

"SEC. 654E. RETURNS BY FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS REGARDING ESTABLISHMENT OF ACCOUNTS IN NON-FATCA INSTITUTIONS.—

"(a) REQUIREMENT OF RETURN.—Any financial institution directly or indirectly opening a bank, brokerage, or other financial account for or on behalf of an offshore entity, including a trust, corporation, limited liability company, partnership, or foundation (other than an entity with shares regularly traded on an established securities market) in a non-FATCA institution (as defined in section 701(a)(51)) at the direction of, on behalf of, or for the benefit of a United States person shall make a return according to the forms or regulations prescribed by the Secretary.

"(b) REQUIRED INFORMATION.—For purposes of subsection (a) the information required to be included on the return shall include—

"(1) the name, address, and taxpayer identification number of such United States person,

"(2) the name and address of the financial institution at which a financial account is opened, the type of account, the account number, the name under which the account was opened, and the amount of the initial deposit,

"(3) if the account is held in the name of an entity, the name and address of such entity, the type of entity, and the name and address of any company formation agent or other professional employed to form or acquire such entity, and

"(4) such other information as the Secretary may by forms or regulations provide.

"(c) STATEMENTS TO BE FURNISHED TO UNITED STATES PERSONS WITH RESPECT TO FOREIGN ACCOUNTS.—For purposes of this section—

"(1) the information required to be shown on such return shall be furnished to each United States person whose name is required to be set forth in such return a statement showing—

"(I) the name, address, and telephone number of the information contact of the person required to make such return, and

"(2) the information required to be shown on such return with respect to such United States person.

The written statement required under the preceding sentence shall be furnished to such United States person on or before January 31 of the year following the calendar year for which the return under subsection (a) was required to be made. In the event the person filing such return does not have a United States beneficial owner, such written statement may be mailed to the address of the foreign entity.
SEC. 106. TAX ON INCOME OF CONTROLLED FOREIGN CORPORATION DEPOSITED IN FINANCIAL ACCOUNT LOCATED IN UNITED STATES.

(a) In General.—Section 952(a) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: "Notwithstanding section 952(c)(2)(A), any property (as defined in section 952) in cash in a financial account located in the United States is deemed to be in the United States beneficial owner of any other property in a foreign account in which the issuer group maintains an account, a financial institution, or other entity, is a constructive distribution of the foreign property to a United States foreign financial institution if the United States foreign financial institution is not a United States financial institution (as defined in section 956(b)(2)(B)(ii))."

(b) Effective Date.—Section 952(c)(2)(A) is amended by inserting the following new paragraph: "(ii) the end of each quarter of a taxable year, the financial performance of each member of the issuer group with respect to each country of operation, including—

(1) total financing payments made to each such member, including any property in a non-FATCA foreign financial institution if the issuer group maintains an account, a financial institution, or other entity, in such account, is a constructive distribution of the foreign property to a United States foreign financial institution if the United States foreign financial institution is not a United States financial institution (as defined in section 956(b)(2)(B)(ii))."

(c) Effective Date.—Section 952(c)(2)(A) is amended by inserting the following new sentence: "(ii) the end of each quarter of a taxable year, the financial performance of each member of the issuer group with respect to each country of operation, including—

(1) total financing payments made to each such member, including any property in a non-FATCA foreign financial institution if the issuer group maintains an account, a financial institution, or other entity, in such account, is a constructive distribution of the foreign property to a United States foreign financial institution if the United States foreign financial institution is not a United States financial institution (as defined in section 956(b)(2)(B)(ii))."

SEC. 111. COUNTRY-BY-COUNTRY REPORTING.

(a) In General.—Section 1502 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78p(m)) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection: "(i) the issuer group shall be a member of the issuer group with respect to each country of operation during the covered period, and

(ii) the other financial information as the Commission may determine is necessary or appropriate in the public interest or for the protection of investors."

(b) Definitions.—In this section, the term "country of operation" means any country in which the issuer group maintains employees or conducts business activities.

(c) Effective Date.—Section 1502 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78p(m)), is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: "(i) the issuer group shall be a member of the issuer group with respect to each country of operation during the covered period, and

(ii) the other financial information as the Commission may determine is necessary or appropriate in the public interest or for the protection of investors."

Sec. 6045C. Returns for United States beneficial owners of financial accounts located in the United States and held in the name of a foreign entity.

Sec. 6045D. Returns by financial institutions—establishment of accounts at non-FATCA institutions.
penalty for each such violation shall not exceed $1,000,000 for any person, if the violation described in paragraph (1) involved a knowing failure to disclose any holding or transaction involving equity or debt instruments of an issuer and known by such person to involve a foreign entity, including any trust, corporation, limited liability company, partnership, or other entity directly or indirectly controlled by such person, and which would have been otherwise subject to disclosure by such person under this title.

(c) SECTION 302 OF THE COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION.—Section 302 of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 78s) is amended—

(1) by deleting the listed subsections (1) and (2) of section 313A, and

(2) by striking paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 313B.

SEC. 113. DEADLINE FOR ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING REQUIREMENTS FOR FORMATION AGENTS.

(a) ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING OBLIGATIONS FOR FORMATION AGENTS.—Section 5312(a)(2) of title 31, United States Code, is amended by—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “or” at the end;

(2) by redesignating subparagraph (B) as subparagraph (A); and

(3) by inserting after subparagraph (Y) the following:

“(Z) the information sought to be obtained by the Federal Register requiring persons described in subsection (c)(1) which does not exceed $1,000,000 for any person, if the violation described in paragraph (1) involved a knowing failure to disclose any holding or transaction involving equity or debt instruments of an issuer and known by such person to involve a foreign entity, including any trust, corporation, limited liability company, partnership, or other entity directly or indirectly controlled by such person, and which would have been otherwise subject to disclosure by such person under this title.

(4) by striking paragraphs (A), (B), and (C), the amount of penalty for each such violation shall not exceed $1,000,000 for any person, if the violation described in paragraph (1) involved a knowing failure to disclose any holding or transaction involving equity or debt instruments of an issuer and known by such person to involve a foreign entity, including any trust, corporation, limited liability company, partnership, or foundation, directly or indirectly controlled by such person, and which would have been otherwise subject to disclosure by such person under this title.

(b) DEADLINE FOR ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING RULE FOR FORMATION AGENTS.—

(1) PROPOSED RULE.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Attorney General of the United States, the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, shall publish a proposed rule in the Federal Register requiring any private fund or venture capital fund to establish anti-money laundering programs under subsections (g) and (h) of section 5318 of that title.

(2) FINAL RULE.—Not later than 270 days after such date of enactment, the Secretary of the Treasury shall publish a final rule in the Federal Register on the matter described in paragraph (1).

(c) EXCLUSIONS.—Any rule promulgated under this subsection shall exclude from the category of persons engaged in the business of forming new corporations or other entities—

(1) any government agency; and

(2) any attorney or law firm that uses a paid formation agent operating within the United States to form such corporations or other entities.

SEC. 115. STRENGTHENING JOHN DOE SUMMONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (f) of section 7609 is amended to read as follows:

“(f) sums have financial accounts in or trans-...

(b) JURISDICTION OF COURT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 7609(b) is amended by striking “(ii)” and inserting “(i)”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The first sentence of section 7609(h)(1) is amended by striking “(f)” and inserting “(ii)”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to summonses issued after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 116. IMPROVING ENFORCEMENT OF FOREIGN FINANCIAL ACCOUNT REPORTING.

(a) CLARIFYING THE CONNECTION OF FOREIGN FINANCIAL ACCOUNT REPORTING TO TAX ADMINISTRATION.—Paragraph (4) of section 5315 is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence:

“For purposes of paragraph (A)(1), section 5314 of title 31, United States Code, and sections 5321 and 5322 of such title (as such sections pertain to such section 5314), shall be considered related statutes.”.

(b) SIMPLIFYING THE CALCULATION OF FOREIGN FINANCIAL ACCOUNT REPORTING PENALTIES.—Section 5315(d)(ii) of title 31, United States Code, is amended by striking “the balance in the account at the time of
the violation and inserting "the highest balance in the account during the reporting period to which the violation relates.

(c) CLARIFYING THE USE OF SUSPICIOUS AC-

tivity Reports—The Bank Secrecy Act of 1970, as amended, is amended by inserting "the civil and criminal enforcement provisions of the Internal Revenue 

Service," after "including".

Subtitle C—Combating Tax Shelter 

Promoters

SEC. 121. PENALTY FOR PROMOTING ABUSIVE 

TAX SHELTERS.

(a) Penalty for Promoting Abusive Tax Shelters.—Section 6701 is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as subsections (d) and (e), respectively,

(2) by striking "a penalty" and all that follows through the first sentence of subsection (a) and inserting "a penalty determined under subsection (b)," and

(3) by inserting after subsection (a) the following new subsection:

"(b) AMOUNT OF PENALTY; CALCULATION OF PENALTY; LIABILITY FOR PENALTY.—

"(1) AMOUNT OF PENALTY.—The amount of the penalty imposed by subsection (a) shall not exceed 150 percent of the gross income derived (or to be derived) from such activity by the person or persons subject to such penalty.

"(2) CALCULATION OF PENALTY.—The penalty amount determined under paragraph (1) shall be calculated with respect to each instance of an activity described in subsection (a), each instance in which income was derived (or which income was derived (or to be derived) from such activity by the person or persons subject to such penalty.

"(3) LIABILITY FOR PENALTY.—If more than 1 person is liable under subsection (a) with respect to such activity, all such persons shall be jointly and severally liable for the penalty imposed by subsection (a) and inserting "additional liability for the penalty imposed by subsection (a)."

(c) PENALTY NOT DEDUCTIBLE.—The payment of any penalty imposed under this section or the payment of any amount to settle or avoid the imposition of such penalty shall not be considered an ordinary and necessary expense in carrying on a trade or business for purposes of this title and shall not be deductible by the person who is subject to such penalty or who makes such payment.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to activities conducted on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 122. PENALTY FOR AIDING AND ABET-

TING THE UNDERSTATEMENT OF TAX LIABILITY.

(a) In General.—Section 6701(a) is amended by striking the last sentence.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 6700(a) is amended by inserting "aiding and assisting" after "aiding and abetting" and inserting "aiding and assisting the understate-

ment of tax liability", and inserting "aiding and assisting the understate-

ment of tax liability", and inserting "aiding and assisting the understate-

ment of tax liability," after "aiding and abetting the understate-

ment of tax liability", and inserting "aiding and assisting the understate-

ment of tax liability," after "aiding and abetting the understate-

ment of tax liability,

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to activities conducted on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 123. PROHIBITED FEE ARRANGEMENT.

(a) In General.—Section 6701, as amended by this Act, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (f) and (g) as subsections (g) and (h), respectively,

(2) by striking "subsection (a)," in paragraphs (2) and (3) of subsection (g) as redesignated by paragraph (1) and inserting "subsection (a) or (f)," and

(3) by inserting after subsection (e) the following new subsection:

"(f) Prohibited Fee Arrangement.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—A person who makes an agreement for, charges, or collects a fee which is for services provided in connection with the internal revenue laws, and the amount of which is dependent upon, or is dependent upon, a projected or actual amount of—

"(A) tax savings or benefits, or

"(B) losses which can be used to offset other taxable income,

shall pay a penalty with respect to each such fee activity in the amount determined under subsection (a),

"(2) RULES.—The Secretary may issue rules to carry out the purposes of this subsection and may provide exceptions for fee arrangements that are in the public interest.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to fee arrangements, charges, and collecting fees made after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 124. PREVENTING TAX SHELTER ACTIV-

ITIES BY FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

(a) Examinations.—

(1) DEVELOPMENT OF EXAMINATION TECHNI-

QUES.—Each of the Federal banking agen-

cies and the Federal Reserve System, in consulta-

tion with the Internal Revenue Service, shall de-

velop examination techniques to detect poten-

tial violations of section 6700 or 6701 of the 

Internal Revenue Code of 1986, by depository 

institutions, brokers, dealers, and investment 

advisers, as appropriate.

(2) IMPLEMENTATION.—Each of the Federal 

banking agencies and the Federal Reserve System shall implement the examination techniques developed under paragraph (1) with respect to each of the depository institutions, brokers, dealers, and investment advisers subject to the jurisdiction of such examination, to the extent possible, be combined with any examination by such agency otherwise required or authorized by Federal law.

(b) REPORT TO INTERNAL REVENUE SER-

VICE.—In any case in which an examination conduct under this section with respect to a financial institution or other entity re-

veals a potential violation, such agency shall promptly notify the Internal Revenue Serv-

ice, in accordance with applicable provisions of law.

 SEC. 125. INFORMATION SHARING FOR EN-

FORCEMENT PURPOSES.

(a) Promotion of Prohibited Tax Shel-

ters or Tax Avoidance Schemes.—Section 

6103(h) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(7) DISCLOSURE OF RETURNS AND RETURN INFORMATION RELATED TO PROMOTION OF PROHIBITED TAX SHELTERS OR TAX AVOIDANCE SCHEMES.—On written request.—Upon receipt by the Secretary of a written request which meets the requirements of subparagraph (B) from the head of the United States Secur-

ities and Exchange Commission, an appro-

priate Federal banking agency as defined under section 1819(q) of title 12, United States Code, or the Public Company Ac-

counting Oversight Board, such agency shall be disclosed to such re-

questor's officers and employees who are per-

sonally and directly engaged in an investiga-

tion, examination, or proceeding by such re-

questor to evaluate, determine, penalize, or de-

tend conduct by a financial institution, 

issuer, or public accounting firm, or assoc-

iated with such potential or actual violation of section 6700 (promotion of 

abusive tax shelters), 6701 (aiding and abetting understatement of tax liability), or activities related to promoting or facili-

tating inappropriate tax avoidance or tax evasion. Such disclosure shall be solely for use by such officers and employees in such investigation, examination, or proceeding by such requestor. A request for disclosure may only be made if the discretion of the Secretary, such disclo-

sure may take the form of the participation of Internal Revenue Service employees in a joint investigation, examination, or proceeding with the Securities Exchange Com-

mission, Federal banking agency, or Public Company Accounting Oversight Board.

"(B) REQUIREMENTS.—A request meets the requirements of this subparagraph if it sets forth—

"(i) the nature of the investigation, exam-

ination, or proceeding;

"(ii) the statutory authority under which such investigation, examination, or proceeding is being conducted;

"(iii) the name or names of the financial institution, issuer, or public accounting firm to which such return information relates,
“(iv) the taxable period or periods to which such return information relates, and
“(v) the specific reason or reasons why such disclosure is, or may be, relevant to such investigation, examination or proceeding.

“(C) FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.—For the purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘financial institution’ means a depository institution, foreign bank, insured institution, institutional foreign loan company, broker, dealer, investment company, investment advisor, or other entity subject to regulation or oversight by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or an appropriate Federal banking agency.

“(B) FINANCIAL AND ACCOUNTING FRAUD INVESTIGATIONS.—Section 6103(i) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(8) Disclosure of returns and return information for use in financial and accounting fraud investigations.—

“(A) WRITTEN REQUEST.—Upon receipt by the Secretary of a written request which meets the requirements of subparagraph (B) from the head of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or the Federal Reserve System, a return or return information shall be disclosed to such requester’s officers and employees who are personally and directly engaged in an investigation, or proceeding brought by such requester to evaluate the accuracy of a financial statement or report, or to determine whether to require a restatement, penalty, or other corrective action against false or misleading statements or omissions in financial statements or reports. Such disclosure shall be solely for use by such officers and employees in such investigation, examination, or proceeding.

“(B) REQUIREMENTS.—A request meets the requirements of this subparagraph if it sets forth—

“(i) the nature of the investigation, examination, or proceeding,
“(ii) the statutory authority under which such investigation, examination, or proceeding is being conducted,
“(iii) the name or names of the issuer, investment company, or public accounting firm to which such return information relates,
“(iv) the taxable period or periods to which such return information relates, and
“(v) any reason or reasons why such disclosure is, or may be, relevant to such investigation, examination or proceeding.

“(C) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to disclosures and to information and document requests made after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 126. DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO CONGRESS.

(a) DISCLOSURE BY TAX RETURN PREPARER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (B) of section 7216(b)(1) is amended to read as follows:

“(B) pursuant to any 1 of the following documents, if clearly identified:—

“(i) The order of any Federal, State, or local court of record.
“(ii) A subpoena issued by a Federal or State grand jury.
“(iii) An administrative order, summons, or subpoena which is issued in the performance of its duties by—

“(A) a Federal agency, including Congress or any committee or subcommittee thereof, or
“(B) any State agency, body, or commission charged under the laws of the State or a political subdivision of the State with the licensing, registration, or regulation of tax return preparers.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this subsection shall apply to disclosures made after the date of the enactment of this Act pursuant to any document in effect on or after such date.

(b) DISCLOSURE BY SECRETARY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 6104(a) is amended to read as follows:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Upon receipt of a written request by a member or subcommittee of Congress, copies of documents related to a determination by the Secretary to grant, deny, revoke, or restore an organization’s exemption from taxation under section 501 shall be provided to such committee or subcommittee, including any application, notice of status, or supporting information provided by such organization to the Internal Revenue Service; any letter, analysis, or other document produced by or for the Internal Revenue Service evaluating, determining, or conducting a tax-exempt status of such organization (other than returns, unless such returns are available to the public under this section or section 6103 or 6110); and any application referred to in subparagraph (B) of subsection (b) of section 6103 or 6110; and any investigation between the Internal Revenue Service and any other party relating to the tax exempt status of such organization.

“(B) AMENDING INFORMATION.—Section 6103(f) shall apply with respect to—

“(ii) any other papers which are in the possession of the Secretary and which relate to such application, as if such papers constituted returns.

“(C) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to disclosures and to information and document requests made after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 127. TAX OPINION STANDARDS FOR TAX ADVISERS.

Section 330(d) of title 31, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“(d) The Secretary of the Treasury shall implement standards for the rendering of written advice with respect to any listed transaction or any entity, plan, arrangement, or other transaction which has a potential for tax avoidance or evasion. Such standards shall address, but not be limited to, the following issues:

“(1) Independence of the practitioner issuing such written advice from persons promoting, marketing, or recommending the subject of the advice.
“(2) Collaboration among practitioners, or between a practitioner and another party, which would result in such collaborating parties having a joint financial interest in the subject of the advice.
“(3) Avoidance of conflicts of interest which would impair auditor independence.
“(4) For written advice issued by a firm, standards for the coordination of advice and ensuring the consensus support of the firm for positions taken.
“(5) Reliance on reasonable factual representations by the taxpayer and other parties.
“(6) Appropriateness of the fees charged by the practitioner for the written advice.
“(7) Preventing and making available to firms from aiding or abetting the understatement of tax liability by clients.

“(B) Banning the promotion of potentially abusive or illegal tax shelters.”.

Subtitle D—Reform of U.S. International Tax System

SEC. 131. ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES AND TAXES ON BASIS OF REPATRIATION OF FOREIGN INCOME.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part III of subchapter N of chapter 1 is amended by inserting after subpart G the following new subpart:

“Subpart H—Special Rules for Allocation of Foreign-Related Deductions and Foreign Tax Credits

“Sec. 975. Deductions allocated to deferred foreign income may not offset United States source income.

“Sec. 976. Amount of foreign income computed on overall basis.

“Sec. 977. Application of subpart.

“Sec. 975. DEDUCTIONS ALLOCATED TO DEFERRED FOREIGN INCOME MAY NOT OFFSET UNITED STATES SOURCE INCOME.

“(a) CURRENT YEAR DEDUCTIONS.—For purposes of this chapter, foreign-related deductions for any taxable year—

“(1) shall be taken into account for such taxable year only to the extent that such deductions are allocable to currently-taxed foreign income, and
“(2) to the extent not so allowed, shall be taken into account in subsequent taxable years as provided in subsection (b).

“Sec. 976. AMOUNT OF FOREIGN INCOME COMPUTED ON OVERALL BASIS.

“Sec. 977. APPLICATION OF SUBPART.

“Sec. 975. DEDUCTIONS ALLOCATED TO DEFERRED FOREIGN INCOME MAY NOT OFFSET UNITED STATES SOURCE INCOME.”
foreign income.

amount included in gross income on account

determined as of the beginning of the taxable year, re-
duced by reduced foreign income for all such prior taxable years.

(5) REPATRIATED FOREIGN INCOME.—The term 'previously deferred foreign income' has the meaning given in section 956(b) (as defined in section 956(c)). The term 'previously deferred deductions' means the aggregate amount of foreign-related deductions not taken into account under subsection (a) for all prior taxable years (determined as of the beginning of the taxable year), reduced by any amounts taken into account under subsection (b) for such prior taxable years.

(6) PREVIOUSLY DEFERRED DEDUCTIONS.—The term 'previously deferred deductions' means the aggregate amount of foreign-related deductions not taken into account under section 956(a).

DEFERRED FOREIGN INCOME.—The term 'previously deferred foreign income' means the aggregate amount of total foreign income taxes not taken into account under subsection (a) for all prior taxable years (determined as of the beginning of the taxable year), reduced by any amounts taken into account under subsection (b) for such prior taxable years.

(2) TOTAL FOREIGN INCOME TAXES.—The term 'total foreign income taxes paid or accrued during the taxable year (determined without regard to any losses carried to the next taxable year)' means the aggregate amount of foreign income taxes that would be paid or accrued during the taxable year under sections 902 and 960 if—

(1) all controlled foreign corporations were treated as one controlled foreign corporation, and

(2) all earnings and profits of all controlled foreign corporations were subject to tax under section 951 (as defined in section 952).

(3) FOREIGN INCOME TAXES.—The term 'foreign income taxes' means any income, war profits, excess war profits, and foreign income taxes paid by the taxpayer to any foreign country or possession of the United States.

(4) CURRENTLY-TAXED FOREIGN INCOME AND DEFERRED FOREIGN INCOME.—The terms 'current year taxed foreign income' and 'deferred foreign income' have the meanings given such terms by section 976(c).

"SEC. 977. ALLOCATION OF SUBPART F INCOME.—

"(a) CURRENT YEAR ALLOWANCE.—For purposes of determining currently-taxed foreign income and deferred foreign income.

"(1) the currently-taxed foreign income for such taxable year, bears to

"(2) the sum of the currently-taxed foreign income and deferred foreign income for such year.

The portion of the total foreign income taxes for any taxable year not taken into account under the preceding sentence for a taxable year shall only be taken into account as provided in subsection (b) (and shall not be taken into account for purposes of applying section 960 for such taxable years).

"(b) ALLOWANCE RELATED TO REPATRIATED DEFERRED FOREIGN INCOME.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—There is reaped foreign income foreign income for any taxable year, the portion of the previously deferred foreign income taxes paid or accrued during such taxable year shall be taken into account for the taxable year as foreign taxes paid or accrued. Any such taxes so taken into account shall not be included in foreign income taxes for purposes of applying subsection (a) to such taxable year.

"(2) PORTION OF PREVIOUSLY DEFERRED FOREIGN INCOME TAXES.—For purposes of paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 956(b) (as defined in section 956(c)), the term 'portion of previously deferred foreign income taxes allocated to repatriated deferred foreign income'—

(A) the amount which bears the same proportion to

(B) the repatriated deferred income bears to the previously deferred foreign income.
purposes of this subsection, including regulations or other guidance which provides that related items of income may be aggregated for purposes of this paragraph.’’.

(4) RECOORDINATING AMENDMENTS.

(1) Paragraph (4) of section 954(b) is amended by inserting ‘‘foreign base company excess intangible income described in subsection (a)(4) with respect to such foreign base company shall be taken into account in determining the amount of related income’’ in the last sentence thereof.

(2) Subsection (b) of section 954 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

‘‘(7) FOREIGN BASE COMPANY EXCESS INTANGIBLE INCOME NOT TREATED AS ANOTHER KIND OF BASE COMPANY INCOME.—Income of a corporation that is otherwise treated as foreign base company excess intangible income shall not be considered foreign base company income of such corporation under section (2), (3), or (5) of subsection (a).’’. 

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 133. LIMITATIONS ON INCOME SHIFTING THROUGH INTANGIBLE PROPERTY TRANSFERS.

(a) CLARIFICATION OF DEFINITION OF INTANGIBLE ASSET.—Clause (vi) of section 936(h)(3)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to read as follows:

‘‘(vi) the term ‘intangible asset’ includes any intangible property that is not a property described in section 1231 or section 1245, an outright gift or contribution of an intangible property, an option to acquire an intangible property, or any other property which is treated as an intangible property by reason of section 1231(b)(3).’’.

(b) REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—For purposes of the last sentence of subparagraph (A), the Secretary may—

‘‘(i) the valuation of transfers of intangible property on an aggregate basis, or

‘‘(ii) the valuation of such a transfer on the basis of the realistic alternatives to such a transfer, in any case in which the Secretary determines that such basis is the most reliable means of valuation of such transfers.’’.

(2) ALLOCATION AMONG TAXPAYERS.—Section 482 is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

‘‘(4) no deduction shall be allowed under section 162(m)(4) with respect to such stock option.’’.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

TITLE II—ENDING EXCESSIVE CORPORATE TAX DEDUCTIONS FOR STOCK OPTIONS

SEC. 201. CONSISTENT TREATMENT OF STOCK OPTIONS BY CORPORATIONS.

(a) CONSISTENT TREATMENT FOR WAGE DEDUCTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 83(h) is amended—

‘‘(A) by striking ‘‘In the case of’’ and inserting—

‘‘(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of’’, and

‘‘(B) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

‘‘(2) STOCK OPTIONS.—In the case of property or services awarded to a person in connection with a stock option, any deduction related to such stock option shall be allowed only under section 162(q) and paragraph (1) shall not apply.

(2) TREATMENT OF COMPENSATION PAID WITH STOCK OPTIONS.—Section 162 is amended by redesignating subsection (q) as subsection (r) and by inserting after subsection (p) the following new subsection:

‘‘(q) TREATMENT OF COMPENSATION PAID WITH STOCK OPTIONS.

‘‘(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of compensation for personal services that is paid with stock options, the deduction under subsection (a)(1) shall not exceed the amount of the taxpayer’s compensation cost with respect to such stock options for the purpose of ascertaining income, profit, or loss in the recipient or to shareholders, partners, or other proprietors (or to beneficiaries), and shall be taken into account in the same period in which such compensation cost is recognized for such purpose.

‘‘(2) SPECIAL RULES FOR CONTROLLED GROUPS.—The Secretary may prescribe rules for the application of paragraph (1) in cases where the option is exercised by—

‘‘(A) a parent or subsidiary corporation (within the meaning of section 424) of the taxpayer, or

‘‘(B) another corporation.’’.

(b) CONSISTENT TREATMENT FOR RESEARCH TAX CREDIT.—Section 41(b)(2)(D) is amended by inserting at the end the following new clause:

‘‘(V) SPECIAL RULE FOR STOCK OPTIONS.—

The amount which may be treated as wages for any taxable year in connection with the issuance of a stock option shall not exceed the amount allowed for such taxable year as a compensation deduction under section 162(q) with respect to such stock option.’’.

(c) APPLICATION OF AMENDMENTS.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to stock options exercised after the date of the enactment of this Act, except that—

‘‘(1) such amendments shall not apply to stock options that were granted before such date of enactment and are exercisable during taxable periods beginning on or before June 15, 2005,

‘‘(2) for stock options that were granted before such date of enactment and vested during taxable periods beginning after June 15, 2005, and ending before such date of enactment, a deduction under section 162(q) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as added by subsection (a)(2)) shall be allowed in the first taxable period of the taxpayer that ends after such date of enactment.

(3) for public entities reporting as small business issuers and for non-public entities required to file public reports of financial condition, paragraphs (1) and (2) shall be applied by substituting ‘‘December 15, 2005’’ for ‘‘June 15, 2005’’, and

‘‘(4) no deduction shall be allowed under section 83(h) or section 162(q) of such Code with respect to any stock option the vesting date of which is changed to accelerate the time at which the option may be exercised in order to avoid the applicability of such amendments.

SEC. 202. APPLICATION OF EXECUTIVE PAY DEDUCTION LIMIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (D) of section 162(m)(4) is amended to read as follows:

‘‘(D) STOCK OPTION COMPENSATION.—The term ‘applicable employee remuneration’ shall include any compensation deducted under subsection (q), and such compensation shall not qualify as performance-based compensation under subparagraph (C).’’.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to stock options exercised or granted after the date of the enactment of this Act.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Subcommittee on Primary Health and Aging of the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions will meet in open session on Wednesday, February 29, 2012, at 10 a.m. in SD 430 Dirksen Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing entitled Dental Crisis in America: The Need to Expand Access.

For further information regarding this meeting, please contact the subcommittee on (202) 224 5480.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pension will meet in open session on Thursday, March 1, 2012, at 10 a.m. in SD 430 Dirksen Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing entitled The Key to America’s Global Competitiveness: A Quality Education.
For further information regarding this meeting, please contact the Committee on (202) 224 5501.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Senate HELP Committee hearing previously scheduled for March 1, 2012, entitled “The Key to America’s Global Competitiveness: A Quality Education” has been postponed until Thursday, March 8, 2012 at 10 a.m. in room 430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

For further information regarding this meeting, please contact the Committee on (202) 224 5501.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before Subcommittee on National Parks. The hearing will be held on Wednesday, March 7, 2012, at 2:30 p.m. in room SD 366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the following bills:

S. 29, a bill to establish the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area;
S. 1150, a bill to establish the Susquehanna Gateway National Heritage Area in the State of Pennsylvania;
S. 1191, a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to carry out a study regarding the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Naugatuck River Valley National Heritage Area in Connecticut;
S. 1198, a bill to reauthorize the Essex National Heritage Area;
S. 1215, a bill to provide for the exchange of land located in the Lowell National Historical Park;
S. 1589, a bill to extend the authorization for the Coastal Heritage Trail in the State of New Jersey;
S. 1708, a bill to establish the John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park;
H.R. 1141, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating prehistoric, historic, and limestone forest sites on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, as a unit of the National Park System;
H.R. 2606, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to allow the construction and operation of natural gas pipeline facilities in the Gateway National Recreation Area, and for other purposes.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send it to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, 304 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510 6150, or by email to Jake_McCook@energy.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact David Brooks (202) 224 9863 or Jake McCoook (202) 224 9313.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Committee on Indian Affairs will meet on Thursday, March 8, 2012, at 2:15 p.m. in room 628 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to conduct an oversight hearing on the President fiscal year 2013 Budget for Native Programs.

Those wishing additional information may contact the Indian Affairs Committee at (202) 224 2261.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The hearing will be held on Tuesday, March 13, 2012, at 10 a.m., in room SD 366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the “Report of the Independent Consultant’s Review with Respect to the Department of Energy Loan and Loan Guarantee Portfolio.”

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send it to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510 6150, or by email to Abigail_Campbell@energy.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact Michael Carr at 202 224 8164 or Colin Hayes at (202) 224 4797 or Abigail Campbell at 202 224 1219.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Ed Chung, a Department of Justice detailed to my Judiciary Committee staff, be given Senate floor privileges for the duration of the 112th Congress.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 1173

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill for title by the first time.

The legislative clerk read as follows: A bill (H.R. 1173) to repeal the CLASS program.

Mr. PRYOR. I now ask for a second reading and, in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The bill will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2012

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until Tuesday, February 28, 2012, at 10 a.m.; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that the Senate be in a period of morning business until 12:30 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the time equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with the majority controlling the first half hour and the Republicans controlling the second half hour; further, that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. PRYOR. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:05 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, February 28, 2012, at 10 a.m.

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate February 27, 2012:

THE JUDICIARY

Margo Kety-Brooke of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.
HONORING EAST TEXAS BAPTIST UNIVERSITY FOR ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LOUIE GOHMERT
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, tucked away in northeast Texas is the historic city of Marshall, Texas. As the seat of Harrison County, Marshall is also home to East Texas Baptist University, a respected institution of higher learning. In its one hundred year history, student enrollment at ETBU has grown from a few hundred students to a vibrant, bustling campus filled with more than twelve hundred young men and women seeking a college degree. This year marks the one hundredth anniversary of the trustees’ application for a charter from the State of Texas in 1912 to begin what was then known as the College of Marshall, and it is a great privilege to recognize this momentous centennial event.

In 1944 the College of Marshall, under the direction of the Baptist General Convention, changed its name to East Texas Baptist College. Then in 1957, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools granted accreditation to the institution which helped establish its enduring academic credibility. The University Charter was revised in 1984, changing the institutional name to what we now know as East Texas Baptist University.

ETBU boasts a number of notable alumni including two former members of this esteemed body: John Dowdy, Texas, Member of the United States House of Representatives (1967–1973) and Sam B. Hall, Member of the United States House of Representatives (1976–85) and United States District Judge (1985–94).

ETBU stands by its commitment to the “development of intellectual inquiry, social consciousness, wellness, and skills for a contemporary society, global awareness, and Christian character.” Its focus is on “quality academic programs in the humanities, natural and social sciences, fine arts, and selected professional areas.” Staff and faculty of ETBU affirm that the liberal arts form the surest foundation for education and that the Christian faith provides the surest foundation for life.

As a Baptist university, ETBU is committed to the integration of learning and Christian faith in the pursuit of truth. The beautiful campus of ETBU is located at the highest elevation in Harrison County, and represents a beacon of higher learning to students who venture to the piney woods of east Texas in pursuit of a quality, upper level, truly Christian centered education. Following the years of loyal support by Dr. Samuel W. “Dub” Oliver as President, ETBU is well poised for continued success in the future.

Heartfelt congratulations are extended to the faculty, staff, students and alumni of East Texas Baptist University, as their legacy of distinction is now recorded in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD that will endure as long as there is a United States of America. Their excellence in faithfully sustaining the ethical, spiritual and intellectual foundations of a God centered education makes it my great honor to be their servant in the United States House of Representatives.

COMMEMORATING THE SUMGAIT POGROMS AGAINST AZERBAIJANI ARMENIANS

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 27, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, February 27th marks the 24th anniversary of a violent and horrific attack against Azerbaijani citizens of Armenian descent. The 1988 attacks began in the town of Sumgait in Soviet Azerbaijan. Dozens of Armenians were killed, and hundreds more were wounded. During what even the Soviet government officially described as a “pogrom”—an organized massacre of helpless people—Armenian women and children were raped, and people were set on fire and beaten to death, all while police stood by.

Tragically, this event in Sumgait presaged further pogroms in Kirovabad in November of 1988 and Baku in January of 1990. This violence initiated a broader attack against Azerbaijani’s Armenian population, resulting in thousands of deaths. The conflict persists today, and the Azerbaijani military blockade of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic and other aggression sadly continues.

For me, it is also a very personal remembrance. My own family fled the slaughter of the Armenian Genocide under the Ottomans, and when we learned of the massacres against Armenians in 1988, we saw history repeating itself. These vicious acts of murder targeted at ethnic groups, must be forcefully condemned whenever and wherever we see them. Yet 96 years after the slaughter of Armenians, the U.S. House of Representatives has yet to officially recognize the Armenian genocide.

Without our recognition and our forceful condemnation, the cycle of violence will continue. Today, Christians and other minority groups are being driven from Iraq by extremists, and the once large and diverse ethnic communities are being eradicated. Without our attention and action by the world community, there will be no end to this senseless violence around the world.

Today, let us remember the Armenians who lost their lives in Azerbaijan in 1988, and pray that the world will finally take greater account of these atrocities and work together. Let us take up the work that our principles demand of us, standing united against ethnic violence, discrimination, extremism and brutality, wherever we find it.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF JOHN R. BAILEY

HON. JIM GERLACH
OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate John R. Bailey of Chester County, Pennsylvania on his retirement after 34 years of law enforcement service with the Tredyffrin Township Police Department.

Detective Sergeant Bailey began his law enforcement career with Tredyffrin Township on December 5, 1977. In 1986, he joined the Detective Division and became Detective Supervisor in 1994, eventually being promoted to Detective Sergeant in 2002.

In June 2002, Detective Sergeant Bailey founded the Tri-County Regional Investigators group, a network of law enforcement agencies who work together by sharing information about criminal activity resulting in the successful resolution of crimes that would otherwise remain unsolved. A graduate of the FBI National Academy Session #223, he has served as an Adjunct Professor at Wilmington University, Delaware County Community College and Immaculata University.

Recently elected to the position of Magisterial District Judge after being certified by the Pennsylvania Minor Judiciary Board, Detective Sergeant Bailey holds a Masters Degree in Administrative Science from Farleigh Dickinson University.

Mr. Speaker, in light of his years of exemplary service to his community and litany of sterling accomplishments too long to record, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing Detective Sergeant John R. Bailey for his invaluable contributions to the quality of life of the citizens of Tredyffrin Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania and our entire nation.

REMEMBERING FORMER CONGRESSWOMAN KATIE HALL

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY
OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness and great respect that I take this time to remember one of Northwest Indiana’s most valued citizens and my predecessor, former Congresswoman Katie Beatrice Hall. Throughout her prestigious career, Katie’s contributions to the people of northwest Indiana and across the nation are exemplary, and she is worthy of the highest praise.

Mrs. Hall passed away on Monday, February
20, 2012, but her legacy will live on forever in the hearts and minds of those she served.

Congresswoman Hall grew up in Mound Bayou, Mississippi, during the pre-civil rights era. Segregation laws were strict in the South during that time, and she learned early in life how to succeed despite great opposition. In 1960, Katie earned a bachelor's degree from Mississippi Valley State University. Later, she moved to Indiana and continued her education, earning a master's degree from Indiana University, Bloomington, in 1968.

The Congresswoman's involvement in politics began when she campaigned for former Mayor of Gary Richard Hatcher. Her work on the campaign further fueled her desire to serve others and inspired her to run for elected office. Prior to becoming a Member of Congress, she served in the Indiana House of Representatives from 1974 to 1976 and was then elected to the Indiana Senate, serving from 1976 to 1982. As a member of the Indiana General Assembly, Mrs. Hall was influential in establishing the Genesis Center, Hudson-Campbell Fitness Center, and the Adam Benjamin Metro Center, in Gary. Katie also served as the Chair for the Lake County Democratic Committee from 1978 to 1980 and for the Indiana Democratic Convention in 1980. In 1982, following the untimely passing of United States Congressman Adam Benjamin, Jr., Katie won the special election to complete his term in office and to represent the First Congressional District of Indiana in the 98th Congress, becoming the first African American from Indiana elected to serve in the United States House of Representatives. While in office, Katie served as Chairwoman of the Post Office and Civil Services Subcommittee on Census and Population. During her time in Congress, Representative Hall made a truly historic contribution through her sponsorship of the bill that made Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday a national holiday. This bill had been stalled in the House for fourteen years, and through her passion and persistence, Katie was successful in establishing this recognition of Dr. King.

Mrs. Hall was a trailblazer for the Civil Rights Movement and a devoted public servant to her community, state, and nation. In the years following her term, Katie continued her life of public service as City Clerk for Gary, Indiana, from 1988 to 2003.

Katie Hall leaves behind a loving family. She is survived by her cherished husband, John Henry Hall, as well as her adoring daughters, Jacqueline and Junifer, and her beloved granddaughter, Kristina. She also leaves behind many other dear friends and family members, as well as a saddened community and a grateful nation.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in remembering the Honorable Katie Hall for her tremendous contributions to the people of her community, the State of Indiana, and the United States of America. Her life of public service is to be admired. Her legacy will serve as an inspiration to us all.
of thousands of children from war torn Eastern Europe. Today Youth Aliyah is helping to resettle children of the Ethiopian and Russian migrations as well as Israeli children who are living on the streets.

Throughout World War II, the organization sold $200 million in war bonds and was awarded with 100 Air Force bombers who were given the names of different Hadassah chapters. By 1942 the U.S. State Department named Hadassah one of the largest contributors to overseas relief, especially due to the efforts of Ms. Szold to rescue thousands of children from Nazi Germany.

Over the years, Hadassah has established itself as a powerful voice for change. They have argued for federal and state funding of stem cell research and called for legislation that supports medical privacy and freedom from genetic discrimination by insurance companies and employers. In Israel, they have established and maintained two state-of-the-art medical centers, created the Hadassah College Jerusalem, and run the country’s largest touring and residency program for American Jewish youth.

Today, the hundreds of thousands of women in Hadassah have upheld Henrietta Szold’s commitment to improving the world we live in today. I hope my fellow members will join me in congratulating them on their 100th birthday and thanking them for the wonderful contributions they’ve made in Baltimore and throughout the world.

IN RECOGNITION OF LAVADA DILLARD

HON. PHIL GINGREY
OF GEORGIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, in celebration of Black History Month, I rise today to recognize Lavada Dillard, an African-American from Georgia’s 11th Congressional District who has had a major impact on her community.

At the age of 16, Lavada displayed great courage when she carried out a successful downtown lunch counter sit-in demonstration. Jailed for 5 days for this act, Ms. Dillard never ceased advocating for equal rights for all individuals. She has been honored twice by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and most recently compiled the history of Rome’s Civil Rights Movement for the permanent community archives.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Dillard’s outstanding accomplishments and her unwavering commitment to civil rights.

RECOGNIZING PAUL BASCOMB, A 2011 FBI DIRECTOR’S COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. ADAM SMITH
OF WASHINGTON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Mr. Paul Bascomb for being named a recipient of the 2011 FBI Director’s Community Leadership Award in recognition of his work on crime prevention.

Since 1990, the FBI has honored local leaders and organizations with the Director’s Community Leadership Award. Honorees are recognized for their efforts in making extraordinary strides in the areas of crime prevention, violence prevention, and education in their communities. Every year, each FBI field office selects one individual or organization to receive this prestigious award.

As the chair of the African-American Community Advisory Council to the Seattle Police Department and a board member for the East Precinct Crime Prevention Coalition, Mr. Bascomb has been a leader for cooperation between the African-American community and local law enforcement. Through open and considerate conversation, Mr. Bascomb and the African-American Community Advisory Council work with the Seattle Police Department to give diverse communities access to the police department and promote cultural competency training for officers.

Mr. Bascomb served as a correctional officer for more than 16 years in the Washington State juvenile justice system. In 2011, he completed the rigorous Citizen’s Academy Program, which gives community leaders an overview of the FBI. This in-depth study includes practical exercises, discussion of case studies and legal issues, and presentations from specialized units.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize the accomplishments of Mr. Paul Bascomb. His dedication to improving the relationship between law enforcement and local African-American communities sets a positive example for everyone who works for crime prevention.

HONORING WILLARD “BILL” LINWEAVER

HON. FRANK R. WOLF
OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize and honor Willard “Bill” Lineweaver, who served as a mayor and councilman of Warrenton, VA. Mr. Lineweaver passed away on February 15, at the age of 89.

Bill Lineweaver was a great public servant, model citizen and a personal friend of mine. He will be honored and remembered by many, especially his wife, Elizabeth "Bizz", his three daughters Beth, Babie and Betsy, his many friends, colleagues and all who knew him.

Mr. Speaker I submit the following obituary.

(form Fauquier.com, Feb. 16, 2012)

FORMER WARRENTON MAYOR LINWEAVER DIES AT AGE 89

Retired Warrenton businessman J. Willard “Bill” Lineweaver, who served on the Warrenton Town Council from 1959 until 1974, then was mayor from 1974 until 1986, died Feb. 15. Lineweaver, 89, had recently fallen at his home on Winchester Street, suffering a head injury. He was taken first to Fauquier Hospital before being transferred to the ICU at the University of Virginia Medical Center in Charlottesville.

He was later taken to a rehabilitation facility in Lexington, Va., near the home of his daughter, Beth Knapp. News of his death has shocked the community, as there was great hope and expectation for his recovery and return to Warrenton.

Lineweaver’s nearly 40 years as a councilman and mayor of Warrenton was unprecedented. In fact, he ran unopposed for his last three terms on town council, as well as all six terms as mayor.

He led the town through periods of great change, and after his last term as mayor, he continued to be involved with other important issues, including the acquisition and use of Vint Hill Farms Station, the U.S. Army post east of Warrenton.

Originally from the Shenandoah Valley, Lineweaver came to Fauquier County when he was six years old. His father managed Whitewood Farm near The Plains, and Lineweaver grew up on the farm and attended public schools.

On Dec. 7, 1942, he enlisted in the U.S. Army. After Basic Training, he was sent to Ft. Benning, Ga., where he received training as a communications specialist and was promoted to the rank of sergeant.

Home on leave, Lineweaver married the former Elizabeth “Bizz” Carter of Warrenton in May 1943. His training complete, Sgt. Lineweaver was assigned to the Antitank Company of the 389th Infantry Regiment of the 99th Infantry Division, and mid-October 1944, his unit was sent to fight in the European Theater of Operations.
Shortly after arriving, the 99th was positioned along the Siegfried Line near Krinkelt, Belgium, defending a 19-mile front from advancing German forces.

On February 19, 1945, the Germans launched what became known as the Battle of the Bulge, a massive assault on the Allied lines. Sgt. Lineweaver's unit was pushed back to the hills west of Krinkelt, where they held the line until the weather cleared and Allied airpower stopped the attack. Later, the 99th was involved in the battle for the Remagen Bridge and the clean up of German resistance in the Rhur Pocket during March and April 1945.

In 1950, he was convinced by then-Mayor Richard Marriott to run for town council and won, beginning a long career representing the people of Warrenton, and later providing vision and leadership as mayor.

In 1988-89, Lineweaver became well known in the commonwealth, serving on a number of statewide boards and committees, and working with mayors of other towns and cities sharing his response to the problems and opportunities as he encountered in Warrenton.

He served as president of the Virginia Municipal League in 1989.

Celebrating their 68th wedding anniversary last May, Mr. and Mrs. Lineweaver were the proud parents of three daughters, six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

He was a long-time member of St. James Episcopal Church and served as a vestryman for many years. He also belonged to the Warrenton Rotary Club and the Fauquier Club.

Lineweaver’s funeral will be held at 11 a.m., Monday, Feb. 20, at St. James Episcopal Church. The family will receive friends from 1 to 3 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 19, at Moser Funeral Home.

RECOGNIZING THE INNOVATIVE AND LIFE-SAVING EFFORTS OF THE WOODBURY FIRE DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA

HON. PHIL GINGREY
OF GEORGIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, in celebration of Black History Month, I rise today to recognize Marvin Williams, an African-American from Georgia’s 11th Congressional District who has had a major impact on his community. Quality teachers are vital to ensuring children are afforded the best education possible. Mr. Williams is one such educator.

For the past 30 years, Mr. Williams has worked as a teacher to inspire children and help them reach their full potential. Marvin currently serves as the Superintendent of the Polk County School District and I am grateful for his expertise as a member of this body.

A gifted musician, Mr. Williams also serves as Minister of Music for Thankful Baptist Church in Rome.

RECOGNIZING THE 65TH COMMEMORATION OF TAIWAN’S “2–28 MASSACRE”

HON. SCOTT GARRETT
OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 65th commemoration of Taiwan’s “2–28 Massacre.” On February 28, 1947, the brutal arrest of a female civilian in Taipei led to large-scale protests by the native Taiwanese against the repressive rule of Chinese Nationalists, who occupied Taiwan on behalf of the Allied Forces after Japan’s defeat in 1945.

During the following days, Chiang’s government sent troops from mainland China to the island. The Chinese soldiers began capturing and executing leading Taiwanese lawyers, doctors, journalists and others. It is estimated that at least 18,000 people lost their lives during the turmoil. During the following four decades, the Chinese Nationalists continued to rule Taiwan under a martial law system that lasted until 1987.

The 2–28 Massacre has had far-reaching implications. Over the next half-century, the Taiwanese democracy movement that grew out of the incident helped pave the way for Taiwan’s momentous transformation from a dictatorship under the Chinese Nationalists to a thriving and pluralistic democracy. I urge other Members to join me in commemorating this important historical event.

RECOGNIZING THE 65TH COMMEMORATION OF TAIWAN'S ''2–28 MASSACRE''

HON. NANCY PELOSI
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2012

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my constituents in San Francisco, I am proud to honor Dr. Robert A. Corrigan in his final year as President of San Francisco State University. He has been a visionary leader in higher education and has made enormous contributions to San Francisco, California, and indeed, to our entire nation.

During his 24-year tenure, President Corrigan transformed San Francisco State University into a premier urban university that reflects the diversity of the city it serves, works on behalf of social justice, and educates a 21st century workforce.

President Corrigan has studied and taught at a number of prominent universities; how proud we were when he chose to come to San Francisco State University.

President Corrigan was an early pioneer for diversity in education. At San Francisco State, he made a steadfast commitment to diversity of background, ethnicity, and gender in faculty hiring. He established groundbreaking initiatives to bring minorities into the faculty, resulting in one of the most diverse faculties of any U.S. university.

Under President Corrigan’s direction and guidance, San Francisco State evolved into the “College with a Conscience,” boasting a multicultural campus, and a faculty and student body that are actively engaged in public service. San Francisco State’s Institute for Civic and Community Service is recognized as a national model. In 2001, San Francisco State assumed management of the City’s Head Start Program, one of the few urban universities to do so, serving 1,800 low-income children.

Corrigan made access to a quality education a priority of his presidency. With his wife, he established the Robert and Joyce Corrigan SF Promise Endowed Scholarship Fund that places higher education within reach of students from underserved, low-income neighborhoods. Joining forces with the City of San Francisco, they created an initiative that ensures admission and financial assistance to qualified San Francisco high school graduates, many of whom are the first in their family to attend college. Indeed, San Francisco State boasts one of the highest percentages of first-generation college students in the nation.

President Corrigan’s visionary leadership has been recognized by many. Most notably, he was handpicked by President Bill Clinton to chair the Steering Committee of College and University Presidents for the “America Reads Challenge” and “America Counts” initiatives.

President Corrigan has been an educator, a role model, and a dynamic leader. On behalf of many of my constituents, I express gratitude for his 24 years of service at San Francisco State University.
Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the contributions and accomplishments of this great community and church leader.

HONORING LORRAINE BROWN
HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD
OF MAINE
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lorraine Brown of Leeds, Maine for her years of work in the shoe industry.

Born in 1933, Lorraine grew up with her three siblings between Auburn and Lewiston. Her father had passed away when she was still very young, and as a result Lorraine was primarily raised by her mother, her grandmother and her aunts. At the age of 15, she and her girlfriends started working in the shoe industry to pay for a set of roller skates. Lorraine met her future husband on those roller skates at the Beacon Roller Rink on Park Street.

Lorraine has spent over 50 years in the shoe industry, stitching for Koss, Hammon, Eastland, LL Bean, Knapp, and most recently, Falcon shoes. In a 2010 interview for the Shoe Industry Oral History Project, Lorraine tells the story of what it was like to work for these companies with a particular focus on the people in her life. Whether it was a childhood friend who never missed a birthday card, a boss who lent her his car because they used to skate together, or the new friendships she forged with her coworkers, it is clear that Lorraine has been a special person to a great many individuals.

Before he passed away, Lorraine’s husband told her to keep working so she wouldn’t go “downhill.” Today, she is still stitching fire boots for Falcon Shoes, a company she has been with since the birth of her grand-daughter. Through good times and bad, Lorraine’s kindness and energy have been an inspiration to the whole community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in recognizing Lorraine Brown for her years of work in the shoe industry.

HONORING THOMAS L. HARVEY
HON. LEE TERRY
OF NEBRASKA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise during Black History Month to remember the important contributions that African Americans have made to our nation—and to honor the extraordinary people who continue to help shape my community of Omaha. Today, I would like to pay special tribute to Thomas L. Harvey, one of the thousands of successful and talented African Americans in the Second Congressional District of Nebraska.

Thomas Harvey always wanted to be a positive influence in children’s lives. He first did so as a fifth grade elementary school teacher in Monroe, Louisiana; later, in addition to teaching, he took on school football and basketball coaching duties. An Omaha Public Schools Recruiter was encouraged by Teacher Corp’s positive evaluation of Thomas, to convince Thomas that his work could be continued in Omaha, where an underserved youth community could truly benefit from his presence.

Mr. Harvey moved to Omaha, and the rest is history. He went on to be the principal of Omaha North High’s magnet school. After his time at the magnet school, Mr. Harvey served as a principal at the Omaha area’s first magnet middle school, McMillan, and he later returned to North High to serve as the principal of its general student body. Under his guidance and direction, the magnet school programs at these schools quickly went from initial planning stages to implementation and success. These days, Harvey is well known for being a motivational educator who has contributed greatly to his schools’ rise to excellence, as well as an inspirational leader in the community.

During Mr. Harvey’s tenure as principal of North High School, the school was cited for its excellent academic programs—in both Newsweek and Redbook magazines—and was featured as a premiere high school on numerous television shows, including NBC’s Nightly News. Under Mr. Harvey’s management, North High was deemed a Magnet School of Excellence in 1997, by the Magnet Schools of America. Mr. Harvey continues to promote excellence in education—currently serving as the Assistant Superintendent of Student and Community Services for Omaha Public Schools.

In addition to his service to students, Mr. Harvey is active in several local, state, and national organizations. He is a board member of Magnet Schools of America, and Communities in Schools of Omaha. He also serves as a member of the Site Visit Team for the U.S. Department of Secondary Education, and is a member of the Metropolitan Community College Advisory Committee.

I am proud to recognize and honor this highly esteemed and dedicated educator for his four and a half decades of selfless service to the Omaha Community.

HONORING WILT CHAMBERLAIN
HON. LOU BARLETTA
OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Mike Dolan as the Elk of the Year for 2011–2012 at Hazelton BPO Elks Lodge #200. The Elks Lodge was founded in 1868 and is one of the leading fraternal orders in the United States, with almost 1 million members. Elks invest in their communities through programs that help children grow up healthy and drug-free, through projects that address unmet needs, and through honoring the service and sacrifice of our veterans.

Mr. Dolan has been a member of Hazelton BPO Elks Lodge #200 for 23 years, and he was its exalted ruler in 2008. He graduated in the last class of St. Gabriel’s High School and studied electrical engineering at Temple University where he worked on ENIAC—the world’s first computer. After joining the Dryfoos Insurance Agency in 1975, he received the coveted Insurance Designation of Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter from the CPCU Society in San Antonio, Texas, in 1987, and he was named the agency’s vice president in 1988.

Mr. Dolan has also served as Lecturing Knight, Loyal Knight, and Leading Knight. The Veteran’s and Fallen Heroes Monument at the Hazelton lodge originated during Mike’s term as exalted ruler. Mike has chaired the Elks Basketball Hoop Shoot Committee for the past 10 years and serves on the Youth, Veterans, Soccer Shoot, Community Activities, Orientation, DARE, House, and Breakfast committees.

Today, Mr. Dolan is very active with community service groups such as the Hazelton Chapter of the American Red Cross. He is a charter member of the Quinn Foundation, and serves as an usher at Holy Annunciation Parish at St. Gabriel’s Church. He is also highly involved in coaching youth sports including Hazel Township Little League for five years, the Greater Hazelton Youth Soccer Association for six years, and the junior high boys’ basketball team at Holy Family Academy for 13 years.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Mike Dolan stands as a pillar of the community in Hazelton, Pennsylvania. I commend him for his years of dedicated service to the Elks Lodge #200, the community, and the country.

HONORING WILT CHAMBERLAIN
HON. CHAKA FATTAH
OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, I call to the attention of my colleagues—and not just those who are basketball fans—that on March 2 in Philadelphia we will celebrate a once-in-the-universe athletic feat that occurred precisely 50 years ago.

On March 2, 1962, in a game between the Philadelphia Warriors and the New York Knicks on a neutral court in Hershey, Pennsylvania, Wilt Chamberlain—perhaps the greatest
and most influential player in basketball history—scored exactly 100 points. No one had done it before. No one has done it since. No one ever will.

But for Wilton Norman Chamberlain, born in Philadelphia on January 21, 1936, and already a national superstar when he played for Overbrook High School in the early 1950s, astonishing feats on the hardwood were the commonplace. Basketball has been utterly and permanently changed since he first attracted notice on—and above—the courts of West Philly in neighborhoods I have been privileged to represent in Congress.

Even in the quintessential big man’s game of basketball, Wilt Chamberlain towered over his on-court contemporaries and truly loomed larger than life. These days, “game changer” has become a cliché. Wilt might as well have authored the term. Not just 7-foot-1 but agile, competitive and creative, he transformed “the city game.” He invented and perfected a style that has become another cliché: “above the rim.”

The Warriors-Knicks game that historic day was otherwise unremarkable. The Knicks were in last place. The “crowd” in Hershey was 4,124. There was no TV or video, and press coverage was scant. The Warriors’ statistician Harvey Pollack was drafted to cover the game for the Philadelphia Inquirer and two wire services—and he’s the guy who penciled “100” onto scrap paper for the iconic post-game photo that’s gone ‘round the world. Wilt said later he had been up all night the night before, and was a bit embarrassed to have taken 63 shots to reach 100, with teammates feeding him the ball and Knicks fouling him at every opportunity.

It seemed like no big deal at the time—Wilt scored at least 50 points five other times, and that season averaged 50.4 a game. But it’s a big deal now in his home town, the subject of ESPN and NBA-TV specials, and exalted wherever he goes, and in other Philadelphia teams, the Sixers, will be hosting Wilt’s old team, now the Golden State Warriors, on the night of March 2, with an amazing giveaway—two-inch squares of the long abandoned Hershey Sports Arena court where Chamberlain scored those 100 points.

Leading the tributes in Philadelphia is Donald Hunt, the respected and tireless sports writer for the Philadelphia Tribune, who has led efforts to commemorate the game and have Wilt Chamberlain honored on a U.S. postage stamp. Keep putting up those shots, Donald.

Basketball has come a long way since that evening a half century ago. The American game has gone global, from Belarus to China, from Argentina to Zaire, at the Olympics, on aircraft carriers, against garage walls and on a million playgrounds, wherever a hoop can hang and a roundball sent skyward. Its heroes and innovators are figures of historic and cultural import. Wilt Chamberlain, take a bow.

A TRIBUTE TO ATTORNEY ED HALES
HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to and honor Attorney Ed Hales. A native of Kiskimere, Pennsylvania, Attorney Hales has a long history of mediation and arbitration between unions and other labor groups and their employers. He has also contributed greatly to the administration of higher education and been active in many civic responsibility groups.

It all started when Mr. Hales was a high-schooler at Vandergrift High School, in Vandergrift, Pennsylvania where he was a three letter sports player in football, basketball and baseball for the Vandergrift Lancers. Educationally speaking, it took one of his teachers, Mr. Bernardo to help him realize his talents and potential, thus paving the way for Mr. Hales to attend the historically white “University of Nevada” in Reno on a football scholarship. After the football team was de-emphasized, he transferred to Baldwin-Wallace College where he graduated with a bachelor’s degree in Government and History. Once seeing what he could accomplish, he went into law school at the University of Wisconsin in Madison where he joined the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity while earning his law degree. He went on to become a practicing lawyer in Wisconsin and had a long and prodigious career, until his retirement in 2000.

As an attorney, he worked tirelessly to mediate between labor groups and their employers. He filled such roles as Permanent Umpire for the Ford Motor Co. and United Auto Workers, Panel Member for U.S. Steel Corp. and United Steel Workers; Panel Member for U.S. Postal Service and National Association of Letter Carriers; and Panel Member for the City of Los Angeles and Los Angeles Public Employeess Union.

In addition to his work as an arbitrator and mediator, he was affiliated with many civic and educational organizations in various capacities. Attorney Hales served as the Chairman of the Board of Regents at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, the Director of the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges in Washington, D.C. and the Board of Attorneys Professional Responsibility in Madison, WI as well as with several other esteemed organizations.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Attorney Ed Hales for his lifelong contributions to higher education, civic responsibility, and his work to resolve conflict and mediate difficult issues within the labor industry.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Attorney Ed Hales.

HONORING DR. AND MRS. DICK C.E. DAVIS
OF NEBRASKA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise during Black History Month—to acknowledge the important contributions that African-Americans have made, and continue to make to American society. Today, I honor some of the extraordinary citizens who have shaped Nebraska’s Second District, and our great nation. Let’s pay special tribute to Dr. and Mrs. Dick C.E. Davis, two highly respected and successful members of my community of Omaha.

This couple has long been recognized as dedicated supporters of projects and causes that improve the lives of Nebraskans—particularly those hit hardest by poverty and the declining economic health of our minority communities. Last year, the couple celebrated the 40th anniversary of Davis Companies: a family business that has long been recognized as a pillar in Omaha’s business community, recently being acknowledged as one of the ten fastest-growing Omaha businesses.

Rather than resting on the success of Davis Companies, the Davis family has turned a laser-like focus to restoring a vibrant economic renaissance in Omaha’s minority sectors.

In 1989, the Davis family pioneered the State’s first public/private funding allocated to addressing the underrepresentation of all minority students—in every sector of public post-secondary education. Since its inception, the Davis-Chambers scholarship fund has grown to a more than 3 million dollar endowment. It has fully funded undergraduate educations for more than 300 of Nebraska’s “best and brightest” minority students.

Dr. Davis also helped acquire and disperse more than $385 thousand dollars in grants—to test a groundbreaking entrepreneurship education program in Omaha’s public schools.

On the business front, the couple has spearheaded a private capital fund to provide seed money for minority-owned small businesses. The program identifies promising small businesses, coaches them through growth, provides initial start-up funds, and stands behind them as they grow into their own creditworthiness and financial maturity. More than 86 businesses have gone through the process, and in the initial run, reported a default rate of less than 3 percent—an excellent rate, considering that the national trend shows over half of these type of loans failing.

These are just a sample of the myriad achievements and selfless actions in education, community service, and wealth-building endeavors that the couple has undertaken to leave an indelible mark on the economy and future of my hometown. I am proud to recognize and honor Dr. Dick C.E. Davis and Mrs. Charon Davis for their service to our community, and the nation.
IN RECOGNITION OF TIM HOUSTON

HON. ADAM SMITH
OF WASHINGTON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Mt. View–Edgewood Water Company, of Edgewood, Washington and its General Manager, Marc Marcantonio, for winning the gold medal at the National Great American Water Taste Test and being judged the best tasting water in the United States.

Each year, the National Rural Water Association sponsors the Great American Water Taste Test to honor small community drinking water supplies from across the United States who provide the public with safe, clean, and affordable water. The goal of the competition is to judge great tasting water that comes directly from the tap.

Prior to the national contest, water providers participate in state events. The Mt. View–Edgewood Water Company competed against 19 other water samples from all over the State of Washington to be named the Washington State winner at the Evergreen Rural Water of Washington Fall Conference and Tradeshow.

The company was honored for the water’s clarity, bouquet, and taste.

The Mt. View–Edgewood Water Company has now earned itself the honor of winning the gold medal at the National competition against 40 other water companies. Judges tasted unidentified samples of water and ranked the samples based on clarity, bouquet, and taste, before naming the Mt. View–Edgewood Water Company the 2012 Winner of the Great American Water Taste Test.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I recognize the Mt. View–Edgewood Water Company and Marc Marcantonio for winning this national competition and providing customers with the best tasting water in the United States.

HONORING THE TOWN OF PHILLIPS

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the bicentennial of the town Phillips, Maine. Two hundred years ago, local families petitioned the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for the right to become a town and determine their future. Phillips was incorporated on February 25, 1812.

At the time of its incorporation, Phillips was home to more than 50 families. With all the advantages the Sandy River and its valley offered, the town quickly grew and the people of Phillips established a community which flourished. Among other things, Phillips is especially known as being the birthplace of Cornelia “Fly Rod” Crosby, Maine’s first registered guide, as well as being the headquarted area of the Sandy River and Rangeley Lakes Railroad.

Today, the more than 1,000 proud residents of Phillips celebrate the bicentennial of their town filled with the same spirit and sense of common purpose that filled the founding families as they petitioned to have their community recognized. These individuals embody the hardworking people of Maine who throughout our history have embraced the challenges and opportunities of living in our state.

It is an honor and a privilege to represent the people of Phillips, and I am pleased to have the opportunity to help this community celebrate its 200th anniversary.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in wishing all the citizens of Phillips well on this joyous occasion.

CONGRATULATING COLONEL DAVID CHESSER FOR HIS YEARS OF SERVICE AT FORT MCCOY, WISCONSIN

HON. RON KIND
OF WISCONSIN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished service of Colonel David E. Chesser, whose tenure as Garrison Commander at Fort McCoy, Wisconsin, concludes February 29, 2012. Colonel Chesser assumed his duties as Garrison Commander on April 3, 2008.

Colonel Chesser’s 30 years of dedicated service in the U.S. Army is noteworthy in every respect. He is a graduate of the Infantry Officer Basic Course, U.S. Army Airborne School, Engineer Officer Advanced Course, Combined Arms and Services Staff School, Command and General Staff Officer Course, the Army Management Staff College Sustaining Base Leadership & Management Course, and the Army War College.

Colonel Chesser has committed his life to serving our country and has received many deserving awards and decorations, including the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal with seven Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Achievement Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Bronze Order of the de Fleury Medal, the Presidents Hundred Tab, the Distinguished Rifleman Badge, the Combat Action Badge, and the Meritorious Unit Citation, as well as various campaign and service medals.

Under Colonel Chesser’s outstanding leadership, Fort McCoy became one of the most capable and desirable Reserve Component training installations in the Army, providing stellar base operations support to over 120,000 Soldiers annually. During his tenure, Colonel Chesser launched and led one of the most dramatic community transformations in the installation’s history, propelling Fort McCoy to win the FY09 Army Communities of Excellence competition and again in FY10; a direct reflection of his leadership, strategic planning and thinking. He took an installation that had one of the most difficult records for food service and within one year improved it through sound management and leadership techniques which led to the Garrison’s Connelly Food Service Awards in 2009, 2010 and 2011. Fort McCoy was also recognized as one of the Army’s best in maintenance of military equipment, having won the Army Maintenance of Excellence Award in 2009 and achieving first place in 2010. Colonel Chesser transformed an underperforming mobilization training center into one recognized as one of the Army’s best and most effective of the seven active Army Power Projection Platforms.

On behalf of my constituents in Wisconsin and a grateful nation, I would like to thank and commend Colonel David Chesser for his years of dedicated service in the U.S. Army and in particular as Garrison Commander at Fort McCoy.

RECOGNIZING ROBERT FOY

HON. WALLY HERGER
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work and accomplishments of Robert Foy, as he prepares to retire this year as Chairman of the California Water Service Group’s Board. The California Water Service Group (CWSG) provides water utility services to over two million people, including the cities of Chico, Marysville and Willows, which are located in the Northern California congressional district I represent.

Mr. Foy is a fourth-generation Californian and was born in San Francisco. He attended San Jose University and served in the U.S. Army. Following the Army he worked for Pacific Storage and Moving where he eventually took over as head. On January 1, 1996, he was named as Chairman of the CWSG, where he worked to streamline the utility’s operations and improve service. One project was the construction and consolidation of the CWSG’s customer and operations service center in Chico, which I was
able to tour upon its completion in 2002. The utility’s operations were previously spread among multiple facilities. The consolidation benefited the California Water Service Group’s customers in Chico by allowing them to go to one central location for resolving their service issues.

Mr. Foy also served as Chairman of the Government Relations Committee for the National Association of Water Companies (NAWC) for four years. In the NAWC’s Annual Report to Congress, the organization presents its comments on the numerous issues facing private water utilities across the country.

Mr. Foy continues to be an extraordinary individual who has made significant and lasting contributions to our community through his exemplary leadership and service as Chairman of the California Water Service Group’s Board. I am extremely grateful for Bob Foy’s service to our nation and community-at-large. I am pleased to celebrate and honor the accomplishments of this impressive American as he retires this year.

HONORING JANET BALL FOR 30 YEARS OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE

By Kali Shumitz, Staff Writer

During her 29-year career working for the Department of Defense, Janet Ball said she never did much to give back to her community. So, soon after retiring, she responded to an ad in the Golden Gazette that said the Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court needed volunteers. Now 90, Ball is still going strong as a volunteer office assistant for the court system.

She also volunteers to sort mail at the Greenspring Retirement Village in Springfield, where she now resides, and helps out at her church. “I’m one that likes to keep busy,” she said. “If I had to sit around doing nothing, I would be going to St. Elizabeth’s.”

As an experienced interpreter, Ball has been an integral part of the changing landscape of Newark. For all the leadership he has shown and the contributions he has made, Dr. Owen is a worthy recipient of the accolades he received on February 22, 2012 during a reception held in his honor.

Fortunately, my office has always been able to collaborate with Dr. Owen and his staff to bring informative programs to residents of the 10th Congressional District on various events including the bi-annual Health and Wellness Expo hosted by the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation. Dr. Owen’s involvement was instrumental in making the 2011 Expo a success. Dr. Owen also guided UMDNJ through a tumultuous period of instability. His leadership was key in bringing the institution back to a prominent position within the Newark Collegate and Healthcare Community.

Although Dr. Owen was very successful during his tenure at UMDNJ, there was one partnership where he was an invaluable assistant, his wife Alice Owen. Through their combined efforts, they were able to work with the UMDNJ Hospital Auxiliary to help raise funds for several new rooms. These additions helped patients and families have a more pleasant and comfortable experience during their time at the hospital. The greater Newark community as well as the UMDNJ family will truly miss this wonderful team.

Mr. Speaker, I know my fellow members of the House of Representatives agree that Dr. William F. Owen has been an integral part of UMDNJ. He has had a stellar career here in Newark and we wish him well in his future endeavors.

SUMGAIT POGROMS

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, two of the least noticed and most dangerous trends of recent years have been Azerbaijan’s rapidly growing military budget and its increasing bellicosity toward Armenian-populated Nagorno-Karabakh.

Last June, during Azerbaijan’s largest military parade since the Soviet era, President Aliyev vowed to avenge the deaths of Azerbaijani soldiers killed during the 1988–1994 Nagorno-Karabakh war and declared that “the war isn’t over yet; only the first stage is completed.” He then boasted that Azerbaijan’s defense budget is twenty times larger than it was just eight years previously and larger, in fact, than the entire budget of Armenia.

Mr. Speaker, it is particularly appropriate that today, February 27—the anniversary of the 1988 Azerbaijani pogrom directed against its own Armenian population in Sumgait—that we commit ourselves to stopping these ugly threats. Armenian history is drenched in tragedy. Everybody knows about the Armenian Genocide, even if, sadly, only a minority of my colleagues has been willing to recognize it officially. But fewer know about the hundreds of thousands of Armenians murdered under the Ottoman regime in the nineteenth century. And fewer still, it seems, know about the pogroms and ethnic cleansing that Armenians have been living in Azerbaijan suffered at the hands of the Armenian community and the Soviet Union was breaking up.

The Sumgait pogrom that we recall today lasted three days and resulted in the murder of hundreds of Armenian civilians. Other anti-Armenian pogroms took place in Kirovabad November 21–27, 1988, and in the Azerbaijani capital Baku January 13–19, 1990. During this era, there were media reports of Armenians being hunted down and killed in their homes. The systematic pattern of all these attacks suggested that something even more sinister than a mob uprising was at work.

Mr. Speaker, Azerbaijan seems bent on destroying every last vestige of the Armenian presence in Azerbaijan. For example, there is videotaped evidence of the Azerbaijani government’s December 2005 systematic desecration and destruction of an ancient Armenian cemetery, including thousands of intricately-carved grave-stones in Djufa, in a section of Azerbaijan near the Turkish border. I believe our State Department still has not adequately examined this incident, and I call on it to do so.

Today is a solemn day as we recall this history of murder, displacement, and destruction, but it is this very history that underscores the
elected to the Colorado State Senate and the Denver School Board, making more friends and connections along the way. Paul's negotiation skills are legendary. Talk to anyone who has worked with him and you will be told stories of Paul's ability to build coalitions and get things done. He is the go-to person for personal and political advice, and you can count on getting two things: wonderful tamales and straightforward advice from a man who will tell you exactly what he thinks, a man who cares about people, a man who is true to his word.

The contributions of Senator Paul Sandoval are numerous, and on behalf of the citizens of the 1st Congressional District of Colorado, I wish to express our gratitude. His service and accomplishments command our respect and admiration. Please join me in paying tribute to Senator Paul Sandoval, a distinguished citizen.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. KENNETH L. HALL

HON. PETE SESSIONS
OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Kenneth L. Hall as his family, friends, and colleagues gather to celebrate his retirement and 19 years of dedicated service at Buckner International.

After earning his bachelor's degree from the University of Texas at Tyler, Dr. Hall attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and graduated with Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees. Prior to his leadership role at Buckner, Dr. Hall served as Pastor for four churches in Texas. In 1994, he joined Buckner as President and Chief Executive Officer.

Founded in 1879, Buckner International has devoted itself to helping orphans, vulnerable children, and their families. As a global Christian ministry, they annually serve over 400,000 children, and their families. They offer a variety of Christian ministry, they annually serve over 400,000 children, and their families. They offer a variety of services, including education, food assistance, and medical care.

In recognition of his leadership and service, Dr. Hall was awarded Mr. Pribble and his multimedia student film, Never Miss a Beat, where over 300 students, parents, and community members attended. Among the many accolades, the National Journalism Education Association awarded Mr. Pribble with the 2012 Escambia County, Florida Teacher of the Year award, and his students' achievements, the best teachers inspire. As portrayed by today's award and his students' achievements, Mr. Pribble is someone who has the uncanny ability to combine a force of intellect with superb interpersonal, problem solving, and leadership skills. He has exceeded expectations.

With a vast list of accomplishments, it is hard to highlight them all. In the classroom, he increased 2011 Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) scores by 79 percent with his standardized classes and 67 percent with his advanced classes. Outside of the classroom, his yearbook and newspaper staff has received numerous accolades. The National Journalism Education Association awarded Mr. Pribble with the 2013 Escambia County, Florida Teacher of the Year.

Mr. Pribble is someone who has been an educator for 16 years and currently serves his students, parents, and community as the AP English Language and Composition, Duel Enrollment English, and Multimedia Communications Instructor at Escambia High School. During his tenure at EHS, Mr. Pribble has excelled in teaching students from diverse backgrounds, while also helping to facilitate the publication of the school's yearbook and newspaper. As someone who has the uncanny ability to combine a force of intellect with superb interpersonal, problem solving, and leadership skills, he has exceeded expectations.

With a vast list of accomplishments, it is hard to highlight them all. In the classroom, he increased 2011 Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) scores by 79 percent with his standardized classes and 67 percent with his advanced classes. Outside of the classroom, his yearbook and newspaper staff has received numerous accolades. The National Journalism Education Association awarded Mr. Pribble with the 2013 Escambia County, Florida Teacher of the Year.
tools to supplement daily lessons. Mr. Pibble’s ambition and willingness to accept challenges motivates his students to strive for excellence in their academic life.

Mr. Pibble’s greatness lies well beyond his title as Escambia County Teacher of the Year—his legacy lies in the hearts and minds of those who have been deeply affected. Teachers such as Mr. Pibble leave a permanent impact on their schools, and due to Mr. Pibble’s ambition and success, Escambia High School is initiating a multimedia academy for 2012–2013. The multimedia academy will help ensure that his legacy will continue to be felt by Escambia High students for years to come. Great teachers are an invaluable asset to our nation’s students, and to be honored as Teacher of the Year is a reflection of Mr. Pibble’s inexorable dedication to the students of Escambia County. He has proven himself to be among the most exceptional teachers in our nation.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I take great pride in recognizing Jeffrey Pibble’s enthusiasm for teaching, talent for inspiring his students and commitment to excellence. My wife Vicki joins me in congratulating Mr. Pibble, and we wish him all the best as he continues to be an exemplary role model to others who follow in his footsteps.

TRIBUTE TO THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REAL ESTATE BROKERS (NAREB) ON THEIR 65TH ANNUAL MID-WINTER CONFERENCE

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2012

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the National Association of Real Estate Brokers (NAREB) on their 65th Annual Mid-Winter Conference.

The National Association of Real Estate Brokers was formed in 1947 by twelve pioneering African American real estate professionals from seven states across the country: Nannie Black, Detroit, Michigan; Macco Crutcher, Detroit, Michigan; Carleton Gains, Detroit, Michigan; W.D. Morris, Detroit, Michigan; O.B. Cobbins, Jackson, Mississippi; W.H. Hollins, Birmingham, Alabama; George W. Powell, Jacksonville, Florida; J.R. Taylor, Miami, Florida; F. Henry Williams, Jackson-ville, Florida; Horrace Sudduth, Cincinnati, Ohio; J.W. Sanford, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; A. Maceo Smith, Dallas, Texas. NAREB was formed out of a need to secure the right to equal housing opportunities regardless of race, creed, or color.

The goal of NAREB is to bring together the Nation’s minority professionals in the real estate industry to promote the meaningful exchange of ideas about their business and how best to serve the community. NAREB strives to create an environment where creativity flourishes in both the workplace and the marketplace.

NAREB is the oldest minority trade association in America. Since 1948, when the first Conference was held in Atlantic City, New Jersey, NAREB has continued to voice their opinions and take stands against inequity and injustice in housing. This year’s conference theme, “A New Era of Leadership” signifies NAREB’s commitment to creating a better tomorrow for the real estate industry and for our economy as a whole. It is exciting to know that this year’s conference will be held in sunny South Florida. I thank them for their advocacy over the years and wish NAREB a successful conference.

RECOGNIZING PAUL KREBBS
HON. NITA M. LOWEY
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2012

Mrs. LOWEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Paul Krebbs for a life’s work in Catholic education that has had a significant impact on countless students, families, and fellow educators. On Wednesday, January 25, 2012, Mr. Krebbs was honored by the White House as a “Champion of Change,” and today it is our privilege to echo this commendation.

For nine years, Paul Krebbs has served his community with distinction as the President of All Hallows High School in the Bronx, New York. In his capacity as President, Mr. Krebbs has also served as the institution’s CEO and has worked tirelessly to maintain the standards of excellence that have come to be associated with All Hallows High School. All Hallows routinely places its entire graduating class, which is 98% students of color, into four-year colleges.

During Mr. Krebbs’ tenure at All Hallows, the school’s academic standards and Catholic identity have been maintained while enrollment has steadily increased. Meanwhile, the school has become financially stable and self-sufficient.

Beyond All Hallows, Mr. Krebbs has contributed his passion for education by founding the Office of Educational Development at the Archdiocese of New York. As the White House declared last month, champions like Mr. Krebbs, “inspire all of us to build up our communities and our Nation’s young people.”

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize my constituent, Paul Krebbs, for his remarkable service to All Hallows High School and his lifelong commitment to enriching the lives of others through education and self-betterment. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring his accomplishments and thanking him for his tremendous contributions.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF UNA MULZAC
HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. RANGEL of New York. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise to honor the life of Una Mulzac, a small business owner and political activist from my district. Una was a civil rights leader and an active educator in her community.

Born in Baltimore on April 19, 1923, Una inherited a fighting spirit from her father, Hugh Mulzac, who became the first African American to command a ship in the United States merchant marines. In 1961, Hugh’s political beliefs were investigated by the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

After graduating from Girls High School in Brooklyn, Una worked as a secretary at Random House and developed a strong passion for publishing. She combined a love of books with a commitment to political activism, and moved to Guyana in 1963 to open a bookstore and to help with the revolution. While in her store one day, Una was severely wounded when a package containing a bomb exploded, killing a colleague.

Una eventually returned to New York, and in 1967 opened Liberation Bookstore in Harlem to promote causes aimed at ending South African apartheid. Her establishment quickly became a Harlem landmark, and provided the community with a vast collection of literature. For four decades, Una was an inspiration to the people of Harlem and her bookstore became the destination for generations of people interested in race. On one side of the door to her bookstore, a sign stated, “If you don’t know, learn.” On the other side: “If you know, teach.”

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in paying tribute to the life of this very honorable woman. She is the definition of a true Harlemite, and her presence will be missed in my district.

RECOGNIZING HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP, NEW JERSEY
HON. SCOTT GARRETT
OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize Hardyston Township, New Jersey, in beautiful Sussex County, upon the momentous occasion of the Township’s 250th anniversary.

In late October, 1761, a ship traveling from Europe ended its trans-Atlantic voyage in New York. On that ship was Josiah Hardy, eldest son of Sir Charles Hardy and his wife, Elizabeth Burchett, and brother to five siblings. Just a few months earlier, Josiah had been “appointed Captain General and Governor in Chief of His Majesty’s Province of New Jersey. . . .” Hardy would hold this position for fewer than two years, yielding his title to William Franklin in February 1763 and setting sail for England in September of that same year. While Governor Hardy’s tenure was brief, it saw the formation by Royal Charter of Hardyston Township in 1762.

Today, little is known of Josiah Hardy, but his name and legacy live on in the Township of Hardyston.

Throughout its history, Hardyston has played a central role not only in the story of Sussex County but also in the story of America. During the Revolutionary War, General George Washington and the Continental Army camped in Hardyston. And in the Township’s earliest days, the work of farmers, millers, and blacksmiths signaled the building of the nascent nation.

Today, Hardyston Township residents contribute in areas ranging from finance, education, and construction to health care, entertainment, and retail services, to name just a few. The Township offers diverse recreational opportunities and is home to scenes of pristine beauty that undoubtedly mirror the beauty of
Hardyston’s earliest days. Additionally, Hardyston holds the distinction of being the discovery place of Hardystonite, a fluorescent mineral discovered in 1899 in the Franklin Furnace Mine. Two hundred fifty years after its formation, Hardyston Township continues to be a vibrant community that is home to residents and visitors alike to enjoy all that it offers and to become a part of its ongoing history.

As Hardyston Township Celebrates its 250th Anniversary, I offer my congratulations and my heartfelt wish for a future for Hardyston Township that is as bright as—and even brighter than—its rich and notable past.

HONORING THE LIFE OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA’S BELoved JOSEPH CRONA

HON. JEFF MILLER OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress it is an honor for me to rise today to recognize the life of Northwest Florida’s beloved Joseph Crona. Mr. Crona was a native of Pensacola, Florida and a longtime leader in the Northwest Florida community. He was a true patriot. After graduating from Pensacola High School, Mr. Crona answered the call of duty, serving with honor and distinction during World War II in the European Theater. When he returned home, Mr. Crona attended Florida State University, where he played offense, defense, and special teams on Florida State University’s inaugural football team. He continued to follow his beloved Seminoles, taking in games around the country, and he was honored by the University as part of a special ceremony recognizing the Fiftieth Anniversary of the school’s first football team.

After graduating from FSU with a degree in economics, Mr. Crona moved back to his hometown where he translated his success in the classroom and on the football field to the boardroom. He began working in the Trust Department at Citizens and Peoples National Bank, rising to become a Trust Officer. In 1971, he joined Commercial National Bank as Executive Vice-President, and shortly thereafter, Mr. Crona became President of Commercial National Bank. He went on to serve as President of Charter National, Century National and finally Sun Bank, where he worked as President/CEO until his retirement in 1994.

Mr. Crona was an avid sportsman, and he pursued his passion for the outdoors through years hunting and fishing. As an active member of the Pensacola Sports Association, Mr. Crona helped to bring world class sporting events to Northwest Florida. He served as President and Tournament Director of the Pensacola Open, which saw world class PGA golfers, including legendary winners such as Arnold Palmer, Gary Player and Pensacola’s own Jerry Pate, compete at the highest level in front of Northwest Florida’s passionate fans.

In addition to his tireless efforts promoting sports throughout the area, Mr. Crona was an active member of Northwest Florida’s civic society. He was a member of the Pensacola Chamber of Commerce, the United Way, Navy League and numerous Mardi Gras organizations. He served as President of the Fiesta of Five Flags, which commemorates Pensacola’s founding as the first European settlement in America, and in 1989 he wore the mask of Don Tristan De Luna, as the ceremonial head of the festivities.

As a patriot and a veteran, Mr. Crona also recognized the importance of honoring and thanking the brave men and women who sacrificed so much so that we may be free, and he extended our respect to a small group who secured financing and oversaw the construction of the World War II Memorial at Veterans Memorial Park in Pensacola.

Mr. Crona is survived by Diane, his wife of 57 years; his daughter, Susan Smart; as well as two grandchildren, Joseph and Sydney Smart. To some Joseph Crona will be remembered as a patriot and a leader in the Northwest Florida community. To others he will be remembered as a lifelong Florida State Seminole. To his friends and family, he will most fondly be remembered as a loving and devoted family man. His tireless work and immense contributions to his community cannot be overstated. Northwest Florida has truly suffered a great loss with his passing.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it gives me great pride to honor the life of Joseph Crona. My wife Vicki joins me in congress, it gives me great pride to honor the life of Joseph Crona. My wife Vicki joins me in recognizing her retirement.

Recognizing Jeanne Milstein

HON. JOE COURTNEY OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Connecticut’s Child Advocate, Jeanne Milstein, and celebrate her years of service to the State and, more importantly, to Connecticut’s children and their families.

For over a decade, Jeanne has headed the Office of the Child Advocate (OCA), which oversees the protection and care of the State’s most vulnerable children. Under Jeanne’s leadership, the OCA has reviewed and acted on thousands of requests for assistance ranging from safety and health to education. Most recently, the OCA participated in the Children and Recession Task Force, leading an effort on transitioning young adults leaving the care of the state Department of Children and Families. OCA has also led oversight on children in congregate care settings and transitional supports for confined youth.

Beyond overseeing the care and protection of Connecticut’s children, Jeanne and the OCA have been fierce watchdogs of taxpayer resources.

Jeanne’s hard work and dedication have been an invaluable resource for Connecticut’s children, and the OCA has acted on thousands of requests for assistance ranging from safety and health to education.

Mr. Speaker, in recognition of her service, I rise today and ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating SFC Christine K. Tulloch for her retirement from the United States Army after 22 years of devoted service. She has also been nominated for the Legion of Merit Award to commemorate her faithful and courageous service. I am honored to recognize SFC Tulloch today for these accomplishments and also take a moment to acknowledge her birthdate she recently celebrated on February 17th. During her distinguished career, SFC Tulloch displayed thrift and foresight in her position as a Movement Supervisor conducting rail, airport, and sea operations. This position required SFC Tulloch to oversee supply chains in order to facilitate the movement of goods and services across significant distances. This work is a vital component of any successful military operation confirmed to offer this from 2001 to 2002 in Fort Eustis, Virginia; from 2002 to 2004 in Bamberg, Germany; and from 2004–2005 in Tallahassee, Florida, where she also served as Training NCO.

Throughout her career, SFC Tulloch demonstrated an admirable commitment to the efficiency and effectiveness of military activities. For example, in December 2002 when her team was deployed as an advanced party in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, she administered the safe receipt and transit of more than 5,000 containers. In a conflict as hazardous as the war in Iraq, this was a logistical feat and one that she would repeat many times. In March 2003, her team would preside over the reception, staging and movement of over 40,000 combat and support troops. This would be an influential movement just prior to the second invasion.

SFC Tulloch also served in the U.S. Army Human Resources department where she administered assignments for as many as 12,000 soldiers. It was also necessary to coordinate the Joint Domicile and Married Couple’s Program in which SFC Tulloch demonstrated her compassion as well as a high level of competence in arranging over 1,300 personal assignments a year. From 2009 to 2010, SFC Tulloch was promoted to Chief Movement Supervisor for the U.S. personnel in CENTCOM in Doha, Qatar. Her performance was such that she meticulously managed the transfer of millions of dollars worth of resources without waste or inaccuracy.

What made the work of SFC Tulloch exceptional was her ability to see opportunities to eliminate excessive bureaucracy in order to maximize the impact of expenditures. For instance, during her time in Iraq, SFC Tulloch was able to investigate some 2,000 overdue invoices and credit card purchases which could have been more than $3 million to be refunded to the U.S. Government. While being posted in Afghanistan, SFC Tulloch was placed in charge of equipment and vehicles valued above $24.6 million dollars. She was
able to direct the movement of these resources in a timely manner, even when given limited notice in which to organize herself and her team.

Mr. Speaker, on June 1, 2012 Sergeant First Class Christine K. Tulloch will retire from the United States Army. She should be proud of the fact that her accomplishments are truly commendable. Throughout her career, SFC Tulloch was able to execute the tasks assigned to her in a capable manner in spite of conditions that were often pressurized and hostile. It is my great honor to recognize SFC Tulloch and I wish her all the best in her retirement and hope that she may continue to use her talents to the betterment of those around her.

RESEARCH WORKS ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 27, 2012

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer the following statement along with my colleague from California, Rep. DARRELL ISSA:

The introduction of H.R. 3699 has spurred a robust, expansive debate on the topics of scientific and scholarly publishing, intellectual property protection, and public access to federally funded research. Since its introduction, we have heard from numerous stakeholders and interested parties on both sides of this important issue.

As the costs of publishing continue to be driven down by new technology, we will continue to see a growth in open access publishers. This new and innovative model appears to be the wave of the future. The transition must be collaborative, and must respect copyright law and the principles of open access. The American people deserve to have access to research for which they have paid. This conversation needs to continue and we have come to the conclusion that the Research Works Act has exhausted the useful role it can play in the debate. As such, we want Americans concerned about access to research and other participants in this debate to know we will not be taking legislative action on H.R. 3699, the Research Works Act. We do intend to remain involved in efforts to examine and study the protection of intellectual property rights and open access to publicly funded research.

HONORING THE VICTIMS OF SUMGAIT

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the scores of Armenian lives lost in the vicious attacks perpetrated by Azerbaijani pogroms against Armenian civilians in the town of Sumgait, Azerbaijan 24 years ago. Beginning on February 27, 1988 and for three days, Azerbaijani mobs assaulted and killed Armenians. Hundreds of Armenians were wounded, women and young girls were brutally raped, and victims of all ages were beaten and tortured and eventually burned to death. Thousands were driven from their homes and forced to become refugees. Armenian homes and businesses were left to be looted and destroyed.

In the years that followed this heinous event, Armenians living in Kirovabad and Baku suffered a similar fate. These pogroms were only part of a pattern of anti-Armenian activities occurring throughout Azerbaijan, setting the stage for two decades of aggression during which the Azerbaijani government initiated a war against the people of Nagorno-Karabakh. Thousands of people lost their lives and hundreds of thousands of Armenians were displaced as a result of the fighting. A once thriving population of 450,000 Armenians living in Azerbaijan virtually disappeared.

A cease-fire agreement, brokered in 1994, remains in place today. However, Azerbaijan’s continued war-mongering, recent cease-fire violations, and dramatic increase of its military budget threaten to destabilize the Nagorno-Karabakh peace talks. In January 2008, Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev warned Armenians living in Nagorno-Karabakh: “We are reinforcing our army because we must be ready to free our lands . . . at any moment and by any means.” Such rhetoric is detrimental to the peace process and is further evidence that this conflict is ongoing and must be resolved.

It is my sincerest hope that a democratic and peaceful resolution can be reached, and that Nagorno-Karabakh’s right to self-determination affirmed.

This April will mark the 97th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, an event the Turkish government, Azerbaijan’s closest ally, goes to great and tragic lengths to deny. We must not let such crimes against humanity go unrecognized. Today, let us pause to remember the victims of the atrocities of the Sumgait pogroms. Mr. Speaker, it is our moral obligation to condemn crimes of hatred and to remember the victims, in hope that history will not be repeated.

RECOGNIZING DUSCHA ROSS AS THE 2012 OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Duscha Ross as the 2012 Okaloosa County, Florida Teacher of the Year. Good teachers educate 21st century workers. Ms. Ross makes a significant impact in the lives of her students, colleagues, and community. I am proud to recognize her achievements.

Ms. Ross joined the Okaloosa County, Florida School District in 2002, with a background in Political Science and Military Studies from Pennsylvania State University. Her career as a teacher and mentor began at the Department of Juvenile Justice in Okaloosa County where she taught Language and Reading. Since then she has served the Okaloosa County School District in various capacities as a 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade teacher and a Remedial and Advanced Reading teacher at Northwood Elementary School.

Ms. Ross has proudly served as a 5th grade teacher at Mary Esther Elementary School for the past two years. Ms. Ross makes a difference by never settling for mediocrity. While some are afraid of change and are unwilling to take risks, Ms. Ross attributes some of her greatest successes to the classroom to the use of a novel approach. She incorporates innovative teaching practices, such as the use of the Balanced Literacy Model, Discovery Education Assessment (DEA) Probes, and technology to supplement daily lessons. Using these methods, she is able to better address the needs of her students and provide them a pathway to success.

She strives to share teaching methods with her colleagues to ensure that all can benefit from these successful techniques. She also combines education with community involvement and often invites various community members, including members of the military and local Kiwanis Clubs, to participate in her lessons and interact with other members of Mary Esther Elementary School.

Out of her passion for teaching and her love for children, Ms. Ross sets high standards for all of her students and works with them to achieve their goals and the desired results of the overall academic performance of the class. She is the positive force behind each student’s growth of mind, by giving them the confidence, knowledge, and inspiration needed to succeed. Teachers like Ms. Ross leave a perpetual impact on their schools and community.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I take great pride in recognizing Ms. Duscha Ross as one of Northwest Florida’s finest educators, and I congratulate her on her recent accolades as Okaloosa County, Florida Teacher of the Year. This is an outstanding achievement, and her service to the area should stand as an example to those who follow in her footsteps. My wife Vicki joins me in wishing her all the best for continued success.

HONORING DR. EDUARDO JOSE PADRON

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2012

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce’s Sand In My Shoes Commitment to the Community award ceremony tonight, I rise to recognize and honor one of our nation’s top education leaders, Dr. Eduardo Jose Padron. Mr. Padron has served as the president of Miami Dade College, MDC, the nation’s largest higher education institution. He has garnered recognition for his leadership from six American presidents and from organizations throughout the world.

Dr. Padron was born on June 26, 1944, in Santiago, Cuba. After arriving in the United States as a refugee at the age of 15, Dr. Padron capitalized on his educational opportunities by earning a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Florida. A decade later, Dr. Padron would become the president of Miami Dade College’s Wolfson Campus. There, he implemented revolutionary initiatives that earned him a stellar reputation and propelled
him to the presidency of our nation’s largest higher education institution.

President Padron’s transformational undertakings at Miami Dade College, resulting in 174,000 students enrolled, greater student access, retention, graduation and overall achievement, has been hailed as the model for innovation in higher education. Currently, MDC enrolls the most minorities nationally— including the most African Americans and Hispanics. The recent list of awards applauding MDC’s achievements includes the 2011 Council for Higher Education Accreditation “Award for Outstanding Institutional Practice in Student Learning Outcomes” and the “U.S. President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll.”

President Padron’s achievements in higher education have earned him hundreds of coveted awards, commendations and appointments. Six American presidents have nominated him to nationally prominent posts. Recently, President Obama selected him to represent the United States at the UNESCO’s World Conference on Higher Education and appointed him as chair of the White House Commission on Educational Excellence for Hispanics Americans. President Clinton nominated him one of America’s foremost educators and President George W. Bush nominated him to the National Institute for Literacy Advisory Board and the National Economic Summit. Among his list of prestigious awards are the “2008 Charles Kennedy Equity Award,” “2008 Reginald Wilson Diversity Leadership Award,” and the “2008 Innovator of the Year” from the League for Innovation.

Please join me in honoring Miami Dade College President Eduardo J. Padron for his commitment to making quality education accessible to minorities and for his revolutionary contributions to higher education.

RESEARCH WORKS ACT

HON. DARRELL E.issa
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. Issa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer the following statement along with my colleagues from New York and the original co-sponsor of H.R. 3699, Representative CAROLYN B. MALONEY.

The introduction of H.R. 3699 has spurred a robust, expansive debate on the topics of scientific and scholarly publishing, intellectual property protection, and public access to federally funded research. Since its introduction, we have heard from numerous stakeholders and interested parties on both sides of this important issue.

As the costs of publishing continue to be driven down by new technology, we will continue to see a growth in open access publishing. This new and innovative model appears to be the wave of the future. The transition must be collaborative, and must respect copyright law and the principles of open access. The American people deserve to have access to research for which they have paid. This conversation needs to continue and we will continue to make the case that the Research Works Act has exhausted the useful role it can play in the debate. As such, we want Americans concerned about access to research and other participants in this debate to know we will not be taking legislative action on H.R. 3699, the Research Works Act. We do intend to remain involved in efforts to examine and study the protection of intellectual property rights and open access to publicly funded research.

H.R. 1433. THE PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS PROTECTION ACT OF 2012

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER
OF OREGON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. Blumenauer. Mr. Speaker, I strongly oppose H.R. 1433, the “Private Property Rights Protection Act of 2012.” This bill is a solution in search of a problem. Its sweeping prohibition against the use of eminent domain for economic development would cripple community efforts at a time when they’re needed more than ever.

There are time honored principles for the exercise of eminent domain by State and local governments. I support the Constitutional protections already in place to prevent taking of private property without fair compensation. Governments should certainly exercise great care in using this authority.

Many major economic and ecological initiatives would be difficult, if not impossible, without eminent domain. I believe economic development is a legitimate use of this tool; my community has used it for a number of critical development projects. I am proud of a high tech project that have laid the foundations for decades of prosperity.

I would support action to prevent abuse and capricious use of eminent domain. But this bill would make it nearly impossible for communities to use it. This bill is too restrictive and will become an impediment to economic development. Its financial penalties could bankrupt communities and even the risk of potential future violation of the law could affect a jurisdiction’s borrowing power today.

I urge my colleagues to reject this bill.

PATRICK H. DALY, JR.
HON. ANDY HARRIS
OF MARYLAND
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. Harris. Mr. Speaker, today I offer my sincerest thanks and appreciation to my District Director, Patrick H. Daly, Jr., for his seven years of service to me. Pat has been a vital part of my staff from before I was even elected to Congress, serving in my Maryland State Senate office as a Legislative Assistant. As District Director to a House freshman, he took on the many logistical challenges of setting up my three district offices in Kent Island, Salisbury, and Bel Air. He also oversaw my case work operations, which provided help to 1,200 constituents in the last year. He coordinated many constituent events and town hall meetings to keep me in tune with my District and watch over the needs of the community. Simply put, Pat has always been there to see that the job is done, no matter how large or small the task may be. Pat has crossed the First Congres sional District too many times to count in the name of constituent service, and provided goodwill among its residents that is immeasurable. I offer my very best wishes to Pat and his family for his bright future ahead.

RECOGNIZING JEFFREY BAUGUS AS THE 2013 SANTA ROSA COUNTY, FLORIDA TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. Miller of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jeffrey A. Baugus as the 2013 Santa Rosa County, Florida Teacher of the Year. Jeffrey Baugus has been a 22-year veteran of the Santa Rosa County School System and currently serves as a Middle School teacher to ever win the award.

Benjamin Franklin once said, “Tell me, and I forget. Teach me, and I remember. Involve me, and I learn.” It is with great honor that I recognize Jeffrey Baugus for his ability to not only teach, but to involve and inspire those around him. The best teachers are those who not only educate, but those who strive every day to actively engage their pupils. Mr. Baugus embodies this spirit. By supplementing lessons with humor and advanced technology, Mr. Baugus gives mathematics a whole new meaning to his students. Through his innovative teaching practices, he gives his students the tools to succeed.

Mr. Baugus’s impact is felt both inside and outside the classroom. He proves that education is never ending, and teaches his students there is always room for improvement. Following this mantra, in 2010, Mr. Baugus completed a Masters in Education in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in Middle School Mathematics. In addition to his role teaching Algebra I, he is also an active member of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, the Florida Council of Teachers of Mathematics, the Air Force Association, and the Santa Rosa County Council of Teachers of Mathematics, where he serves as President. Today’s award is not Mr. Baugus’s first, and I am sure it will not be his last. Over the last few years, he was awarded the 2009 Air Force Association (Hurlbut Chapter) Teacher of the Year, the 2009 Santa Rosa County Middle School Math Teacher of the Year, the 2009 QBWMS Rookie of the Year, and 2012 Teacher of the Year for Woodlawn Beach Middle School.

The title of Teacher of the Year is an immense honor and is evidence of Mr. Baugus’s tireless work and dedication to his students and his profession. Mr. Baugus has proven himself to be among Northwest Florida’s finest teachers. The Santa Rosa County, Florida School District is honored to have him as one of its own.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize Jeffrey Baugus on this achievement and his exemplary service in the Santa Rosa County School District. My wife Vicki joins me in congratulating Mr. Baugus, and we wish him and his family all the best.
HONORING COMMANDER PAUL B. SPOHN, USN

HON. LARRY BUCSHON
OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 27, 2012
Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my most heartfelt congratulations to Commander Paul B. Sphohn, United States Navy, for a distinguished career. Commander Spohn recently retired as the Commanding Officer, Naval Support Activity Crane, one of the many command posts throughout his career. I would like to especially recognize Commander Spohn for his leadership at NSA Crane, the world’s third largest Naval Installation, based in Indiana’s 8th Congressional District.

Commander Spohn began his 35 year career by enlisting in the Navy as a Boiler Technician in January 1977 and received his commission in June 1990 through the Limited Duty Officer Program.

His many achievements in academics and the Navy have made him an officer that all sailors and citizens should emulate. His dedication to our nation has spanned many decades and many posts and for that I would like to thank Commander Spohn.

HONORING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE USO CENTER AT THE TAMPA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

HON. RICHARD B. NUGENT
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 27, 2012
Mr. NUGENT. Mr. Speaker, on January 18th, 2012 the USO Board of Governors voted to approve the establishment of the USO Center at the Tampa International Airport.

This has been a long process, but thanks to a hardworking team of volunteers, the USO in Tampa is excited about serving the roughly 40,000 active military and their families living in the Tampa Bay area that may use Tampa International Airport as well as the approximately 300,000 that fly in and out of the Tampa International Airport on a yearly basis.

As both a Congressman and a father of three sons in the U.S. Army, I know how important the USO services are to our men and women in uniform. When I visit with the veterans in my district, I hear their stories of watching Bob Hope in the USO Concerts and receiving packages with urgent supplies from the USO on Christmas. Today’s USO centers give our active duty heroes a place to relax, if only for a few minutes.

The new facility in the Tampa International Airport will allow members of our local communities the opportunity to recognize the sacrifice and service of this Nation’s proud active duty servicemembers and their families.

I am a proud supporter of this outstanding institution and welcome its arrival in the Tampa International Airport.

HONORING THE LIVES OF CAPTAIN RYAN P. HALL OF COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO; CAPTAIN NICHOLAS S. WHITLOCK OF NEWNAN, GEORGIA; FIRST LIEUTENANT JUSTIN J. WILKENS, OF BEND, OREGON; AND SENIOR AIRMAN JULIAN S. SCHOLTEN OF UPPER MARLBORO, MARYLAND

HON. JEFF MILLER
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 27, 2012
Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sympathy and solemn gratitude that I rise to pay tribute to four of our nation’s fallen heroes: Captain Ryan P. Hall of Colorado Springs, Colorado; Captain Nicholas S. Whitlock of Newnan, Georgia; First Lieutenant Justin J. Wilkens, of Bend, Oregon; and Senior Airman Julian S. Scholtyn of Upper Marlboro, Maryland.

These four brave, young men paid the ultimate price in defense of our nation’s freedom when their U-28 aircraft went down near Djibouti, Africa on Saturday, February 18, 2012. They were members of the United States Air Force Special Operations Command. Of their dedication to duty, courage of heart, and commitment to their nation, there can be no doubt. They were living examples of the Airman’s Creed, “I am an American Airman, guardian of freedom and justice, my nation’s sword and shield, my savior and avenger. I defend my country with my life.” Upon the altar of freedom, they have fulfilled their vow to defend their country and paid the ultimate price.

The report of this tragic incident pierced the hearts of their families, friends, and the AFSCOC community. It reminds us that there is no greater sacrifice than that in which one gives his life for others.

While there are no words that we can say here on the floor today that will bring back Ryan, Nicholas, Justin, and Julian to those who love them and know them best, we can and will honor their service and sacrifice. We have heard many times and know in our hearts the truth that Freedom often demands of us a heavy and at times unbearable price. It is a burden of loss that rests heavily upon those who love them.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful United States Congress, I stand here today to honor these four men and all of the heroes we have lost. My wife, Vicki joins me in offering our deepest most sincere condolences and prayers to their families and friends. May God continue to bless them, the AFSCOC community, and the United States Armed Forces.
TRIBUTE TO DR. SUNEDRA KUMAR KAUSHIK

HON. DONNA F. EDWARDS
OF MARYLAND
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
	Monday, February 27, 2012

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute and honor the life of David N. Boddie, a resident of Bowie in the Fourth Congressional District of Maryland, who passed away on February 16th. As he is interred at Arlington National Cemetery today, I want to remember the legacy he leaves behind.

For over 40 years, Dave—a dedicated and talented employee—was affectionately known to his colleagues—was an employee of the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), which supplies us with the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and the documents to conduct the business of this House.

Before arriving at the GPO, Dave Boddie served as a U.S. Marine in Vietnam, where he was seriously wounded in combat and received the Purple Heart. After returning home, he worked at the Afro-American Newspaper Company in Baltimore.

Dave joined the GPO in 1970 as an apprentice and three years later was converted to a career employee. In 1976, he was promoted to a new position as a Photocomposition Machine Operator, taking his place within one of the greatest technology changes in the GPO’s history, as the agency converted from hot metal typesetting to electronic photo-composition. Two years later, Dave entered the management and supervisory ranks at GPO, and he became a Foreperson in 1987.

In August 1999, Dave was named Foreperson-in-Charge, and in 2003, he was promoted to Assistant to the Production Manager, Night Operations, on the second shift. He continued to rise through the management ranks, becoming Printing Officer and Assistant Production Manager in December 2005.

In 2006, Dave was named the third-shift Assistant Production Manager, effectively becoming GPO’s Night Production Manager, with the key responsibility for ensuring the completion of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and other congressional work by morning. Dave was the first African American employee ever named to this position in GPO’s 150-year history of service to Congress and this Nation.

He retired from Federal service in 2011.

Dave Boddie’s record of service to our country, both as a Marine and through his accomplished career as a Federal employee at GPO, was characterized by sacrifice, by hard work and dedication to duty, and most of all by achievement, which was recognized by his promotions leading ultimately to one of the most critically important positions of leadership within GPO. He leaves behind a legacy of service that others can aspire to.

Now that his time on earth has come to an end, it is my hope that David N. Boddie has found the peace he has earned. On behalf of this House, I extend our sincere condolences to his wife, Kim and daughter Monica, and the thanks of a grateful Nation.

TRIBUTE TO CLARENCE LEONARD EDWARDS

HON. NITA M. LOWEY
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
	Monday, February 27, 2012

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Clarence Leonard Edwards, a lifelong South Florida community activist, U.S. Soldier, entrepreneur, pioneer, beloved son, husband, father, neighbor and friend.

Mr. Edwards was born in Jacksonville, Florida on March 3rd, 1930. After attending Edward Waters College in Jacksonville, he moved to Miami. At the age of twenty, he began a career of community service that spanned decades.

Following his service in the United States Army, during the Korean War, Mr. Edwards and his first wife of 38 years, Olivia Love, settled in Overtown and became instrumental in community organizing, voter registration and mentoring youth. For thirty six years, they ran a community pharmacy that served as a long-standing community gathering place.

Mr. Edwards had a forty year career with the Seaboard Coastline Railroad (Amtrak). He is also noted for pioneering blacks in the sport of race car driving. He has received numerous local, state and national awards for community and political service including: Governors recognition for his service during Hurricane Andrew, Florida Annual Civil Rights Conference Community Relations award, Proclamation of Clarence Edwards Day from Dade County Mayor, Stephen Clark and City of Opa Locka Mayor, Robert Ingram. Mr. Edwards has also received several letters of appreciation from Presidents, Congressmen and State Representatives.

We, the citizens of the 17th Congressional District, pay tribute to Mr. Clarence Leonard Edwards for his stellar service to the people of Miami-Dade County.

TRIBUTE TO DR. SUNEDRA KUMAR KAUSHIK

HON. NITA M. LOWEY
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
	Monday, February 27, 2012

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Sunedra Kumar Kaushik, the founder and chairman of the Mrs. Helena Kaushik Women’s College in Rajasthan, India, and a constituent in the 18th Congressional district of New York. On March 2, Dr. Kaushik will be honored by the Indian Consul General in New York after receiving the Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas Samman Award, India’s highest honor for natives living overseas, from President Pratibha Patil. For decades, Dr. Kaushik’s work as a Professor of Finance at Pace University and his exceptional leadership at Mrs. Helena Kaushik Women’s College have made an extraordinary impact at home, in the Lower Hudson Valley, and abroad, in his native India.

For more than 35 years, Dr. Kaushik has led a distinguished academic career, shaping the minds of generations of young Americans at Pace, Boston University, Northeastern University, Babson College and other institutions. Over this period of time, Dr. Kaushik has published an impressive number of academic works in economics and finance.

While completing his PhD at Boston University, Dr. Kaushik met the love of his life, Helena Pokotnicki, of Detroit, Michigan, and the two were married in September of 1973. For decades, Mrs. Kaushik employed her skills as a health professional to promote children’s health and education issues in India. On her very first day in India, Mrs. Kaushik wasted no time making her voice heard, lobbying the head of the World Health Organization in Delhi on the need to improve health conditions in India and to mitigate the adverse effects of open sewers on the Indian population at large.

In 1991, Mrs. Kaushik tragically suffered a devastating stroke and since has been cared for by her husband at their home in Westchester County, New York. Inspired by his wife’s commitment and work on behalf of the children and women of India, Dr. Kaushik founded the Mrs. Helena Kaushik Women’s College in Rajasthan, India, in 1999. Watching his wife in action, Dr. Kaushik understood the tremendous impact hard-working women could have on their communities across the globe. In his native Rajasthan, one of the most poverty-stricken regions of India, Dr. Kaushik was concerned by the lack of educational opportunities for women. He was especially upset by the fact that his hometown of Malisar, Rajasthan, lacked even a male or co-ed college within a 35 kilometer radius.

For over a decade, the Mrs. Helena Kaushik Women’s College has empowered countless women from rural India, training them to become integral parts of the Indian economy and Indian society. Since its establishment, over 900 of the college’s graduates have gone on to serve their communities as teachers and civil servants, and in an array of other critical professions. Moreover, by operating solely on generous private donations and not charging any tuition fees, the Mrs. Helena Kaushik Women’s College has made obtaining a higher education possible for numerous low-income women.

Given Dr. Kaushik’s inspiring work, it comes as no surprise that President Patil has awarded him one of India’s highest honors and that his achievements have been celebrated by both the New York State Assembly and the New Jersey General Assembly. It is time for Congress to also recognize Dr. Kaushik’s extraordinary efforts both at home and abroad, and I urge my colleagues to join me in doing so.
SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, February 28, 2012 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

FEBRUARY 29
9:30 a.m. Appropriations Committee
Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of the Interior.
SD-124
10 a.m.
Budget
To hold hearings to examine putting health care spending on a sustainable path.
SD-608
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee
Primary Health and Aging Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine dental crisis in America, focusing on the need to expand access.
SD-430
10:30 a.m. Appropriations Committee
Department of Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of the Army.
SD-192
11 a.m.
Foreign Relations
To receive a closed briefing on the crisis in Syria.
SVC-217
2:30 p.m.
Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Richard Gary Taranto, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit, Gershwin A. Drain, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan, and Robin S. Rosenbaum, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida.
SD-226
MARCH 1
9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine U.S. European Command and U.S. Africa Command in review of the Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session.
SH-216
10 a.m.
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the semi-annual Monetary Policy Report to the Congress.
SD-538
Budget
To hold hearings to examine tax reform to encourage growth, reduce the deficit, and promote fairness.
SD-608
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the cruise ship industry, focusing on if current regulations are sufficient to protect passengers and the environment.
SR-253
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine Syria, focusing on the crisis and its implications.
SD-419
Judiciary
Business meeting to consider S. 1002, to prohibit theft of medical products, and the nominations of Andrew David Hurwitz, of Arizona, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit; Patrick J. Schwarzen, of New Jersey, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit; Jeffrey J. Helmick, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio; Mary Geiger Lewis, to be United States District Judge for the District of South Carolina, Timothy S. Hillman, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts, and Thomas M. Harigan, of New York, to be Deputy Administrator of Drug Enforcement, Department of Justice.
SD-226
Appropriations
Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of Housing and Urban Development.
SD-138
2:30 p.m.
Appropriations
Legislative Branch Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the Office of the Architect of the Capitol, the Library of Congress, the Office of Compliance, and the Open World Leadership Center.
SD-138
Intelligence
To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.
SH-219
MARCH 2
9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine U.S. Central Command and U.S. Special Operations Command in review of the Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session.
SH-216
10 a.m.
Budget
To hold hearings to examine perspectives on the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of Defense.
SD-608
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2013 for the Forest Service.
SD-366
Finance
To hold hearings to examine tax reform options, focusing on incentives for capital investment and manufacturing.
SD-215
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Tony Hammond, of Missouri, to be a Commissioner of the Postal Regulatory Commission.
SD-342
2:30 p.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2013 for international development priorities.
SD-419
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Mark A. Robbins, of California, to be a Member of the Merit Systems Protection Board, and Roy Wallace McLeese III, to be an Associate Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals.
SD-342
MARCH 7
9:30 a.m.
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To hold hearings to examine healthy food initiatives, local production, and nutrition.
SH-216
10 a.m.
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To hold hearings to examine risk management and commodities in the 2012 farm bill.
SH-216
Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings to examine a legislative presentation from the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW).
SD-650
2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine S. 29, to establish the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area, S. 1150, to establish the Susquehanna Gateway National Heritage Area in the State of Pennsylvania, S. 1391, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to carry out a study regarding the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Naugatuck River Valley National Heritage Area in Connecticut, S. 1198, to reauthorize the Essex National Heritage Area, S. 1215, to provide for the exchange of land located in the Lowell National Historical Park, S. 1590, to extend the authorization for the Coastal Heritage Trail in the State of New Jersey, S. 1706, to establish the John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park, H.R. 1141, to authorize the Secretary of...
2:15 p.m.

Indian Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2013 for Native Programs.

SD-106

MARCH 8

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the Department of the Army in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SD-366

Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine the Freedom of Information Act, focusing on safeguarding critical infrastructure information and the public’s right to know.

MARCH 14

10 a.m.

Veterans’ Affairs
To hold hearings to examine ending homelessness among veterans, focusing on Veterans’ Affairs progress on its five year plan.

SR-418

2 p.m.

Armed Services Personnel Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the Administration of the Army in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SR-232A

MARCH 15

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the Department of the Navy in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC–217 following the open session.

SD-628

2:15 p.m.

Indian Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine Indian water rights, focusing on promoting the negotiation and implementation of water settlements in Indian country.

SD-628

MARCH 20

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the Department of the Air Force in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC–217 following the open session.

SD-G50

10:30 a.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Contracting Oversight Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine contractors, focusing on how much they are costing the government.

SD-342

10 a.m.

Veterans’ Affairs
To hold joint hearings to examine the legislative presentations of the Paralyzed Veterans of America, Air Force Sergeants Association, Blinded Veterans Association, American Veterans (AMVETS), Gold Star Wives, Fleet Reserve Association, Military Officers Association of America, and the Jewish War Veterans.

345, Cannon Building

MARCH 21

10 a.m.

Veterans’ Affairs
To hold joint hearings to examine the nominations of Margaret Bartley, of Maryland, and Coral Wong Pietsch, of Hawaii, both to be a Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.

SR-418

2 p.m.

Armed Services Personnel Subcommittee
To resume hearings to examine the Administration of the Air Force in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SR-232A
**HIGHLIGHTS**

Senator Shaheen read Washington’s Farewell Address.

**Senate**

**Chamber Action**

*Routine Proceedings, pages S1029–S1062*

**Measures Introduced:** Four bills were introduced, as follows: S. 2131–2134.

**Measures Reported:**

- S. 179, to expand the boundaries of the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary and the Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary. (S. Rept. No. 112–149)
- S. 646, to reauthorize Federal natural hazards reduction programs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 112–150)
- S. 962, to reauthorize the Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative Act to promote the protection of the resources of the Northwest Straits. (S. Rept. No. 112–151)
- S. 2132, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the extension of highway-related taxes and trust fund expenditures, to provide revenues for highway programs. (S. Rept. No. 112–152)

**Nomination Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 86 yeas to 2 nays (Vote No. EX. 23), Margo Kitsy Brodie, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

**Messages from the House:**

**Measures Read the First Time:**

**Executive Communications:**

**Additional Cosponsors**

**Additional Statements:**

**Amendments Submitted:**

**Notices of Hearings/Meetings:**

**Privileges of the Floor:**

**Record Votes:** One record vote was taken today. (Total—23)

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 7:05 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, February 28, 2012. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1062.)

**Committee Meetings**

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.
House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 4 public bills, H.R. 4089–4092, and 3 resolutions, H. Res. 562, 564–565, were introduced.

Additional Cosponsors: Pages H965–66

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

- H.R. 665, to establish a pilot program for the expedited disposal of Federal real property, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–402);
- H.R. 1837, to address certain water-related concerns on the San Joaquin River, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–403); and
- H. Res. 563, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2117) to prohibit the Department of Education from overreaching into academic affairs and program eligibility under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (H. Rept. 112–404).

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Denham to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Recess: The House recessed at 2:14 p.m. and reconvened at 4 p.m.

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and agree to the following measure:

Federal Restricted Buildings and Grounds Improvement Act: Concurring in the Senate amendment to H.R. 347, to correct and simplify the drafting of section 1752 (relating to restricted buildings or grounds) of title 18, United States Code, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 388 yeas to 3 nays, Roll No. 73.

Recess: The House recessed at 4:14 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m.

Moment of Silence: The House observed a moment of silence in memory of Katie Hall, former Member of Congress.

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote developed during the proceedings of today and appears on pages 954–55. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Committee Meetings

LEGISLATIVE MEASURE

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Courts, Commercial, and Administrative Law held a hearing on H.R. 4078, the “Regulatory Freeze for Jobs Act of 2012”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

PROTECTING ACADEMIC FREEDOM IN HIGHER EDUCATION ACT

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 2117, the “Protecting Academic Freedom in Higher Education Act”. The Committee granted, by voice vote, a structured rule providing one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and the Workforce now printed in the bill shall be considered as original text for the purpose of amendment and shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The rule makes in order only those amendments printed in the Rules Committee report accompanying the resolution. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in the report. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Representatives Foxx and Hinojosa.

BUILDING BRIDGES FOR VETERANS

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “Building Bridges between VA and Community Organizations to Support Veterans and Families”. Testimony was heard from Andy Davis, Director, Saratoga County Veterans Service Agency, New York; John J. Morris, Joint Force Headquarters, Minnesota National Guard; E. Terri LaVelle, Director, Center for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships, Office of the Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs; Michael McCoy, Sr., Associate Director, National Chaplain Center, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.
ONGOING INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Full Committee held a hearing on ongoing intelligence activities. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D124)

H.R. 3630, to extend the payroll tax holiday, unemployment compensation, Medicare physician payment, provide for the consideration of the Keystone XL pipeline. Signed on February 22, 2012. (Public Law 112–96)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2012

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: to hold hearings to examine strengthening conservation through the 2012 farm bill, 10 a.m., SH–216.

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of State and Foreign Operations, 10 a.m., SD–192.

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine U.S. Pacific Command and U.S. Transportation Command in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC–217 following the open session, 9:30 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the state of the housing market, focusing on removing barriers to economic recovery, part II, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on the Budget: to hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of Defense, 9:30 a.m., SD–608.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of the Interior, 10 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Water and Wildlife, to hold hearings to examine local government perspectives on water infrastructure, 10 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine national security and foreign policy priorities in the fiscal year 2013 International Affairs Budget, 2 p.m., SH–216.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: to hold joint hearings to examine a legislative presentation from the Disabled American Veterans (DAV), 2:30 p.m., 345, Cannon Building.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

Joint Meetings

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: to hold hearings to examine clarifying the fate of missing persons in the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) region, focusing on locating and identifying persons missing as a result of conflicts, trafficking in humans and human rights violations, as well as natural or manmade disasters, 2 p.m., 2172, Rayburn Building.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of February 28 through March 2, 2012

On Tuesday, Senate will be in a period of morning business until 12:30 p.m.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: February 28, to hold hearings to examine strengthening conservation through the 2012 farm bill, 10 a.m., SH–216.

Committee on Appropriations: February 28, Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of State and Foreign Operations, 10 a.m., SD–192.

February 29, Subcommittee on Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of Interior, 9:30 a.m., SD–124.

February 29, Subcommittee on Department of Defense, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of the Army, 10:30 a.m., SD–192.

March 1, Subcommittee on Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of Housing and Urban Development, 10 a.m., SD–138.

March 1, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the Office of the Architect of the Capitol, the Library of Congress, the Office of Compliance, and the Open World Leadership Center, 2:30 p.m., SD–138.
Committee on Armed Services: February 28, to hold hearings to examine U.S. Pacific Command and U.S. Transportation Command in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC–217 following the open session, 9:30 a.m., SD–106.

March 1, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine U.S. European Command and U.S. Africa Command in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC–217 following the open session, 9:30 a.m., SH–216.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: February 28, to hold hearings to examine the state of the housing market, focusing on removing barriers to economic recovery, part II, 10 a.m., SD–538.

March 1, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the semiannual Monetary Policy Report to the Congress, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on the Budget: February 28, to hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of Defense, 9:30 a.m., SD–608.

February 29, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine putting health care spending on a sustainable path, 10 a.m., SD–608.

March 1, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine tax reform to encourage growth, reduce the deficit, and promote fairness, 10 a.m., SD–608.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: March 1, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the cruise ship industry, focusing on if current regulations are sufficient to protect passengers and the environment, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: February 28, to hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of the Interior, 10 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: February 28, Subcommittee on Water and Wildlife, to hold hearings to examine local government perspectives on water infrastructure, 10 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: February 28, to hold hearings to examine national security and foreign policy priorities in the fiscal year 2013 International Affairs Budget, 2 p.m., SH–216.

February 29, Full Committee, to receive a closed briefing on the crisis in Syria, 11 a.m., SVC–217.

March 1, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine Syria, focusing on the crisis and its implications, 10 a.m., SD–419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: February 29, Subcommittee on Primary Health and Aging, to hold hearings to examine dental crisis in America, focusing on the need to expand access, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on the Judiciary: February 29, to hold hearings to examine the “Due Process Guarantee Act”, focusing on banning indefinite detention of Americans, 10 a.m., SD–226.

February 29, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Richard Gary Taranto, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit, Gershwin A. Drain, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan, and Robin S. Rosenbaum, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida, 2:30 p.m., SD–226.

March 1, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 1002, to prohibit theft of medical products, and the nominations of Andrew David Hurwitz, of Arizona, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Patty Shwartz, of New Jersey, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit, Jeffrey J. Helmick, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio, Mary Geiger Lewis, to be United States District Judge for the District of South Carolina, Timothy S. Hillman, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts, and Thomas M. Harrigan, of New York, to be Deputy Administrator of Drug Enforcement, Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: February 28, to hold joint hearings to examine a legislative presentation from the Disabled American Veterans (DAV), 2:30 p.m., 345, Cannon Building.

February 29, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2013 for Veterans’ Programs, 10 a.m., SR–418.

Select Committee on Intelligence: February 28, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

March 1, Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

House Committees

Committee on Agriculture, February 29, full Committee, hearing entitled “The Commodity Futures Trading Commission 2012 Agenda”, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, February 28, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2013 Budget for the Department of Justice, 9 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

February 28, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, on FY 2013 Budget for Indian Health Service, 9:30 a.m., B–308 Rayburn.

February 28, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2013 Budget for Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services, USDA, 10 a.m., 2362–A Rayburn.

February 28, Subcommittee on Homeland Security, hearing on FY 2013 Budget for the Transportation Security Administration, 11 a.m., 2362–B Rayburn.

February 28, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2013 Budget for Bureau of Indian Affairs, 1 p.m., B–308 Rayburn.

February 28, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2013 Budget for the Department of Energy, 2 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

February 29, Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, hearing on FY 2013 Budget for the Department of State, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.
February 29, Subcommittee on Homeland Security, hearing on FY 2013 Budget for Customs and Border Protection Agency, 10 a.m., B–318 Rayburn.

February 29, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2013 Budget for National Nuclear Security Administration, Department of Energy, Weapons Activities; and National Nuclear Security Administration, 10 a.m., 2362–B Rayburn.

February 29, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2013 Budget for the Department of Health and Human Services, Food and Drug Administration, 10 a.m., 2362–A Rayburn.

February 29, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2013 Budget for the Environmental Protection Agency, 1 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

February 29, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2013 Budget for the Office of Science and Technology Policy, 2 p.m., H–309, Capitol.

February 29, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2013 Budget for the Department of Agriculture, 2 p.m., 2362–A Rayburn.

March 1, Subcommittee on Homeland Security, hearing on FY 2013 Budget for National Protection and Programs Directorate, 9:30 a.m. This is a closed hearing.

March 1, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2013 Fish and Wildlife Service Budget, 9 a.m., B–308 Rayburn.


March 1, Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2013 Budget for Military Construction, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

March 1, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2013 budget for the Department of Agriculture, 10:30 a.m., 2362–A Rayburn.

March 1, Subcommittee on Defense, hearing on FY 2013 Budget for the Navy/Marine Corps, 1 p.m., H–140, Capitol.

Committee on Armed Services, February 28, full Committee, hearing on the Fiscal Year 2013 National Defense Authorization Budget Request from the Department of the Air Force, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

February 28, Subcommittee on Military Personnel, hearing on Military Personnel Budget Overview—Office of the Secretary of Defense Perspective, 1:30 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

February 29, Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, hearing on Department of Defense Fiscal Year 2013 Science and Technology Programs, 3 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.


March 1, full Committee, hearing on Fiscal Year 2013 National Defense Authorization Budget Request from U.S. Pacific Command, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on the Budget, February 28, full Committee, hearing entitled "Strengthening Health and Retirement Security", 10 a.m., 210 Cannon.

February 29, full Committee, hearing entitled "The Department of Defense and the Fiscal Year 2013 Budget", 2 p.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, February 28, full Committee, markup of the following: H.R. 3989, the "Student Success Act" and H.R. 3990, the "Encouraging Innovation and Effective Teachers Act", 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.


February 29, Subcommittee on Health, markup of H.R. 452, the "Medicare Decisions Accountability Act of 2011", 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

March 1, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled "The FY 2013 HHS Budget", 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

March 1, Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade, hearing entitled "Prescription Drug Diversion: Combating the Scourge", 10:15 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, February 28, Subcommittee on Insurance, Housing and Community Opportunity, hearing entitled "Oversight of the Department of Housing and Urban Development", 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

February 29, full Committee, hearing entitled "Mone- tary Policy and the State of the Economy", 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

March 1, Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit, hearing entitled "Understanding the Effects of the Repeal of Regulation Q on Financial Institutions and Small Businesses", 9:30 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, February 29, full Committee, hearing entitled "Assessing U.S. Foreign Policy Priorities Amidst Economic Challenges: The Foreign Relations Budget for Fiscal Year 2013", 1:30 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

March 1, Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade, markup of H.R. 3783, the "Countering Iran in the Western Hemisphere Act of 2012", 10:30 a.m., 2127 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, February 28, Subcommittee on Counterterrorism and Intelligence, hearing entitled "Federal Government Intelligence Sharing with State, Local and Tribal Law Enforcement: An Assessment Ten Years After 9/11", 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

February 29, Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response and Communications, hearing entitled...
"The President’s FY 2013 Budget Request for the Federal Emergency Management Agency”, 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

March 1, Subcommittee on Oversight, Investigations, and Management, hearing entitled “Building One DHS: Why Can’t Management Information be Integrated?”, 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, February 28, full Committee, markup of the following: H.R. 4086, the “Foreign Cultural Exchange Jurisdictional Immunity Clarification Act”; H.R. 3992, to allow otherwise eligible Israeli nationals to receive E–2 nonimmigrant visas if similarly situated United States nationals are eligible for similar non-immigrant status in Israel; and H.R. 511, to amend title 18, United States code, to prohibit the importation of various injurious species of constrictor snakes”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

February 28, full Committee, hearing entitled “Executive Overreach: The HHS Mandate Versus Religious Liberty”, 2:30 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.


Committee on Natural Resources, February 28, Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands, hearing entitled “FY 2013 budget requests from the National Park Service and the Bureau of Land Management”, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

March 1, Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs, hearing on H.R. 1272, the “Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Judgment Fund Distribution Act of 2011”, 11 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, February 28, full Committee, hearing entitled “Government 2.0: GAO Unveils New Duplicative Program Report”, 9:30 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

February 29, Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, U.S. Postal Service and Labor Policy, hearing entitled "Honoring George Washington’s Legacy: Does America Need a Reminder?” 10 a.m., 2247 Rayburn.


Committee on Rules, February 28, full Committee, hearing on H.R. 1837, the “San Joaquin Valley Water Reliability Act”, 3 p.m., H–313, Capitol.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, February 28, Subcommittee on Research and Science Education, hearing entitled “An Overview of the National Science Foundation Budget for Fiscal Year 2013”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

February 29, Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation, hearing entitled “Promoting Innovation, Competition, and Economic Growth: Principles for Effective Domestic and International Standards Development”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

February 29, Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight, hearing entitled “NASA Cybersecurity: An Examination of the Agency’s Information Security”, 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

March 1, full Committee, hearing entitled “An Overview of the Department of Energy Research and Development Budget for Fiscal Year 2013”, 9:30 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, February 28, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, hearing entitled “Review of Innovative Financing Approaches for Community Water Infrastructure Projects—Part I”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

February 29, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing entitled “A Review of Cruise Ship Safety and Lessons Learned from the COSTA CONCORDIA Accident”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, February 28, full Committee, hearing on President Obama’s Fiscal Year 2013 Budget Proposal for the Department of Health and Human Services, 1 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

February 29, full Committee, hearing on President Obama's trade policy agenda, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, February 29, full Committee, hearing on ongoing intelligence activities, 3 p.m., HVC–304. This is a closed hearing.

Joint Meetings

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: February 28, to hold hearings to examine clarifying the fate of missing persons in the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) region, focusing on locating and identifying persons missing as a result of conflicts, trafficking in humans and human rights violations, as well as natural or manmade disasters, 2 p.m., 2172, Rayburn Building.
Next Meeting of the SENATE
10 a.m., Tuesday, February 28

Senate Chamber
Program for Tuesday: Senate will be in a period of morning business until 12:30 p.m.
(Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
10 a.m., Tuesday, February 28

House Chamber
Program for Tuesday: (Consideration of H.R. 2117—Protecting Academic Freedom in Higher Education Act (Subject to a Rule).

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