

the Defense Department. The reality is the other bills that are coming through the Appropriations Committee are taking much deeper cuts—cuts to education, cuts to affordable health care, cuts to public safety—because of the funding increases in this defense bill. In other words, our investment in jobs, and the economy, and our kids future is being slashed as a direct result of the fact this defense bill exceeds the spending level set in the Budget Control Act agreement.

Mr. Chairman, I would refer our colleagues to the statements made by Admiral Mullen, who served as the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Admiral Mullen pointed out that our military strength depends on our economic strength and our economic strength depends on our long-term fiscal health. Admiral Mullen said, "Our national debt is our biggest national security threat." He went on to say, "with the increasing defense budget, which is almost double, it hasn't forced us to make the hard trades. It hasn't forced us to prioritize. It hasn't forced us to do the analysis." We can no longer go along with business as usual if we are going to get our fiscal house in order.

That is why this House agreed to the Budget Control Act last summer, and it's unfortunate that this bill comes to the floor in violation of the agreement, in violation of an understanding that in order to get our fiscal house in order, we had to make tough decisions on defense and non-defense alike. And by violating the agreement in this regard, what the Committee is saying is they are not willing to make really tough decisions. In fact, they're making irresponsible decisions with respect to the nondefense domestic spending.

I agree with Admiral Mullen who said we all need to share in this responsibility. I agree with what my Republican Colleagues said last year when we passed the Budget Control Act. Let's stick to an agreement and let the American people know that when this body comes to an understanding after a hard fought compromise, we stick with it for the public good.

The Defense Appropriations bill provides \$606 billion in defense spending in FY13. It includes \$518.1 billion in funding for non-war related expenses. It also provides an additional \$13.7 billion for Military Personnel Programs and \$63.5 billion for Operation and Maintenance Programs. I am also pleased that the bill provides a requested pay raise for military personnel and supports critical funding for the DoD Peer-Reviewed Prostate Cancer Research Program and the DoD Breast Cancer Research Program.

However, the bill provides billions of dollars in funding that the Department of Defense says it neither requested nor needs. For example, it continues to fund unnecessary aircraft programs that the Defense Department did not allot for in its budget this year, and spends \$138 million to resurrect C-27J contracts that the Air Force decided not to renew. Many other wasteful items that are unnecessary to our national defense are included at the expense of national funding priorities that directly impact our country's future economic growth, including investments in education, seniors, and research and infrastructure.

During this difficult fiscal period we have to be much smarter and more efficient about how we shape our defense budget. Throughout this debate, I have made clear that we must take a balanced approach to cutting the budget including eliminating unnecessary spending.

There is no doubt that Congress has a responsibility to pass a Defense Appropriations bill which reflects a commitment to the millions of dedicated men and women and their families who sacrifice to keep our country safe. However, as testimony before the Budget Committee and House Armed Services Committee has made clear, we can reduce defense spending even as we continue to provide for our men and women in uniform, for our veterans and for their families, without compromising national security.

Unfortunately, the FY13 Defense Appropriations bill upends the balance painstakingly designed by the BCA and appropriates funds unnecessarily to some programs at the expense of other high-priority programs. The unrequested funding provided in this legislation will result in direct cuts to such national priorities as education, health care, research and development, and vital job training. I am also concerned that this bill deprives deserving employees of the Department of Defense of a modest cost-of-living adjustment by not providing for a civilian pay raise of .5 percent, as proposed by the Administration.

Mr. Chair, there is no higher priority than providing for the security of our country. However, during these difficult economic times, we have to be smarter and more efficient in how we shape our defense budget. In the end, the strength of our military depends on the strength of our economy. If we don't reduce our long-term deficit and get our fiscal house in order, we will weaken our capacity to fund a strong military. At the end of the day, this bill falls short of accomplishing that objective.

IN RECOGNITION OF SANDRA
UPTAGRAFFT PARTICIPATING IN
THE 2012 OLYMPICS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize Sandra Uptagrafft. Sandra will participate in the 2012 Olympics in London.

Uptagrafft, of Phenix City, Alabama, is a Petty Officer 1st Class in the United States Navy Reserves. This will be her first time as an Olympic athlete when she shoots in the women's 25m sport pistol and 10m air pistol events.

Uptagrafft's husband, Eric, will also be participating in the 2012 London Olympics. The couple will celebrate their anniversary while in London on August 5th.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my congratulations to Sandra and best wishes to her and her husband in the Olympics and a happy anniversary.

THE ADVANTAGES OF HEALTH
SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

HON. LARRY BUCSHON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 2012

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight some innovative health care pro-

grams being implemented by Applied Extrusion Technologies in Terre Haute, Indiana. AET Films is a leading supplier of specialized oriented polypropylene films in North America.

In 2005, while being faced with ever increasing insurance premiums, they chose to take the path less traveled, empowering their employees through a high deductible health plan coupled with a health savings account. Over time they further implemented healthy employee incentives and education programs to help employees make better consumer-driven health decisions. The results of these programs have been irrevocable, as AET Films has seen near 0 percent premiums increases since implementation.

With the Supreme Court's recent ruling, and our vote this week to repeal the Affordable Care Act in its entirety for the 4th time, it is important to understand the creative steps being taken in the private sector that lower health care costs, and incentivize better health outcomes—all without government control or interference. I commend AET for their innovation, and encourage the Senate and the President to join the House in repealing the Affordable Care Act, which dismantles innovative programs pursued by AET Films and job creators across the United States, and replace it with private sector reforms that lessen the cost of health care for all Americans.

RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN DOUGLAS
S. BORREBACH

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 2012

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Captain Douglas S. Borrebach of the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization (JIEDDO), who will be departing after four years of outstanding service. Originally from the 18th congressional district, which I represent, Captain Borrebach's significant contributions at JIEDDO have contributed to tremendous success in countering the threat of improvised explosive devices.

Upon Captain Borrebach's arrival to JIEDDO in June 2008, his actions significantly contributed to resource planning, programming, budgeting and execution management to maximize JIEDDO's investments in the Joint Warfighter Counter-Improvised Explosive Device (C-IED) capabilities. A financial management expert and trusted steward of our taxpayer dollars, Captain Borrebach was critical in developing programmatic estimates, with JIEDDO managing a \$10 billion budget for C-IED requirements.

After nearly three years as JIEDDO's Controller, Captain Borrebach was handpicked to lead the Requirements and Resources Directorate at JIEDDO in April 2011, a testament to his keen analytical capabilities and ability to identify current and future resourcing opportunities. The confluence of his superb leadership, operational background, and expert knowledge in acquisition and financial management was instrumental in fulfilling one hundred percent of Combatant Command Counter-IED Joint Urgent Operational Need Statements. Over the past four years his efforts to collaborate with academia, industry, and the whole of government has led to the