

where we had over 450 people, a record turnout of San Benito County residents.

It has also been a pleasure to work with Clint on issues pertaining to the Hollister Airport. Clint's expertise and knowledge was extremely important to my office, when the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) was leaning to deny the Hollister Airport's through-the-fence access. With his help, the FAA issued a no objection letter to the through-the-fence access at the airport business park. This was a great accomplishment involving many but Clint's work was noteworthy and has opened up other business opportunities as well as federal funding to do upgrades including the airport taxiways. It was great having him on my San Benito County team.

Mr. Speaker, Clint has had a long and successful career with the City of Hollister and has gained the respect of his fellow workers and members of the community as well as the business community. I extend my most sincere thanks and warmest wishes for her success and much success and happiness in his retirement.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2397) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes:

Mr. CRENSHAW. Madam Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 2397, the Department of Defense Appropriations Bill, for Fiscal Year 2014 and to recognize the important role played by management companies in the successful operation of the Department of Defense's Defense Personal Property Program, or DP3.

I would like to thank Chairman YOUNG and Ranking Member VISCOSKY for including report language I submitted to the Subcommittee on Defense regarding the DP3 program. I am proud to note that one of the management companies that helps make this program successful is located in my congressional district.

Both the Chairman and the Ranking Member have long standing commitments to improving the quality of life of military members and their families. Our members of the military are required to make countless moves during their military service. Providing high-quality moves that provide satisfaction to the service member and his/her family is important to morale, well-being and retention.

The Department of Defense also understands the tremendous challenges associated with completing the countless number of defense personal property moves. Because of dissatisfaction and nightmares associated with previous military personal property movement programs, the Department of Defense adopted the Defense Personal Property Program with the goal of achieving efficient, satisfactory, and seamless military moves.

My purpose in speaking today is to note the significant contributions that management

companies are making to DP3 by assisting transportation service providers to reduce costs and improve the quality of each military move. While improving these critical moves, DP3 has improved the quality of life enabling higher levels of personnel readiness.

Madam Chair, again, I offer my thanks to the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Defense for their inclusion of this important language on the DP3 and for allowing me the opportunity to comment on the important role that management companies play in the success of this program.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2397) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes:

Ms. ESTY. Madam Chair, my amendment would add five million dollars for support services for members of the National Guard and Reserve to the Defense-Wide Operations and Maintenance account in Title IX of the bill.

To prevent an increase in spending, the funding for suicide prevention is offset by reducing the Afghanistan Security Forces Fund by thirty-eight million dollars. This amendment is not only fiscally responsible, but urgent and timely.

The cover of Time Magazine from exactly one year ago today described the tragedy of military suicide with the simple headline: "One a Day." It drew attention to the grim reality that military suicide rates were at record levels. By year's end, a record three-hundred-and-fifty active duty troops committed suicide in 2012, amounting to almost one suicide per day. We lost more troops to suicide than we did to combat.

One year later, these rates have barely budged. The Department of Defense reported one-hundred-and-sixty-one potential suicides among active-duty service members, reservists and National Guard members through April. This is a pace of one suicide every eighteen hours.

We owe far better to those who wear the uniform and serve this nation.

I thank the Chairman and Ranking Member for their leadership on this issue. Your tireless, bipartisan commitment to suicide prevention is reflected in the additional twenty-million dollars for the Suicide Prevention Office provided in this bill.

My amendment seeks only to bolster your efforts by strengthening outreach and awareness programs to combat stigma and improve access to resources. As the chairman has often reminded us, we should focus our efforts on prevention. This amendment gives our outreach and prevention programs greater support to assist service members in need. It is our job to serve our troops as well as they serve us. We cannot—we must not—wait; it's up to us to act.

I urge Members to support this amendment.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2397) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes:

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong support of the Flores/Gingrey/Conaway/Hensarling Amendment to H.R. 2397 that will prevent funds in this legislation from being used to carry out Section 526 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007.

Section 526 prohibits all federal agencies from contracting for alternative fuels that emit higher levels of greenhouse gas emissions than "conventional petroleum sources." This means that if a federal agency—particularly the Department of Defense—has the ability to utilize an alternative fuel that even has one scintilla more of carbon emissions than conventional fuels, it cannot be used. As a result, Section 526 severely stifles innovation from DoD to improve clean carbon capture technologies for alternative fuels, thereby increasing our dependence on foreign oil, and will only further increase fuel costs.

Mr. Chair, I support a full repeal of Section 526 because the cost of refined product for DoD has increased by over 500 percent in the last ten years when volume only increased by 30 percent. This amendment takes a very important step towards achieving this goal by prohibiting funding to carry out Section 526 for the upcoming fiscal year in the DoD.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2397) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, the Mulvaney, Van Hollen, Coffman, Murphy amendment matches the President's budget for Overseas Contingency Operations, OCO, and also provides an additional \$1.5 billion for National Guard and Reserve Equipment Modernization. The amendment expressly protects all the funding increases made in the OCO account by the Appropriations Committee for the National Guard and provides sufficient funding to fully accommodate the President's OCO request for National Guard military personnel, operation and maintenance (including depot maintenance), and counter drug activities.