

level for twenty-five years, including twenty years as an Associate Professor of Healthcare Administration at the University of West Florida and as a visiting lecturer at The George Washington University and the University of Texas College Of Health Sciences.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Dale Knee for his decades of service to our Nation and the Northwest Florida community. There are some in the world the Lord blesses with an ability to serve and a gift of leadership, and there is no question that Dale Knee is one of those people. My wife Vicki and I wish Dale; his wife Teri; and their three sons, Jeff, Matt, and Ryan, all the best.

THE DEMOCRATIC MOTION TO
RECOMMIT FOR H.R. 2728

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my sincere disappointment that I was not available to vote in favor of the Democratic motion to recommit on H.R. 2728, the Protecting States' Rights to Promote American Energy Security Act. While I do not support the underlying legislation, I would have voted in favor of this motion to recommit in order to allow the Department of the Interior to require the public disclosure of chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing on public lands. The federal government has a responsibility to ensure that communities across the country have access to a baseline of information about the chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing fluids and any potential impacts on human health and the environment.

Strong state and federal regulation, full transparency, and rigorous science are essential to ensuring that oil and gas drilling occurs safely and responsibly in the United States. The inclusion of the motion to recommit would have helped bring transparency to oil and gas drilling activities on public lands, and I deeply regret that it was not included in the bill.

THE RELIGIOUS FREEDOM
RESTORATION ACT

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, twenty years ago this month, the Religious Freedom Restoration Act was signed into law on a wave of overwhelming bipartisan support. We gather today to celebrate passage of the law, which reaffirmed one of the core principles on which our nation was founded by prohibiting government from burdening the free exercise of religion without a compelling state interest. To this day, the law has remained a testament to religious liberty and has played a critical role in protecting our fundamental First Amendment rights.

But the same bipartisan spirit that championed the rights of the individual and carried the Religious Freedom Restoration Act into law two decades ago is under assault today.

The premise behind the Religious Freedom Restoration Act could not be more clear: Congress shall not pass laws that get in the way of Americans from exercising their religious beliefs and conscience rights.

Yet under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010, commonly known as Obamacare, Americans are being forced to act in direct opposition to their religious and moral beliefs in order to comply with the law. Under the Department of Health and Human Services interpretation of Obamacare, nearly all employers will be required to cover, through their health insurance plans, abortion drugs, sterilization and contraception, even if such a provision goes against these moral and religious beliefs.

This is wrong; it is un-American. The mandate from the administration and subsequent inadequate efforts to rectify it clearly fly in the face of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act that we honor today.

As the HHS mandate continues to be fought in the courts, I have been deeply disappointed by the administration's refusal to provide a reasonable exception to the rule. I have urged, and will continue to urge, an exception that protects the conscience rights of all Americans.

I ask my colleagues to join me in that fight. I am one of the original cosponsors of H.R. 940, the Respect for Rights of Conscience Act, legislation that aims to ensure that no employer would be punished for refusing coverage for procedures or drugs that violate the employer's beliefs.

So as we take time today to celebrate the achievements of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, we also must be aware of the need to continue to be vigilant.

We must reaffirm the guiding principles of the United States of America and the rights to religious freedom guaranteed under the First Amendment.

It was the right thing to do 20 years ago. It is the right thing to do today.

TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF THE LIFE
OF THE HONORABLE WILLIAM J.
SCHUMACHER

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues JACKIE SPEIER and MIKE THOMPSON, to honor the life of the Honorable William F. Schumacher, who died peacefully and suddenly on November 3, 2013, at his home in Palm Desert, California.

Bill Schumacher was born in San Francisco in 1937. His mother, Anita Doyle, died when Bill was two years old, leaving Bill and his brother Robert to be raised by their father Edward with the help of Edward's parents, Eutrofia and Dominick Schumacher and later his wife Hazel Westphal. Bill was a graduate of both Saint Anne Grammar School and Lincoln High School. After serving in the Army, which included 15 months in Korea, he returned to graduate from San Francisco State University, and then went on to earn a JD from the University of San Francisco.

Bill Schumacher was our good friend for over three decades. He loved people and he

loved working on their behalf through his public service, which he did as a police officer, a college teacher, a member of the school board, a Daly City Councilman and Mayor, and as a member and Chairman of the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors. He was an attorney, a Boy Scout volunteer and a wise observer of politics, both local and national. It was a wonderful privilege to serve with him, be his friend, and laugh with him. Bill's love for public service was infectious, and he was a joyful and savvy politician. He knew the minute details of public policy, and he was a 'North County guy' through and through who never forgot from whence he came. He was passionate about protecting the working stiff, Daly City and the powerless. He always had a joke and a warm smile to greet you and started almost every conversation with "Lookin' good". He was a leader always looking to make peace and make a deal.

Mr. Speaker, we ask our colleagues to join us in honoring the life and memory of a great and good man who served the people of San Mateo County with honor and generosity, and enjoyed the respect of the entire community. We ask our colleagues to extend to his wife Liz, the love of his life, and his entire family our most sincere sympathy for their loss. In addition to his wife Elizabeth J. Terra Schumacher, Bill leaves his children Michael and Sharon Schumacher and their sons Taylor, Sean and Tim; James Schumacher and his sons Baxter and Niland; Diane Schumacher; and Gina Gibbons. He also leaves Liz's children, Gabrielle and Richard Modolo, and their daughters Sarah, Katherine and Richelle; and Marc and Shannon Pedone and their son Joseph.

Bill Schumacher will be missed by everyone who had the good fortune to know him, and we count ourselves among those so blessed. Our community was strengthened by his life of service, and our country has been immensely bettered by his patriotism, optimism and goodness.

TRIBUTE TO COMMAND SERGEANT
MAJOR RACHEL L. FAILS

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Command Sergeant Major Rachel L. Fails for appointment as the Senior Enlisted Leader of the Iowa National Guard. This is a truly momentous occasion for the State of Iowa as Rachel is the first female Senior Enlisted Leader in the Iowa National Guard's 175-year history.

CSM Fails currently resides in Grimes, but was raised in Nashua, Iowa where she graduated from Nashua High School in 1987. Rachel began her 27-year military career in 1986 when she enlisted with the Iowa Army National Guard's 1133rd Transportation Company based in Mason City. Upon graduation from basic training and AIT in 1987, Rachel attained two Military Occupational Specialties as a Heavy-Wheeled Vehicle Driver and a Unit Supply Specialist. CSM Fails is also a graduate of the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy resident course and multiple Non-Commissioned Officer courses. In 1996, Rachel