

Citation team award in 2001 and Deputy Commissioner's Citations in 2004 and 2005.

She was noted for her attention to detail and her dedication to the Social Security Administration and its mission. I worked with her on several occasions and was impressed by her ability and her attention to detail. I want to personally thank her for her years of dedicated service.

Susan and her husband Ron, who is also retiring from the SSA, plan to spend time celebrating family and friendships, travelling and exploring. I wish them the very best in their retirement years.

#### CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS RESOLUTION, 2014

SPEECH OF

**HON. PAUL RYAN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 12, 2013*

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, Section 401 creates a new category of employee called a "Further Revised Annuity Employee" and would require Further Revised Annuity Employees to contribute additional amounts into the CRSDF. It is the intent of Congress for OPM to create a new normal cost for the Further Revised Annuity Employees, and to ensure that the retirement plan not be underfunded.

Additionally, it is the intent that for the new Further Revised Annuity Employee Plan that the only determinant of whether an individual is a FERS employee or Member, as opposed to a FERS Revised Annuity Employee or FERS Further Revised Annuity Employee, is through application of the FERS Revised Annuity Employee test. And that the new Further Revised Annuity Employee test only differentiates between FERS Revised Annuity Employee coverage and new FERS Further Revised Annuity Employee coverage.

#### VERMILION CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL CAPTURES STATE 1A CROWN

**HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 19, 2013*

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Vermilion Catholic High School Screamin' Eagles of Abbeville for recently winning Louisiana's Class 1A state championship over the Saint Frederick Catholic High School Warriors on December 14, 2013, in the Mercedes-Benz Superdome in New Orleans. With a convincing 63-18 win, there was no doubt which team deserved to be crowned state champions.

The Vermilion Screamin' Eagles team capped off its perfect 10-0 season with an offensive display that kept fans on the edge of their seats. After trailing 3-0 early in the game, the Screamin' Eagles answered by scoring 42 of the next 49 points. It was too much for Saint Frederick to overcome as Vermilion continued its scoring barrage on offense and special teams while its defense refused to give the Warriors an opening.

Vermilion used a balanced attack as it passed for 269 yards while rushing for another 216 yards. Recording 16 first downs was key to establishing a new Class 1A championship record for most points in a game.

Congratulations to Coach Russell Kuhns and his team as this state championship comes on the ten year anniversary of the Class 1A crown Vermilion won in 2003.

I look forward to next year's football season and wish the Screamin' Eagles team good luck in defending its crown.

ANN DEMERS

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 19, 2013*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Ann Demers for her outstanding service to our community.

As a Special Needs teacher in Jefferson County Ann always gave above and beyond. Eventually becoming a school psychologist, she led training for the Second Step Curriculum and was a member of the Crisis Response Team during the Columbine High School tragedy. Ann is involved in her neighborhood, church, and family, organizing community events and service activities. She created a church community service group known as the Red Tent Ladies, and once she started on the Ralston House Board they saw exponential growth. Her spirit and dedication are truly inspiring.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Ann Demers for her well deserved honor by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

#### NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 12, 2013*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of final passage of the FY2014 National Defense Authorization Act. I commend Chairman McKEON, Chairman LEVIN, Ranking Member SMITH, and Ranking Member INHOFE for crafting a bipartisan bill that both strengthens the security of our nation and provides for vital programs that benefit our men and women in uniform and their civilian colleagues.

While not perfect, today's compromise legislation makes many key improvements over the Defense Authorization bill that the House voted on earlier this year. I am particularly encouraged that the final agreement we voted on today includes \$80.7 billion in funding for overseas contingency operations (OCO), which is in line with the Pentagon's request. This is an important change from the \$85.8 billion that was included in the House-passed authorization in June. Today's bill provides sufficient funds to fully meet the President's FY 2014 request for the war in Afghanistan while ensuring that the overseas contingency operations

account will not become a slush fund for unrequested defense spending.

The final agreement also eases restrictions on the ability of DoD to transfer Guantanamo detainees and takes an important step in addressing our indefinite detention policy there. In particular, I am pleased that this bill drops a provision that would have barred the use of funds to transfer prisoners to Yemen and authorizes the Pentagon to transfer detainees to other foreign countries under certain conditions. More needs to be done when addressing our indefinite detention policy, but provisions such as these represent significant progress.

I am also encouraged by the changes this bill makes with regards to how the military responds to sexual assault cases. It adopts Senate language to bar individuals from joining the military if they have been convicted of a sex-related offense; it imposes a minimum sentence of dishonorable discharge or dismissal on those found guilty; and it prohibits commanders from dismissing a court martial finding or reducing the offense level of guilty findings.

Finally, the compromise bill does make some progress on allowing the Department of Defense to execute the New START Treaty. Specifically, it allows DoD to begin planning and preparation for implementing the force structure to meet the required limits of the New START Treaty. However, it still goes too far in limiting the President's ability to fully implement the treaty and set the country's nuclear policy.

I am also disappointed that this legislation authorizes the establishment of a missile defense site on the East Coast that the Pentagon continues to say is unnecessary. This provision disregards the advice of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and seeks to tie the President's hands in determining military requirements in other parts of the world. This bill also contains provisions which ignore DoD recommendations and continues to fund unrequested weapons systems and military aircraft, including the M1A2 Abrams tank, the C-130 AMP, and the UH-72A Light Utility Helicopter.

Despite these reservations, this compromise legislation is a marked improvement over the bill the House passed earlier this year. It contains many important provisions that will strengthen our national security while also providing for our troops and their families.

#### HONORING AUDREY SMITH- JOHNSON

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 19, 2013*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, Audrey Smith-Johnson was born in Yonkers and attended Yonkers Public Schools, and graduated from Tefft Business School. As a high school student, she volunteered at the Yonkers YWCA and was a Candy Striper at St Joseph Hospital. But it was while working various positions at a temp agency that she found her passion in real estate. She received her Real Estate Certificate and has been working in that field for 28 years.

But she has another calling, and that is as a member of her community. In July, 2005,