

the nation. I strongly support this program and any federal efforts to support and expand these services. Therefore, I strongly urge my colleagues to support the Autism CARES Act of 2014.

LOWERING GASOLINE PRICES TO
FUEL AN AMERICA THAT WORKS
ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 25, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4899) to lower gasoline prices for the American family by increasing domestic onshore and offshore energy exploration and production, to streamline and improve onshore and offshore energy permitting and administration, and for other purposes:

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 4899, the Lowering Gasoline Prices to Fuel an America That Works Act of 2014, to move the process forward and support U.S. energy independence and security, although I remain strongly opposed to one provision included in this bill.

This concerning provision was drawn from an amendment to H.R. 1965, the Federal Lands, Jobs, and Energy Security Act, which I opposed, and would call for the Secretary of the Interior to develop plans to allow for the construction of new power lines “across Federal lands to ensure that energy produced can be distributed to areas of need.” Some may consider this to be noncontroversial, but I have fought the impact of similar language for a number of years. I am privileged to represent Virginia’s “hallowed grounds,” where so many important events and battles in American history took place, and I simply cannot support efforts to construct new power lines through our area—particularly power lines that would ship energy to other parts of the country. That’s why I opposed PATH and why I opposed TRAIL. Cedar Creek and Bell Grove National Historic Park and Manassas National Battlefield Park are just a few areas in our region that could be impacted by this provision.

While my vote reflects my support for the other elements in this energy security bill, I will not be able to support any conferenced final bill if it contains this troubling provision.

LOWERING GASOLINE PRICES TO
FUEL AN AMERICA THAT WORKS
ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 25, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4899) to lower gasoline prices for the American family by increasing domestic onshore and offshore energy exploration and production, to streamline and improve onshore and offshore energy permitting and administration, and for other purposes:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, in the absence of fresh ideas for the American people, the Republican majority is turning back to old ones and repackaging legislation that has already passed the House for another vote. It may have a nice name, but this bill contains the same unnecessary, irresponsible giveaways to Big Oil at the expense of American taxpayers.

Today’s bill would dramatically expand drilling on public lands and offshore, limiting public input into those lease sales and prioritizing drilling above all other uses, including hunting, fishing, and recreation. It undermines the existing procedures that ensure safe and responsible operations, effectively giving oil companies a blank check without appropriate safeguards.

This bill is unnecessary. Oil production in the United States is already at a 25-year high and net oil imports are at a 29-year low. We are already the world’s top natural gas producer. This bill will not reduce energy prices or increase energy security. We should not give away our taxpayer-owned natural resources to already-profitable big oil companies. I urge a no vote.

HONORING THE TOWN OF
NEWPORT, MAINE

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Town of Newport, Maine, as it celebrates its 200th anniversary.

Located on the western boundary of Penobscot County, Newport is a town steeped in the history of Maine and known best for the bounty of its farms and fields. First known as East Pond Plantation, Newport was settled in 1800 and incorporated as the 208th town in the District of Maine on June 14, 1814. Like many Maine towns, it grew from a small farming village into a prospering mill town by harnessing the power of the east branch of the Sebasticook River, and aided by the extension of the Maine Central Railroad.

On Monday, the people of Newport will begin a week-long celebration of the bicentennial of their town, filled with the same local spirit and sense of common purpose that filled those first residents who first petitioned to have their community recognized. The residents of Newport embody the values of the hardworking people of Maine and can take great pride in the rich heritage they have created over the past 200 years.

It is an honor and a privilege to represent the people of Newport in Congress and I am pleased to have this opportunity to help the Town celebrate its 200th anniversary.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the people of Newport and wishing them well on this joyous occasion.

H.R. 4902, THE MIDDLE CLASS
CHANCE ACT

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight H.R. 4902, the Middle Class CHANCE Act, which I was proud to introduce last week.

As a Pell Grant recipient myself, I know that every dollar counts when you’re trying to put yourself through college.

In our changing economy, today’s college student is not necessarily full-time, living on campus, or between the ages of 18 and 22. Today’s student is struggling to finish in four years, and today’s student is averaging nearly \$30,000 in student loan debt.

That is why I am proud to have introduced the Middle Class CHANCE Act which will increase access to higher education for all our students by restoring the strength and length of the Pell Grant.

We argue that sensible solutions to our economic difficulties are essential to prevent this burden from passing on to our future generations. But let’s take a look around; our future generations have already inherited the burden.

We cannot rebuild our economy when we do so at the expense of our future generations and the American dream of completing a post-secondary education.

I urge my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring the Middle Class CHANCE Act and make college more affordable and accessible for today’s student.

CONGRATULATING KAREN L.
PALLANSCH

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Karen L. Pallansch, Chief Executive Officer of Alexandria Renew Enterprises, on her election as President of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA). Alexandria Renew is an independent government agency providing wastewater treatment services to the City of Alexandria and portions of Fairfax County, Virginia.

Beyond her wealth of environmental and engineering experience, I commend Ms. Pallansch for embracing a collaborative approach to watershed-based solutions that have garnered broad support among the public, business, elected officials, regulators and policymakers.

Ms. Pallansch is also a staunch and effective advocate for investing in our nation’s aging and often deteriorating water infrastructure—investments that convey both environmental and economic benefits and help communities across our great nation to grow and thrive. Ms. Pallansch believes—as I do—that great communities need and deserve great water infrastructure and great quality water.

As the Chief Executive Officer of the former Alexandria Sanitation Authority (ASA)—the precursor to Alexandria Renew—Karen presided over the completion of the Authority’s