

and community. He is a founding member of Lake Elsinore's major disaster Citizen Emergency Response Team.

In light of all that Steve has done for the community of Riverside County and the city of Lake Elsinore, it is only fitting to honor him as Citizen of the Year. Steve has contributed immensely to the betterment of our region and I am proud to call him a fellow community member, American and a constituent of the 42nd Congressional District of California. I add my voice to the many who will be congratulating Steve Manos on being named Citizen of the Year by the Lake Elsinore Chamber of Commerce.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BUREAU OF RECLAMATION WATER PROJECT STREAMLINING ACT OF 2017

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 6, 2017

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce my legislation, the Bureau of Reclamation Water Project Streamlining Act. This legislation will help many communities in the west that have been severely impacted by the recent droughts affecting the western United States. The legislation requires the Bureau of Reclamation to accelerate studies and provide more accountability in the agency's process to study the feasibility of new and/or expanded surface water storage, rural and Title XVI water projects, as well as water recycling projects. By streamlining Reclamation's environmental planning and study process for these water projects, the bill will ensure that communities in the arid West can address the critical need for water supplies that grow with demand. This is accomplished by applying the same streamlined water project development process used by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which were established under the Water Resources Reform Development Act of 2014, to the Bureau of Reclamation for surface water, storage, infrastructure, and recycling projects.

Water is an indispensable resource in Central Washington and is the foundation on which our future will be built. However, water has become increasingly limited and the current supply and infrastructure is unable to meet existing human and environmental needs. The droughts and water shortages that have impacted much of the western U.S. highlight the critical need for new water supplies that are able to meet this growing demand. A streamlined process for new water storage projects is vital to prepare effectively for droughts and provide adequate water resources for future development. This bill improves the Bureau of Reclamation's permitting process to create new opportunities for water storage, recycling, and rural water projects. Put simply, my bill reforms the current cumbersome and lengthy process so that there is a mechanism to build new water and infrastructure projects in Central Washington and across the west.

I welcome all members to join me in supporting this legislation and I urge its swift passage through the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 460, IMPROVING RURAL CALL QUALITY AND RELIABILITY ACT OF 2017

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 6, 2017

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 460, the Improving Rural Call Quality and Reliability Act of 2017, which amends the Communications Act of 1934 to require voice communications that charge users to register with the FCC and comply with service quality standards to be established by the FCC.

The bill, should it become law, prohibits long-distance providers from using an internet provider to transmit voice communications and signals unless the intermediate provider is registered.

H.R. 460 would require the FCC to:

1. Ensure the integrity of voice communications to all customers in the United States
2. Prevent unjust or unreasonable discrimination across areas of the United States in the delivery of voice communications; and
3. Make a registry of intermediate providers publicly available on the FCC website.

H.R. 460, the Improving Rural Call Quality and Reliability Act of 2016, would seek to ensure that calls to Americans living in the rural areas of our country actually make it through to the intended receiver.

Making sure a call goes through, regardless of where it is being made, is fundamental to our communications system.

H.R. 460 that would require the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to establish basic quality standards for providers that transmit voice calls to consumers, among other things.

The Senate Commerce Committee adopted an amendment in the nature of a substitute (AINS) that made the following changes:

1. Extends deadlines for service quality standards for intermediate providers from 180 days to one year,
2. Exempts intermediate providers that have been certified as a safe harbor provider; and
3. Amends the definition of intermediate provider.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 460, the Improving Rural Call Quality and Reliability Act of 2017.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NORMA J. TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 6, 2017

Mrs. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, due to a conflict, I unavoidably missed the following vote on February 2. Had I been present I would have voted as follows: On roll call No. 77, I would have voted "nay" on H.J. Res. 40, Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Social Security Administration relating to Implementation of the NICS Improvement Amendments Act of 2007.

TRIBUTE TO DR. GEORGE BELOZ

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 6, 2017

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to Riverside County, California, are exceptional. After ten years of exemplary service, Dr. George Beloz is stepping down as President of the Greater Corona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

Dr. Beloz was born in Chicago and grew up in an ethnically diverse neighborhood, where he was interested in fine arts and fishing. At an early age he sold daily newspapers on South Lakeshore Drive in Chicago, worked for Fannie Mae as a teenager and played the piano at church. After a couple of years in college, George was drafted into the Army and was assigned to Heidelberg, Germany where his wife joined him and they lived off-post and traveled throughout Europe while stationed there. After his military service he returned to college and completed his Bachelor's, Master's and PhD degrees, the latter two with the assistance of the GI Bill. He received his PhD from Southern Illinois University. After college, Dr. Beloz was recruited into the Foreign Service and worked for the U.S. Department of State for seven years learning the ropes in the Asian, the Middle Eastern and Latin American regional areas.

Dr. Beloz left the Foreign Service and held several administrative and educational assignments in the Orange County College District. He and his wife, Ruth, moved to Corona in 1983. Since moving to Corona, he was a candidate for the School Board in 1989 and served on the Board of Trustees for the Corona Public Library from 1993 to 1997. Dr. Beloz was appointed to the Citizens Oversight Committee for Measure C, the \$169 million bond issue affecting Riverside City College, Moreno Valley and Norco campuses. In 2016, Dr. Beloz was appointed to the Corona Regional Medical Center Board of Governors. For the last ten years he has headed up the Greater Corona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (GCHCOC) by planning engaging evening meetings at Miguel's restaurant with a wide variety of speakers on topics of community interest that have contributed to increasing GCHCOC membership.

Dr. Beloz has contributed immensely to the betterment of our community and I am proud to call him a fellow community member, American and my friend. To conclude, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Dr. Beloz for his service to Corona—his dedication, insight and passion will be greatly missed.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 511, POWER AND SECURITY SYSTEMS (PASS) ACT OF 2017

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 6, 2017

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 511, the Power and Security Systems Act of 2017, which will revise energy conservation standards for devices operating in standby mode.