

Ms. GRANGER. I yield to the gentleman from Indiana.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Mr. Chair, I rise in support of the gentleman's amendment and thank him very much for offering it.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the McGovern/Emmer Amendment to the Department of Defense Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2019.

Throughout my time in Congress, I have been privileged to meet with many of our nation's veterans. The men and women in our armed forces are heroes and embody the best our nation has to offer. Yet, far too often they do not receive the recognition and credit they deserve. This is especially true when it comes to our nation's Atomic Veterans.

From 1945 to 1962, nearly a quarter of a million servicemen played a role in the testing of nuclear weapons, earning them the title of "Atomic Veterans".

They risked their lives and were forced to suffer in silence without proper recognition for their service and bravery.

Since 1990, the federal government has taken different steps to recognize and thank these Atomic Vets, but all have fallen short of official recognition through an award or medal.

Today, that can change with the support from the men and women in this Congress.

With this amendment, we have an opportunity to finally acknowledge the incredible sacrifice these courageous individuals made more than a half century ago.

Our amendment builds upon the authorizing language which has been unanimously adopted by the House of Representatives in every National Defense Authorization Act for the past three years.

That language requires the Department of Defense to issue a service medal to the veterans or surviving families of those members of our Armed Forces who participated in above-ground nuclear weapons testing; were part of the U.S. military occupation forces in or around Hiroshima and Nagasaki before 1946; or were held as POWs in or near Hiroshima or Nagasaki.

Our amendment today would provide \$250,000 for the Department of Defense to begin the process of creating this award so we can honor the individuals who have served their country.

These veterans left their homes, left their families, and put their lives on the line to protect the freedoms and liberties we enjoy each and every day. Unfortunately, this recognition may come too late for many of our Atomic Vets, but it is our job to ensure these brave soldiers get the recognition they deserve.

Again, I'd like to thank Congressman MCGOVERN and his staff for his efforts on this issue, as well as Chairwoman GRANGER and Ranking Member VISCLOSKY for their hard work on the underlying bill.

I urge adoption of this amendment.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN).

The amendment was agreed to.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr.

WALBERG) having assumed the chair, Mr. POE of Texas, Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 6157) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 6157, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2019, AND PROVIDING FOR PROCEEDINGS DURING THE PERIOD FROM JUNE 29, 2018, THROUGH JULY 9, 2018

Ms. CHENEY, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 115-785) on the resolution (H. Res. 964) providing for further consideration of the bill (H.R. 6157) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes, and providing for proceedings during the period from June 29, 2018, through July 9, 2018, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 200, STRENGTHENING FISHING COMMUNITIES AND INCREASING FLEXIBILITY IN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ACT

Ms. CHENEY, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 115-786) on the resolution (H. Res. 965) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 200) to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to provide flexibility for fishery managers and stability for fishermen, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2019

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 961 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 6157.

Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) kindly resume the chair.

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IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 6157) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes, with Mr. POE of Texas in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose earlier today, amendment No. 5 printed in part A of House Report 115-783 offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) had been disposed of.

AMENDMENT NO. 6 OFFERED BY MR. ALLEN

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 6 printed in part A of House Report 115-783.

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 8, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$10,000,000) (increased by \$10,000,000)".

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 961, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. ALLEN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Chair, first I would like to thank Chairwoman GRANGER for her leadership and hard work on this critical legislation.

Voting for the annual Department of Defense Appropriations Act is one of the most important votes I take each year, and the great bipartisan work that the chairwoman and the ranking member have done to ensure that our military is fully funded is truly commendable.

I rise today to talk about the Allen-Raskin amendment to H.R. 6157. This bipartisan amendment allocates \$10 million to the defense POW/Missing Persons Accounting Agency to assist in identifying unclaimed remains missing since the Korean conflict.

As of today, there are almost 7,700 total personnel missing and unaccounted for since the Korean conflict.

One of those still unaccounted for is Private First Class Ivan Roberts, a proud native of Georgia's 12th Congressional District.

On November 5, 1951, Private First Class Roberts and three other men from Alpha Company 5th Calvary Regiment went missing during an attack to secure a Korean hill complex.

Although I never had the opportunity to meet Private First Class Roberts, I was able to meet his family and loved ones at a recent memorial ceremony in his honor, and I know that he was a beloved hero and patriot whose family wants peace and closure.

As you may know, in the recent historic summit between President Trump and North Korea's Kim Jong-un, President Trump asked North Korea to return the remains of U.S. servicemembers lost in the Korean war, and Kim Jong-un agreed.

There are currently over 200 missing servicemembers in the process of being returned to the United States.

My colleague and I want to ensure that the defense POW/Missing Persons Accounting Agency has the resources it needs to identify the remains and carry out this important mission so