

against military threats from regional non-state actors, risks posed by the unauthorized transfer or proliferation of equipment for use against Israel, and risks posed by unmanned vehicles and systems through air, land or water, and cyber and other asymmetric entities.

This bill goes even further, enhancing cooperation between our countries by establishing new partnerships for cybersecurity research and development and commercialization of cybersecurity technology and ensuring the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) continues to work with the Israel Space Agency to identify and cooperatively pursue peaceful space exploration and science initiatives in areas of mutual interest. Finally, this bill grants the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) authority to enter into a MOU with Israel in order to advance common goals on energy, agriculture and food security, democracy, human rights and governance, economic growth and trade, education, environment, global health and water sanitation, with a focus on strengthening mutual ties and cooperation with nations throughout the world.

For more than half a century, the United States and Israel have shared the common bond of democracy. This bond remains as strong today as it was when President Harry Truman first recognized the creation of a Jewish State in 1948, and we must continue to strengthen it whenever possible, including engaging the region and commit to finding a fair solution that enables both Israel and her neighbors to live in security and prosperity. I urge support for this legislation.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. GEORGE HOLDING

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 13, 2018*

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, September 12, I remained in North Carolina to assist with hurricane preparedness efforts. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 394; YEA on Roll Call No. 395; and YEA on Roll Call No. 396.

#### RECOGNIZING THE TRANSIENT REACTOR TEST FACILITY RESTART

### HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 13, 2018*

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I along with my colleagues Senator MIKE CRAPO and JAMES RISCH, I rise today to call attention to an important event taking place today at the U.S. Department of Energy's, DOE, 890-square mile site in Idaho. Today, Idaho National Laboratory, INL, personnel ran the first experiments in the Transient Reactor Test, TREAT, facility in nearly a quarter century.

Idaho National Laboratory is our nation's lead nuclear energy research, development and demonstration laboratory, the place where 52 original nuclear reactors were constructed and demonstrated. One of those reactors was

the TREAT facility, which operated from 1959 to 1994, and remained fully fueled while on standby status. Transient testing focuses upon testing nuclear fuel under accident conditions. TREAT is one of the most capable and flexible transient test reactors in the world.

Following the accident at the Fukushima-Daiichi Power Plant in Japan seven years ago, Congress directed the DOE to develop reactor fuels that could better withstand accident conditions. During TREAT's 35 operating years, the reactor performed 6,604 reactor startups and 2,884 transient irradiations. Given this history, it made more sense to restart the facility than build a new reactor. That decision paid off when, on Aug. 31, 2017, the Resumption of Transient Testing Program was completed more than one year ahead of schedule and approximately \$17 million under budget.

This highly successful restart at the TREAT facility was recognized in August, when a joint DOE-INL team won the Secretary of Energy Award. This award recognizes DOE employees or contractors who accomplish significant achievements. It is the highest non-monetary internal recognition that can be achieved at the DOE. U.S. Secretary of Energy Rick Perry highlighted the TREAT restart team's effort and efficiency, and recognized the importance of the facility to nuclear energy scientists and engineers as they work to develop advanced nuclear fuels and reactor technologies.

Congratulations, INL and DOE, on the TREAT restart and for bringing back online an important national asset in the effort to develop the advanced nuclear reactors so vital to our economy, environment and national security.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF RETIRED UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS GUNNERY SERGEANT (GYSGT) WILLIAM VERNON "BUSTER" PORTER, JR.

### HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 13, 2018*

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of retired United States Marine Corps Gunnery Sergeant (GySgt) William Vernon "Buster" Porter, Jr., who passed away on September 3, 2018. Mr. Porter was devoted to the service of our nation and equally devoted to his family and friends.

Mr. Porter was born in Corinth, Mississippi, on November 13, 1949, to William and Jessie Porter. He graduated from Easom High School in 1968 and joined the United States Marine Corps with four of his closest friends. Nebraska Porter, Mr. Porter's devoted wife of 36 years, recently said that her husband served in the Vietnam War from December 1968 until January 1970. Injuries he sustained while helping his fellow Marines earned him the Purple Heart. In addition to his combat duty, he served in a number of roles during his military service, including drill instructor, recruiter, and a AV-8B Harrier technician.

In 1982, Mr. Porter was serving as a U.S. Marine Corps recruiter in Toledo, Ohio, when he met his future wife. Mrs. Porter said that she entered the recruiting station to enlist in the U.S. Navy. "I planned to serve in the U.S. Navy," Mrs. Porter said. "I accidentally ran

into William in the hallway and we began talking. Being the consummate recruiter, he wanted me to join the U.S. Marine Corps. We eventually decided to get married instead!" Mrs. Porter said her husband became her soulmate. "He was my best friend and we thought alike. William was a good person and everyone he met was positively impacted by him. He never met a stranger. The neighborhood kids would ask if he could come out to play and he would gladly and enthusiastically share his knowledge and skills. Whatever he decided to do, he did and did well. William was also civically active in every community he lived. He was also an active and lifelong member of the American Legion," said Mrs. Porter.

According to Mr. Porter's obituary published in the Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal, he was described by friends and family as a jack of all trades and master of all. He was an entrepreneur who pursued photography, real estate, and automobile sales. Mr. Porter also served as a Yuma County Deputy Sheriff in Arizona. It was during that time that Mrs. Porter served as a defense attorney while her husband was a jailor. "Eventually, people figured out we were married," Mr. Porter said. "Inmates would say my husband puts them in jail and I get them out."

In 2000, Mr. and Mrs. Porter moved to Mississippi. They lived in Corinth, West Point, and Tupelo. During those years, they enjoyed spending time with their children and grandchildren in a loving and fun atmosphere. Mr. Porter was known to be mischievous and enjoyed playing tricks on friends and family. Dewayne Porter, Mr. Porter's nephew, said everyone loved his sense of humor. Dewayne most admired Mr. Porter for his military service. "I joined the military because of him," Dewayne said. "He offered me advice and encouraged me to enlist. It was the best thing that I ever did."

Frederick Porter, Mr. and Mrs. Porter's youngest child, said his father was always there for him. "He was a great man," Frederick said. "He was always there for me. He was a great father. He was also a wonderful grandfather to all of his grandchildren. He made everyone feel special. Even those who met him for the first time walked away with a great impression of this kind and thoughtful man."

Family and friends gathered for Mr. Porter's memorial service at the Grayson-Porter's Mortuary on Thursday, September 6, 2018. During the service, Frederick read aloud a poem he wrote titled, "Chose To."

He didn't have to raise me, but he chose to. He didn't have to give me life, but he chose to show me how to live.

He couldn't treat me like a stepson, but he chose to treat me like his own son.

He didn't have to teach me anything, but he chose to be my greatest teacher.

He didn't have to love me, but he chose to show me how to love.

He didn't have to be my father, but he chose to be the greatest father in the world.

I'll never forget this decision he decided to make, for he made me into the man I am today.

Because of that, I chose to love you with all my heart and soul.

I chose to live my life in the path he has guided me.

Thank you, God, for choosing this man to be my father.

I love you, Dad.