

JROTC is a great program that typically leads to academic success after high school and potentially to careers as officers in the military services. The White Station team returns to Memphis as National Champions and I look forward to meeting with the team and with students, faculty and staff at White Station in the weeks ahead. They have made us proud.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE,
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020

SPEECH OF

HON. DEBRA A. HAALAND

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2019

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3055) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes:

Ms. HAALAND. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of my two amendments to the Interior and Environment Appropriations bill for FY20, which were included in en bloc amendment No. 5.

I thank my friend Chairwoman BETTY MCCOLLUM for supporting these amendments, and for the work she and Ranking Member JOYCE have done to increase funding for programs that are vitally important to Indian Country. Despite their good efforts, due to budget constraints, there is still work to be done to meet the needs of our Tribal Nations.

The United States Constitution defines the unique government-to-government relationship between the federal government and Tribal Nations. The federal trust responsibility originates from the days when Native Americans were forced to surrender tribal land and suffered loss of life and the removal/resettlement of one-fifth of Tribes from their original homelands. The United States signed 375 treaties, passed laws, and instituted policies that promised to safeguard Native Americans' right to self-governance and to enable delivery of essential services in Indian Country.

One of these services is health care. During the latter part of the nineteenth century, the federal government expanded health care for Native Americans due to overcrowding at boarding schools and the spread of disease. It was only in 1968, when Indian health care lagged behind the rest of the country, was the Indian Health Service (IHS) designated in an effort to fulfill the trust responsibility. Over the last two centuries, the failure of the federal government to adequately address American Indian/Alaskan Native (AI/AN) wellbeing led to this population being ranked in the bottom of health, education, and employment.

Congress has continued to inadequately fund Indian Country at disproportionately lower levels than funding for services for any other population. IHS is currently only funded at 40 percent of the need, and the average per capita spending for an IHS patient is only about \$3,800 compared to the national average of \$9,523. During fiscal year 2019, IHS' budgetary need was \$30 billion, but the enacted level only amounted to \$5 billion, which is \$25 billion less than the amount needed to prop-

erly administer health care in Indian Country for 2.2 million AI/ANs across 573 federally recognized Tribes.

Urban Indian health care is an area of particular need. Approximately 70 percent of AI/ANs live in urban areas, but they lack access to adequate health care services because only 1 percent of the chronically underfunded IHS budget has been allocated to urban Indian health care. Currently urban Indian health is estimated to only meet 22 percent of the need of the roughly one million urban AI/ANs who live in urban Indian health care services areas.

My amendment seeks to draw attention to this area of serious need. While we are making strides with this bill, an additional \$35,000,000 would help provide resources for health care services needed by the urban Indian population.

Tribes are also in desperate need of resources for tribal courts and law enforcement. AI/AN suffer from one of the highest rates of crime and victimization of any group of people in the United States. Although overall funding for public safety in Indian Country has increased, it does not come close to meeting the public safety needs in Indian Country or the needs to police and protect Indian Country, especially related to tribal courts and law enforcement. My amendment highlights that an additional \$63 million is needed for tribal courts and \$113 million for law enforcement to give AI/ANs living on tribal lands access to basic public safety services that are readily available for other Americans living outside of Indian Country.

I appreciate the good work done by Chairwoman MCCOLLUM and Ranking Member JOYCE to begin to address these pressing needs in Indian Country, and I thank them for their support of my amendments. I look forward to continuing to work with them and Chairwoman LOWEY and Ranking Member GRANGER to ensure that the federal government fulfills its trust obligation to Tribes and that Tribes have the resources they need to provide services and opportunity to their members.

PRESIDENT GEORGE P. "BUD"
PETERSON'S RETIREMENT

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 2019

Mr. LEWIS. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Dr. George P. "Bud" Peterson, Ph.D. on his retirement.

For the past 10 years, Dr. Peterson served as the 11th president of the Georgia Institute of Technology, a world-renowned higher education institution that is located in my district. Under Dr. Peterson's leadership, the Institute has consistently ranked among our nation's best institutions of higher education, and he managed to exceed benchmarks outlined in Georgia Tech's strategic plan.

Madam Speaker, we are very fortunate to have an institution like Georgia Tech educating our young people in Atlanta. President Peterson worked tirelessly to open the doors of opportunity to young people from every corner of Georgia. During his tenure, undergraduate applications tripled, graduate applications doubled, and the student body increased

by 69 percent to more than 32,000 students. In 2014, the Georgia Tech guaranteed admission and financial support to valedictorians and salutatorians from Atlanta Public Schools. In 2017, it extended these offerings statewide through the Georgia Tech Scholars Program. Access to a quality education changes the very trajectory of these young people's lives.

For visitors to Metro Atlanta, Dr. Peterson's impact is arguably most visible in Tech Square in Midtown Atlanta. There is an important national conversation on how to create new livable-wage, manufacturing jobs and bolster United States' global competitiveness. In our region, Dr. Peterson ensured that Georgia Tech became the regional center for this discussion. For these reasons, former Department of Commerce Secretary Gary Locke appointed President Peterson to the National Advisory Council on Innovation and Entrepreneurship, and President Barack Obama appointed him to the Advanced Manufacturing Partnership (AMP) steering committee and its 2.0 successor.

President Peterson excels in connecting young minds with great ideas to emerging industries and opportunity. Since 2013, 30 corporations have set up innovation centers in the area, engaging students' creativity, growing our economy, and ensuring that Atlanta remain a center for talent and technology. In fact, Madam Speaker, last week Dr. Peterson welcomed my staff and me to Georgia Tech's new Coda building. This incredible facility, along with the rest of Tech Square, shows how the Institute will continue to shape Atlanta's future. Dr. Peterson was instrumental in making this vision a reality.

Before coming to Georgia Tech, Dr. Peterson served as chancellor of the University of Colorado at Boulder and provost at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in New York. Born in San Francisco, California, Dr. Peterson grew up in Kansas and earned degrees from Kansas State University and Texas A&M University. Throughout his career, Dr. Peterson focused on promoting research and scientific education and received national accolades for his work. For these reasons, President George W. Bush appointed him to serve on the National Science Board in 2008, and President Obama re-appointed President Peterson for a second six-year term in 2014.

Although Dr. Peterson is retiring this summer from the administration, he is staying in the Georgia Tech family and returning to the Institute's faculty. On behalf of the people of Atlanta, I thank President Peterson for his years of dedicated leadership to our community and to Georgia Tech. I wish him, his beloved wife Val, and their four children continued success and happiness in this next chapter of their lives.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SERVICE,
LEADERSHIP, AND LEGACY OF
CHIEF ERIC DUNNING

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 2019

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chief Eric Dunning of De Pere, Wisconsin on celebrating his retirement from the Ashwaubenon Department of Public