

Under Mark's leadership, the laboratory assembled the power source for the Mars 2020 Perseverance Rover, continues to meet the Army's needs for tank armor, is helping DoD explore the use of microreactors, and is producing new nuclear fuels and materials.

A personal priority of mine has been revitalizing the lab's infrastructure and putting INL's talented workforce into world-class facilities. Mark has been a great ally in this process, an innovator and collaborator.

He brought the Department of Energy and lab together with the State of Idaho to build two new facilities on INL's in-town campus. One of those facilities is dedicated to protecting our nation from cyberattack. The other is dedicated to collaborations in high-performance computing.

Dr. Peters has worked hard to introduce the lab to all corners of our state and region, demonstrating to the people of Idaho that our national laboratories are places of innovation and intellectual curiosity rather than secretive outposts often rumored about, but rarely understood.

Mark has been dedicated to partnerships, building relationships with universities, industry, governments, and schools. He showed our state and region that so much can be accomplished when we work together and in pursuit of lofty, even idealistic, goals.

Finally, Dr. Peters has a decency and optimism about him—an intangible quality that makes everyone around him more positive and excited to work together for a brighter future.

Mark is a thoughtful person who cares deeply for the people he works with, his community, and our state.

Mark has implemented policies to support employee safety, work/life balance, inclusive recruiting and retention, a shared sense of responsibility, and duty to give back.

My wife, Kathy, and I have developed a close relationship with Mark and his wife, Ann Marie, who has distinguished herself through her work with the College of Eastern Idaho and various eastern Idaho charities.

Mark and Ann Marie are an incredible asset to Idaho and Kathy and I are grateful for their passion for our community and friendship.

Mark and Anne Marie will be missed, but I look forward to working with Mark in his new role.

HONORING DOUG KEEGAN

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 28, 2020

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask that my colleagues in the House join me in recognizing D. Douglas (Doug) Keegan's more than 3 decades of service to the central coast of California.

Doug is a graduate of Holy Cross College and Boston College Law School and was licensed by the California State Bar to begin practicing attorney in 1977. His career on the Central Coast began at California Rural Legal Assistance and then moved to the Community Action Board of Santa Cruz County, Inc. (CAB).

At CAB, Doug has been a tireless advocate for the organization's mission to partner with

the community to eliminate poverty and create social change through advocacy and essential services, envisioning a thriving, equitable and diverse community free from poverty and injustice informed by the values of equity, dignity and diversity, service, inclusion and community action. Specifically, Doug has served as the Program Director of CAB's Santa Cruz County Immigration Project (SCCIP, promoting the wellbeing of the immigrant community by helping immigrants acquire legal status, reuniting immigrant families, and making U.S. Citizenship more accessible.

For more than 20 years, Doug's leadership at SCCIP has provided professional legal services, tenure. He has mentored hundreds of staff and volunteers, motivating and acting as a role model for future community leaders and attorneys who will continue to fight for human rights, the immigrant community and overall support of underrepresented groups.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Doug Keegan's commitment to service with honesty, humility, intelligence, compassion, and integrity as he has advocated tirelessly for immigration justice on a local, statewide, and national level. It is no surprise that Doug's reputation as a trusted source of solid, unbiased, and plain-spoken answer to complex immigration questions has made him a trusted expert and advisor to countless elected officials, journalists, educators, service providers, and, most importantly, immigrant families. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Doug Keegan's lifetime of service.

DELIVERING FOR AMERICA ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, August 22, 2020

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 8015, legislation that is sorely needed to help protect the integrity of our Postal Service.

Our communities depend on a reliable Postal Service. The hardworking men and women of the Postal Service every day help ensure that critical mail reaches every part of this country, even in the middle of a pandemic. These essential workers make sure that this essential public service is carried out.

Despite the challenges of moving mail in a country as large as ours and longstanding fiscal challenges, it is no wonder the Postal Service continues to score high in public opinion polls. It is after all, the public service that touches most Americans almost every day.

The Postal Service is not a business. Nor is degrading its level of service a viable business plan. Doing so would only hurt the Postal Service, its workers, and the American public, including those in rural areas. Yet, that is unfortunately the direction that the Postal Service's leadership.

I have heard from so many of my constituents who are concerned about the damaging recent changes to Postal Service operations under the leadership of the new Postmaster General, changes which are already being felt in our communities through reports of delays in getting critical mail.

While the recent announcement that these changes would be suspended for a short time is a step forward, that is not enough.

Additionally, besides the changes being made by new Postmaster General, the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic that has befuddled this Administration also poses a clear threat to the short-term and long-term fiscal health of the Postal Service. I am pleased that the bill before us today includes needed funding to address mail volume declines to support the Postal Service and its workers through these trying times.

We need to protect and maintain a strong Postal Service which is what this bill does. I support this legislation and urge my colleagues to do the same.

INSULAR AREA LIQUIDITY ACT

HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 28, 2020

Mr. SABLAN. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the Insular Area Liquidity Act, which requires any department or agency of the federal government, awarding a grant to any of the four smaller insular areas, to provide at least 50 percent of the award amount up front in an advance payment as defined in 2 CFR 200.3. My bill will also require the awarding department or agency to provide enhanced grant management assistance and technical assistance to the recipients to assure the advanced funds are properly used.

Unlike most states, the insular areas have limited cash flow. Our districts generally rely heavily on a single economy, tourism, that is highly sensitive to natural disasters and the economic fallout that follows. When that happens, and even in the best of times, insular government have little or no fiscal cushion.

Of course, I am very grateful for the many grants the Marianas receives to shore up the limited resources of our islands and, of course, especially now to help respond to the coronavirus crisis. But many grants awarded require that the awardee spend their own capital up front to be reimbursed later.

One result is that federal funds are slow to be spent and the projects and programs those funds are intended to support wait to be implemented. The legislation I am introducing today addresses this problem by providing an advanced payment of at least 50 percent of any grant awarded. Projects and programs would be less subject to delay.

This advance award is not a new concept. Some federal grant programs already provide for an advance payment to recipients. The FEMA Public Assistance Grant program, to name one, under section 428 of the Robert T. Stafford Act, P.L. 93-288 provides a 100 percent advance on project cost estimates, thereby removing the burden of capital availability from the awardee.

In the Marianas, we are still recovering from the devastation caused by 2018 Super Typhoon Yutu. And now we have the coronavirus pandemic, which has ground our tourism reliant economy to a halt and left our government short of funds. But capital limitations are not unique to the Marianas—it is a challenge shared by all of the insular areas. That is why I introduce this bill today, alongside my colleagues Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Ms. PLASKETT, and Mrs. RADEWAGEN. I urge all my