

called up over the past two and one-half years. Reserve Components make up almost 50 percent of our forces in Iraq. It is time that we as a body recognize their service to our nation by providing TRICARE for Reserve Component personnel on a permanent basis. It is disgraceful that this Congress will not demonstrate the level of commitment for its citizen-soldiers that they so richly deserve.

I know how TRICARE is insufficient for our men and women fighting abroad, I've talked to many of them in my district and it's sad that we can't provide them with the support they need when they are the ones making the ultimate sacrifice. The cuts to TRICARE over the years are despicable and soon we will have almost nothing to offer our men and women fighting abroad in the area of domestic care. Among those in Houston who have been brave enough to serve is Texas State Representative Rick Noriega who is with the Texas Army National Guard. He has served as state representative for District 145 for 6 years and when he was called to duty in Afghanistan he went to serve his nation, truly an inspiration to many. However, he left behind a wife and two children, who were proud, but unfortunately they were left with insufficient coverage by TRICARE. His family has suffered harsh treatment because they demanded more from TRICARE and weren't receiving it. Their story is not uncommon throughout the nation. Many doctors won't accept TRICARE because it is inadequate. The sad fact is that 20 percent of all Reservists do not have health insurance, and 40 percent of Reservists aged 19 to 35 lack health coverage according to a 2003 report by the General Accounting Office. According to the latest Defense Department data, 18 percent of activated Reservists have no medical coverage. These facts are deplorable, I pray for families like State Representative Noriega's and others who don't have access to sufficient care. How can we say that we are proud of our men and women fighting abroad when we can't even care for them and their families when they return to this nation of ours?

I can only hope in the future that such significant legislation as this will involve the debate and full consideration of all necessary and relevant amendments. The men and women of our Armed Forces and indeed the American people as a whole deserve as much. Again, I rise in full support of the Taylor Motion to Recommit and consider this truly vital amendment on TRICARE.

HONORING THE TEN TOWNS
GREAT SWAMP WATERSHED
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2005

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Ten Towns Great Swamp Watershed Management Committee of Morris County, New Jersey, a vibrant organization I am proud to represent! On June 15, 2005 the Trustees and Friends of the Committee are celebrating its Tenth Anniversary.

The Great Swamp Watershed is a 55 square mile region in Morris and Somerset Counties and includes portions of

Bernardsville Borough, Bernards Township, Chatham Township, Township of Harding, Long Hill Township, Borough of Madison, Mendham Borough, Mendham Township, the Town of Morristown, and Morris Township.

The Ten Towns Great Swamp Watershed Management Committee was formed in 1995 through an Inter-municipal Cooperative Agreement among the ten municipalities that have lands within the Great Swamp Watershed. Developed under the auspices of the Morris County leadership group, Morris 2000 (now Morris Tomorrow), the Ten Towns Committee was formed for the specific purpose of developing and implementing a watershed management plan for the watershed in the Upper Passaic River basin of northern New Jersey.

Since its formation, the Ten Towns Committee has developed a full range of programs to protect water quality and water resources in the Great Swamp, including: a water quality monitoring program, development of environmental ordinances, and construction of "Best Management Practices" improvements to correct existing non-point source pollution conditions.

The Ten Towns Committee has been recognized as a model in the state of New Jersey and has received awards for its work from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

It has also been my pleasure on several occasions to assist the Association with Federal support which enhances their critical work that both protects this remarkable national asset, the Great Swamp, and protects, for future generations, precious water supplies.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the members of the Ten Towns Great Swamp Watershed Management Committee on the celebration of the Committee's ten years serving the Great Swamp Watershed area. Special praise is due to their dedicated staff and active volunteers who work tirelessly to protect and enhance the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge and Wilderness Area.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ARMY
SERGEANT CHARLES J. WEBB

HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2005

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Army Sergeant Charles J. Webb. As our country honors our military personnel, both past and present, this Memorial Day, I want to take this opportunity to remember those who have sacrificed their lives for our freedom and security.

Sergeant Webb leaves behind the most important legacy any man can leave: a strong and healthy family who knows he loved them with all his heart. His love and commitment to his wife Stephanie is the best testament to his character and to his heart.

Sergeant Webb had aspirations to be a high school History Teacher. He is remembered as a loyal and committed soldier, and I have no doubt he would have extended his sense of duty and commitment to the teaching profession and would have been an effective and motivating teacher.

Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I pay my last respects to a young man who was so full of life; to a young man who had a full and bright future ahead of him. I pray Army Sergeant Webb's family and friends find peace in their hearts, knowing his country is grateful and humbled by his sacrifice. I thank our brave men and women in uniform for continuing with our mission in Iraq, which is the ultimate tribute to our fallen soldiers, marines, sailors, and airmen.

Charles, to you I offer my sincere gratitude and my solemn commitment to continue to support your friends, the members of your unit, and the men and women in Iraq who are continuing without you. Thank you for seeing a vision greater than yourself and for the strength of your commitment to our country. God bless you.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2005

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, because of family illness I missed the following votes: On May 19, 2005 on rollcall vote #190, On Ordering the Previous Question; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2361) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; I would have voted "nay."

On May 19, 2005 on rollcall vote #191, On Agreeing to the Amendment to H.R. 2361; the Hefley of Colorado Amendment; I would have voted "nay."

On May 19, 2005 on rollcall vote #193, On Agreeing to the Amendment to H.R. 2361; the Terry of Nebraska Amendment; I would have voted "nay."

On May 19, 2005 on rollcall vote #194, On Agreeing to the Amendment to H.R. 2361; the Obey of Wisconsin Amendment No. 2; I would have voted "yea."

On May 19, 2005 on rollcall vote #195, On Agreeing to the Amendment to H.R. 2361; the Beauprez of Colorado Amendment; I would have voted "nay."

On May 19, 2005 on rollcall vote #196, On Agreeing to the Amendment to H.R. 2361; the Rahall of West Virginia Amendment; I would have voted "yea."

On May 19, 2005 on rollcall vote #197, On Agreeing to the Amendment to H.R. 2361; the Hefley of Colorado Amendment; I would have voted "nay."

On May 19, 2005 on rollcall vote #198, On Motion to Recommit with Instructions; for H.R. 2361 Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006; I would have voted "yea."

On May 19, 2005 on rollcall vote #199, On Passage; for H.R. 2361 Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006; I would have voted "yea."