

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A PROCLAMATION HONORING ELOSIE HAGAN FOR HER SERVICE WITH THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Elosie Hagan began volunteering with the Red Cross in 1957; and

Whereas, Elosie Hagan is 99 years young; and

Whereas, she was recognized for her more than 50 years of volunteer services during the American Red Cross of Knox County's 2008 Volunteer Awards program; and

Whereas, Elosie Hagan continues to exemplify a special dedication to service and community; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend and thank Elosie Hagan for her contributions to her community and country.

RECOGNIZING MAYOR BOB PHELPS

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations and thanks to Mayor Bob Phelps for all the years of service he dedicated to the city of Farmers Branch, Texas.

Mr. Bob Phelps was born in Oklahoma, but got to Texas as soon as possible. He married his high school sweetheart, Dee, in 1955 and they started their journey together in Dallas. They have a son, Rob, and a daughter, Kim, and three grandchildren, Shane, Shealee and Dusty.

At the age of 19 they bought their first home in Farmers Branch in 1957. Bob started his career with State Farm in 1963 and has won many trips and awards. Some of his accomplishments are: member of the Presidents Club, which is the top 50 agents in the company, select agent, Millionaire Club numerous times, Legion of Honor Club, and the Bronze Tablet Club.

After being involved in several elections in Oklahoma helping his Dad run for county sheriff, Bob became interested in serving the great city of Farmers Branch and was appointed to the Zoning Board of Adjustment and Building Code Board of Appeals in 1984. Bob was first elected to the City Council in 1986 and served 9 years on the Council. Bob was elected mayor of Farmers Branch in May of 1996 and was unopposed in 1999 and 2002 and 2005.

Bob served on numerous boards where he showed the same dedication and determina-

tion expressed as the mayor of Farmers Branch. Again, I would like to thank Mayor Bob Phelps for his service to the community.

IN MEMORY OF AMIT ZUTSHI

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Amit Zutshi, whose untimely death at age 30 on March 19, 2008 saddened the entire community.

Amit was a resident of Fremont, California and shall be remembered fondly for the difference he made in the lives of others. Amit comes from an active family committed to community service. He followed his family's dedication to activism and the promotion of unity.

Amit was born at Cedars Sinai Hospital in Los Angeles and graduated from Mission San Jose High School in 1995. He attended graduate school and was working toward an MBA from University of Phoenix after receiving degrees in information technology and business. He was employed by Microsoft and also worked for an eCommerce company in Santa Clara, California.

On May 30, 2008, Amit's younger brother Rahul will introduce the Amit Zutshi Foundation. The Foundation's focus will be on children in need of social and community based services to help them thrive. May 30 also marks the 7th annual meeting of the Indo American Community Federation, a group Amit's father Jeevan founded to celebrate diversity.

It is fitting that Amit's memory be honored by the formation of the Amit Zutshi Foundation. Amit leaves a legacy of hard work and caring for others. The Foundation will honor his legacy.

SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING ESTABLISHMENT OF A BEBE MOORE CAMPBELL NATIONAL MINORITY MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 2008

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 134, to establish July as Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month. The plight of families suffering from mental illness is immense due to an absence of adequate social services and the unwarranted stigma surrounding mental health issues. Due to the unwarranted social stigma and a systemic failure to ensure health care coverage, over two-

thirds of the people who suffer from mental illness go untreated according to the Department of Health and Human Services. Within minority communities, even greater needs exist for mental health services. African Americans have less access to mental health services, and often receive an inferior quality of care. Higher rates of uninsured individuals also compound this problem within minority communities.

According to the National Institute on Mental Health, 20 percent of children and 26.2 percent of adults suffer from a diagnosable mental disorder in a given year. As the leading cause of disability in the U.S., many people suffer from more than one mental disorder at a given time. The need for mental health awareness is immense, particularly in the minority community.

Sadly, Bebe Moore Campbell's untimely death from brain cancer means that she is not here to see the passage of this resolution. However, it is comforting to know that her legacy lives on not only through her literature but also through this important resolution. I strongly believe that this resolution and the establishment of July as Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month will address and raise awareness in minority communities of the existence of mental illness and the need for mental health services.

I am honored to remember Bebe Moore Campbell, a premier journalist, who authored a children's book entitled, *Sometimes My Mommy Gets Angry*, winner of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill's Outstanding Literature Award. Through this story of how a little girl copes with being reared by a mentally ill mother, Moore Campbell was able to raise public awareness on mental health issues and heighten the consciousness of this topic within minority communities.

I proudly join my colleagues in support of this resolution and will continue to work tirelessly as an advocate for increased mental health services.

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 2008

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to support H. Res. 1153, a resolution celebrating Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. As an Executive Board member of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), and as the Representative for a district that is 12 percent Asian American, I understand how important it is to recognize the Asian Pacific American (APA) community for their valuable contributions to our Nation's history and development.

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month was celebrated for the first time in May of 1990,

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

and it became an annually observed event in 1992 under the 102nd Congress. Legislators chose the month of May in honor of some noteworthy historical events that happened during this time. May 7, 1843 was the date on which the first Japanese immigrants arrived in the United States. May 10, 1869 marks the completion of the first transcontinental railroad, an incredible undertaking that was made possible due to the hard work and sacrifices of thousands of Chinese immigrants.

By celebrating APA Heritage Month, we recognize the Asian Pacific American community for all that they have accomplished and endured. This great Nation draws its strength from the diversity of cultures and ideas that it was built upon, and it could not be what it is today without their contributions.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mrs. MYRICK. Madam Speaker, due to illness, I was unable to participate in the following votes. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows:

May 13, 2008: Rollcall vote 306, on motion to suspend the rules and agree—H. Res. 1181, Expressing condolences and sympathy to the people of Burma for the grave loss of life and vast destruction caused by Cyclone Nargis—I would have voted “aye.”

Rollcall vote 307, on motion to suspend the rules and pass—H.R. 6022, Strategic Petroleum Reserve Fill Suspension and Consumer Protection Act—I would have voted “aye.”

Rollcall vote 308, on motion to suspend the rules and pass—H.R. 4008, Credit and Debit Card Receipt Clarification Act of 2007—I would have voted “aye.”

May 14, 2008: Rollcall vote 309, question of consideration on the role—H. Res. 1189, providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2419, the Farm, Nutrition, and Bioenergy Act—I would have voted “nay.”

Rollcall vote 310, on ordering the previous question on the rule—H. Res. 1189, providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2419, the Farm, Nutrition, and Bioenergy Act—I would have voted “nay.”

Rollcall vote 311, on agreeing to the resolution—H. Res. 1189, providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2419, the Farm, Nutrition, and Bioenergy Act—I would have voted “nay.”

Rollcall vote 312, on motion to suspend the rules and agree—H. Res. 1134, Supporting the goals and ideals of Mental Health Month—I would have voted “aye.”

Rollcall vote 313, on motion to suspend the rules and agree—H. Res. 1176, Supporting the goals and ideals of National Train Day—I would have voted “aye.”

Rollcall vote 314, on motion to recommit conference report with instructions—H.R. 2410, the Farm, Nutrition, and Bioenergy Act—I would have voted “aye.”

Rollcall vote 315, on agreeing to the conference report—H.R. 2410, the Farm, Nutrition, and Bioenergy Act—I would have voted “nay.”

Rollcall vote 316, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to, as amended—H. Res.

1133, Congratulating Winona State University on winning the 2008 Division II men’s basketball championships—I would have voted “aye.”

Rollcall vote 317, on ordering the previous question—H. Res. 1190, Providing for the adoption of the concurrent resolution, S. Con. Res. 70, the Congressional Budget Act—I would have voted “nay.”

Rollcall vote 318, on agreeing to the resolution—H. Res. 1190, Providing for the adoption of the concurrent resolution, S. Con. Res. 70, the Congressional Budget Act—I would have voted “nay.”

Rollcall vote 319, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to—H. Res. 1173, Recognizing AmeriCorps Week—I would have voted “nay.”

Rollcall vote 320, on motion to instruct the conferees on—H.R. 4040, Consumer Product Safety Commission Reform Act—I would have voted “aye.”

Rollcall vote 321, on motion to instruct the conferees on—S. Con. Res. 70, the Congressional Budget Resolution—I would have voted “aye.”

Rollcall vote 322, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to, as amended—H. Res. 789, Honoring public child welfare agencies, nonprofit organizations and private entities providing services for foster children—I would have voted “aye.”

May 15, 2008: Rollcall vote 323, on ordering the previous question—H. Res. 1197, Providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to H.R. 2642, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act—I would have voted “nay.”

Rollcall vote 324, on agreeing to the resolution—H. Res. 1197, Providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to H.R. 2642, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act—I would have voted “nay.”

Rollcall vote 325, on motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended—H.R. 5614, Original Saint-Gaudens Double Eagle Ultra-High Relief Palladium Bullion Coin Act—I would have voted “aye.”

Rollcall vote 326, on motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended—H.R. 406, Alice Paul Women’s Suffrage Congressional Gold Medal Act—I would have voted “aye.”

Rollcall vote 327, on motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended—H.R. 5872, Boy Scouts of America Centennial Commemorative Coin Act—I would have voted “aye.”

Rollcall vote 328, on agreeing to the Senate amendment with amendment No. 1—H.R. 2642, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act—I would have voted “present.”

Rollcall vote 329, on agreeing to the Senate amendment with amendment No. 2—H.R. 2642, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act—I would have voted “nay.”

Rollcall vote 330, on agreeing to the Senate amendment with amendment No. 3—H.R. 2642, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act—I would have voted “nay.”

PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. VITO FOSSELLA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 2008

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1132, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Peace Officers Memorial Day and to honor more than 900,000 Federal, State and local law enforcement officials who serve this Nation. This year, 358 new names were added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, representing names of officers who lost their lives over the course of many years. In 2007 alone, 187 officers from across the United States were killed in the line of duty. These heroes were sons and daughters, husbands and wives, sisters, brothers, and true role models for each of us.

Congress passed legislation (PL 87-726) that requested the President to issue proclamations designating May 15th as National Peace Officers Memorial Day, and the week in which it falls as National Police Officers Week. National Police Week provides us with an opportunity to honor and thank those who keep us safe, protect our streets each day, and allow us to take advantage of the many freedoms we enjoy today. It also provides us with an opportunity to honor those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice.

Our local police officers, like those throughout Staten Island and Brooklyn, commit their lives to serving and protecting our communities, keeping our neighborhoods safe for our families and loved ones. America’s finest police officers across the country remain dedicated to their mission despite the tremendous risks involved with their service. Unfortunately, many of these brave members of our community pay the ultimate sacrifice and leave many families mourning the loss of loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in passing this resolution.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING RANKIN & RANKIN INSURANCE AGENCY FOR ITS 80 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Rankin & Rankin Insurance Agency has served the Zanesville, Ohio community for 80 years; and

Whereas, Rankin & Rankin Insurance Agency has grown through hard work and determination since April 9, 1928; and

Whereas, Rankin & Rankin continue to provide professional advice and direction for all of their customers; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that along with the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend and thank Rankin & Rankin Insurance Agency for its contributions to its community and country.

HONORING BENJAMIN B. DUTTON,
JR.

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to share with our colleagues the news about an outstanding recognition recently given to one of our House employees, who I am proud to say is a member of my staff. I pay tribute today to Benjamin B. Dutton, Jr., a man who is called "Mr. Winchester." I am fortunate to have Ben representing my office in Winchester, Virginia, one of the best small cities in America.

Along with diligently serving constituents not only for my office since 1990, when Winchester became part of the 10th Congressional District, but also for my predecessors George Allen and the late French Slaughter, Ben has played an active and key role in the Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival since it began in 1927.

The Apple Blossom Festival is a special event in Winchester each spring and I look forward to participating in the Grand Feature Parade every year. Ben was recognized this year in the Festival program as the "Keeper of the Flame" for the Festival. He served as the president of the festival from 1970–1972 and currently serves on the Board. Even as Ben approaches his 83rd birthday this June, he is still actively involved in making sure the Apple Blossom Festival is a success every year.

Ben is very deserving of all the honors and accolades coming his way and is truly committed in his service to his community. I am proud that he is a member of my staff and I am proud to call him my friend. The Festival program recognition of Ben as "Keeper of the Flame" follows:

BEN DUTTON: KEEPER OF THE FLAME

The Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival® is constantly in a state of flux; constantly reinventing itself. At the same time, the Festival works very hard to maintain its balance; to maintain its place in history; and, to never lose contact with its roots and its purpose. We know all too well how the Greatest Generation is being taken from us at an alarming rate these days; but, one of the "Keepers of Flame" for the Festival; one of the guardians of our roots, Mr. Ben Dutton, is still carrying on an active role in the Festival world even as he approaches his 83rd birthday.

When asked recently when he reckoned that his involvement with the Festival started, Ben replied, "From the beginning!" Shortly after the Festival was founded, the Washington Post ran a pictorial article in 1927 called "The Little Blossoms of Winchester"; and, Ben, aged two, was one of the local children featured in the article. Ben is quick to credit his Mother's very close friendship with Tom Baldrige, the original "Mr. Apple Blossom", for instilling in him early in life a great love and devotion for the Festival. Mrs. B. B. Dutton, Sr., was the Chairman of the Queen and Court Department those many years ago; and, Tom Baldrige had started his incredible run as Director General of the Festival in 1937 when Ben was just a child. Growing up around Mr. Tom's boundless enthusiasm, seemingly inexhaustible energy and undying love for the Pink and Green lit a Festival fire in young Ben that has never been quenched.

Following graduation from Handley High School, Ben served three years in the U.S.

Army during World War II; graduated from the University of Virginia in 1950; and, married his lovely wife, Jean Whipple Dutton, in 1952. They began their family of three beautiful daughters shortly thereafter; and, Ben began working in the insurance business in Atlanta, Louisiana and Southwest Virginia. In 1963, Ben returned to Winchester for good; joining the firm of J. V. Arthur as a Vice President and partner; and, immediately returning to the Apple Blossom World. He served as President of the Festival in 1970, 1971, and 1972. He served as the Festival's volunteer Executive Director in 1971; and, professionally in that capacity from 1995 to 1997.

Ben remembers fondly from the early 70s, the establishment of the ties between the Festival and the then-new Disney World in Orlando; and, the beginning of the visits of Disney's World Ambassador (always a pretty girl); and, of Mickey Mouse. He also enjoyed helping to establish an adults' beer, peanuts and dance party at the National Guard Armory called "Your Father's Mustache". Another memory from the past: the balls that used to be held in old, dry, wooden packing sheds, filled with wooden apple crates and bulk bins; and, decorated with cascades of crepe paper and lanterns. While the memory sounds quaint and charming, it is obvious that the insurance agent in Ben winces at the through of the old-fashioned barn-dance-type fire hazards involved.

When asked to describe his favorite Festival guests from the early 1970s, Ben had no problem zeroing in on two very special people; people who are not only very special in their places in the history of the world; but, who are obviously very special people in Ben Dutton's life. In 1972, Ben sought out and received the services of the Reverend Billy Graham as Grand Marshal of the Festival. It is not at all hard to imagine the electric effect Graham had on the Festival crowds that year. It is also obvious, listening to Ben tell the story, that his time spent with Dr. Graham is something that he will never forget. Ben says that he met him at Dulles Airport and that Billy told him that "he had always wanted to cross the Blue Ridge and descend into the Shenandoah Valley in the springtime." Ben's other favorite was the Festival appearance in 1971 of Admiral Alan Shepard, who was in town to crown his daughter, Juliana, as Queen. Shepard had recently returned from an Apollo Mission to the Moon. Ben is still fascinated by the fact that the raucous crowd at the Stag Luncheon was instantly hushed to silence when Admiral Shepard stepped to the microphone to describe his trip to the Moon.

When asked how he feels after all these years when he sees the lead units of the Grand Feature Parade coming up Washington Street Hill, Ben said that "He still had; and, always would have a tender spot in his heart for that scene." He continued, "What would springtime be like without it?" Ben, admittedly, had a rough winter of 2007–2008. Health problems kept him away from one Festival Board Meeting after another; and, this was tough for a man who has remained active enough in the Festival to have played a key role in the establishment of a new event, the Men's Commonwealth Luncheon, just two years ago. The February 2008 Board Meeting had already started when, unexpected and unannounced, in the door walked Ben Dutton. The immediate burst of applause was instantaneous, genuine, affectionate and relieved. Festival people do know who the Keepers of the Flame are; and, they are cherished!

IN TRIBUTE TO CHARLES M. HAIR,
M.D.

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, last week the Livingston Memorial Visiting Nurse Association celebrated its 60th anniversary and, in doing so, paid tribute to Charles M. Hair, M.D., for his enduring devotion to the organization.

I, too, rise in tribute to Dr. Hair, Chairman of the Board of Livingston Memorial Visiting Nurse Association.

Dr. Hair was raised in the farming community of Santa Paula, California. He joined the U.S. Army after earning his M.D., at the USC School of Medicine, and served two years in an Army field hospital in post-World War II Salzburg, Austria.

He returned to his home in Ventura County, California, in 1948, and embarked on a career as a family doctor. He and his wife, Gerry, whom he met when he was a student at Ventura College and she a student at Ventura High School, raised five children here.

Dr. Hair retired from family practice in the mid-1980s, but his dedication to his profession and the ill continues undaunted. Throughout his tenure with the Visiting Nurse Association, Dr. Hair has overseen the direction and growth of the agency to meet the complex and ever-changing home health needs of Ventura County.

In doing so, Dr. Hair brings a rural family doctor's perspective and philosophy to Livingston Memorial Visiting Nurse Association. The Association was founded to provide home care services as an alternative to institutionalizing the frail, elderly, sick and disabled, an idea dear to the heart of a family physician. In 1965, Medicare certified the Association as a home health agency. In 1987, it developed a Medicare-certified Hospice program.

Today, Livingston Memorial Visiting Nurse Association is Ventura County's only not-for-profit home health agency with a Medicare-certified home hospice program. Livingston services are provided for every individual in need, regardless of ability to pay.

Livingston Memorial Visiting Nurse Association's continued ability to provide professional, licensed, compassionate home care that is high quality and cost effective is in no small measure due to Dr. Hair's vision and direction.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in tribute to Dr. Hair and his vast contributions to comforting and treating the ill and thank him for a lifetime of healing.

**FORECLOSURE PREVENTION ACT
OF 2008**

SPEECH OF

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2008

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, let me first commend Chairman FRANK and Chairman RANGEL for their leadership in moving the American Housing Rescue and Foreclosure Prevention Act of 2008 forward. This is an intelligent and measured piece that addresses

the devastating effects of the mortgage crisis. For years, Washington was asleep at the switch. But now, this Congress is addressing and preventing foreclosures.

Nearly 650,000 foreclosure filings were issued in the first quarter of 2008, which represents 1 of every 194 households. Every day that goes by without action means more families are at risk of losing their homes.

This crisis—like so many other components of the current recession—hit low-income and minority neighborhoods the hardest. Each home lost to foreclosure affects entire neighborhoods. Chairwoman WATERS' bill H.R. 5818—of which I am an original cosponsor—allows homeowners to fight back.

I want to particularly highlight a provision I pushed to get added to this fine legislation. Many homeowners ended up in foreclosure because they didn't get sound mortgage advice. They need someone on their side—we all know the bank will be well represented. I am proud to have worked with Chairman FRANK and several of my Financial Services Committee colleagues to ensure that low-income homeowners and veterans in high foreclosure areas have access to professional counseling. Many distressed homeowners need sound advice now more than at any other time in their lives. Our legislation provides the help they need.

When a family loses a home to foreclosure, they lose more than four walls and a roof—they lose their economic stability. The housing package we are debating not only addresses immediate needs but is a solid strategy for preventing a future housing downturn.

I urge a "yes" vote on the American Housing Rescue and Foreclosure Prevention Act.

H.R. 5720—THE HOUSING ASSISTANCE ACT OF 2008

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Speaker, I am submitting this statement to record my strong and enthusiastic support for H.R. 5720, the Housing Assistance Act of 2008.

As everyone knows we are facing a foreclosure crisis the likes of which have not been witnessed since the Great Depression. According to RealtyTrac, a site that tracks foreclosure data, there were a total of a little over 2.2 million foreclosure filings—default notices, auction sale notices and bank repossessions last year, up an astronomical 75 percent from the previous year. In addition, more than 1 percent of all U.S. households were in some stage of foreclosure last year.

My home State of Illinois has not been immune to the crisis. Again, according to the latest statistics from RealtyTrac, there were almost 91,000 foreclosure filings last year, an increase of over 25 percent from 2006 and an increase of over 94 percent from 2005.

This common-sense legislation has many provisions designed to spur the sagging real estate market. First and foremost, this bill would provide first-time home buyers with assistance in making a down payment on a home by providing these individuals with a refundable tax credit that is equivalent to an interest-free loan equal to 10 percent of the purchase price of their home, up to \$7,500.

Moreover, the bill helps struggling taxpayers. Specifically, the bill would provide home owners who claim the standard deduction with an additional standard deduction for State and local real property taxes. The maximum amount that may be claimed under this provision is \$350, \$700 for joint filers.

I have introduced a similar proposal H.R. 5790, the Universal Homeowner Tax Cut Act of 2008. This bill would allow taxpayers who do not itemize a deduction for State and local real property taxes. I fully support providing these hard-working Americans tax relief and I hope some version of real property tax relief is enacted this year.

In addition to these core provisions, the bill contains other provisions regarding mortgage revenue bonds and tax simplification designed to spur homeownership.

This bill, in conjunction with a slew of bills that the House passed last week designed to stem the foreclosure crisis and restore the housing markets, will help us weather these turbulent economic times.

I support this bill and hope Congress will expeditiously send it to the President for his signature.

STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE FILL SUSPENSION AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER WELCH

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 13, 2008

Mr. WELCH of Vermont. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman DINGELL for his leadership and commitment to getting gas prices under control.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit this letter from Congressman RON KIND for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Mr. KIND has been a leader on this issue starting in January when he sent this letter to the President urging him to take action in suspending shipments to the SPR.

Mr. Speaker, in the face of skyrocketing fuel costs and growing economic concerns, Congress must take action.

Today we take the small but important step of temporarily suspending the fill of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. Taking this action sends a strong message to the market that will lower fuel prices and provide immediate relief to consumers.

With the price of gas today at nearly \$4 a gallon and crude oil trading at a record high of \$126 a barrel, we cannot continue the outdated policy of topping off a full SPR.

Since 2002, the price of oil has risen a staggering \$100 a barrel, and prices at the pump have more than tripled. We must stop taking 70,000 barrels of oil off the market every day while hard working Americans are struggling to fill their gas tanks.

By continuing to top off our oil reserve, consumers are paying not once, but twice.

Taxpayer dollars are being used to pay record high prices for SPR oil, while the act of buying that oil is actually driving gas prices higher.

The reserve is currently 97 percent full and maintains a stockpile of over 700 million barrels of oil. By taking this action today, we can

offer short term economic relief to the market and to all consumers.

This is a short term solution, and by no means a replacement for the long term energy policy we need to end our dangerous and costly addiction to oil. Last year this Congress made real progress by increasing CAFE standards for the first time in 2 decades by committing to combat oil and market manipulation, promoting the use of more affordable American biofuels, and making large investments in renewable energy development.

The U.S. consumes nearly 20 million barrels of oil a day. Prices are high in part because supply has not kept up with demand. The Department of Energy recently reported that suspension of shipments to the SPR could reduce prices by about \$2 a barrel of oil and 5 cents per gallon of gasoline. Other experts have estimated that the suspension could diminish speculation in the market, and lower the price by anywhere from 5 to 25 cents a gallon.

This action would provide real and immediate benefits. Twenty-five cents would add \$300,000 to the bottom line of a local trucking company in my district. A rural school district in E. Montpelier, Vermont would save \$30,000 in taxpayer financed busing costs. Families, workers, seniors and students need this relief.

Over the last 8 months, the Bush administration has purchased over 10 million barrels of oil to top off the SPR. In that same period of time the price of oil went from \$40 a barrel to over \$120.

In 2006, facing record high oil prices President Bush said ". . . by deferring deposits until the fall, we'll leave a little more oil on the market. Every little bit helps." Every little bit does help, and I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to take this opportunity to provide them immediate relief.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 22, 2008.

Hon. GEORGE W. BUSH,
The White House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: I write to urge the U.S. Department of Energy to suspend oil shipments to the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) to allow more oil to remain on the market and available to consumers. This action is necessary to address record prices and stimulate a precarious economy.

While the escalating cost of crude oil has made headlines for the past several years, never before have we seen as dire a situation for consumers as the one we are experiencing now. Even the price spikes following Hurricane Katrina did not come close to the \$100 per barrel oil we saw last month, yet your Administration wisely responded to that crisis by temporarily suspending purchases for the SPR. That action was successful in providing the type of immediate, targeted relief we need now.

The writing is on the wall: our country is clearly in danger of recession. Unemployment is up, retail sales are slowing, housing prices continue to slide, and consumers and lenders alike continue to suffer the fallout from the sub-prime mortgage crisis. Average families are feeling the effects more painfully than ever as they experience the worst inflation in 17 years, largely because of escalating food and fuel prices.

Suspending the 12.3 million barrels of oil scheduled to be delivered to the SPR over the next six months is a simple step your Administration can take immediately to lower gas prices, put money directly into the wallets of Americans, and save taxpayer dollars. Congressional investigations and independent experts have found that purchasing

oil for the SPR drives up gas prices, and costs taxpayers billions. This is money that working men and women cannot put into other parts of the economy, harming American families and businesses alike.

While I recognize this action should not be taken as a means of reducing prices in the long run, it can have temporary benefits that could go a long way to helping American families who are being squeezed, and to stimulate the economy. I urge you to take this important step.

Sincerely,

RON KIND,
Member of Congress.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING COMMANDER SERGEANT LAWRENCE SKAGGS FOR HIS MILITARY SERVICE AND INDUCTION INTO THE OHIO MILITARY HALL OF FAME OF VALOR

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Sergeant Lawrence Skaggs served in the United States Army; and

Whereas, he was inducted into the Ohio Military Hall of Fame of Valor; and

Whereas, the local Army Reserve Center in Chillicothe, Ohio bears his name in commemoration of his hard work and dedication; and

Whereas, Sergeant Lawrence Skaggs earned the Silver Star, a Purple Heart, Good Conduct, World War II Victory, and Asiatic Pacific Campaign medals for his service; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend and thank Sergeant Lawrence Skaggs for his contributions to his community and country.

IN MEMORY OF GOPAL RAJU

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, on April 10, Mr. Gopal Raju, a pioneer of Indian American Journalism, leader in his community, and founder of the publication India Abroad, News India-Times, and the Indian American Center for Political Awareness (IACPA), passed away at the age of 80.

Mr. Raju spent a lifetime supporting the Indian American community and promoting a stronger relationship between India and the United States. In particular, the Washington Leadership Program that was formed under the IACPA has allowed nearly two hundred Indian Americans to participate as interns on Capitol Hill—some of whom have even served in the office of the Second Congressional District of South Carolina.

Additional achievements include launching the Indian American Foundation (IAF)—which raised millions of dollars for causes in India—and the India Abroad News Service that for over 20 years has been a vital channel for information sharing between the United States

and India. Most recently, Mr. Raju was the editor and publisher of News India-Times, Gujarat Times, and Desi Talk.

A man of passion and committed to the needs of his community and his people, Mr. Raju received the Ellis Island Medal of Honor which is given to immigrants for their contributions to the United States, the 2000 Asia Society's Leadership Award, the 2006 Taraknath Das Foundation award, and in 2007 he was recognized by India with the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman award.

A memorial service for Mr. Gopal Raju was held on May 17th at the Maharaja Hall in Royal Albert's Palace in Fords, New Jersey. It was organized by India Abroad and the South Asian Journalists Association.

I was honored to have met this incredible individual. I know his humility and selfless contribution to the lives of the millions his programs and publications touched will be missed. My thoughts and prayers are with Mr. Raju's family and the entire Indian American community.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Requesting Member: Congressman LAMAR SMITH.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Department of Defense, Army RDTE (R-1 Line #133).

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Applied Physical Electronics, LLC.

Address of Requesting Entity: 5208 Electric Avenue, Spicewood, Texas 78669.

Description of Request: The requested funds will be used to produce technology to support efforts against terrorist activities, to fund two endowed professors from the University of Texas for antenna design support and for signal and image processing, to acquire key capital laboratory equipment, and to hire 12 highly skilled professional engineers, as well as supporting staff. The UT professors will be funded to continue in their efforts to help design compact antenna structures, as well as the development of algorithms necessary for detecting and identifying explosives and controlling electronics used with Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs). The necessary equipment and additional staff will further the development of APELC's technology into systems deployed for defense against IEDs and Rocket Propelled Grenades (RPGs), with the ultimate objective being the utilization of APELC's technology as integral components of future applicable DoD systems, including MDA, Army, Air Force, DARPA and the Navy.

Description of Matching Funds: APELC is close to securing matching funds from a U.S. prime contractor in the form of a 3 year teaming agreement. The amount is expected to be approximately 1:3 match to the dollars requested. The matching funding will be used to move APELC's technology into deployable systems for field use. Furthermore, the principals of APELC continue investing in the company, and in the form of facility improve-

ment to better facilitate technology development.

CONGRATULATIONS TO CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1958

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to extend my congratulations and best wishes to the Central High School Class of 1958 as they prepare to celebrate their 50th class reunion on May 30, 2008. Central High is located in Galveston, Texas, which is in my Congressional district. Constructed in 1895 to ensure that the segregation laws then in effect did not deny Galveston's African-American children the opportunity to obtain an education, Central High is the oldest high school in Texas built to serve African-Americans.

Laws dictating what schools a child can and cannot attend, based solely on that child's race, are a shameful aspect of America's history. We should take every opportunity possible to salute those, like the students of Central High, who refused to allow the "Jim Crow" laws stop them from obtaining an education.

The class of 1958 holds particular significance, as they were the first class to complete all 4 years in the new Central High that opened in 1954. Madam Speaker, I once again extend my congratulations to the members of the Central High Class of 1958 as they prepare to celebrate their 50th class reunion.

H.R. 5613, THE PROTECTING THE MEDICAID SAFETY NET ACT

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, I rise to voice my strong support for H.R. 5613, the Protecting the Medicaid Safety Net Act. This important bipartisan bill extends a moratorium until April 1, 2009 on seven Administration-imposed Medicaid regulations that if implemented, would severely reduce federal Medicaid funding.

Without the moratorium, Medicaid funding to states for vital programs and services would be cut by \$18 billion over the next 5 years. These cuts include restrictions on Medicaid payments for graduate medical education, GME, rehabilitation services, and outpatient hospital services, among other services.

It would be irresponsible to think about cutting funding to academic medical centers and residency training programs when we currently face a shortage of physicians. If these cuts were allowed to go into effect, we would be unable to provide necessary medical services to many people who depend upon Medicaid.

Constantly cutting funds to the very services which keep our fragmented, non-system health care afloat is inhumane and nonsensical.

The tactic of underfunding federal programs in an attempt to undermine their effectiveness demonstrates the Administration's lack of commitment to the programs that faithfully and effectively serve the American people.

Madam Speaker, passage of H.R. 5613 is simply a necessity. We must halt the underfunding of important Medicaid programs. I wholeheartedly support the passage of H.R. 5613, the Protecting the Medicaid Safety Net Act.

HONORING DIANE B. GARRO OF
THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of myself and Ways and Means Ranking Member JIM McCREY to recognize Diane B. Garro, an exemplary public servant. Ms. Garro is retiring after 36 years of distinguished service at the Social Security Administration.

Ms. Garro has devoted her professional life to serving Social Security's current and future beneficiaries. Like many other dedicated SSA employees, Ms. Garro began her career on the front lines, directly serving beneficiaries. Through her talent and hard work, she rose to become a key senior executive.

Ms. Garro started her career with SSA while she was still a college student, and later took a full-time job as a claims authorizer for disability benefits. Her skill and commitment were recognized as she was promoted to a variety of management positions throughout the agency, and she eventually was named as Assistant Deputy Commissioner—the top civil service position—in SSA's Office of Legislation and Congressional Affairs, OLCA. She has served with distinction for over 12 years in that position or as Acting Deputy Commissioner. She has helped to establish a high standard for knowledge, cooperation and professionalism in representing SSA with Members of Congress and their staff.

Ms. Garro is recognized as an expert on SSA's disability policies, with a particular expertise in the complex challenge of determining childhood disability. With her early experience as a disability claims authorizer as a base, and additional experience gained in organizational management, she was named Director of SSA's Division of Medical and Vocational Policy, which is responsible for developing the regulations and policies used to determine whether an applicant meets the test of disability in the law. She was chosen to represent SSA on a White House workgroup on children with disabilities, and she addressed the National Commission on Childhood Disability on behalf of SSA.

Ms. Garro also led the development of SSA's medical listing for HIV, creating a streamlined process that allowed individuals with HIV to qualify for presumptive disability payments based on a doctor's certification. As a result, payments for individuals suffering from HIV could begin in a matter of days rather than months. She also played a pivotal role in developing and implementing the procedures the Agency continues to use to expedite benefits to terminally ill applicants.

At the Committee on Ways and Means, we are grateful for Ms. Garro's vast expertise cov-

ering Social Security programs and agency operations, and her skill in communicating vital information to Congress. She has led the Congressional affairs team with a high degree of integrity, knowledge, and compassion. The Subcommittee on Social Security particularly appreciates her unfailing responsiveness, and her timely, accurate, and insightful analysis on issues ranging from disability determination to disclosure of information to the impact of immigration reform on SSA. The technical assistance she and her staff have provided over the years has been invaluable in perfecting the laws Congress has enacted.

Ms. Garro's tenure in OLCA spanned six SSA Commissioners. She led SSA's preparation of witnesses for many hearings, and the Committee learned to expect those witnesses to be ready to handle any question we would ask. Ms. Garro also participated in innumerable Congressional briefings. Her hallmark was a thoughtful, practical, well-reasoned approach to any issue, leavened by a sense of humor that ensured balance and perspective.

Diane Garro's career exemplifies her commitment to providing effective, compassionate, and knowledgeable service to the Agency and to the American public. She can retire knowing she has the respect and admiration of those who have worked with her, and she can be very proud of her accomplishments.

We wish Ms. Garro all the best in her retirement from the Social Security Administration. We thank her for her many years of dedicated Federal service, and we will certainly miss her.

H.R. 3221—FORECLOSURE
PREVENTION ACT OF 2008

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Speaker, owning a home is an essential component of the American dream, and an accomplishment that millions of Americans aspire to and take pride in. In recent months, however, the housing market has entered a slump. The effort to provide a way for all Americans to own their own homes brought a sharp increase in the usage of subprime and exotic mortgages, which proved to be more than the market could handle. We now find ourselves grappling with decisions on how best to "fix" the problems that have arisen in the housing market and in our economy.

However, a broad government handout, such as what has been proposed in recent legislation, is not the answer.

While the housing slump must be addressed, I am concerned by the precedent of using taxpayer dollars to bail out fraudulent lenders and, in some instances, irresponsible borrowers. H.R. 5818 and H.R. 3221, the so-called "Neighborhood Stabilization Act of 2008" and "Foreclosure Prevention Act of 2008," propose such a bailout at the cost of responsible, hardworking American families.

These bills do contain important provisions such as the modernization of the Federal Housing Authority (FHA) and reform of Government-Sponsored Entities (GSEs). These

bills, however, also include a \$300 billion taxpayer-funded government subsidizing of irresponsible lending behavior. I fully support the FHA and GSE reform measures that have passed the House of Representatives, yet I cannot support a massive bailout to irresponsible lending practices and market speculators. For these reasons, I voted against H.R. 5818 and H.R. 3221.

While I cannot support legislation that rewards bad behavior at the expense of taxpayers, I remain strongly committed to supporting measures that provide the necessary relief to families who have been victimized without burdening taxpayers for the irresponsibility of others. Therefore, I am supporting two alternative bills introduced before the House of Representatives that precisely address the needs of homeowners in a responsible and fair way.

First, H.R. 5974, The Housing Opportunity for All Americans Act of 2008, addresses the housing slump in a responsible way. Instead of providing a massive bailout to irresponsible lenders and borrowers, this legislation creates a market incentive approach to the housing slump. The market approach includes a one-time tax credit for homebuyers of 10 percent of the home's purchase price (up to \$10,000) for 1 year after the enactment of the bill. Also, under this legislation, taxpayers who are non-resident aliens, flip a home within the 1 year period, or sell a house to a relative simply for the credit, would not be eligible. Furthermore, mortgages which exceed the maximum original principal obligation of a mortgage Freddie Mac will purchase would not qualify.

Second, H.R. 5857, the Homeownership Protection and Housing Market Stabilization Act of 2008, is also a more responsible approach to addressing the current problems facing the housing market. The bill includes provisions to directly protect home buyers and owners, such as housing counseling, improved disclosure practices, fraud combating and prevention measures, and encouragement to re-work loans instead of foreclosing. It also aims to help prevent lenders from falling into the same habits that have recently developed in the industry by providing liability protection for helping troubled borrowers, requiring escrow accounts for subprime borrowers, and reforming appraisal practices for prospective homebuyers. In addition, this legislation contains provisions similar to those that have passed this House with my support: FHA modernization and improved regulation of GSEs, including Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, and the Federal Home Loan Banks.

These alternative bills provide the integrity of the appraisal process and strengthen mortgage fraud prevention efforts that will help bring stability to the current housing market. These bills together represent a viable alternative, offering an appropriate response to a serious problem without burdening taxpayers for the irresponsibility of others.

I am hopeful that a bipartisan compromise can be achieved in Conference that can be supported by majority of the Members of the House and Senate, as well as the President. An effectual and responsible solution to the current situation must be reached for the sake of our economy and our citizens, and I hope to be able to vote on legislation that provides sensible but effective relief for American homeowners.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS AND LIFE OF JOSÉ "CHEGÜI" TORRES

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the remarkable life achievements of a beloved Puerto Rican sports icon and long-time distinguished New Yorker. José "Chegüi" Torres is an example to us all, both for his accomplishments as an athlete and his dedication to his community and Nation.

Chegüi was born on May 3, 1936 in Ponce, Puerto Rico. By his late teens, he had shown such prowess in the ring, that he was invited to join the U.S. Olympic Boxing Team. As an Olympian, he won a silver medal in the junior middleweight division at the 1956 Melbourne Summer Games.

Subsequently—still as an amateur boxer—he won the 1958 Inter-City Golden Gloves Championship. Later that year, Chegüi chose to join the ranks of boxing professionals. He debuted with a first round knockout of George Hamilton in New York, and followed that impressive professional victory with 12 wins—10 of them by knockout. On March 30, 1965, the Brooklyn resident became world light-heavyweight boxing champion before thousands of adoring fans at Madison Square Garden. He is one of the first three Puerto Ricans to earn a world title, and the first Hispanic ever to win the world's light heavyweight championship.

The notoriety that came from his 1965 triumph brought him considerable national attention. It even led to such highlights as an appearance—and singing performance—on the Ed Sullivan Show. Not one to rest on his laurels, however, Chegüi successfully defended his championship belt three times. In fact he did not retire from the sport until 1969, doing so with an impressive 41–3–1 record.

In more recent years, Chegüi has distinguished himself as a leader of New York's Puerto Rican community. He is a familiar face to city residents, and a tireless advocate of the less fortunate among us. From 1984 to 1988, he also served as New York State Athletic Commissioner. And, from 1990 to 1995, he was named President of the World Boxing Organization.

Having traded his boxing gloves for the might of the written word, Chegüi is now also an accomplished author. He has written several books, among them: *Sting Like a Bee*, about Muhammad Ali and *Fire and Fear*, about Mike Tyson. He is also a highly regarded sports columnist for ESPNdeportes.com and a commentator for ESPN Deportes and ESPN International.

José "Chegüi" Torres has lived a remarkable life. He has accomplished tremendous victories inside the ring, and—on behalf of Puerto Ricans everywhere—outside of it. He has shown himself to be a leader, a fierce representative of his Nation, and a tireless supporter of his community. After four decades of living in New York, "Chegüi" returned with his wife of more than 46 years, Ramona Ortiz Rodriguez, to his beloved Puerto Rico. He takes with him a lifetime of memories, our best wishes, and the respect of a people who will forever see him as their champion.

TRIBUTE TO DR. SALTER JOSIAH COCHRAN JR.

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, it is with great admiration and respect that I recognize a dear friend and one of this nation's most distinguished citizens, Dr. Salter Josiah Cochran Jr. Dr. Cochran was born on February 28, 1922 here in Washington, DC. He attended the public schools for the District of Columbia and graduated from historic Dunbar High School. Thereafter, he attended and graduated from Howard University receiving both a Bachelor's of Science degree and a medical degree from the School of Medicine. I applaud and commend Dr. Cochran and his classmates upon recently celebrating their 60th medical school class reunion.

Dr. Cochran served our country as a Captain in the United States Army Medical Corps. He served as Chief of the Outpatient Clinic and attending physician while stationed at Fort Belvoir, Virginia and Walter Reed Military Hospital. Upon his discharge he was awarded the Combat Medical Badge and two Bronze Stars for his service to our country.

After his military service, Dr. Cochran moved to North Carolina and embarked upon a very successful career as a community physician. He practiced medicine in Weldon, North Carolina for 51 years and retired from the practice in 2001 with thousands of patients who truly appreciate his service. Dr. Cochran also served as physician for the 632nd Air Force Radar Base in Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina. Both of these communities are in my Congressional District.

Even though Dr. Cochran committed many hours of providing dedicated service to his patients, he remained true to his commitment to be active, productive and dedicated to every facet of the community. Dr. Cochran served as the President of the Old North State Medical Society; President of Halifax-Northampton County Medical Society; Member of the School Board in Weldon, North Carolina; Physician for Caledonia Prison System in Halifax County; Chief Medical Examiner in Halifax and Northampton Counties; Weldon High School Sports Physician; Chairman of the Board of Elections in Halifax County; and a life member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

In December of 2001, Dr. & Mrs. Cochran retired to Suffolk, Virginia and now live in retirement in Smithfield, Virginia.

Madam Speaker, Dr. Cochran is a devoted husband and father. He is married to the former Doris Hill of Denver, Colorado. The Cochran's are the proud parents of four children: Leslie G. Bobbin, Anthony P. Cochran, Christine A. McLarty, and Robin C. Quarles. They also have 7 grandchildren: Amanda M. Bobbitt, Lydia M. Bobbin, Zachary J. Quarles, Jeremiah K. Quarles, Ryan A. Cochran, Lindsey K. Cochran, and Daniel F. McLarty.

I urge my Colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Salter Josiah Cochran, Jr.

HONORING HAMILTON COLLEGE WOMEN'S LACROSSE TEAM

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL A. ARCURI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. ARCURI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to proudly congratulate the Hamilton College women's lacrosse team on winning this year's NCAA Division III Championship.

I commend the Hamilton Continentals on their remarkable 21–1 performance this season and on setting a NCAA program record for the year. The Continentals achieved a stunning 19-game straight victory leading into the playoffs, and this year marks the first time that the team has advanced to the national semi-finals in its playoff history. This team has proven that a strong will and never looking back will take you far, as it encountered and beat both the number-one ranked team and the defending champions en route to their 13–6 victory in the final.

The Hamilton Continentals are a shining example of what hard work and commitment can produce, and I am delighted to represent such an inspirational group of young athletes in Congress. The sacrifices and contributions of the entire team and their head coach merit true recognition. The Continentals have brought pride and honor to our community as well as their loved ones and the students and alumni of Hamilton College.

Madam Speaker, I deeply congratulate the Hamilton College women's lacrosse team on this great accomplishment, and I wish them luck and success in their future endeavors.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the first and second amendments to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2642. In November 2006, the people of the United States gave this Congress a mandate to end the war in Iraq. Yet today we are in the same place we were in January of 2007 and have not taken appropriate action to end the war.

The first amendment considered today continues to fund the war with an additional \$162.5 billion for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. These funds will carry the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan into 2009. This money adds to the \$700 billion that Congress has appropriated for all war related expenses since 2001. Expert analysis tells us that the real cost of funding this war will amount to \$3 trillion. Yet dollar figures cannot begin to estimate the true cost of war which includes the lost lives of the 4,077 of our honorable troops who have been killed in Iraq and 501 killed in Afghanistan, the lives of over 1,000,000 Iraqi civilians, and the injury of over 30,000 members of the Armed Forces.

The second amendment sets a goal for the withdrawal of our troops from Iraq. I favor the safe and orderly redeployment of our troops

and this amendment requires that it begin within 30 days. But a nonbinding goal to withdraw our troops within 18 months does not end this war and does not mean that all of our troops will be home within 18 months. This goal amounts to an open-ended invitation to continue this war well into the future. This body has the ability to end the war and bring our troops home simply by refusing to continue funding.

The war, waged under false pretenses, has decimated Iraq. Destruction has permeated most of the country. War has taken a very heavy, very real and very caustic toll. At an absolute minimum, we have a responsibility to rebuild that which we have destroyed. However, amendment number two to the Emergency Supplemental requires Iraq to match U.S. reconstruction funds dollar-for-dollar. The U.S. has waged an illegal war that has torn Iraq to pieces and now this body sees fit to require that Iraq match U.S. funding for reconstruction. This sends a clear signal to the Iraqi people about the U.S. commitment to the health and well-being of the people of Iraq. I cannot support this policy.

The second amendment will also require Iraq to partially finance the cost of fuel for the U.S. military in Iraq. This amounts to stealing from the Iraqi people. The Constitution of Iraq mandates that the petroleum resources of Iraq belong to the Iraqi people. These resources will be needed by Iraq to ensure their future well-being. This body should not establish any requirements related to the oil resources of Iraq.

It is time for this body to stop equivocating. This body must end this war. The American people have asked us to end this war and bring our troops home. We must respond to the will of the American people.

GAS PRICE RELIEF FOR CONSUMERS ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 2008

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise this afternoon in strong support of H.R. 6074. Today gas prices are higher than they have ever been at any time in our Nation's history. These prices are causing a ripple effect that is causing the price to rise for even the basic necessities of life for Americans, such as food and electricity. And in States like my home State of North Carolina, where people must travel farther distances to go to work, church, and the grocery store, these prices are making it harder to make ends meet.

This legislation will end the practice of oil producing countries, most notably the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), from intentionally suppressing production capabilities to ensure higher profits. This legislation closes a loophole that prevents the U.S. Department of Justice from being able to sue these countries under anti-trust violations. H.R. 6074 will also establish a Justice Department task force that will carefully examine these countries for collusion, gouging, trade manipulation, and other unfair practices. This task force will be required to report their findings annually to the Congress.

Mr. Speaker, for too long these countries have come to rely on a strong U.S. market to sell their product. Today, we are sending the message that they will now have to play by the rules.

I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.R. 6074.

H.R. 3221, AMERICAN HOUSING RESCUE AND FORECLOSURE PREVENTION ACT

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the American Housing Rescue and Foreclosure Prevention Act (H.R. 3221) and to Chairman FRANK and Speaker PELOSI for their quick action to help American families.

The United States is facing a housing crisis. Nationally, between 7,000 and 8,000 people a day are filing for foreclosure, and estimates show that over 28,000 Minnesotans will lose their homes to foreclosure in 2008. Foreclosures hurt our families, neighborhoods, and communities. I saw the impact of the foreclosure crisis firsthand when I recently visited the East Side neighborhoods in St. Paul who are hit hard by this crisis. Foreclosures result in reduced property values for neighbors and lost tax revenue for states and local governments, as well as contribute to criminal activity. The high rate of foreclosure also has a substantial spillover effect on financial markets and the broader economy through the loss of jobs.

Congress has a role in protecting families and neighborhoods from an expansion of this crisis, which is why I support the Foreclosure Prevention Act (H.R. 3221). H.R. 3221 is Congress' most comprehensive response yet to address housing affordability and the rising numbers of foreclosures. This legislation will help troubled borrowers avoid foreclosure while minimizing taxpayer exposure. It expands the FHA program so that borrowers in danger of losing their home can refinance into lower-cost government-insured mortgages they can afford to repay. This voluntary program is not a bailout as mortgage investors must take significant losses by reducing the loan principal. This bill also strengthens regulation of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, raises the GSE loan limit, and increases homeownership opportunities for our veterans. To increase investment and confidence in the real estate market, this bill also includes tax provisions to aid potential homebuyers. I am pleased to be able to cast a vote for this legislation to help play a part to keep families in their homes.

The U.S. House has also taken action to help our communities deal with the cost of foreclosure. The Neighborhood Stabilization Act (H.R. 5818), of which I am a cosponsor, focuses on the communities that have been hit hardest by foreclosures as many foreclosed homes are currently vacant creating neighborhood blight and bringing down property values. This bill will establish a \$15 billion HUD grant providing state and localities with the funds to purchase, rent, or rehabilitate of va-

cant foreclosed homes with the goal of occupying them as soon as possible.

These housing measures are an important step to help families facing foreclosure keep their homes, help other families avoid foreclosures in the future, and help communities harmed by empty homes in the foreclosure process. The dream of homeownership has become a nightmare for too many people in our community. We need this legislation will help rebuild our neighborhoods and our economy.

H.R. 3221 is an important step in addressing the crisis in the housing market to help families, communities and our economy. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation and move our housing policy in a new direction.

HONORING COUNCILMAN GENE BELMARES

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Councilman Gene Belmares, who will be presented with the Liberty Bell Award by the Laredo-Webb County Bar Association on May 9, 2008.

Gene Belmares is the son of a decorated World War II veteran, Ignacio Belmares, and Elvira Belmares. He grew up in Laredo, Texas, and attended United High School and Laredo Junior College. Gene utilized his marketing skills to great effect in his work with some of South Texas's most prestigious companies such as Thomas Petroleum, Arguindegui Oil, and WestWind Homes. Gene is now enjoying his work with the marketing and sales team at the famous La Posada Hotel, one of the oldest hotels in South Texas that is leading the revitalization of downtown Laredo.

Councilman Belmares was elected to the Laredo City Council in 2002, and is seated on the Metropolitan Planning Organization, Water Issues, Sports Venue, and Legislative Committees. He is currently serving as Mayor Pro Tempore, and is responsible for the unprecedented fiscal growth of the City of Laredo for the last six years through his work on landmark ordinances and legacy projects. Councilman Belmares also has admirably served the community of Laredo, Texas, through his civic work with the March of Dimes, Muscular Dystrophy, and the American Cancer Society. He enjoys coaching the Gateway Girls Softball League, and the Boys and Girls Club flag football.

Councilman Belmares is a truly deserving recipient of the Liberty Bell Award, which is given out annually by the Laredo-Webb County Bar Association to those who have demonstrated exemplary community service, and contributed to good governance in the community.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to recognize the dedication of Councilman Belmares to the City of Laredo, and I thank you for this time.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2008

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, today the House is considering three amendments to fund the war in Iraq, enact important policies regarding the war in Iraq, and meet critical domestic needs. I will support two of these amendments.

The American people want this wrong-headed war in Iraq to come to an end. More than 4,000 soldiers have lost their lives and billions of dollars have been spent. Yet this Administration insists on staying the course.

I will not support the amendment that would provide nearly \$163 billion through next summer to fund the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. While I believe that our efforts in Afghanistan are necessary and have not received sufficient attention or resources since the start of the war in Iraq, I cannot support devoting billions of dollars to a failed policy in Iraq, particularly when we are facing significant economic problems here at home.

However, I strongly support the amendment that would enact several necessary policies regarding the war in Iraq including the complete withdrawal of American troops from Iraq by December 2009, ensuring congressional approval of any treaties between the United States and Iraq, no permanent bases in Iraq, and prohibiting torture techniques not authorized in the Army Field Manual. I hope that the final bill sent to the President will include these important provisions.

Finally, I am pleased to support the amendment that will expand benefits for veterans, provide, food, disaster, and refugee assistance, help strengthen levees in Louisiana, enact contracting reforms, and extend unemployment benefits in all states for 13 weeks and in some states, an additional 13 weeks. We must continue to do all that we can to help those Americans who are looking for employment in these difficult economic times.

I want to thank Chairman OBEY and Chairman MOLLOHAN for the inclusion of \$210 million in funding for the Census Bureau. This is a welcome first step in repairing the mismanagement of the 2010 Census planning process by the Bush Administration, and it is a responsible action by this Congress.

Full and fair representation is a fundamental building block of our democracy, and it is imperative that we guarantee every American is counted. While this funding is a critical first step, we must continue to hold this Administration accountable and restore the American people's confidence in our ability to fulfill this Constitutional mandate.

I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing additional funding for the war in Iraq so that we send the President the message he needs to hear: bring the troops home now.

INTRODUCTION OF THE RESOLUTION
TO REPLACE THE
ASHCROFT FBI GUIDELINES
WITH THE LEVI FBI GUIDELINES**HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, May 30th, 2002 Attorney General John Ashcroft changed the guidelines established by Attorney General Edward Levi in 1976 to curb abuses by the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI), following revelations of an FBI "enemies list" in the wake of the Watergate scandal.

The Levi Guidelines were adopted after the Church Committee found that the FBI had developed over 500,000 domestic intelligence files on Americans and domestic groups and had clearly targeted investigations to disrupt the efforts of dissenters. This famed Committee detailed the disturbing extent to which the FBI had spied on Americans such as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., former Navy officer Father Roy Bourgeois, and Holocaust survivor and grandmother Edith Bell, all of whom were peaceful protestors and advocates for their beliefs.

While the Levi guidelines ensured there was a justifiable criminal investigation and supervision of such investigations, the Ashcroft Guidelines have enabled the FBI to investigate groups and individuals whether or not there was evidence of criminal activity. The Levi Guidelines required that limited FBI investigations be instigated by facts or circumstances that reasonably indicate a federal crime has been, is being or will be committed. Under the Ashcroft Guidelines, we have even seen college students endure taxpayer funded FBI interrogations and investigations for simply placing irreverent posters up in their college communities. In one case, the FBI resorted to grilling a North Carolina college student about "un-American materials" in her apartment, such as a poster of George W. Bush holding a noose. It read, "We hang on your every word." While some may argue this is not in good taste, it is far from a potential act of terrorism.

The Ashcroft Guidelines have allowed the FBI to attend and begin to track those present in every public meeting, at every demonstration and visiting all internet chat rooms. Americans need to be able to meet and debate without fear that their associations and dissent will end up in an FBI database at every turn. By severing the tie between evidence of crime and initial FBI surveillance, the Ashcroft Guidelines fundamentally alter the role of the FBI in our society and ignore the very basis for adoption of the original Levi Guidelines.

My Resolution is simple. It calls on Congress to reinstate the Levi guidelines which provide better protections for ordinary Americans from unwarranted, domestic FBI spying, on this, the 6-year anniversary of the eradication of such critical guidelines. This will end domestic spying such as that documented by the Church Committee report, where there is no evidence of criminal activity, while ensuring that the FBI can investigate anyone as long as there is a rational basis for doing so.

For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution urging that the Ashcroft

Guidelines be replaced with a return to the Levi Guidelines.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Requesting Member: Congressman LAMAR SMITH.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Department of Defense, Army RDT&E (R-1 Line #30).

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio.

Address of Requesting Entity: 7703 Floyd Curl Drive, San Antonio, TX 78229-3900.

Description of Request: The requested funds will be used to: Establish the National Center for Trauma Research, which will be the primary site for trauma research in the US; this will be accomplished through federal and non-federal funding; expand clinical research that benefits the nation's civilian and military trauma patient population, focusing on survival rates, pre-hospital interventions and surgical techniques; potential studies include wound healing, hemorrhage control with dressing, traumatic brain injury; establish telecommunications technology that connects the three trauma centers and Burn Center, necessary to coordinate disaster/bioterrorism response and also useful on a daily basis so that medical education opportunities at any facility are available across our system; develop a regional ICU Registry to parallel the current Regional Trauma Registry; coupling the data available in both allows researchers to study the entire patient episode, from pre-hospital to discharge and outcome; and support the infrastructure needed to accomplish these goals, given that during the same period new revenue streams from physician fee-for-service billing will partially replace the need for federal funding. NTI is directly leading to better care for combat casualties. Today military surgeons and nurses are continuing to be trained at NTI facilities prior to their deployment in Iraq and Afghanistan. Over 550 critically burned soldiers have been treated in San Antonio. The NTI is playing a critical role in our nation's battlefield medical response effort and helping to improve outcomes for these brave men and women.

SLAIN LAW ENFORCEMENT
OFFICER STAMP ACT**HON. BOB FILNER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, my colleagues, and I rise today to speak about a concurrent resolution that I have just introduced that recognizes the service and sacrifice of our law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty.

My legislation would express the sense of Congress that a stamp, called the Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Stamp, should be

issued to honor law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty.

On average, a law enforcement officer is killed in America every other day. Since 1794, when recordkeeping started, more than 17,900 officers have lost their lives in service to their communities. In 2007, 186 officers were killed in the line of duty, an increase of more than 28 percent from the year prior.

Too many police officers are killed or injured in the line of duty every day and this legislation is a way to thank those who put their lives in danger every time they put on their uniforms. I am proud to sponsor such worthy legislation.

I invite my colleagues to join with me in commending our law enforcement officers. It is extremely important that we honor these everyday heroes! Please join me in supporting H. Con. Res. 356.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Speaker, I submit the following: H.R. 5658, The Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2009, contains \$7,412,000 for MXG Consolidation and Forward Logistic Center, Phase 2 in the Air Force, Military Construction account. This project is for McConnell Air Force Base located 57837 Coffeyville St., Kansas, 67221. The funds will help complete phase two of the Maintenance Group (MXG) Consolidation and Forward Logistics Center that will streamline many different facilities into one maintenance facility, resulting in improved military operations and saving taxpayer dollars by reducing operations and maintenance spending. No matching funds are required for this military construction project.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. HOBSON. Madam Speaker, in accordance with the February 2008 New Republican Earmark Standards Guidance, I submit the following:

Requesting Member: Congressman DAVID L. HOBSON.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Provision: Division B, Title XXVI, Section 2604.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Ohio National Guard.

Address of Requesting Entity: 2825 West Dublin-Granville Road, Columbus, Ohio 43235-2789.

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$12,793.00 to authorize acceleration of construction of a facility to relocate the Ohio Air National Guard's 269th Combat Communications Squadron and 251st Combat Communications Group to another part of the Springfield, Ohio, Air National Guard Base. The current 25-year-old facility is obsolete and places severe restrictions on the ability to perform

equipment maintenance and conduct training operations. It does not comply with existing codes and has excessive operations and maintenance costs. The current building can be reused for other functions but cannot be made functionally adequate for the communications mission.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Requesting Member: Representative JOHN T. DOOLITTLE.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Air Force—RDT&E, AEROSPACE PROPULSION.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Aerojet-General Corp.

Address of Requesting Entity: Highway 50 & Aerojet Rd., Rancho Cordova, CA 95742.

Description of Request: An increase of \$3,000,000 for Air Force RDTE Line Aerospace Propulsion for Hydrocarbon Boost Technology Demonstrator. The Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL, Edwards AFB) has initiated a Hydrocarbon Boost Technology Demonstrator program to provide the United States with a liquid hydrocarbon rocket engine to power the next generation of launch vehicles for assured access of critical national security payloads. Instead of a hydrocarbon fuel, most American liquid engines in large thrust classes use liquid oxygen and hydrogen propellants. Cryogenic hydrogen is costly to produce. It is also difficult to work with compared to hydrocarbon fuels due to its extremely low storage temperature requirement and launch operations safety concerns. Furthermore, the propellant properties and very cold temperatures reduce the life of the materials involved and make low cost, rapid turnaround reusable applications nearly impossible. Hydrocarbon liquid rocket engines ultimately derived from the advanced technology developed and demonstrated in the Hydrocarbon Booster Technology Demonstrator program will not only provide the highest performing hydrocarbon engines ever developed in the United States, but also will provide higher operability, lower costs and greater safety with higher reliability than any liquid booster engine ever made in the U.S. and perhaps the world. The funding would be used for Ox Rich Preburner and Turbopump concept designs.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. McKEON. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Requesting Member: Congressman HOWARD "BUCK" McKEON.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658—The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009.

Account: Operations and Maintenance, Air Force.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Edwards Air Force Base.

Address of Requesting Entity: Edwards AFB, CA 93524.

Description of Request: At my request, a project authorization for \$700,000 is included in the National Defense Authorization bill for FY 2009 to make several sites managed by Edwards Air Force Base safe. Several isolated range tracking sites located near Edwards Air Force Base (EAFB), including Site T-6, A-11, and A-12 as well as the Ely, NV, Radar Site, have become attractive nuisances provoking unauthorized civilian entry onto the sites. Foundations and shelters at the site have been the target of graffiti. Shell & shotgun casings are found lying on the ground in large numbers. The extent to which hazardous materials, such as Asbestos Containing Materials (ACM) and lead-based paint may have been used in the construction of these facilities is not known. EAFB requires the continued use of T-6, A-11, and A-12 sites. This portion of the project will construct approximately 8,500 LF of chain link fence, 6-feet high with 3-strand barb wire outriggers, with lockable gates to prevent unauthorized entries into each of the sites. Additionally, an EAFB-owned radar site near Ely, Nevada (known as Ely Radio Annex), is no longer used and this project will demolish 5 buildings totaling approximately 7,500 SF, including their foundation slabs, an antenna tower, several concrete pads and fixtures, including transformers, guard rails, vaults, tank supports, power poles, stairs, fencing, and antenna pads.

Requesting Member: Congressman HOWARD "BUCK" McKEON.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658—The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009.

Account: Research Development Test and Evaluation, Air Force.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Advatech Pacific, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 950 E. Palmdale Blvd., Suite C, Palmdale, CA 93550.

Description of Request: At my request, a project authorization for \$3,000,000 is included in the National Defense Authorization bill for FY 2009. The funds will be used for the continued operation of the Advanced Vehicle Propulsion Center (AVPC), which provides the Air Force with a unique, world-class engineering modeling and simulation environment for analysis and engineering of current and future space vehicles, missiles, and advanced weapon concepts. The AVPC leverages and integrates the best engineering, analysis, and cost tools from government, industry, and academia. The AVPC directly supports analyses of alternatives, the fundamental first step in the formal DOD weapon systems acquisition process and plays a key role directly supporting the following Air Force Research Laboratory programs at Edwards Air Force Base: Prompt Global Strike, Common Aero Vehicle, Operationally Responsive Space for strategic and tactical commanders, and Conventional Ballistic Missile. AVPCs detailed technical engineering analysis also provides cost versus risk trade-off analysis across missions, systems, operations, and infrastructures.

Requesting Member: Congressman HOWARD "BUCK" McKEON.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658—The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009.

Account: Research Development Test and Evaluation, Air Force.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Northrop Grumman Corporation.

Address of Requesting Entity: 1840 Century Park East, Los Angeles, CA 90067.

Description of Request: At my request, a project authorization for \$10,300,000 is included in the National Defense Authorization bill or FY2009 for Moving Target Kill/Small Diameter Bomb (MTK/SDB II) integration on the B-2 to enhance the B-2's ability to dynamically and precisely engage mobile targets deep in hostile territory. The current Air Force Integrated Capability Requirements and Risk Assessment (I-CRRA) identified the need to improve joint, collaborative operations capabilities to effectively engage a wide range of high-threat targets: Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE) targets, moving and relocatable targets, underground targets, and air defense targets. This additional funding will address many of these critical needs. Approximately \$2,000,000 is intended for UAI Design Architecture; \$2,000,000 for MDU-R CDR; \$4,300,000 for MDU-R Prototype #2; and \$2,000,000 for Displays System Requirements.

Requesting Member: Congressman Howard "Buck" McKeon.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658—The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009.

Account: Research Development Test and Evaluation, Air Force.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Aerojet-General Corporation.

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 13222, Sacramento, CA 95813-6000, USA.

Description of Request: At my request, a project authorization for \$3,000,000 is included in the National Defense Authorization bill for FY2009 to return the Hydrocarbon Boost Technology Demonstrator program to its initial programmed funding level. This critical, next-generation liquid rocket engine development effort run by the Air Force Research Laboratory at Edwards AFB will not only provide the highest performing hydrocarbon engines ever developed in the United States, but also will provide higher operability, lower costs and greater safety with higher reliability than any liquid booster engine ever made in the U.S. and perhaps the world. Since the federal government is the primary end-user, it is logical that federal funding support the initiative. While a match is not required, during the past eight years, Aerojet has invested approximately \$30 million in internal research and development funding on this technology and intends continued support in FY09.

Requesting Member: Congressman HOWARD "BUCK" MCKEON.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658—The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009.

Account: Research Development Test and Evaluation, Army.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Pacific Scientific Energetic Materials Company.

Address of Requesting Entity: 24908 Avenue Kearney, Valencia, CA 91355, USA.

Description of Request: At my request, a project authorization for \$2,500,000 is included in the National Defense Authorization bill for FY2009 to develop a MIL-STD-1901A-compliant Micro Arm Fire Device for DoD Rocket Systems, which will significantly improve the safety, reliability and performance of rocket, missile, and pyrotechnic arming and fuzing systems for the Department of Defense. Approximately \$800,000 is intended for design

and engineering; \$400,000 for materials; \$700,000 for manufacturing and assembly and \$600,000 for qualification and environmental testing. The Army has determined that there is a federal interest in micro arm fire devices to increase the safety of DoD rockets, missiles, munitions and pyrotechnics. This request is consistent with the intended and authorized purpose of the Army Research, Development, Testing and Evaluation account. This is the first year funding will be needed to advance the technology. Pacific Scientific Energetic Materials Company has provided \$500,000 of internal R&D funds for this technology.

Requesting Member: Congressman HOWARD "BUCK" MCKEON.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658—The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009.

Account: Research Development Test and Evaluation, Army.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Curtiss-Wright Controls Embedded Computing.

Address of Requesting Entity: 28965 Avenue Penn, Santa Clarita, CA, 91355 USA.

Description of Request: At my request, a project authorization for \$4,800,000 is included in the National Defense Authorization bill for FY2009 to develop a Common Ground Combat System electronic architecture prototype which will include replacement of legacy military standard based data-bus components with modern commercial standards based network centric capable components, the consolidation of obsolete electronic subsystems into common electronic modules and assemblies providing greatly reduced space, weight, and power consumption and the implementation of a two-level maintenance approach using newly standardized commercial electronic module technology. Approximately \$100,000 is intended to be spent on program management, \$300,000 is for an electronics obsolescence study, \$350,000 is for an electronics commonality study, \$1,000,000 is for a design concept development, \$2,600,000 is for design concept demonstrators, and \$450,000 is for a heavy brigade combat team Modular Open Systems Approach (MOSA) application report. The advantage of this approach to the Department of the Army is an evolutionary capability migration allowing the Future Force to operate with the current force. This project can be completed in FY09.

Requesting Member: Congressman HOWARD "BUCK" MCKEON.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658—The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009.

Account: Research Development Test and Evaluation, Navy.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Aerojet-General Corporation.

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 13222, Sacramento, CA 95813-6000.

Description of Request: At my request, a project authorization for \$2,500,000 is included in the National Defense Authorization bill for FY2009 to fund the risk reduction necessary following a successful test flight of the High Speed Anti-Radiation Demonstration (HSAD). Specifically, approximately \$1,000,000 will be spent for Navy program management, \$800,000 for tactical missile component design development and analysis, \$2,450,000 for lightweight ramjet engine component testing, \$750,000 for ramjet engine safety engineering and analysis, \$600,000 for the guidance system conceptual design, and \$400,000 for operational analysis. The basic HSAD pro-

gram focuses on demonstrating the feasibility and viability of using variable flow ducted rocket propulsion technology for the propulsion portion of planned advanced weapon systems. This request is consistent with the intended and authorized purpose of the account and the project is under the direction of the Naval Air Warfare Center.

Requesting Member: Congressman HOWARD "BUCK" MCKEON.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658—The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009.

Account: Military Construction.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Edwards Air Force Base.

Address of Requesting Entity: Edwards AFB, CA 93524.

Description of Request: At my request, a project authorization for \$6,000,000 is included in the National Defense Authorization bill for FY09 to fund the replacement of the main base runway at Edwards Air Force Base. The runway, which supports almost every flight operation at Edwards is over 50 years old and is rapidly degrading as a result of Alkali-Silica Reaction (ASR), a reaction between the cement and the aggregate that creates map cracking, scaling and spalling of the concrete. Increased sweeper operations and Foreign Object Damage (FOD) walks are necessary to eliminate concrete chunks several inches across that are routinely discovered. Emergency FOD repairs have forced runway closures affecting 10 to 15 flights for each closure. Pavement Condition Index (PCI) numbers are dropping rapidly, which is indicative of pavements nearing the end of their useful life. The runway will soon fail functionally and will no longer be safe for aircraft operations. In early FY03 the runway was evaluated by a tri-service team of experts who rated the pavement condition along the centerline as marginal, with portions predicted to be unsatisfactory within the next year. Functional failure of the runway is expected in 2008. No other runways at Edwards AFB can safely support the current and projected test operations without significant test mission delays. Temporary relocation of these missions is not feasible. However, many of the current and planned test missions can be supported by a temporary runway.

This project was programmed in 2003 for FY06, and was incrementally funded over 3 years (FY06, FY07 and FY08). After the project was programmed, the cost of construction materials escalated dramatically, eliminating all management reserve, and resulted in a reduction in the planned scope of the project. In FY08 Congress increased the funding for the project by \$8,500,000; however, this was not enough to account for a completely unforeseeable increase in number and extent of site conditions. In particular, over 730 drums containing a "tar-like" substance had to be disposed of as hazardous waste and over 41,000 cubic yards of both unsuitable and unstable soil had to be stabilized. A final project phase has been created to complete the remaining work, and this phase has a programmed cost of \$6,000,000. Funding for this phase in FY09 will avoid contractor demobilization and remobilization, and will avoid reconstitution of the temporary runway to support this work. This alone saves the government over \$4,000,000 in cost avoidance.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise today to share with the House of Representatives two high priority projects included at my request in H.R. 5658, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009.

Requesting Member: Congressman MIKE ROGERS (MI-08).

Bill Number: H.R. 5685.

Account: Other Procurement—Navy, Line: Aviation Support Equipment—Aviation Support Equipment—Aviation Life Support (P-1 Line 97).

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Peckham Industries.

Address of Requesting Entity: 2822 N. Martin Luther King Blvd., Lansing, MI 48906.

Description of Request: Provide \$8,000,000 to fund procurement of approximately 8,000 sets of the Multi Climate Protection System (MCPS) for U.S. Navy Aircrews. Approximately \$3.4 million will be spent on garment production, \$4.2 million on materials, and \$0.4 million on quality control/fielding. The total requirement for the U.S. Navy for MCPS is 25,000 systems. Between FY 2004 and FY 2007, the Navy and Congress have provided enough funding for fielding of only 25% of the required systems. In FY 2008, Congress allocated \$2 million for the program. In FY 2007 the House and Senate Armed Services Committees addressed the need for MCPS in their authorization bills. The House authorization text reads, "The committee strongly encourages the Department of the Navy to include the necessary funds for the MCPS in its future budget requests to meet MCPS requirements."

Requesting Member: Congressman MIKE ROGERS (MI-08).

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Operations and Maintenance, (BA 01: Operating Forces).

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Peckham Industries.

Address of Requesting Entity: 2822 N. Martin Luther King Blvd., Lansing, MI 48906

Description of Request: Provide \$4,000,000 to fund procurement of approximately 35,000 sets of Cold Weather Layering System (CWLS) for the U.S. Marines. Approximately \$2 million will be spent on garment production, \$1.6 million on materials, \$0.4 million on quality control/fielding. In direct response to the U.S. Marine Corps' unique combat needs, a Polartec Power Dry Silkweight and Polartec Power Dry Grid with flame resistant properties for use in the CWLS is currently in development. Roadside bombs kill or wound more troops than any other weapon in Iraq, having killed more than 1,200 U.S. service members to date. The heat and flame produced by roadside bombs presents a significant burn threat, and the USMC has called for the use of flame resistant textiles to maintain safety in harsh combat conditions.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Speaker, I submit the following: Requesting Member: Congressman C.W. BILL YOUNG.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Military Construction, Army National Guard.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Florida Army National Guard.

Address of Requesting Entity: 400 S. Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399.

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$20,907,000 for construction of Phase IV of the Regional Training Institute (RTI), Project Number 120191, located at Camp Blanding, Starke, Florida 32091. It is my understanding that the Florida Army National Guard (FLARNG) and Army National Guard readiness will be affected if the school cannot adequately accomplish its mission to educate and train soldiers. This final phase will finish construction of the remaining 65,000 square feet of billeting, all remaining infrastructure, supporting facilities, and all necessary work not completed in the prior phases to support and house students attending the courses at the training institute.

MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN CONYERS JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 13, 2008

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to voice my strong support for H. Res. 1134, supporting the goals and ideals of Mental Health Month. This legislation applauds the hard work of practitioners and national and community organizations in promoting mental health awareness, and supports improving the overall quality of life for those with mental illness. H. Res. 1134 also supports the findings of the President's Commission on Mental Health that the nation's failure to prioritize mental health is a national tragedy.

Mr. Speaker, mental health is no less important than physical health. In fact, as science is proving, mental health and physical health are intertwined in complex ways that are only beginning to be understood. The relationship between depression and heart disease is just one example of the inherent symbiosis of psychiatric and somatic illnesses.

Just as the heart is the organ upon which heart disease preys, the brain is the organ plagued by diseases of the mind. Likewise, death as a result of suicide is no less tragic than death secondary to a heart attack. Those suffering from severe psychiatric illness should not be held to a lesser standard of care than those suffering from physical illnesses.

Ensuring access to appropriate services is central to improving the quality of life for those with mental illness. The issue of mental health insurance parity, in my opinion, is a civil rights issue. Inequity of coverage with regard to mental health and substance abuse treatment benefits is tantamount to discrimination

against the mentally ill, and it reinforces the strategy of insurance companies to deny care rather than provide care.

The mental health community scored a victory for its patients earlier this year when the House voted to pass H.R. 1424, the "Paul Wellstone Mental Health and Addiction Equity Act of 2007."

It has taken courage on the part of Congressmen like my colleague PATRICK KENNEDY to stand up to special interests and "do the right thing" when it comes to ending discrimination against the mentally ill and standing up to health insurance companies. There is still work to be done before a mental health insurance parity bill is signed into law. Hopefully, the bill will soon be reconciled into a form which will benefit psychiatric patients and end discrimination against the mentally ill.

Mr. Speaker, let us applaud the tireless work and unending determination of those fighting to improve the lives of the mentally ill. Let us also be reminded that there is much work to be done before the stigma associated with mental illness is ended, and the lives of those suffering from mental illness are valued as much as those suffering from other medical illnesses.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Requesting Member: Congressman JACK KINGSTON (1-GA)

Bill Number: H.R. 5658

Account: MILCON, Navy

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay

Address of Requesting Entity: NSB Kings Bay, Kings Bay, GA, USA

Description of Request: Provide \$6.37 million to construct a 5,000 square feet Communication Addition to the Limited Area Reaction Force Facility in support of the National Weapons Security Program. This high security facility will serve as a command and control center, exercise and recreation spaces, and extended housing for United States Marines and Navy personnel while on duty. This project will provide required ballistic protection for security forces and vehicles as well as the monitoring of perimeter sensors.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Requesting Member: Congressman VERNON J. EHLERS

Bill Number: H.R. 5658

Account: Ap,A Aircraft Procurement, Army; 020 Utility Helicopter Mods

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Army National Guard Readiness Center

Address of Requesting Entity: 111 S. George Mason Drive, Arlington, VA, 22204

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$5 million for helicopter modernization. The UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter is an essential capability of the National Guard. It provides units in every State with a multi-mission aircraft for search & rescue, utility lift, disaster relief and medical evacuation. The Army National Guard (ARNG) is authorized 782 Black Hawk aircraft, but is short of this authorization by almost 100 aircraft. This shortage requires ARNG units to loan or transfer Black Hawks in support of deployments, training or State missions, resulting in a higher usage rate of available airframes. Additionally, more than 500 of the 782 National Guard aircraft are older UH-60A models, with an average age of approximately 25 years. The Army is procuring over 1,200 UH-60M Black Hawks for utility, special operations and MEDEVAC missions to replace the aging UH-60A from operational units by 2016. The Army acquired 33 UH-60M Black Hawks by the end of FY07, and from FY09 to FY13, the Army plans to procure an additional 300 UH-60M Black Hawks (70 of those aircraft are programmed for ARNG units). However, without an accelerated procurement of the UH-60M, the Army National Guard will be operating more than 400 UH-60A helicopters beyond 2020. The ARNG and the Active Army developed a program to support the continued modernization of the ARNG Black Hawk fleet. Unfortunately, this program is not fully funded. The ARNG plan is to accelerate the fielding of UH-60M Black Hawks by 10 aircraft per year. Although the Active Army has programmed UH-60A recapitalization for the ARNG with Operations and Maintenance (O&M) funds, which includes an airframe life extension, fleet-wide product improvements and the replacement of components, the UH-60A to L upgrade is not funded. The UH-60L Black Hawk is more economical to operate and has 1,000 lbs. of additional lift than the UH-60A. The desired rate of UH-60A to L upgrades is 38 per year. Funding the UH-60A to L upgrade will significantly improve the Black Hawk fleet, and assure that ARNG units are ready, deployable, and available to protect our national interests both abroad and at home. This ARNG aviation initiative has been identified by the Chief of the National Guard Bureau (CNGB) as FY09 "Essential 10—Top 25" unfunded priorities.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Requesting Member: Congressman LAMAR SMITH.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Department of Defense, Air Force RDT&E (R-1 Line #8), 0602102F Materials.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: The University of Texas at Austin.

Address of Requesting Entity: 1 University Station C2200, Austin, TX 78712.

Description of Request: The requested funds will be used to establish a research and educational program for enhancing U.S. competitiveness in Intelligent Manufacturing. Intelligent Manufacturing requires the integration of

physics based models, state-of-the-art analysis and control, and advanced materials to develop the next generation of manufacturing processes and systems. The initial thrust will be on small lot and rapid response intelligent manufacturing that is critical to national defense, infrastructure, energy, medical products and other key areas of the U.S. manufacturing base. This project will increase the manpower, manufacturing technology, and know-how available to support quick response, high-technology precision manufacturing and will provide an important competitive advantage for U.S. producers using Intelligent Manufacturing. Texas and Ohio rank 2nd and 3rd in terms of manufacturing jobs in the U.S., with the three states employing 23 percent of the total U.S. manufacturing workforce. Many key defense industries are located in these states and all three campuses have strong ties to the defense laboratories, defense manufacturing, and critical commercial manufacturing entities (aerospace, electronics, energy, and others).

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. AKIN. Madam Speaker, in accordance with House Republican Conference standards, and Clause 9 of Rule XXI, I submit the following member requests for the record regarding H.R. 5658, the National Defense Authorization Act of 2009.

Project: C-17A Globemaster aircraft
Account: Aircraft Procurement, Air Force
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: The Boeing Company

Address of Requesting Entity: 1200 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA 22209

Description of Request: Per Air Force Unfunded Priority List (UPL) #6, C-17 (+15 aircraft), \$3.9B. procures 15 C-17s, keeping only active strategic airlift production line open. The C-17 is the world's most effective and flexible strategic/tactical airlifter. The C-17 has revolutionized the movement of troops and equipment into battle by allowing their delivery to parts of the world that was previously not accessible by conventional airlifters. Additional C-17s are essential to the warfighter.

Project: Hyperspectral Imaging for Improved Force Protection (HYPER-IFP)

Account: Army RDT&E, (CERDEC, NVESD, Special Projects)

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Clean Earth Technologies, LLC.

Address of Requesting Entity: 13378 Lakefront Drive, Earth City, MO, USA

Description of Request: Provide \$5,400,000 to complete the design, assembly, integration, test and evaluation of the Hyperspectral Integrated Force Protection sensor system (Hyper-IFP). Approximately 40% will be used for engineering development modeling and simulation; 30% will be used for subsystems assembly and testing; 15% will be used for system integration and ground testing; 15% will be used for a deployed full system field test and evaluation. The request is consistent with the Army NVESD Special Projects office mission to develop advanced sensor systems that provide an operational advantage or that increase survivability of the warfighter. Tax-

payer value is substantially enhanced by dual/multi use capacity to serve a number of Homeland Security (DHS) missions in addition to military force protection.

Project: Short Range Ballistic Missile Defense

Account: Defensewide RDT&E

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: LaBarge Corporation

Address of Requesting Entity: 9900 Clayton Road, St. Louis, Missouri 63124

Description of Request: \$10M over the President's request of \$44.9M to allow the program to get back on track for its planned 2010 IOC which will ensure US troops are protected as quickly as possible against the short range ballistic missile threat. This funding will allow the development team to accelerate design, development and testing that was lost due to past funding cuts; and will initiate concept development and risk reduction efforts to integrate the weapon into existing Army anti-missile systems. This request is consistent with the intended and authorized purpose of the Defensewide RDT&E account.

Project: Heuristic Internet Protocol Packet Inspection Engine

Account: Army, RDT&E.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: TechGuard Security, LLC.

Address of Requesting Entity: 743 Spirit 40 Park Drive, Chesterfield, MO 63005.

Description of Request: \$3.5 million solely for the research, development and test of Heuristic Internet Protocol Packet Inspection Engine (HIPPIE). The advanced concept HIPPIE technology can be rapidly prototyped and deployed in a filtering appliance that sits in front of an existing firewall or router, and uses unique filtering algorithms to quickly classify large numbers of packets—i.e., the country of origin for an IP address—without using slow and CPU intensive rule sets. The objective of the program is to miniaturize the HIPPIE through the use of nanotechnology to the point where it can be placed on a chip and placed directly on a computer for offensive or defensive cyber warfare use.

Project: Mission Execution Technology Implementation.

Account: Army, RDT&E.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Westar Aerospace & Defense Group, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 36 Research Park Court, St. Charles MO 63304, U.S.A.

Description of Request: Provide \$10,000,000 for technology improvements urgently needed by combat units in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. This program will result in significant increases in mission effectiveness and safety for our war-fighters. Funding is required to continue development of enterprise-enabled, integrated Aviation tools and provide this ability to all Army Aviation systems to include UH-60 series, OH-58D, AH-64D, Fixed Wing and UAS systems. The complete integrated aviation solution includes implementing the automated maintenance test flight tool, automated weight and balance software, and integration with current logistics and Aviation Mission Planning systems. The Aviation community has consistently requested an enhanced, fully Automated Maintenance Test Flight Tool for in-cockpit use, eliminating manual and repetitive Maintenance Test Pilot tasks and significantly reducing the labor required to return aircraft to full service. This solution would also

fulfill the Army directive for a paperless system, storing the maintenance test flight check-sheets into the Common Logistics Operating Environment, eliminating the paper form. Improved integration of automated weight and balance tools with the CLOE and the Aviation System of System infrastructure is critical, eliminating error-prone manual entries and expanding aircraft flight envelopes by eliminating manual lookup and interpolation of paper performance charts. The amount of time in calculating and recalculating loads during OPTEMPO will be greatly reduced from hours to mere minutes. This effort will include the application of commercial Aviation best-practices to data and data processes in support of air worthiness, and the development of processes to support air worthiness assessments of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS). Air-worthiness of UAS will improve safety in training and combat operations as well as permit the routine use of these critical capabilities within national airspace during natural disasters and homeland defense operations.

Project: Ultra-Wideband Reactive Waveform Modulator.

Account: Army RDT&E.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: X-COM Systems, LLC.

Address of Requesting Entity: 106 North College Avenue, Warrensburg, MO 64093.

Description of Request: \$1.5M to support the development and testing of an ultra-wideband reactive waveform modulator (UWB-RWM) for IED countermeasures at the Intelligence & Information Warfare Directorate (12WD), Fort Monmouth, NJ. The UWB-RWM will be a COTS solution designed to support and transition into current Joint Counter Radio Controlled Improvised Explosive Device Electronic Warfare (JCREW) efforts. By providing a significant performance improvement over currently available technology, the UWB-RWM's adaptability and scalability will facilitate a future-proof capability for transmitting ever-evolving IED defeat waveforms of increasing complexity.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2419,
FOOD, CONSERVATION, AND EN-
ERGY ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2008

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my reluctant opposition to the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007. This legislation is a real mixed bag for Kansas farmers. While there are many provisions that will benefit them, it contains many provisions that I believe will hurt them in the long run.

The latest information from the Congressional Budget Office indicates that this bill will cost us \$714.2 billion over the next ten years—a pretty significant increase over the last farm bill. In fact, the only reason we are having this debate on the floor today at all is because the rule that provided for consideration of this bill waived points of order against violations of the pay-as-you-go, or PAYGO, rules, which require any additional spending to be offset by tax increases, or spending cuts.

House rules require the use of the most recent budget numbers available from CBO. And

although we have numbers for FY 2008 available, the bill before us today is based on FY 2007's numbers. Why has this legislation not been updated to reflect the current fiscal year? Because doing so would reduce the baseline of available spending. If the Farm Bill followed the rules and instead used the updated baseline, it would violate PAYGO by \$3.1 billion over 10 years. Ignoring the most recent budget numbers is like going to the gas station, and instead of paying \$3.66 a gallon to fill up my car, I decide that I liked the price of a year ago better, and only pay \$2.60 a gallon. Someone ends up getting stuck with the extra cost, and in our case, it's the American taxpayer. Time shifts and budget gimmicks hide another \$8.5 billion. That's \$11.6 billion worth of hidden costs in this bill, all born in the backs of American taxpayers.

Yet, with all of the extra money that seems to be magically available in this bill, the majority could not find enough money to avoid cutting \$300 million from direct payments and \$6 billion from crop insurance. These are the two programs that benefit Kansas farmers the most. We couldn't find the money to help them, which seems strange, as there was plenty of money available for pet projects.

During the debate today, several of my colleagues have mentioned two programs that were airdropped in conference. One would provide for the purchase of 400,000 acres of forest land for the preservation of fish, and allow the Nature Conservancy to receive a \$250 million tax refund, even though they are a non-profit organization, and pay no taxes. A second program provides \$170 million—more than we provided for the victims of Hurricane Katrina—for the restoration of salmon fisheries.

By themselves, these are rather ridiculous and unnecessary programs that should have been subject to House approval. Instead, they were inserted into the Conference Report without undergoing the scrutiny of this great body. That alone is disconcerting. But what makes these provisions especially painful for the farmers in my district is the fact that, if these two programs were eliminated, there would be more than enough money to restore the \$300 million cut from direct payments. The cuts to crop insurance and direct payments remove the two most important aspects of the farm bill for Kansans. Taking money from these programs is unacceptable given the significant spending increases elsewhere.

There are, however, good provisions in this bill. The conference report addresses many of the concerns voiced to me by Kansas livestock producers. Especially of note are the country-of-origin labeling provisions that will allow producers to transition into compliance in a smooth and cost-effective manner while providing consumers with more information about where their food comes from.

This bill creates, for the first time, limitations on income for those receiving federal farm assistance. It provides for nearly 49 million acres to be enrolled in conservation efforts, preserving the land for future generations.

Another positive provision included in the farm bill is the tax incentive for cellulosic ethanol production. Cellulosic ethanol has great potential for helping lower the cost of fuel for American consumers while lessening the strain on food prices.

Mr. Speaker, this is the third farm bill I have had the privilege of considering here on the

House floor. As a Kansan, I take pride in the work it does to help Kansas, its farmers, ranchers and producers. It saddens me, however, that for the first time, I cannot vote for the original bill or this conference report before us today. I cannot endorse a bill that follows the same song and dance we've seen all too often in Washington—a disregard for the rules of this House, coupled with large increases in wasteful Federal spending.

This farm bill leaves farmers in the dust and sacrifices Kansas food producers on the altar of special interest fish projects. It is a shame some have forgotten the "farm" in our consideration of the farm bill.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BRUCE
H.T. DALLAS

HON. VIRGIL H. GOODE, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. GOODE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Bruce H.T. Dallas of Martinsville, Virginia. Bruce passed away on August 26, 2007, and is survived by his wife Shirley K. Dallas, 6 children, 3 brothers, 11 grandchildren, and 6 great-grandchildren.

Bruce was born on November 4, 1938, in Martinsville. He attended Albert Harris High School and then began his career of active participation in a number of civic and community-building ventures. He served as a member of the Martinsville City Council, Virginia Municipal League, 5th District of Virginia Democratic Party Committee, and State Central Democratic Committee. He was president of the 5th District Black Caucus and former Chairman of the Martinsville Democratic Committee.

Bruce was a member of the Board of Directors of the Virginia State Conference of the NAACP and the Martinsville/Henry County Voters League.

Bruce was an active member of the Mt. Zion African Methodist Episcopal Church, serving as trustee and steward. In 1997, he was named "Man of the Year" by the Virginia Annual Conference of the AME.

The impact of Bruce Dallas' legacy will forever live in the Martinsville community. He will be remembered as a fearless leader who was unafraid to challenge the status quo. Bruce was a "man of the people" and held a deep belief that a man's success could and should be measured by his service to the people. He will long be remembered as a loving husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather and father-in-law.

I am grateful for the opportunity to rise today to salute Bruce's legacy of service and commitment to improving the quality of life for citizens of Martinsville and Southside Virginia.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, consistent with Republican earmark standards, the following are detailed finance plans for each of my requested projects in the Duncan

Hunter National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2009, H.R.5658.

Requesting Member: Congressman JEFF MILLER

Bill Number: H.R. 5658

Project name: FPS-16 Radar Mobilization upgrade

Account: USAF, RDT&E

Legal Name of Entity Receiving Earmark: BAE Systems

Address of Entity: 557 Mary Esther Cut-Off, Fort Walton Beach, Florida, 32548

Description: Provide an earmark of \$6,000,000 to The Air Armament Center (AAC) at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida for enhanced range instrumentation coverage. Due to the ever evolving performance characteristics of the systems under test it has become increasingly necessary to extend the instrumentation infrastructure of the test range by providing flexibility and increased coverage in test support. Funding for upgrading FPS-16 radars to BAE Systems RIR-980 configuration, will consist of a set of digital radar electronics based upon an expandable open system VME-based architecture housed in a skid-mounted shelter that can be transported by a flat-bed trailer. The electronics shelter will interconnect to the antenna and tracking pedestal that may also be transported by trailer.

Finance plan: The total package will provide a precision long range tracking radar that may be relocated to prepared sites for optimum test coverage and support on a project-to-project basis. 25 percent of the funding is required for engineering efforts, 40 percent of the cost is for material and manufacturing, 15 percent for mobility and 20 percent for locating the system, training and test.

Justification for use of taxpayer dollars: This enhanced, mobile radar tracking capability will provide AAC the flexibility required to support testing of current and emerging weapon systems and platforms. This new capability will attract test programs to the AAC test range that cannot presently be supported, provide expanded instrumentation coverage for the range, reduce encroachment concerns, and provide more comprehensive coverage and support to all test programs. This added instrumentation asset will result in more cost effective and timely test support for the U.S. Air Force and ultimately in fielding systems for the war fighter in a more timely manner.

Requesting Member: Congressman JEFF MILLER

Project name: Moving Target Strike

Account: RDT&E, Air Force

Legal Name of Entity Receiving Earmark: Alpha Data Corporation/General Atomics

Address of entity: Alpha Data Corp 1326 Lewis Turner Blvd Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547 General Atomics 3350 General Atomics Court San Diego, CA 92121

Description: Moving Target Strike works to demonstrate a low cost GPS guided weapons system with improved accuracy (less than three meters) and the ability to strike moving targets.

Finance Plan: If the request is fully funded in FY09, the obligation breakdown (\$M) of labor and materials per quarter:

Modification of small weapon—\$1.2M

Interface development of weapon to sensor—\$1.0M

Simulation and con-ops development—\$0.5M

Datalink procurement and integration—\$1.0M

Manned aircraft integration of datalink and sensor—\$0.2 M

Manned flight test/demo. (static weapon, no live drop)—\$0.4 M

Predator integration engineering—\$0.6 M

Program management/system engineering—\$1.1 M

Total—\$6.0M

Justification for use of taxpayer dollars: The ability to extend the capability of GPS guided weapons to moving targets will significantly enhance the effectiveness of weapons platforms that use GPS guided systems. The enemy knows that currently if he keeps moving he is safe from many of our current weapon systems. The ability to strike movers from a variety of platforms with GPS guided weapons will greatly reduce the enemy's ability to avoid our weapons.

Requesting Member: Congressman JEFF MILLER

Project Name: Joint Gulf Range Complex Upgrade

Account: RDT&E, Defense Wide

Legal name of entity receiving earmark: The Boeing Company

Address of entity: 634 Anchors St, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548

Description: The services lack infrastructure to collaboratively address operational issues associated with the Global War on Terror. The 46 Test Wing at Eglin AFB, in concert with Air Force Special Operations Command and United States Special Operations Command use the range to conduct mission readiness qualification and weapons testing. This program will develop a prototype live virtual and constructive (LVC) range that will enable testing of new net centric weapons and support realistic joint special operations training. This LVC range will facilitate the fielding of weapon systems that possess a net centric capability enabling conventional systems to directly communicate with special operations via data link for the time sensitive targeting of "terrorist type" targets including car bomb factories and training sites.

Justification for use of taxpayer dollars: The upgrade will result in improved training and mission readiness.

Requesting Member: Congressman JEFF MILLER

Project Name: Gulf Range Mobile Instrumentation Capability (GR-MIC)

Account: Defense Wide OSD/Central Test and Evaluation Investment Development (CTEIP)

Legal name of entity receiving earmark: Prologic

Address of entity: 9400 Innovation Dr. Manassas, VA 20110

Description: The 46th Range Group (46 RANG) has a need for a Gulf Range Mobile Instrumentation Capability (GR-MIC) that can provide a platform for remote test, collection, storage and relay of various data types. This capability is needed to support test events which require extreme sized land and water mission operating spaces to accomplish their goals such as distributed Live Virtual Constructive (LVC) test events, large footprint weapons testing, Directed Energy (DE) testing and hypersonic weapons testing.

Justification for use of taxpayer dollars: By developing a GR-MIC we will be able to integrate the simultaneous employment of many advanced weapons/platforms into a single test or exercise/training events. This effort con-

nects test and evaluation ranges that use many communication and data requirements to interact between geographically separated ranges, making valuable information available to everyone who requires it. The result is ranges becoming interconnected and consequently creating a greater training experience.

Requesting Member: Congressman JEFF MILLER

Project name: Eglin Air Force Base Range Operations Control Center (ROCC) Initiative

Account: RDT&E, AIR FORCE

Legal name of entity receiving earmark: Cubic Applications, Inc.

Address of entity: 6 Eleventh Avenue, Suite H-3, Shalimar, FL 32579

Description: The 46th Test Wing has an Improvement Modernization initiative, termed "super ROCC". It provides for more effective control which will better optimize range scheduling and increase flexibility in meeting test and training missions.

Justification for use of taxpayer dollars: Considering the effects of BRAC, emerging Joint Test and Training missions, and increased operations tempo, this initiative will address the current Eglin AFB shortfalls in infrastructure to provide safe, efficient, effective control of range resources. Eglin AFB initiated a phased approach (Super ROCC) to address these shortfalls, and this project will initiate the action by addressing movement and control of people and equipment and relevant security issues. This Initiative will help the Air Force increase the operations tempo at the Eglin Range by addressing the movement and control of people and equipment as well as relevant security issues. Through this initiative, the Air Force will greatly improve its ability to track all players on the Eglin Range thereby significantly increase its efficiency in an increased ops tempo environment. Driven by BRAC and safety imperatives, this further provides for more effective control which will better optimize range scheduling and increase flexibility in meeting test and training missions. Simply by knowing the locations of all entities on the range, more flexibility in reassigning missions to ground and air space previously under utilized will be achieved.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, consistent with the Republican Leadership's policy on earmarks, I offer the following justification for the projects that I requested that were included in the FY2009 National Defense Authorization bill.

For the project titled "Security Forces Building, 136th Airlift Wing, Fort Worth" in H.R. 5658, the MILCON Air National Guard Account, the legal name and address of the requesting entity is Texas Air National Guard, 136th Airlift Wing, NAS JRB Fort Worth, Fort Worth, TX. A new facility is needed at JRB NAS Fort Worth for the Security Forces Squadron and for Combat Arms Training Simulator/Combat Arms Training Maintenance. This requirement is a result of the Air Force's increased need for Security Forces personnel

and the resulting increase of Security Forces personnel at the 136th Airlift Wing. Current space and facilities are inadequate; they are less than half the authorized size for the current number of personnel assigned and current training/deployment requirements. This facility needs to be constructed as soon as possible because the number of security personnel for the 136th Airlift Wing is growing quickly. Funds will be used toward the construction of this facility.

For the project titled "F-22A Raptor" in H.R. 5686, the Aircraft Procurement—Air Force Account, the legal name and address of the requesting entity is United Technologies, 1401 Eye Street, NW, Suite 600, Washington, D.C. 20005-6523 (Subcontractor to Lockheed Martin—Fort Worth, Texas). The F-22A Raptor is the only fighter that can provide air dominance necessary to ensure freedom of action for U.S. allied ground, air, and naval forces in contingency and combat forces. The F-22A Raptor provides 5th generation stealth, supercruise, vectoring thrust agility and integrated weapons capability to provide air dominance. Growing threats from modern surface to air missiles; new 5th generation fighters in development by potential adversaries; and loss of significant numbers of the current air superiority fighter (the F-15 Eagle) demand continued F-22 production beyond the current F-22 multi-year procurement. Funds would be used for advance procurement of F-22A Raptors.

For the project titled "C-17A Globemaster III" in H.R. 5658, Aircraft Procurement, Air Force account, the legal name and address of the requesting entity is The Boeing Company, 3855 N Lakewood Blvd, Long Beach, CA 90846 (As prime contractor to Vought Aircraft Industries). The C-17 is the primary U.S. heavy airlift aircraft that can also operate intratheater on unimproved airfields. C-17 has flown approximately 80 percent of the strategic airlift missions for military operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, as well as serving as the workhorse for disaster relief in Asia and the United States' Gulf Coast. The program will provide improved military capability to fulfill needs as identified by the Department of Defense. Funds will be used for procurement of C-17s.

For the project titled "Podded Reconnaissance System, SCATHE VIEW (C-130H)" in H.R. 5686, the Aircraft Procurement—Air Force account, the legal name and address of the requesting entity is ATK Integrated Systems, 236 Citation Drive, Fort Worth, TX, 76106. SCATHE VIEW provides the war fighter with significant improvements in identifying time-critical targets, and in saving lives. The SCATHE VIEW program currently operates eight C-130H airframes, modified to carry a sensor suite pallet. All assets—including five sensor pallets—are stationed with the Air National Guard's 152nd Intelligence Squadron (IS) in Reno, Nevada. Recent deployments to U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) have been very successful in finding improvised explosive devices (IEDs), and in locating and destroying high value targets. SCATHE VIEW has also provided critical situational awareness by providing day and night imagery during domestic forest fires, and in search and rescue efforts. The program will provide improved military capability to meet an unmet need identified by the Department of Defense. Approximately 10 percent of funds will be used for the Blue Force Tracker, 40 percent

for 3rd Aircrew Position, and 50 percent for Tactical Information Broadcast Service.

For the project titled "UH-60A to UH-60L Upgrades" in H.R. 5686, the Aircraft Procurement—Army Account, the legal name and address of the requesting entity is United Technologies, 1401 Eye Street, NW, Suite 600, Washington, D.C. 20005-6523, and Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation, A United Technologies Company, 4800 Overton Plaza, Ft Worth, TX 76109-4428. The Army has begun procuring new "M" series Black Hawks for utility, special operations, and MEDEVAC missions to replace the older "A" series models. The project also continues modernizing UH-60A helicopters through a UH-60A re-capitalization program. The current re-capitalization program includes an airframe life extension, fleet-wide product improvements and the replacement of components with the latest UH-60L configuration. While performing this recapitalization, the addition of the UH-60L transmission, UH-60L 701D engines and other enhancements complete the upgrade at a cost of an additional \$1.5M per aircraft. Funds will be used for these costs.

For the project titled "RC-26B Modernization" in H.R. 5686, the Aircraft Procurement—Air Force Account, the legal name and address of the requesting entity is ATK Integrated Systems, 236 Citation Drive, Fort Worth, TX, 76106. The RC-26B performs critical intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR) missions in support of national disaster response by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Air National Guard, and in direct support of Special Operations Forces in the GWOT. The Air National Guard (ANG) operates a fleet of eleven RC-26B aircraft that provide support to individual states for disaster relief and counter-drug missions. As the demands for the RC-26Bs proven utility increased, non-availability of the platform due to use in GWOT operations have prevented ANG crews from performing their domestic assigned missions. Special Operations Command funded the modification of five RC-26B aircraft—to provide ISR missions in support of deployed operations. With five RC-26B aircraft deployed in support of missions outside of the continental United States, an availability vacuum at the state level has occurred. The remaining six RC-26B aircraft (from Mississippi, Arizona, Florida, Texas, West Virginia and New York) are not sufficient to support the disaster relief and counter-narcotics missions of both the ANG and DHS/CBP. Funds will be used for concept development, design, integration and flight verification for one aircraft of the following technologies that would enhance the current Block 20 RC-26B performance and effectiveness.

For the project titled "Enhanced Holographic Imager (EHI)" in H.R. 5686, the RDT&E—Army account, the legal name and address of the requesting entity is Zebra Imaging, Inc., 9801 Metric Blvd., Suite 200, Austin, TX 78758. This is the final phase of a three-year development program to reduce the size and enhance efficiency of the holographic imager system currently used to produce 3D imagery for the Army's Tactical Battlefield Visualization program. The requested FY09 funds will be administered by the U.S. Army Engineering Research and Development Center (USAERDC) and will complete the EHI development program, with the delivery of a fully-

tested prototype of the field-deployable Enhanced Holographic Imager. The Enhanced Holographic Imager (EHI) system is needed by DOD to reduce the time now required to provide 3D imagery to Coalition Forces in Iraq for intelligence and operation planning. Approximately 55 percent of funds will be used to complete design of a system and lab test prototype, 20 percent for the development of a prototype post-processor, and 25 percent to construct and test an in-field beta prototype.

For the project titled "Center for Geospatial Intelligence & Investigation (GII)" in H.R. 5658, RDT&E—Navy account, the legal name and address of the requesting entity is Texas State University San Marcos, Center for Geospatial Intelligence & Investigation, 601 University Drive, San Marcos, TX 78666. The Center for Geospatial Intelligence & Investigation is conducting research of interest to the US military. Recognizing the need for better tools to track down insurgents responsible for kidnapping, maiming, and killing US Forces, allies, and civilians in operations in OIF and OEF, the Army sanctioned the initial stage of this project through the Army Topographic Engineering Center in FY06. This project is designed to assist in counter-IED (improvised explosive devices) efforts having a direct impact on increased safety levels and reduced risk of injury and/or death for U.S. military forces deployed to OIF and OEF. Funds will be used for the next phase of the project supported by the US Marines Systems Command. Employing a cross-disciplinary approach, GII seeks to help military and military intelligence officials build more powerful investigative and analytic tools. This project will continue to develop computer modeling based on insurgent behavioral theories to help extract knowledge from information and data, assisting military officials in predicting insurgent activity areas and bases of operation. Components of the project will focus on suicide attacks, attacks along main supply routes/roads, and the use of specialized technology to depict the "Behavioral Decision-Making Template" of insurgents. Approximately 30 percent of funds will be used for personnel, 10 percent for equipment, and 60 percent for other incidental costs such as travel.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. STEVE BUYER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. BUYER. Madam Speaker, the attached financial plans are provided in support of projects listed in H.R. 5658.

DETAILED FINANCE PLAN FOR NATIONAL TEST FACILITY FOR AEROSPACE FUELS AND PROPULSION

Budget: Equipment & Supplies—\$2,130,000; Salary—\$850,000; Travel—\$20,000.

Source of Match Funding: Purdue University.

Sustainability: Potential sources of funding along with associated sustainability possibilities include: Office of Energy and Defense Center for Coal Technology Research (CTR)—Test and development support for Fischer-Tropsch (FT) fuels; DoD Clean Fuels Initiative—this facility will have the capabilities for long-term test operations and data collection; DARPA BAA—this facility will have the

capabilities to conduct development work for Biofuels, a strategic initiative under DARPA; Rolls Royce—through the Purdue University Technology Center (UTC); Caterpillar—long term test operations data; The Boeing Company—support and development of alternative fuels initiatives underway.

Justification for Use of Tax Dollars: In an executive act, President Bush has committed U.S. military installations to use green fuels. The Department of Defense is committed to approval of all aircraft for flight on synthetic fuel blends by the end of 2008. Furthermore, Boeing and Virgin intend to fly a green aircraft using bio-fuel. The Civil Aviation Alternative Fuel Initiative developed a roadmap for the integration of new fuel technologies into the aerospace industry. This project will maintain a multi-faceted National Testing Facility to support development and testing of alternative energy sources for aerospace equipment, assisting the federal government and the private aerospace sector in meeting their green fuel objectives.

DETAILED FINANCE PLAN FOR NATIONAL RADIO FREQUENCY—R&D AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER CENTER

The requested funds will be the only source of funding. Funds will be used as follows:

Establish the Center and Participant Coordination—900K—Staffing and training; management and project oversight; identify and technology to needs; select projects.

Start First Project—2,100K—Trial of process; develop needed maturity for transition to production; details of project spending: Salaries—1,400K; material—300K; test equipment and facility use—400K.

Start Second Project—2,000K—Proof process with lessons learned; develop needed maturity for transition to production; details of project spending: Salaries—1,300K; material—300K; test equipment and facility use 400K.

Total—5,000K.

Percent and Source of Matching Funds: None.

Justification for Use of Federal taxpayer dollars: Our Government spends billions of dollars each year on science and technology and research and development. Many groundbreaking technologies never make it to the intended uses simply because it is difficult and time consuming to bridge the funding gaps and acquisition administration requirements. National Radio Frequency (RF) R&D and Technology Transfer Center is intended to facilitate technology transfer to production, to promote small business initiatives, and to gain higher returns on research dollars.

HONORING ELIZABETH FOSTER

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Elizabeth Foster, who will be inaugurated as President of the Republic of the Rio Grande during the Webb County Heritage Foundation's annual Founders' Day Celebration at Texas A&M International University on May 10, 2008. Each year, the Heritage Foundation selects an individual who embodies outstanding commitment to historic preservation, and this year, that deserving individual is Mrs. Elizabeth Foster.

Elizabeth was born on December 5, 1920, in Mission, Texas, to her parents, Louis J. Kowalski, and Dorothy Newhall Kowalski. She spent her early childhood in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico, where her father was involved in the tobacco business. In 1931, Elizabeth's family moved to Laredo, Texas, when she was 10 years old. Elizabeth attended Heights Elementary School, L.J. Christen Middle School, and graduated from Laredo High School in 1937. She portrayed Princess Pocahontas in the Washington's Birthday Celebrations of 1939 and 1941, and was presented by the Society of Martha Washington in 1940. She married John E. Foster on May 1, 1941. She had 8 children: John, Elizabeth, Dorothy, Alice, Mary, Edward, Sarah, and Stephen, and is a proud grandparent to 10 grandchildren. Mrs. Foster has admirably served the community of Laredo, Texas, through her civic work with the Daughters of the American Revolution, Ladies' Luncheon Club, and the Cotillion Club. She is also an active member of St. Patrick's Catholic Church.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to recognize the dedication of Mrs. Elizabeth Foster to preserving the history of the City of Laredo, and for her inauguration as President of the Republic of the Rio Grande.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Requesting Member: Representative JOHN T. DOOLITTLE.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Report Language.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Herlong Public Utilities District, Lassen County Board of Supervisors, Ft. Sage Unified School District, Susanville Indian Rancheria.

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 515, Herlong, CA 96113-0515.

Description of Request: Request that the Army promptly review the Herlong Public Utilities District (HPUD) proposal to privatize the water utility at Sierra Army Depot (Depot) and to convey the utility and offset the costs of the project if it is in the government's best interests. Currently, the Depot provides drinking water to the community of Herlong, and is not in compliance with State of California drinking water standards. Conveying the water utility to HPUD would save approximately \$4.5 million of the \$12 million currently estimated to bring the Depot into compliance with California State water standards. As HPUD is a local governmental entity, the matching requirement is not applicable.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. MICHAEL T. McCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. McCAUL of Texas. Madam Speaker, I wish to have my name disassociated with the following project. After this request was sub-

mitted to the House Armed Services Committee I instituted a personal earmark moratorium and do not want any earmarks in my name for Fiscal Year 2009.

I urge the Chairmen and Ranking Members of the House and Senate Armed Services Committees, as well as any conferees, to not put forward this earmark in my name or at my request in final Conference or Committee Reports.

Requesting Member: Congressman MICHAEL McCAUL.

Bill Number: H.R. 5856.

Account: Army RDTE (R-1 Line #133) PE 0605502A.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Applied Physical Electronics, LP.

Address of Requesting Entity: 5208 Electric Ave., Spicewood, Texas 78669.

Description of Request: The requested funding will be used for research to produce technology to support efforts against terrorist activities, to fund two endowed professors from the University of Texas for antenna design support and for signal and image processing, to acquire key capital laboratory equipment, and to hire 12 highly skilled professional engineers, as well as supporting staff. The UT professors will be funded to continue in their efforts to help design compact antenna structures, as well as the development of algorithms necessary for detecting and identifying explosives and controlling electronics used with Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs). The necessary equipment and additional staff will further the development of APELC's technology into systems deployed for defense against IEDs and Rocket Propelled Grenades (RPGs), with the ultimate objective being the utilization of APELC's technology as integral components of future applicable DoD systems, including MDA, Army, Air Force, DARPA and the Navy.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. GINGREY. Madam Speaker, in accordance with House Republican Conference standards and Clause 9 of Rule XXI, I submit the following member requests for the record. Funding for these requests was authorized in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009.

Requesting Member: Congressman PHIL GINGREY.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Army RDT&E, PE62786A, Line 27, Warfighter Technology.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Printpack Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 2800 Overlook Parkway, NE Atlanta GA 30339.

Description of Request: The budget request includes \$21.9M in PE62786A for Applied Research of new warfighter technologies of which \$5.3M is allocated for Joint Service Combat Feeding Technology. The \$2,100,000 added to this account will be used to develop new and innovative packaging and processing technologies for the Warfighter's combat rations. These funds will result in the ability to provide greater variety and more nutritional rations with longer shelf-life and reduced production costs. The objective of this effort is to

develop advanced thermal processing techniques based on the utilization of non-foil materials for military ration packaging. The importance of developing non-foil packaging materials will serve as a precursor to the next stage of the R&D effort which will investigate new and enhanced thermal processing techniques; specifically, Enhanced High Pressure Processing, EHPP, and Microwave Sterilization, MW, technologies. The EHPP and MW processing technologies have numerous advantages over conventional thermal processing; however, these processes cannot be used on current foil packaging because they cause blistering and flex cracking of the foil packaging material. Therefore, to achieve the advantages of advanced EHPP and MW processing, it is essential to use state-of-the-art, non-foil packaging materials. The development of advanced, non-foil packaging materials and utilization of innovative EHPP and MW processing techniques will result in the provision of rations with the following beneficial and enhanced qualities: greater variety, better taste, more nutrition, longer shelf-life, lower overall production costs, environmentally friendly, less volume and waste. The FY09 effort will consist of three stages and is budgeted as follows: Stage 1: Blistering, \$0.14M, Stage 2: Flex Crack Resistance, \$0.26M, Stage 3: EHPP & MW Trials, \$1.7M.

Requesting Member: Congressman PHIL GINGREY.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Defense-wide RDT&E.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Scientific Research Corporation.

Address of Requesting Entity: 2300 Windy Ridge Parkway, Suite 400 South, Atlanta, GA 30339.

Description of request: This program will utilize recently developed Wavelet Packet Modulation, WPM. The \$4,000,000 authorized will be used to implement design modifications for limited rate initial production, including form factor packaging changes for ruggedization and for integration with signal intelligence systems. Additionally, production readiness for integration with existing communications systems will occur. Finally, module testing will be subjected to continued assessment and utility testing on multiple platforms. The enhanced modules will then undergo a final government Production Readiness Review, paving the way for subsequent deployment. Covert WPM Communications Modules as communications links for multiple platforms, including unmanned aerial systems, provide a critical solution to special operations warfighters that require the ability to communicate covertly without detection. Funding is required for hardware and software engineering, integration, and test, 64 percent; specialized equipment 21 percent; specialized software 13 percent; and travel to U.S. Special Operations Command and to military test sites 2 percent. This request is consistent with the intended and authorized purpose of the U.S. Special Operations Command Special Operations Tactical Systems Development program.

Requesting Member: Congressman PHIL GINGREY.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Other Procurement, Army (Training Devices, Non-system).

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Meggitt Training Systems.

Address of Requesting Entity: 296 Brogdon Road, Suwanee, Georgia 30024

Description of Request: The \$3 million authorized will continue the multi-year upgrade and modernization of existing firearms simulation systems in the Army National Guard necessary to meet the validated system standard. The modernization includes the conversion to digital systems and acquiring tetherless simulated weapons that allow better freedom of movement and enhanced realism than the tethered version. The Army National Guard views modernization as critical to resolving an immediate mandatory small-arms training need in support of the Guard's role in the global war on terrorism and homeland security. Of the 266 systems in the Guard inventory, 169 have not been upgraded. These funds will allow for the upgrade of approximately 45 of those systems.

Requesting Member: Congressman PHIL GINGREY.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Defense-wide, RDTE.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Georgia Institute of Technology.

Address of Requesting Entity: GTRI Cobb County Research Facility, 7220 Richardson Road Smyrna, GA 30080.

Description of Request: The \$6,000,000 authorized for Advanced Surface-to-Air-Missile (SAM) Hardware Simulator Development will reinvigorate the simulator development process and provide a simulator that can be used for electronic warfare, EW, development and testing while the simulator community revives its ability to develop and field SAM simulators. The funding will be used for research and charged to the Department of Defense at pre-negotiated rates.

One of the by-products of the collapse of the Soviet Union is that Russian SAM systems became available for purchase through FME/FMA programs. This has been a boon for the EW and test communities, DTE & OTE, in that they have been able to use actual SAM systems, as opposed to SAM simulators, to develop and test EW equipment and tactics against Russian SAM systems. While providing the aforementioned benefit, the availability of actual Russian SAM systems has had the negative effect of curtailing development of SAM simulators. At the same time, the Russians have continued to develop advanced SAM systems. Further, the Chinese have continued their development of advanced SAM systems, and other, third-world countries have been purchasing and modifying Russian SAM systems. Intelligence estimates are that these advanced and modified SAM systems will not be available for purchase by the U.S. in the foreseeable future.

The result of the above is that the U.S. EW and test communities are hampered in their development of EW equipment and tactics against advanced Russian and Chinese SAM systems, or against modified, third-world, SAM systems. This is particularly troubling because these threats are critical requirements drivers for many U.S. acquisition and upgrade programs including the JSF, AWACS, EF-18G, AARGM, J-UCAS, F-22, and JASSM. While it is believed that the simulator development community will recover its ability to field simulators of advanced SAM systems, such recovery will take a long time. Also, unless action is taken soon, the recovery will be hampered by the fact that the corporate knowledge needed to develop threat-representative simulator designs is being lost through retirement and personnel shifts.

Requesting Member: Congressman PHIL GINGREY.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: RDTE N, PE#0603513N, Line 35, Shipboard System Component Development.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Global Technology Connection, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 2839 Paces Ferry Road, #1160, Atlanta, GA 30339.

Description of Request: The \$2,000,000 authorized will be used to begin development of a Two-Screw Magnetic Drive pump system, 2-SMDPS, with diagnostic/prognostic capabilities in response to a Navy requirement. Approximately \$1,000,000, 50 percent, is for the engineering and design of the controls/micro-processor; the development of test protocols and collaboration on the algorithms/software; and \$1,000,000, 50 percent, on engineering addressing the pump design. The system will provide a diagnosis of pump components and provide a prognosis of the time-to-failure while identifying the affected components giving their current state and estimating remaining useful lifetime. This advanced pump system for naval ships that will not only increase safety for the ships' crews but also ensures there are no catastrophic failures during critical missions. In addition, it will provide savings on inventory and reduce the need for redundant systems, thereby reducing weight and freeing up space on naval ships.

Requesting Member: Congressman PHIL GINGREY.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Army, RDTE.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Georgia Institute of Technology.

Address of Requesting Entity: Institute of Bioengineering and Bioscience, 315 Ferst Drive, NW Atlanta, Georgia 30332-0363.

Description of Request: The \$3,000,000 authorized for the Center for Advanced Bioengineering and Solider Survivability, CABSS, will be used for critical needs in trauma treatment and post-trauma wound care and reconstruction. The funding will be used for research and paid out at pre-negotiated rates in accordance with Department of Defense policy. Specifically, funds will be used to: establish a seed grant program to identify novel technologies for treatment of musculoskeletal defects following trauma, develop oriented nano-fiber meshes for treatment of neurologic defects following injury to the extremities, develop biodegradable shape memory polymers for treatment of large bone defects, develop biodegradable shape memory polymers for craniofacial reconstruction, and test the effects of sustained delivery of osteoinductive proteins in tubular nanofiber mesh scaffolds on functional repair of large segmental bone defects. Past Congressional funding has been leveraged by CABSS to obtain additional funds from the Department of Defense.

Requesting Member: Congressman PHIL GINGREY.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: O&M, ARMY, Off-Duty and Voluntary Education.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: North Georgia College & State University.

Address of Requesting Entity: College Circle, Dahlonega, Georgia 30597.

Description of Request: These funds will expedite the creation of an Arabic Language and Culture Program at one of the nation's six senior military colleges. With its Corps of Cadets numbering nearly 650 and with an annual

commissioning of 45–50 2nd Lieutenants in the U.S. Army, North Georgia is centrally situated to make an immediate impact on training future military leaders for the threats that the Nation currently faces and will very likely face for the foreseeable future. These funds will create the infrastructure to provide Arabic language and culture training beginning with the fall 2009 semester. The University will pick up the costs for the program once the Federal funds have been exhausted. Of the \$350,000 authorized, \$227,000 will be used for personnel expenses for 3 faculty members to teach Arabic, \$23,000 will be used on equipment and software, \$37,300 will be used for students to study abroad and faculty development, \$30,000 will be used to provide students with a summer stipend. The remainder of the funds will be used for indirect costs.

Requesting Member: Congressman PHIL GINGREY.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Army Line 30, PE# 0603002A.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Smisson-Cartledge Biomedical, LLC.

Address of Requesting Entity: 502 Mulberry Street, Second Floor Macon, Georgia 31201.

Description of Request: The \$2,000,000 will be used for Research and Development on extracorporeal lung support therapy as an extension of the ThermoCor 1200 technology. As research shows, there is an unmet medical need for something better than conventional mechanical ventilation for acute lung injury, including exacerbations of chronic lung disease. Smisson-Cartledge Biomedical intends to pioneer an integrated system to provide an extracorporeal alternative for use outside of the surgical ICU. Their system would be designed for use by people who are not trained perfusionists or surgeons. The plan is to integrate the “smart” pump/circuit driver with an efficient compact gas exchange device for CO₂ removal and reoxygenation of the blood that will be infused at normothermic, body, temperature. The base technology will be further developed to provide this critical life-saving portable lung support for soldiers/patients that are inflicted with an acute lung injury. The authorized funds will complete this effort.

Requesting Member: Congressman PHIL GINGREY.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Aircraft Procurement, Army; 020 Utility Helicopter Mods.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Army National Guard Readiness Center.

Address of Requesting Entity: 111 S. George Mason Drive, Arlington, VA, 22204.

Description of Request: The \$5,000,000 authorized will be used for UH–60 Black Hawk Helicopter upgrades. The UH–60L Upgrades are \$1.5 million each and include: UH–60L Improved Durability Gearbox; UH–60L Flight control upgrades; UH–60L, IVHMS, Integrated Vehicle Health Maintenance System; UH–60L Overhead rescue hoist provisions; UH–60L Overhead Rescue Hoist; UH–60L Rescue Hoist Cable Guard; UH–60L Digital engine control unit; UH–60L Hydro mechanical unit; UH–60L Signal data converter; UH–60L Cargo hook upgrade to 9000 lbs.

The UH–60 Black Hawk helicopter is an essential capability of the National Guard. It provides units in every state with a multi-mission aircraft for search and rescue, utility lift, disaster relief and medical evacuation. The Army National Guard, ARNG, is authorized 782

Black Hawk aircraft, but is short of this authorization by almost 100 aircraft. This shortage requires ARNG units to loan or transfer Black Hawks in support deployments, training or state missions, resulting in a higher usage rate of available airframes. Additionally, more than 500 of the 782 National Guard aircraft are older UH–60A models, with an average age of approximately 25 years. The Army is procuring over 1200 UH–60M Black Hawks for utility, special operations and MEDEVAC missions to replace the aging UH–60A from operational units by 2016. The Army acquired 33 UH–60M Black Hawks by the end of FY07, and from FY09 to FY13, the Army plans to procure an additional 300 UH–60M Black Hawks (70 of those aircraft are programmed for ARNG units). However, without an accelerated procurement of the UH–60M, the Army National Guard will be operating more than 400 UH–60A helicopters beyond 2020. The ARNG and the Active Army developed a program to support the continued modernization of the ARNG Black Hawk fleet. Unfortunately, this program is not fully funded. The ARNG plan is to accelerate the fielding of UH–60M Black Hawks by 10 aircraft per year. Although the Active Army has programmed UH–60A recapitalization for the ARNG with Operations and Maintenance, O&M, funds, which includes an airframe life extension, fleet-wide product improvements and the replacement of components, the UH–60A to L upgrade is not funded. The UH–60L Black Hawk is more economical to operate and has 1000 lbs of additional lift than the UH–60A. The desired rate of UH–60 A to L upgrades is 38 per year. Funding the UH–60A to L upgrade will significantly improve the Black Hawk fleet, and assure that ARNG units are ready, deployable, and available to protect our national interests both abroad and at home. This ARNG aviation initiative has been identified by the Chief of the National Guard Bureau, CNGB, as FY09 “Essential 10—Top 25” unfunded priorities.

Requesting Member: Congressman PHIL GINGREY.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: USAF (2009 Unfunded Requirements List); Lockheed Martin Corp/Boeing Co/United Technologies Corporation.

Address of Requesting Entity: The Pentagon, Washington, DC; Marietta, GA/Seattle, WA/East Hartford, CT.

Description of Request: \$523,000,000 is authorized to advance procure F–22 long-lead items in FY2009 that are necessary for F–22 procurement in FY2010. The funds provide for production of supplier items in FY2009 that are required to produce 20–24 additional, Lot 10, F–22 aircraft in FY2010, such as specialty metal alloy and titanium structural parts, as well as engine, AMAD, RADAR, CIP, CNI, and Landing Gear parts. The USAF submitted this request as the number two priority on its FY2009 Unfunded Requirements List. Additionally, the Secretary of Defense testified that he would like to extend production of F–22 into 2010, in order to allow the next administration to determine future production of the F–22. Yet, to date, the Secretary has provided no defense budget funding request or supplemental budget funding request to do so. Without funds for Advance Procurement of another full lot, F–22 production line suppliers will be forced to begin shutdown activities by November of 2008, making it unlikely that the next

administration would have the necessary time or personnel in place to make such an important decision.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. RAY LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, in accordance with the Republican adopted standards on earmarks, I submit the below detailed explanation of the C–130 Squadron Operations Facility for the 182nd Airlift Wing, Illinois Air National Guard.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658, the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act of fiscal year 2009.

Provisions/Account: Air Force, MilCon Air National Guard, JLQN069160.

Name and Address of Requesting Entity: 182nd Airlift Wing, Illinois Air National Guard, 2416 S. Falcon Boulevard, Greater Peoria Regional Airport, Peoria, IL 61607.

Description of Request: This is a top priority for the Illinois Air National Guard. This project has already received architecture and engineering funding from the National Guard Bureau, and will be ready to utilize FY09 funds. This request would provide a properly sized and adequately configured facility to accommodate airlift squadron operations. The current facility is only 86 percent of the authorized space. It is extremely overcrowded and inadequate to support the ongoing airlift mission of this C–130 base. Upon completion of this project, the current Operations building will be reconfigured to address the critical space shortages of other base operations.

H. RES. 1086 RECOGNIZING NATIONAL NURSES WEEK ON MAY 6 THROUGH MAY 12

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the resolution recognizing National Nurses Week on May 6th through May 12th (H. Res. 1086). This resolution pays tribute to the safe, high quality, and preventative health care that nurses provide.

I am pleased to honor the essential role that nurses play in providing quality health care across our Nation. Each of us remembers experiences when a loved one needed health care and a nurse was the first person by the patient's side providing care and comfort. We all benefit from the commitment nurses make to their profession despite extraordinary challenges they face every day.

Nurses are the health professionals on the front lines of caring for Americans both at home and abroad. Our Nation's soldiers on the front lines rely on nurses for lifesaving aid as they serve our country abroad. Back in the States, nurses play an important role as the primary point of contact between the patient and the world of healthcare providing critical medical care for the patient and assistance for their families.

Our Nation's health care system is complex and people with all types of needs are greatly served by caring, qualified, and professional nurses. They are integral to our Nation's health care delivery system. Nurses are advocates and health educators for patients, families, and communities. Nurses are also experienced researchers, and their work encompasses a wide scope of scientific inquiry including clinical research, health systems and outcomes research, and nursing education research.

Despite the excellent care that nurses provide, unfortunately, there is a shortage of nurses in our country which must be addressed. Minnesota—like much of the United States—is on the verge of a serious shortage of registered nurses and licensed practical nurses that affects patients, health care facilities, businesses, and the entire community. The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) projects that the current 10 percent vacancy rate in registered nurses will grow to 36 percent by 2020, representing more than one million unfilled jobs.

In addition, there are less than 20,000 full time faculty to train nurses in this country, and nearly 2,000 full time faculty members leave their positions each year. Thus, we need to address the shortage of nurse faculty to help nursing schools expand student capacity and increase the nursing workforce. I was also pleased to support the Nurse Reinvestment Act which established a Nursing Faculty Loan Program and Nurse Service Scholarship program.

An aging workforce, stagnant graduation trends, and greater employment demand have left our Nation's hospitals critically understaffed. I believe we need measures to help address workforce issues to help retain nurses in the profession and allow nurses to be the professionals that they are. Providing individuals interested in nursing with the training and tools they need must be a top priority, and I will continue to support those efforts.

Nurses provide outstanding health care services in our community, and I look forward to continuing to support the work of nurses who devote themselves to making such a difference in our lives. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill to recognize National Nurses Week.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. COLE of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, under Clause 9 of Rule XXI, I submit for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a list of earmarks which I have obtained in H.R. 5658, the Fiscal Year 2009 National Defense Authorization Act.

(1) Project Name: UML UAV/UAS Test Facility.

Requesting Member: Congressman TOM COLE.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: RDT&E, Defensewide, Line 193.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Oklahoma State University—University Multispectral Laboratories (OSU-UML).

Address of Requesting Entity: 1000 South Pine (Research East), P.O. Box 1902, Ponca City, OK 74602.

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$8,000,000 to establish a National Unmanned Aerial Vehicles/System (UAV/S) Test Facility adjacent to restricted Fort Sill, Oklahoma airspace on behalf of the United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) Approximately \$4,400,000 (or 55%) is for material, engineering support, range equipment and renovations, along with \$3,600,000 (or 45%) is for the creation of new, high-technology jobs consisting of technicians, engineers and scientists. The USSOCOM Program Manager, Special Applications For Contingencies (SAFC), requires greater access to test ranges where less restrictive UAV/S test flights may occur. Established by the OSU University Multispectral Laboratories (UML), this facility provides unique opportunity to conduct UAV/S flight testing while remaining within restricted airspace where UAV flights are exempt from FAA regulations. A wide variety of UAV/S testing, fully coordinated with Army authorities, becomes possible for all government entities This facility also supports the Army Fires Center of Excellence and fosters a positive economic impact on the surrounding areas.

(2) Project Name: Joint Fires & Effects Training System (JFETS).

Requesting Member: Congressman TOM COLE.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Army, RDT&E, Line 38.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: The Institute for Creative Technologies.

Address of Requesting Entity: 13274 Fiji Way, Marina del Rey, CA 90292, USA.

Description of Request: Provides \$6.5 million for the Joint Fires and Effects Training System (JFETS). JFETS at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, a collaborative effort between the University of Southern California Institute for Creative Technologies and the United States Army Field Artillery School, has grown from a concept demonstration to three fully functional prototype training installations since its inception in 2003. Short of combat, JFETS creates a realistic, stressful, and demanding experience for soldiers undergoing training in the synchronization of fires and effects. To date, more 5,000 soldiers have been trained in the JFETS Urban Terrain Module, the Open Terrain Module, and the Close Air Support Module.

Joint Fires Observation skills are perishable. The capability to refresh these skills frequently, in a time and cost effective manner, and across the U.S. Army, USAF, and U.S. Navy, will make the U.S. military a more integrated and effective fighting force. The enhancement of the Joint Fires Effects Trainer System (JFETS) will provide this.

Budget and timeline for FY 09 JFETS request.

JFETS:

Salaries & Wages—\$2,478,361

Materials & Supplies—\$797,348

Travel—\$34,902

Subcontracts—\$2,879,865

Fees—\$309,524

Total Project Cost—\$6,500,000

This will be executed in FY 09.

(3) Project Name: Call for Fire Trainer II/ Joint Fires and Effects Trainer System.

Requesting Member: Congressman TOM COLE.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Other Procurement, Army, Line 169.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: "Techrizon, Inc."

Address of Requesting Entity: 111 SW "C" Avenue; Lawton, OK 73507.

Description of Request: This request is for the continued research, development, technological improvements, and day to day training operations of the JFETS portion of the US Army's Can for Fire Trainer (CFFT) II at Fort Sill, OK. With an earmark of \$4,000,000, approximately, \$1,600,000 [40%] is for operations and maintenance of existing modules; and \$2,400,000 [60%] is for the construction of additional modules to accommodate increased workload and student throughput in conjunction with BRAC-related expansion of Fort Sill. While JFETS/CFFT II is an Army approved program of record, funds for these essential functions are not addressed in the approved Capabilities Production Document (CPD). The requested funding will enable procurement of additional JFETS modules which will be placed in an authorized Simulations Center scheduled for construction in FY10.

(4) Project Name: Infrared Materials Laboratories.

Requesting Member: Congressman TOM COLE.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Navy, RDT&E, Line 7.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: "Ame-thyst Research Inc."

Address of Requesting Entity: 2610 Sam Noble Parkway, Ardmore, OK 73401USA.

Description of Request: I received an earmark of \$3,000,000 for advanced infrared systems development. Specifically, \$2,097,900 is for research, development, testing and evaluation: \$737,100 is for research equipment lease, and \$165,000 is for building lease. This project has the support of key officials within the Department of Defense and within the U.S. suppliers of key defense-related technologies to the U.S. Government. This request is consistent with the intended and authorized purpose of the ONR, RDTE, N account. While not required to do so, the State of Oklahoma and the host community City of Ardmore have committed non-federal dollars toward this national priority.

(5) Project Name: Excalibur, Proj 155 MM Extended Range XM982.

Requesting Member: Congressman TOM COLE.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Army, Ammunition Procurement, Line 017.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Raytheon Company.

Address of Requesting Entity: 1151 East Hermans Road, Tucson, AZ 85706.

Description of Request: Excalibur is a funded program of record and receives procurement funding from the U.S. Army and Marine Corps as well as through Foreign Military Sales. The Army has a stated requirement of 30,000 rounds, and the current program, through FY13, funds only 5720 rounds.

In March 2005, the Army approved Excalibur as the materiel solution to respond to an Urgent Needs Statement for precision cannon munitions in Iraq. The additional procurement funding will support wartime requirements, stabilize the production profile of the program, and continue efforts to reduce unit cost. Quantities to be procured are dependent upon final negotiations with the program office as well as the total amount of the contract, but will be

generally consistent with All Up Round costs in FY07 and FY08.

(6) Project Name: Realign Air Depot Street at Tinker Gate.

Requesting Member: Congressman TOM COLE.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Air Force, Military Construction, Oklahoma.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Office of Congressman TOM COLE.

Receiving Entity: Tinker AFB.

Address of Requesting Entity: Tinker AFB, 7751 1st St, Tinker AFB, OK 73145.

Description of Request: This \$5,760,000 addition to the Air Force MilCon Account will accelerate from within the FYDP the realignment of Air Depot Street at Tinker Gate. This project is fully executable in the next fiscal year, is within the FYDP, supported by the base commander, is a base priority, and has a parametric cost estimate associated with it. The existing roadway alignment poses a safety issue and does not satisfy the Anti-Force/force protection requirements. It is not in compliance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices—extreme congestion during morning and afternoon peak traffic flows presents significant driver safety issues as exits are made from a major Interstate onto the entrance to Tinker AFB. The project also provides for a new Pass and Identification building consolidating all operations at the 24-hour gate.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Requesting Member: Congressman LAMAR SMITH.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Department of Defense, Air Force RDT&E (R-1 Line #18).

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Texas Research Institute.

Address of Requesting Entity: 9063 Bees Cave Road, Austin, Texas 78732.

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$2,000,000 for the Air Force's "Improved Inspection Reliability for Optimized Maintenance Program." Regularly scheduled nondestructive inspection (NDI) and maintenance of Air Force aircraft requires that these key assets are removed from service for extended periods of time in addition to routine maintenance issues. This program will develop and validate model-based approaches to the measurement of inspection reliability, and data mining methods to assure continued performance over time in Air Force field and depot inspections. This will result in improved confidence in the reliability of NDI to assess damage without costly and time-consuming maintenance will increase availability and reduce maintenance costs over current practices. This one time program of \$2M will use \$1.7M for the development and testing of the systems and the remaining \$300K will be used for required reports. As the Air Force is scheduled to decrease in manpower over the FYDP it is critical that those in the Air Force will have the tools and equipment to do complete their jobs. This project

fully supports the 2008 Air Force Strategic Plan which calls for "Smart Operations across the total Air Force" and specifically calls for "Efficient processes free up resources for recapitalization and modernization, increase the availability of our aircraft by reducing the time they are in Depot"—This effort is termed Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century (AFSO21).

RECOGNIZING THE FINE WORK OF U.S. COAST GUARD SECTOR BUFFALO AND NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK (MAY 17–23, 2008)

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today during National Safe Boating Week to recognize the fine work of the men and women in the United States Coast Guard and particularly the many contributions of those in USCG Sector Buffalo.

Commissioned on July 22, 2005 as a merger of the Group Buffalo, Marine Safety Office Buffalo and Marine Safety Office Cleveland commands, Sector Buffalo covers a large area of responsibility including Lake Erie from Lorain, Ohio to Buffalo, New York, the Niagara River, Lake Ontario, the Finger Lakes, the Erie Canal, and the St. Lawrence Seaway to Massena, New York.

Sector Buffalo provides many services to our region including: Search and rescue, homeland security, law enforcement, aids-to-navigation, recreational boating safety, marine environmental response, and Immigrations and Customs.

On Saturday, May 17, 2008, under the direction of Coast Guard Commander Captain Scott J. Ferguson, Sector Buffalo held their first annual East Great Lakes Water Safety Expo. According to national statistics, 700 people drown each year from recreational boating accidents—10 percent of these victims fail to wear a life jacket. Through Sector Buffalo's public outreach event, the Coast Guard spread the message about boating safety and the importance of life jackets to hundreds of Western New York residents.

The Coast Guard has been a presence in Western New York since 1818, beginning with the construction of the Buffalo Lighthouse.

Sector Buffalo currently occupies approximately 31 acres on the City of Buffalo's Outer Harbor. The Coast Guard has indicated that Sector Buffalo occupies a site that is too large for its needs and drew up a preliminary plan to upgrade facilities—some of which are over 70 years old—and consolidate them in a way that would meet its operational needs, allow for future growth and open up public access to the historic lighthouse and valuable waterfront land.

For the last 90 years the U.S. Coast Guard has honorably served our waterfront community. Thank you, Madam Speaker, for this opportunity to recognize Sector Buffalo's efforts to raise public awareness this week, National Safe Boating Week, and their many contributions protecting people along our waterways and serving as a committed community partner each and every week for the last ten decades.

THE DAILY 45: FAR ROCKAWAY

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, every day, 45 people, on average, are fatally shot in the United States. Last Saturday, May 17, Brandon Bethea, a 15-year-old Jamaica girl was fatally shot on a Far Rockaway, New York street corner. She was shot while standing with a crowd near the Redfern Housing Projects.

Then, 2 days later and a half-mile away, while police investigated Brandon's killing, 17-year-old Tyrese Jones was gunned down in front of a local restaurant.

Two more young people, gone before they could even graduate from high school. And on both of these days, 44 other people were shot. Americans of conscience must come together to stop the senseless death of "The Daily 45." When will Americans say "enough is enough, stop the killing!"

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE CONGRESSIONAL CLUB

SPEECH OF

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 2008

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the Congressional Club on the occasion of their Founder's Day Celebration and their 100th anniversary. I am grateful to the Congressional Club for embracing my family since I was elected to the House in 1994. It has played such an important role in our lives that my wife, Vicki Holland Tiahart, served as president of the Club in 2005 and 2006, and remains very involved. This organization, founded in 1908 by a unanimous act of Congress, has provided a setting for bipartisan friendships for 100 years. The only club to be commissioned by an act of Congress, the bill was signed by Teddy Roosevelt, who knew the value of a loving wife. When his wife passed away, President Roosevelt lamented, "The light has gone out of my life."

It was so wise for Congress in 1908 to form the Congressional Club for wives. While never receiving any tax dollars or public money, and governed by a bipartisan board, the Congressional Club has remained a home away from home for spouses, a safe place for sharing the trials of public life, and for developing bipartisan friendships that encourage civility and good will in government. The membership and relationships extend to the administration of the White House and the Supreme Court.

A clubhouse was built in 1914 at 2001 New Hampshire Avenue, in Northeast (Washington). The land was donated by Mary Foote Henderson and chosen because the women could look south down 16th Street and see the White House. Immediately, embassies began building in that area in order to be close to the Congressional Club. The Club has been a good neighbor for nearly a century, staying when others left as the area suffered urban decay. The women paid their mortgage and

kept their property in good repair with money raised from dues and the selling of 14 published editions of the Congressional Cookbook. Due to its success, the club was able to pay off its mortgage in 1948. To commemorate the occasion, Club member and First Lady Bess Truman ceremonially burned the papers at the 40th anniversary celebration. Since that time, their funds have been given to charity, and been used to pay for the upkeep of this historic home. The presence of the Congressional Clubhouse helped promote renewal in the DuPont Circle neighborhood until finally the U Street corridor is booming and busy again. The Clubhouse is on the National Register of historic places.

This is much more than just a social club. During World War I, the women rolled bandages and kept a room at Union Station for traveling soldiers. During World War II, Eleanor Roosevelt encouraged the women to promote patriotism and public safety in their home districts as part of the war effort. After September 11, the spouses were given a briefing to share with their home districts about how to prepare their families and communities for the possibility of additional terrorist attacks.

For a century now, spouses have done inner-city charity work. Every December, a Christmas party hosts underprivileged children who celebrate the season with gifts and a holiday meal, the singing of carols and making of crafts with Congressional families. At the end of each school year, a pizza party is held at the Club for at-risk inner city children. The wives have encouraged a sense of community by honoring the local fire and police departments and hosting the annual appreciation day for local nursing home senior citizens.

They continue to contribute to the lives of Congressional families by providing orientation for spouses of newly elected Members, annually honoring the First Lady and giving tens of thousands of dollars to a charity in her name. Their regular luncheons provide programs of education and entertainment.

Also worth mentioning is the global reach of the spouses through the annual honoring of ambassadors' wives. This past week, the Congressional Club hosted over 50 countries, who modeled fashions from their native land. This extension of the hand of friendship around the world surely promotes good will and encourages understanding of our culture of freedom and equality for all people.

I would also be remiss if I did not mention the work of the Club's Anniversary Committee, and its president, my beloved wife, Vicki. They have put together a number of events celebrating the anniversary, including a ringing of the official bells of the United States Congress, a birthday cake at the annual First Lady's luncheon, and a commemorative cancellation stamp.

It is fitting that this Congress should honor the good work of our political spouses and of the Congressional Club. In a time of extreme partisanship that all too often poisons relationships and stymies legislative action, the Congressional Club serves as a poignant reminder of life without partisanship. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Congressional Club and their 100 years of friendship and community service.

H.R. 5501, THE TOM LANTOS AND HENRY J. HYDE UNITED STATES GLOBAL LEADERSHIP AGAINST HIV/AIDS, TUBERCULOSIS, AND MALARIA REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2008

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, I rise to voice my strong support for H.R. 5501, the Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde United States Global Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Reauthorization Act of 2008. This important legislation authorizes appropriations for fiscal years 2009 through 2013 to provide assistance to foreign countries to combat HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, and for other purposes, including program monitoring, operations research, and impact evaluation research of U.S. HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria programs.

Since the HIV/AIDS epidemic began, 20 million men, women, and children have died from the disease. Forty million around the globe are HIV-positive, and each and every day, another 6,000 people become infected with HIV. Tuberculosis and malaria are devastating diseases in their own right, particularly in developing countries. However, tuberculosis (particularly drug-resistant strains) in the immunocompromised poses a particularly vexing treatment challenge.

HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria are sometimes referred to as the "diseases of poverty;" without question, Africans and various peoples of African descent have been hit the hardest by this global epidemic. In three of the larger countries in the Caribbean—the Bahamas, Haiti, and Trinidad and Tobago—more than 2 percent of the adult population is living with HIV. Higher prevalence rates are found only in sub-Saharan Africa, making the Caribbean the second-most affected region in the world.

AIDS is now one of the leading causes of death in some of these countries, with Haiti being the worst affected. An estimated 16,000 lives are lost each year to AIDS in Haiti, and tens of thousands of children have been orphaned by the epidemic. As well, Haiti has the highest per capita tuberculosis burden in the Latin America and Caribbean region. After HIV/AIDS, TB is the country's greatest infectious cause of mortality of both youth and adults, resulting in 6,000 deaths annually.

What must not be overlooked in the global pandemic of HIV/AIDS is the need for preventative care. For example, the Act directs the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to develop a program to facilitate availability of proven microbicides that prevent the transmission of HIV. The Act also creates linkages and requires patient referrals between HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis programs, and creates a new plan to stop tuberculosis by enhancing testing and treatment in countries with high tuberculosis rates. New tactics for attacking drug-resistant tuberculosis are also supported.

Most importantly, the Act provides funding for treatment based on scientific principles and evidence-based practices. It is our duty to battle these life-threatening illnesses, and it is inappropriate to forebear moral judgment or

other inherent prejudices upon those suffering from these terrible diseases. The Act's purpose is to help provide treatment and support to those who are unable to provide these services on their own. It implores us to care for one another, for we are all brothers and sisters in the eyes of our Creator.

Madam Speaker, there is a moral imperative to combat this epidemic, and the late Congressmen Lantos and Hyde, both dear friends and colleagues, fought long and hard on this important issue. Please honor their efforts by supporting H.R. 5501, the Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde United States Global Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Reauthorization Act of 2008.

STATEMENT ON VETERAN'S
LEGISLATION

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to talk about some important legislation that honors the sacrifice and courage of our women who have served and are currently serving in our armed forces.

The Veteran's legislation we considered today provides an opportunity for each of us, regardless of political views, religion, ethnicity, gender, or background to come together, and to recognize and honor our Nation's heroes.

We gather here today, in the midst of ongoing conflict and warfare, to celebrate the dedication of our men and women in uniform. Though we may be divided by our positions on the war in Iraq, we stand together to support our veterans. Our Nation has a proud legacy of appreciation and commitment to the men and women who have worn the uniform in defense of this country. We must be united in seeing that every soldier, sailor, airman, and marine is welcomed back with all the care and compassion this grateful Nation can bestow.

All too many of our veterans are left without the help and support they need to transition from the horrors they bravely face on the front lines of battle to successful civilian life. According to the Veterans Affairs Department, as of 2006, on any given night, 196,000 veterans of all ages were homeless.

The V.A. also reports 400 veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan alone have already become homeless, and this figure only takes into account those who have sought services from V.A.-sponsored programs. Experts have predicted that the trauma resulting from the extreme horrors of these modern wars could lead to a surge in homeless veterans in the coming years.

I chose to celebrate one of our heroic daughters of Texas, Specialist Monica L. Brown of the United States Army with House Concurrent Resolution 320 for her efforts earlier this year.

Spec. Brown was the first woman in Afghanistan and only the second female soldier since World War II to receive the Silver Star, the Nation's third-highest medal for valor. This soldier from Lake Jackson, Texas is only 19 years old.

On April 25, 2007, Specialist Brown was part of a four-vehicle convoy patrolling near

Jani Kheil in the eastern province of Paktia on April 25, 2007, when a bomb struck one of the Humvees.

When Spec. Brown saw her fellow soldiers were injured, she grabbed her aid bag and started running toward the burning vehicle as insurgents opened fire. All five wounded soldiers from her platoon scrambled out. Under this commotion, she assessed her patients and moved them to a safer location because they were still receiving incoming fire.

The Pentagon's official policy is to prohibit women from serving in front-line combat roles in the infantry, armor or artillery, but the nature of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, with no real front lines, has seen women soldiers take part in close-quarters combat more than previous conflicts.

According to the army four Army nurses in World War II were the first women to receive the Silver Star, though three nurses serving in World War I were awarded the medal posthumously in 2007. Sgt. Leigh Ann Hester, of Nashville, Tenn., was the first to receive the Silver Star in 2005 along with two fellow male soldiers for her gallantry during an insurgent ambush on a convoy in Iraq.

The Army has stated that Spec. Brown's "bravery, unselfish actions and medical aid rendered under fire saved the lives of her comrades and represents the finest traditions of heroism in combat."

Though I have opposed the war in Iraq from its inception, I remain absolutely committed to ensuring that we recognize, celebrate, and honor the service of our sons and daughters returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. Our troops in Iraq did everything we asked them to do, and I firmly believe that we must commend the men and women of our military for their exemplary performance and success in Iraq.

I am proud to be a cosponsor on H. Res. 1054—Honoring the service and achievements of women in the Armed Forces and female veterans (Representative DAVIS (CA)—Armed Services) and H.R. 3819—Veterans Emergency Care Fairness Act of 2007 (Representative SPACE—Veterans' Affairs).

We are providing for our Veterans with legislation such as:

H.R. 6081—The Heroes Earnings Assistance and Relief Tax Act of 2008 (Representative RANGEL—Ways and Means).

H. Res. 986—Recognizing the courage and sacrifice of those members of the United States Armed Forces who were held as prisoners of war during the Vietnam conflict and calling for a full accounting of the 1,729 members of the Armed Forces who remain unaccounted for from the Vietnam conflict (Representative BOEHNER—Armed Services)—Recorded Vote

H.R. 2790—To establish the position of Director of Physician Assistant Services within the office of the Under Secretary of Veterans Affairs for Health as amended (Representative HARE—Veterans' Affairs).

H.R. 3681—Veterans Benefits Awareness Act of 2007 (Representative BOOZMAN—Veterans' Affairs).

H.R. 3889—To require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a longitudinal study of the vocational rehabilitation programs administered by the Secretary (Representative BOOZMAN—Veterans' Affairs)—Passed

H.R. 5554—Veterans Substance Use Disorders Prevention and Treatment Act of 2008

(Representative MICHAUD—Veterans' Affairs)—Passed

H.R. 5664—To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to update at least once every six years the plans and specifications for specially adapted housing furnished to veterans by the Secretary (Representative RODRIGUEZ—Veterans' Affairs).

H.R. 5826—Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2008 (Representative RODRIGUEZ—Veterans' Affairs)—Recorded Vote

H.R. 5856—Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Authorization and Lease Act of 2008 (Representative MICHAUD—Veterans' Affairs).

H.R. 6048—To amend the Service members Civil Relief Act to provide for the protection of child custody arrangements for parents who are members of the Armed Forces deployed in support of a contingency operation (Representative TURNER—Veterans' Affairs).

I firmly believe that we should celebrate our veterans after every conflict, and I remain committed, as a Member of Congress, to both meeting the needs of veterans of previous wars, and to provide a fitting welcome home to those who are now serving. Veterans have kept their promise to serve our Nation; they have willingly risked their lives to protect the country we all love. We must now ensure that we keep our promises to our veterans.

Currently, there are over 25 million veterans in the United States. There are more than 1,633,000 veterans living in Texas and more than 32,000 veterans living in my congressional district alone. I hope we will all take the time to show appreciation to those who have answered the call to duty. As Winston Churchill famously stated, "Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few."

Madam Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting our troops of yesteryear and our troops of today.

HONORING WOMEN IN THE ARMED FORCES AND FEMALE VETERANS

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to support this legislation that honors the sacrifice and courage of women in our armed forces. I would like to thank my fellow Women's Caucus member and the gentle lady from California, Congresswoman SUSAN DAVIS for introducing this legislation.

This legislation could not be more timely. Last week we failed to pass the Iraq/Afghanistan Supplemental Appropriations bill. This failure was not due to our feelings for our men and women in the armed forces but goes to the heart of where we stand with this ill-begotten war.

No matter how we voted last week, I believe that all of us, on both sides of the aisle, strongly support our men and women who are in harm's way. At this point I truly believe that only diplomacy and global cooperation can ease the tensions in Iraq and Afghanistan.

This resolution brings us back to focusing on the actual men and women in our armed

forces. This is right where the focus should be.

With over 185,000 women having been deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and other missions since 2001 and nearly 350,000 women serving in the Armed Forces make up almost 15 percent of active duty personnel and over 17 percent of the National Guard reserve forces—it is time we celebrate what women are doing in the armed forces.

Women have been aiding the U.S. war effort for years. With 34,000 women serving in World War I, 400,000 serving in World War II, 120,000 serving in the Korean War, and well over 7,000 served in the Vietnam War—women were clearly serving in our Nation's military well before our current missions.

I chose to celebrate one of our heroic daughters of Texas, Specialist Monica L. Brown of the United States Army with House Concurrent Resolution 320 for her efforts earlier this year.

Spec. Brown was the first woman in Afghanistan and only the second female soldier since World War II to receive the Silver Star, the Nation's third-highest medal for valor. This soldier from Lake Jackson, Texas is only 19 years old.

On April 25, 2007, Specialist Brown was part of a four-vehicle convoy patrolling near Jani Kheil in the eastern province of Paktia on April 25, 2007, when a bomb struck one of the Humvees.

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The Pentagon's official policy is to prohibit women from serving in front-line combat roles in the infantry, armor or artillery, but the nature of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, with no real front lines, has seen women soldiers take part in close-quarters combat more than previous conflicts.

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The Army has stated that Spec. Brown's "bravery, unselfish actions and medical aid rendered under fire saved the lives of her comrades and represents the finest traditions of heroism in combat."

This legislation is not about condoning the wars in Afghanistan or in Iraq. This legislation is about us supporting and honoring our troops.

It is about this Nation's children fighting for the rights of all of us in places we do not dare to go, under environments we cannot fully appreciate from this comfortable position.

Spec. Brown reminds us that our youth are fighting in this war, our mothers and daughters are fighting in this war, and they deserve to be recognized for their achievements.

However, we not only recognize the sacrifice and courage of Spec. Brown, or even just the brave acts of her fellow soldiers, marines, and airmen. We must also recognize the

families of our military. Spec. Brown's grandmother said she was the proudest grandmother in all of Lake Jackson, Texas, when she learned of her granddaughter's heroism.

We should all be as proud of our young men and women as Spec. Brown's grandmother. In being proud of them, we are not condoning the Administration, we are recognizing their efforts and their belief in what they have been tasked to do.

We sit in these chambers and discuss the idea of war, and the economic costs to the Nation. However, our men and women in Afghanistan and Iraq are dealing with the realities of war every day. Their families are also dealing with it every day, as they have to move forward without their loved ones.

I am proud of Specialist Monica L. Brown, Texas is proud of Monica L. Brown, and this country should be proud of all the Specialist Brown's and all the women like her who have fought the equality war at home and the fight for freedom abroad.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join Representative SUSAN DAVIS and myself in recognizing our women in the armed forces.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. ROBIN HAYES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

Mr. HAYES. Madam Speaker, I wish to submit the following earmark for the RECORD.

Requesting Member: Congressman ROBIN HAYES.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658, The Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2009.

Account: Other Procurement Army (OPA), Training Devices—Non-System.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: General Dynamics Information Technology.

Address of Requesting Entity: 2941 Fairview Park Dr., Suite 100, Falls Church, VA 22041.

Description of Request: This request is for authorization of \$4 million FY '09 OPA funding to allow instrumentation of 12 to 14 of the remaining buildings at the Range 74 Combined Arms Collective Training Facility (CACTF) site to Combined Arms MOUT Task Force (CAMTF) standard. The Army's CAMTF training requirement provides 80 percent coverage for a generic 20–26 building site. The Ft. Bragg Range 74 CACTF consists of thirty-two (32) training buildings, only six (or 18%) of which are instrumented. Ft. Bragg's CACTF supports sixteen (16) brigade-equivalent units with six (6) instrumented buildings. Considering the XVIII ABC training throughput, the level of instrumentation currently fielded is not commensurate with the size and scope found at installations with smaller training requirements. Fort Campbell's Cassidy Urban Training Complex and Eighth Army's Rodriguez CACTF in Korea are illustrative of the Army's training strategy and feature at least 18–20 instrumented training buildings, per facility. The situation is more pronounced when you examine the troop populations at each installation. Currently, the Rodriguez site supports one maneuver brigade of the 2nd Infantry Division, while Cassidy hosts three maneuver brigades from the 101st Airborne Division. There is a compelling need to instrument another twelve

to fourteen (12–14) buildings at the Ft Bragg CACTF to align it closer to the Army's standard.

Requesting Member: Congressman ROBIN HAYES.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658, The Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2009.

Account: RDT&E, Navy.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Combat Displays, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 100–B Industrial Drive, New Bern, NC 28562.

Description of Request: Provide an authorization of \$6,800,000 for development of environmentally sealed, ruggedized avionics displays for vertical lift systems and will be done in conjunction with the Center for Vertical Lift Excellence, Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Cherry Point, NC in support of technology to benefit our military aviators. This request is consistent with the intended and authorized purpose of the Navy RDT&E account.

Requesting Member: Congressman ROBIN HAYES.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658, The Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2009.

Account: Defense-Wide Procurement.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Raytheon Technical Services Company.

Address of Requesting Entity: 6125 E 21st St., Indianapolis, IN 46219–2058.

Description of Request: Provide an authorization of \$6,000,000 to procure 80 RAMS B kits for Special Operations Forces. RAMS is a remote-controller initiator to control the activation of demolitions. This request is consistent with the intended and authorized purpose of the Defense Wide Procurement account. These kits are used extensively by United States Special Operations Command and our servicemembers in OIF and OEF.

Requesting Member: Congressman ROBIN HAYES.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658, The Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2009.

Account: OPN Budget Activity 01, Line #19, Items Less than \$5 million.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: IMO Pump.

Address of Requesting Entity: 1710 Airport Road, Monroe, NC, USA.

Description of Request: Provide an authorization of \$4 million for the procurement and installation of Canned Lube Pumps (CLP) on four LSD–41/49 Class amphibious ships. This funding will purchase 16 CLP units to complete the LSD–41 class. Approximately, \$400,000 is for technical support for installation; \$2.8M for the CLP units and installation; \$600, 000 for battle spares; \$200,000 for proto-type shipboard test for LHD class. The Navy has indicated that the total savings over the life of the LSD 41/49 class from installing the CLP is over \$33.1 million and the return investment to the Navy is 394 percent. This funding will complete the procurement and installation of the Whidbey Island Class.

Requesting Member: Congressman ROBIN HAYES.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658, The Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2009.

Account: Defense-Wide, RDT & E.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of North Carolina at Charlotte (UNCC) and Northrup Grumman.

Address of Requesting Entity: UNC–Charlotte Campus in Charlotte, NC is the location of performance (where the work will be done): University of North Carolina–Charlotte, 9201 University City Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28223 and Northrup Grumman, 7323 Aviation Blvd., Mail Stop 1105, Baltimore, MD 21040.

Description of Request: Provide a \$3 million authorization for Superlattice Nanotechnology research for the Department of Defense to be performed at UNC–Charlotte. Most of today's compound semiconductor devices made from silicon (Si) and silicon germanium (SiGe) have high power capabilities, but are limited by defect density and other factors affecting yield, cost and performance. One of the most promising new materials is SiC, which is used to make high power radio frequency (RF), power switching, and high current switching devices for a multitude of DOD applications. Superlattice nanotechnology can mitigate the size, yield and performance limitations of SiC by utilizing atomic level control of the SiC-on-Si growth process. This will greatly reduce the cost and improve the performance of many of the desired SiC devices. Superlattice nanotechnology will form the structure for the next dimension in RF electronics (Radar, EW, communications), radiation hard electronics (satellite, special use), and power conditioning electronics (DEW, electromagnetic gun), enabling performance levels unachievable with today's technology. Request \$5.0 million be added to the President's FY09 Budget Request to continue development of silicon carbide (SiC) Superlattice Nanotechnology.

Requesting Member: Congressman ROBIN HAYES.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658, The Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2009.

Account: Defense-Wide, RDT & E.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: United Protective Technologies.

Address of Requesting Entity: United Protective Technologies (UPT), 4600 H Lebanon Road, Charlotte, NC 28227 and their Locust, North Carolina facility.

Description of Request: Provide a \$2 million authorization for Non-Hazardous Infrared Anti-Reflective Coatings for Army Aircraft Sensors. An alternative coating to extend the service life of expensive and critical infrared range sensor windows is now available. This coating presents none of the health or environmental impacts found in other currently used Anti-reflective coatings. Prototype examples and early stage data of this new capability have been presented to the U.S. Army and have received very positive feedback. Key features include unprecedented environment stability, and excellent abrasion and erosion protection. This coating may also be used on both flat windows and on dome-shaped configurations. This coating will increase the survivability of sensor windows and reduce cost of ownership through an increase in operation life and performance. Army provided Cost/Benefit analysis shows that the windows of the AH–64 Targeting Sensor Array (TADS/PNVs) are currently demonstrating a Mean Time between Unscheduled Removal of 5031 (PNVs) and 5495 (TADS) flight hours. With the current Operational Tempo AH–64's can be expected to fly approximately 100,000 flight hours per year (total fleet). Based on the damage seen on removed windows, a conservative estimate is that this coating will cut unscheduled removals by 50%, saving \$41 8,000/year for the

Apache Airframe. Other Army airframes could show a savings amounting to an additional \$800,000 annually.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. TIMOTHY WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, I submit the following to the RECORD:

Name of Earmark and Amount: Multi Climate Protection System (MCPS) for the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps—\$8.0 million.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account Information: Navy, OTHER PROCUREMENT, PE 0, Line 097.

Legal Name and Address of Receiving Entity: Peckham Industries, 2822 North Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, Lansing, Michigan 48906.

Earmark Description: The Chief of Naval Operations' FY 2000 Aircrew Systems Operational Advisory Group identified that Naval and Marine Corps aircrew personnel need an improved protective clothing system. Until the MCPS was developed and introduced in FY 2004, aircrew garments in the Navy and Marine Corps predominantly contained textiles and designs consistent with 1970s' technology. Advancements in protective fibers and garments were introduced to meet the demands on aircrews by providing moisture management, heating and cooling performance in passive and active layers and comfort via modular components.

Earmark Budget: Test and field approximately 4,689 total systems—\$8,000,000; Garment Production—\$3,400,000; Materials—\$4,200,000; Quality Control/Fielding—\$400,000; Total—\$8,000,000.

The Multi Climate Protection System includes:

- 1 Goretex parka and 1 trouser
- 1 Polartec Windpro FR with Nomex Jacket and 1 Vest
- 1 Polartec Thermal FR with Nomex shirt, 1 overalls and 1 pants
- 1 Polartec Powerstretch FR with Nomex shirt and 1 pants
- 1 Polartec Windpro FR with Nomex face mask

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. MARK E. SOUDER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

Mr. SOUDER. Madam Speaker, the following are my explanations of each earmark in this bill. I have always released my requests. I believe all requests and detailed explanations should be part of this process. Transparency is the best protection against abuse.

Bill: H.R. 5658, The Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2009.

Account: Airforce, Milcon, Air National Guard.

PE No.: N/A.

Line No.: N/A.

Project Name: IN Air National Guard—Fort Wayne Aircraft Shelter/Fuel Fill Project.

Entity: Indiana Air National Guard, 122 Fighter Wing.

Address: 3005 Ferguson Road, Fort Wayne IAP, IN 46809.

Amount: \$5,600,000.

Justification for use of federal taxpayer dollars: Construct a two aircraft bay parking shelter addition to the existing two aircraft bay parking shelter providing a total of four parking spots under shelter as required for a base A/C Readiness Shelter. The base requires adequately sized, appropriately configured, and functional aircraft readiness shelters with supporting taxiway system to support four-ship F-16 aircraft mission requirements. Due to previous funding restraints the current shelter facility was constructed with two parking spots with a plan to add two more at a later date. Readiness shelters are necessary for mission support, operations safety, and protection of aircraft and flightline personnel from inclement weather. The project will also provide a refueler vehicle fill stand on the operational side of the railroad tracks to support the flying mission.

The 122nd is one of the premier Air National Guard units in the United States. They have a proven history with deployments during the Berlin Crisis, Desert Storm, Hurricane Katrina, Guantanamo Bay, Operation Jump Start and the current global war on terrorism in Afghanistan and Iraq. The 122nd has received four AF Outstanding Unit awards for these efforts. In addition to the 60 years of fighter expertise, the Guard Unit also has a history of safety. Currently, they have over 16,000 hours of accident free F-16 flying operations. The construction of this readiness shelter and fill stand will help the 122nd carry out their current mission and train for future endeavors.

Finance Plan: Project consists of the following: Construct reinforced concrete foundation and painted floor slab with grounding points; masonry and metal siding walls; steel frame; and standing seam metal roof; include a high expansion fire suppression system and overhead infrared heating; provide hangar style doors for drive through capability; remove existing asphalt and provide new concrete taxiway entry and exit; provide asphalt transition to the south apron area; construct stainless steel underground piping, reinforced concrete for curbed access pavement, and refueler fill stands.

Bill: H.R. 5658, The Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2009.

Account: Procurement, Defense-wide.

PE No.: 0.

Line No.: 83.

Project Name: Multi-Band Multi-Mission Radio (MBMMR).

Entity: Raytheon Network Centric Systems. Address: 1010 Production Road, Ft. Wayne, IN 46808.

Amount: \$9,500,000.

Justification for use of federal taxpayer dollars: The AN/PSC-5D MBMMR is the U.S. Special Operations standard man-portable tactical Ultra-High Frequency (UHF) Satellite communications (SATCOM) terminal. MBMMR is the primary mission radio for Special Operations Forces (SOF) units, providing tactical and worldwide connectivity playing a key role in the GWOT. It enables SOF to communicate on a user-selected frequency 30 to 512 megahertz (MHz) utilizing a single man-pack radio

with embedded communications lifeline to SOF teams operating under hazardous circumstances such as isolation from possible reinforcement by U.S. ground forces. MBMMR reduces the need for multiple man-pack radios, reducing the weight and size of communications equipment which must be carried out by SOF. U.S. Special Operations Forces have a requirement for approximately 400 additional MBMMR radios and ancillary equipment to satisfy requirements of the Global War on Terror.

The Raytheon facility in Fort Wayne is a technology leader specializing in innovative technology to make U.S. warfighters more effective and secure. With a history of innovation spanning more than 80 years, Raytheon provides state-of-the-art electronics, mission systems integration, and other capabilities in the areas of sensing; effects; command, control, communications and intelligence systems, as well as a broad range of mission support services. There are over 1,100 engineers in the Fort Wayne facility working everyday to make our soldiers the best equipped in the world. This funding will allow them to create the high-tech radios needed by Special Operations Forces.

Finance Plan: The funding would be used for procurement of 400 radios for U.S. Special Operations Forces.

Bill: H.R. 5658 The Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2009.

Account: Army, RDT&E.

PE No.: 0602787A.

Line No.: 28.

Project Name: Orthopedic Implant Design and Manufacturing for Traumatic Injuries.

Entity: University of Notre Dame.

Address: 416 Main Building, Notre Dame, Indiana 46556.

Amount: \$2,000,000.

Justification for use of federal taxpayer dollars: Approximately 40–50 percent of Army, Navy, and Marine Corps injuries in Iraq and Afghanistan require orthopedic procedures. This unusually high percentage is primarily due to improvements in body and head armor that inhibit severe trauma to internal organs—injuries which in the past would have been fatal. Limbs and joints, however, are more exposed. At the Walter Reed Army Medical Center, over 20,000 orthopedic procedures are performed annually on active duty and retired military personnel. The National Naval Medical Center performs approximately 10,000 orthopedic procedures annually. These procedures include total hip, knee, and shoulder replacement, ligament repairs, foot surgery, spine surgery, bone fixation, amputations, and prosthetic limb fixation.

Notre Dame will partner in their research with three leading orthopedic manufacturers in Warsaw, Indiana (Zimmer, Depuy and Biomet.) It is imperative the new orthopedic industry is nurtured and allowed to continually invent and develop new products not only for our soldiers but also for all Americans. As the global market continues to grow companies such as these are being pulled offshore to other nations because of the lure of cheap labor, subsidized materials and energy. Providing companies with the opportunity to further their research and development with local universities will help foster the economic environment that will keep burgeoning industries, like orthopedic manufacturing, in the U.S.

Finance Plan: Research will address soldier recovery, readiness, and quality of life in orthopedics and tissue engineering. The project addresses unmet needs in several areas, including: (1) smart orthopedic implants—such as hip, knee, and shoulder joints; (2) 3-D woven material to provide a new surface to localized damaged areas and cartilage, such as occurs in younger patients; and (3) test and evaluation of new implant designs.

Bill: H.R. 5658 The Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2009.

Account: Army, Other Procurement Army.

PE No.: 0.

Line No.: 118.

Project Name: Select Availability Anti Spoofing Module (SAASM) Precise Positioning System (PPS) GPS Upgrade.

Entity: ITT.

Address: 1919 West Cook Road, Ft. Wayne, IN 46801.

Amount: \$2,000,000.

Justification for use of federal taxpayer dollars: The program will implement software upgrades to current SAASM based GPS receivers to expedite the replacement of less secure systems in the near term. This upgrade will provide a more robust and militarized survey solution and eliminate parts obsolescence issues facing the legacy GPS-S; as well as provide the warfighter protection against today's threats from jamming and spoofing.

Improving our high-tech defense capabilities is paramount for continuing our superior military strength throughout the world. The ITT facility in Fort Wayne is one of the leading suppliers of this type of technology in the United States. Along with the SAASM System, this facility has the potential to produce 10,000 SINGAR radios a month for our warfighters throughout the world. These dollars allow ITT to update and integrate new technology that makes our warfighters more capable and also provides them with a higher level of safety.

Finance Plan: The \$4,000,000 will support the integration and test of SAASM-based GPS survey equipment for the US Army. Specifically, \$1,950,000 to update and integrate real-time kinematic algorithms, and modify and test SAASM software, \$550,000 to modify, integrate and test data collection software and hand-held controller, \$250,000 to select and test suitable, high-precision survey antennas, and \$1,250, to complete prototype systems and system test including data communications. This is all the funding needed to perform and complete the work as outlined.

Bill: H.R. 5658 The Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2009.

Account: Other Procurement, Navy.

PE No.: N/A.

Line No.: 90.

Project name: Sonobuoys—All Types.

Entity: USSJ.

Address: 4578 East Park 30 Drive, Columbia City, IN 46725.

Amount: \$112.6M.

I am pleased the House Armed Services Committee has granted my request to support the President's budget and included \$112.6 million for the procurement of sonobuoys. I am glad the committee has recognized the serious deficiency in sonobuoy inventories and has provided an authorization level that begins to correct the shortfall.

The Navy's Non-Nuclear Ordnance Requirement (NNOR) currently identifies annual

peacetime requirements at approximately 120,000 sonobuoys of all types. Due to other priorities, the Navy has understated its sonobuoy budget requirement for several years. This has resulted in a steady decline in inventories, as well as a serious degradation in combat readiness in the airborne anti-submarine warfare (ASW) area.

ASW continues to be a core mission area of the United States Navy. Largely ignored in the aftermath of the Cold War, the ASW mission has recently re-emerged as a priority for the Navy. This change is caused by a clear recognition of the dangers inherent in the proliferation of modern, highly capable submarines to Third World countries operating in littoral waters. To ensure its ability to effectively participate in regional conflicts and the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) by projecting power from the sea, the Navy must remain capable of defeating the submarine threat in the acoustically demanding coastal regions.

The sonobuoy remains the Navy's primary sensor for detection and localization of submarines by air ASW platforms. Launched from fixed wing and rotary wing ASW aircraft, sonobuoys provide the only means to rapidly sanitize large areas of water prior to fleet units arriving in the area. The improved technology of the modern diesel/electric submarine, operating near the coastline, makes for a significantly more difficult target than previously faced by the Navy during the Cold War. Operational planning indicates significantly higher sonobuoy usage rates over historical levels when confronted with this threat.

With fleet sonobuoy inventories continuing to decline to historic lows, ASW aviation units are necessarily limited in the number of sonobuoys available for training. This has caused a rapid decline in aircrew preparedness in the ASW mission area. This authorization level for sonobuoys addresses this issue and provides funding in line with fleet requirements and usage rates.

HONORING DAVID A. BECKERMAN
AS HE RECEIVES THE 2008 TORCH
OF LIBERTY AWARD

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, today, in my hometown of New Haven, Connecticut, friends, family and colleagues will gather to pay tribute to one of our community's most outstanding citizens. I am proud to stand today and join the Connecticut Anti-Defamation League as they honor David A. Beckerman with the 2008 Greater New Haven Torch of Liberty Award.

Our communities would not be the same without the efforts of individuals whose work benefits our families and neighborhoods. Each year, the Connecticut Anti-Defamation League presents the prestigious Torch of Liberty Award to an outstanding leader in the community, recognizing their unique commitment and dedication. David is a remarkable reflection of the spirit of community service. With extraordinary compassion and generosity, David has touched the lives of many throughout the Greater New Haven community.

A respected civic and business leader, David is the Founder and Chairman of the Board of Acorn Group, a corporate real estate management and development company, as well as Founder and Chairman of Community One, an organization which benefits the seven constituent agencies of the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven. To say that David is a dedicated member of our community would be an understatement. There are numerous nonprofit and service organizations which have also benefitted from his experience, wisdom, and compassion—too many to list. His compassion and civic engagement serves as an inspiration to all of those fortunate enough to have the opportunity to work with him.

David is perhaps best known for his passion for basketball. As a young man of 15 a spark was ignited when he, as a member the Jewish Community Center's team, won a National JWB Championship. He was a coach at the JCC for 25 years and then 11 more at Hamden Hall where he coached his team to victory in 8 New England Championships and 6 league championships. For the last 4 years he has been coaching at Pine Crest School in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, where he has led the team to two district championships, two regional championships, and just this year, the school's first State championship. It is not difficult to see why he was recently named Florida's Coach of the Year.

David's passion for basketball and working with young people is not about winning a game. It is about teaching his kids about teamwork, hard work, camaraderie, and commitment to excellence—valuable lessons that will serve them well throughout their lives. Through his work with young people, his efforts with civic organizations, and his own strong work ethic, David is a reflection of all that the Torch of Liberty Award stands for and sets a standard to which we should all strive.

Together with his wife, Ruthann, their 5 children, and 10 grandchildren, it is my honor and privilege to stand today to join the Connecticut Anti-Defamation League and the New Haven community in paying tribute to David A. Beckerman for his invaluable contributions. Every community should be so fortunate as to have such a selfless, dedicated individual who so willingly commits his time and energy to enriching the community and improving the quality of life for all.

INTERNATIONAL FOOD CRISIS AND
HAITI

SPEECH OF

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I could not travel to Haiti with my colleagues last week, but I have been there several times over the past 12 years, and it breaks my heart to see a country which ought to have had so much promise in the critical state it now is. I have to agree with what I have heard from many Haitians, that the day to day existence of the people is worse than it ever was during the Duvalier period.

The people of Haiti welcomed the democracy our country helped to bring. They participated enthusiastically in the electoral process.

They were patient as they waited for the assistance that never came in full.

Today they are in the middle of a terrible food crisis—one that we can and must do what we can—and we can do a lot—to abate.

The food crisis in Haiti is responsible for recent riots, killings, and the ousting of the country's prime minister. In just the past few weeks, five Haitians and one United Nations worker were killed in the violent protests stemming from the overwhelming food shortage. The situation, which has been labeled a "silent tsunami" by the U.N. World Food Programme, has not received the attention and action it warrants.

Haiti is our neighbor. In my estimation, we have not done all that we could and should have to avert this and every other crisis it has faced in recent years. The instability that is increasing every day, not only threatens the life of every Haitian but can destabilize the region and send adverse ripples here.

Madam Speaker, I applaud the current administration's commitment to provide \$200 million in emergency food aid. I implore my colleagues to join me in urging the President to commit no less than \$60 million of the \$200 million for Haiti.

We need to pass the HERO Act to provide investment and create jobs.

I am also calling on this Congress to pass Temporary Protected Status for the people of Haiti in this time of great peril. In the face of the inequity in treatment of Haiti under immigration, it is the least we can do.

It is time for the United States to take seriously our obligation as the lead Nation in this hemisphere and assist our neighbor in this time of extreme need.

SENSE OF HOUSE REGARDING FOSTER PARENTS

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a proud cosponsor of H. Res. 1185, recognizing National Foster Care Awareness Month.

Today, more than half a million children nationwide are living in foster care. Like children everywhere, these vulnerable young people need the safety and security of a permanent family. For many children who cannot be reunited with their parents, that means joining a new family through adoption.

Across the country there are families who have adopted children and youth from the foster care system. One of those outstanding persons is my constituent Ms. Ann Carnegie in Atlanta who has dedicated her life to the service of others. She is one of many hard-working Americans determined to make a difference for the next generation.

Ms. Carnegie became a single mother when she adopted three children. She began as a foster parent for Bernard and Latrice. Both had already spent 5 years in foster care and had special needs; Ms. Carnegie knew that if the opportunity presented itself that she would want to adopt them.

Bernard is an intelligent, artistic young man who aspires to work with computer animation

one day. Latrice is a French honors student who hopes to become a lawyer. Everyone in this loving family takes time to play cars and dinosaurs with their youngest brother Matty. I have faith that all the children in the Carnegie family will fulfill their dreams one day.

Every year, the Carnegie family celebrates the children's adoptions with a special celebration. There are many important pieces of legislation that we both support that will improve child welfare services and strengthen America's families.

I have the privilege to serve on the Income Security and Family Support Subcommittee under the leadership of my good friend, the Gentleman from Washington, Mr. McDERMOTT. I know that all of us on the Subcommittee share a commitment to protect and improve the future of those in the child welfare system.

We must do all we can to help children living in foster care join loving families like the Carnegies, and I look forward to supporting reforms this year. Initiatives like the federal Adoption Incentive program encourages states like mine to finalize more adoptions of children from foster care, but there is more that can be done. Children in foster care have waited long enough.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this important resolution today, and to give strong consideration of the many legislative proposals to improve the lives of children in foster care.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLE OF CUBA

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, today, May 21, is being designated as the International Day of Solidarity with the people of Cuba. On this day we recognize the plight of political prisoners in Cuba and the threats to human rights that still exist in that nation.

For almost 50 years, Fidel Castro ruled Cuba with an iron-fist. While he recently stepped down as President, the Communist dictatorship he headed still remains under his brother Raul. The stranglehold this regime has upon its people, its economy, and many facets of daily life is unacceptable. This form of oppression stifles the human spirit and denies progress and prosperity.

On this date, the international community should speak with one voice to the people of Cuba that we understand their struggle. As a Nation built upon the foundation of freedom from tyranny, the United States must continue to lead the way in bringing democracy and freedom to the people of Cuba.

AIRLINE FLIGHT CREW TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 2008

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Mr. BISHOP on successfully bringing

this bill to the floor, and I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this legislation. This change to the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) is long overdue and clarifies the original intent of the law passed in 1993, to ensure that airline flight crews have access to job-protected unpaid family and medical leave. The Workforce Protections Subcommittee, which I chair, held a hearing in April celebrating the 15th anniversary of the FMLA. And at the hearing we did celebrate the difference that job-protected family and medical leave—even if it is unpaid—has made in people's lives. But we all recognized that the law is in need of improvement.

We need paid leave and we need to expand FMLA to include airline flight crew. Jennifer Hunt, a 19-year flight attendant with U.S. Airways testified at the Subcommittee to the importance of family and medical leave and how thousands of flight attendants, including Jennifer herself, are unable to take advantage of this benefit.

Then she told us her story. In December, 2007, Jennifer's husband, John was diagnosed with prostate cancer and Jennifer needed time out from her full-time schedule to attend his medical appointments and be with him for his surgery and recovery. But without FMLA leave, Jennifer was stuck. She was able to adjust her schedule to be with John during his surgery. However, she returned to work as soon as John was out of the hospital and had to rely on friends and family to assist in his care and the care of her two young children.

FMLA job-protected leave is essential to hardworking airline personnel who face the same challenges as other workers do in balancing their work and family. I am so pleased that Mr. BISHOP's bill will provide them with this important benefit.

SALUTING THE STATE OF ISRAEL'S 60TH BIRTHDAY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to wish the State of Israel a chag sameach and happy birthday on its 60th anniversary of independence.

Over the past 60 years, Israel has exhibited strong and unparalleled growth in every aspect: governmentally, educationally, culturally, economically, industrially, and militarily. Today she is as strong as she has ever been. The state's population is nine times what it was in 1948, the year she declared her independence. It is hard to imagine that in the earlier part of the 20th century she was nothing but a swampy British colony.

Governmentally, Israel's democracy is alive and well. It is the only democracy with free and fair elections in the Middle East. Israel has some of the world's top universities and its citizenry is highly educated. According to the state's Census Bureau, in 1948, 208 people received degrees from the country's two universities; 2 years ago, 53,000 people received degrees from 62 local colleges and universities. Eight Israelis are Nobel Prize laureates.

Israel's diverse population, which is composed of immigrants from countries throughout

the world, has contributed to its rich culture of arts, music, and literature. Economically, Israel is considered to have one of the most advanced economies in Southwest Asia.

Industrially, Israel has managed to become completely self-sufficient despite its lack of natural resources and small size. This has been thanks to its groundbreaking technological advances in agriculture and its hard-working Zionist pioneers. Militarily, despite the country's size, its army is one of the most superior in the world.

Israel is and will continue to be a key and necessary ally of the United States. The cross-Atlantic friendship shared by our countries is critical to both our democracies. I recognize Israel's contributions toward rooting out terrorism and salute its citizenry for their resilience and bravery.

As the state turns the page and moves into a seventh decade of independence, I hope and pray that a future with peace and prosperity for all of the people in the region is on the horizon.

RECOGNIZING THE 100-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE DIVINE PROVIDENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, I want to recognize the Divine Providence Catholic Church as their parish celebrated their 100-year anniversary on April 27, 2008. The church has served as a foundation for the Lithuanian community in Southfield, Michigan.

The parish came to be when an energetic priest, Kazimieras Valaitis, and the Lithuanian Society of St. George, built a wooden church at Westminster and Cardoni, in what is now considered the deep inner city of Detroit. Not surprisingly, it was named St. George's Lithuanian Church. The number of parishioners quickly outgrew the facility, and in 1917 the parish built a new, brick St. George's in the same vicinity. The parish was the center for numerous organizations and activities of the Lithuanian community in Detroit and had committees actively involved in building, fundraising and general governance.

In the 1940's, as the demographics in Detroit were shifting, many of the parishioners were moving into the suburbs around the city. As a result, in 1949, the parish built a new church at Schaefer and Grand River in Detroit. Because the original St. George's church was still active in the local community, the parishioners chose "Divine Providence Lithuanian Church" as the new name.

In 1967, Divine Providence was informed that the church was to be demolished to make way for the Jeffries Freeway. A new site was selected at 9 Mile Road and Beech Daly, and despite the Vatican's attempt to consolidate the church into a territorial parish, the new complex was dedicated on September 8, 1973. Thanks to the tireless work and dedication of parish committees, and later parish councils, Divine Providence continues to be a cultural center to this vibrant community.

Madam Speaker, Divine Providence has been a beacon of hope for the Lithuanian community. I congratulate them on their 100-

year anniversary and wish them many more years of prosperity.

HONORING FATHER MICHAEL ZUFFOLETTO

HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

Mr. REYNOLDS. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to honor a truly respected and dedicated public servant. Father Michael Zuffoletto who recently decided to retire, has not only served as a teacher and coach, but he has also served as a chaplain for our brave men and women of the United States Navy. Father Zuffoletto a native of Buffalo, New York has been, and will continue to be, an embodiment of compassion and virtue.

Father Zuffoletto was ordained into the priesthood for the Diocese of Buffalo in 1972, and received his Masters in Educational Administration from Canisius College in 1979. He would go on to teach religious studies at local Catholic schools, and coach various sports teams.

In 1984, Father Zuffoletto reported to Navy Chaplain School. Father Zuffoletto quickly began serving on tours of duty; in fact, Father Zuffoletto has served on over ten different tours throughout the world, including to the coast of Japan, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and the Arabian Gulf. Father Zuffoletto even served as chaplain for President George H.W. Bush during the 50th anniversary memorial of the attack on Pearl Harbor. As a chaplain, Father Zuffoletto oversaw the religious and spiritual formation of thousands of service men and women as well as provided Mass and the sacraments all over the world.

Of his many service awards, Father Zuffoletto is the recipient of the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal, and the Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal. Recently, Father Zuffoletto has also served as Chaplain General of the Navy Order of the United States, chaplain for the Knights of Columbus Council 9486, the Italian Federation, and the John Paul II Foundation of Monterey.

In his free time, Father Zuffoletto has served as an off-ice official for the National Hockey League, the American Hockey League, the East Coast Hockey League and the Atlantic Coast Hockey League.

Father Zuffoletto is remarkable, in every sense of the word, and has shown all of us the importance of true compassion, loyalty, and faith.

Madam Speaker, in recognition of Father Michael Zuffoletto's tremendous contributions to our great nation, I ask this Honorable Body to join me in honoring him, in grateful appreciation for his extraordinary service to the people of Western New York and to the people of this country.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. GEOFF DAVIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, The following provides information about ear-

marks which I have secured through the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 as reported out of the House Armed Services Committee and which will be considered by the House of Representatives on May 21–22, 2008.

Requesting Member: Congressman Geoff Davis.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Other Procurement, Army.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Kentucky Army National Guard.

Address of Requesting Entity: Boone National Guard Center, 100 Minuteman Parkway, Frankfort, KY 40601.

Description of Request: Authorize \$1,500,000 for the Virtual Convoy Operations Trainer (VCOT). During FY 09 the Army National Guard will begin fielding the VCOT, which is an upgraded version of the previous HMMWV and Tactical Truck Convoy Trainer. VCOT fielding is the Army National Guard's number one priority for convoy training procurement. The VCOT has been enhanced to allow convoy soldiers to leave their vehicles and conduct independent dismounted operations that will greatly assist training in the identification and disposition of IEDs on the battlefield. Also, the VCOT allows training on several types of vehicles and with various types of weapons. Without this program, our soldiers will continue to have fewer trainers than needed to train counter-IED drills, immediate action drills and convoy operations.

This authorization will allow the KYANG to purchase a VCOT.

During current operations in Iraq, more soldiers have been killed or wounded during convoy operations than at any other time. The VCOT provides the best convoy training available, and it includes training in dismounted operations and combat actions on virtual terrain that includes Baghdad, Tikrit, Samarra, Kabul, and Kosovo.

Requesting Member: Congressman Geoff Davis.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Other Procurement, Army.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: DRS Technologies, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 7375 Industrial Road, Florence, KY 41042–2911.

Description of Request: Authorize \$2,200,000 for procurement of Multi-Temperature Refrigerated Container Systems (MTRCS). MTRCS is the follow-on generation of refrigeration systems. It provides the capability to transport and store both refrigerated and frozen products in a single container. It consists of an insulated 8' x 8' x 20' International Organization for Standardization shipping container with an engine-driven refrigeration unit that will allow operation on the move. The two compartments are separated by a moveable partition varying proportions of refrigerated versus frozen products resulting in maximum loading of the container.

MTRCS is used principally by subsistence units. It will also be used by medical units for transport and storage of refrigerated medical supplies, including blood products.

The benefit to DOD is more efficient space utilization and reduced transportation requirements. Fewer vehicles will be required to transport food on the battlefield, reducing the number of soldiers exposed to danger from IED's, etc.

The Army Acquisition Objective for MTRCS is 4432 systems, but only 1050 are funded in

the FY08–13 Future Years Defense Plan. This earmark would authorize procurement of an additional twenty systems.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Research, Development, Test & Evaluation, Army.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Ashland Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 50 E. River Center Blvd, Covington, KY 41012–0391.

Description of Request: Authorize \$300,000 to develop advanced, environmentally-friendly, nano-based rust-corrosion-UV protective spray coatings based upon the Lotus Effect. Such coatings could prevent moisture and associated oxygen from getting to a surface and causing rust or corrosion. These surface-protective coatings would be comprised of materials that are environmentally-benign and durable.

The U.S. military owns vast amounts of equipment and vehicles that see considerable amounts of storage time. This equipment must be either stored indoors or chemically-treated for protection in outdoor storage. Even treatment of equipment for indoor storage adds a significant level of added protection for long-term storage that is non-climate-controlled. Typically, the chemicals used to protect equipment in outdoor storage are not highly-durable thus requiring maintenance and are also typically environmentally noxious or even highly toxic.

Approximately, \$200,000 is for development of the Nano-particle Protectant Systems and \$100,000 is for development of the Dispersion and Delivery systems. A nano-particle protectant “system” is a combination of chemicals that work together to provide the desired protective coating. A dispersion and delivery system is the liquid dispersing system (mixture of liquids) needed to disperse that combination of chemicals. A key element is the equipment to spray the coating on the equipment surface.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Research, Development, Test & Evaluation, Army.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Ashland Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 50 E. River Center Blvd, Covington, KY 41012–0391.

Description of Request: Authorize \$2,200,000 to continue development of advanced coolant and lubricant systems utilizing nano-particle systems to enhance the capabilities of military ground vehicles and simplify supply logistics. FY09 will be the third year of this project. The focus will be on transition to commercial production and final testing of stable nanofluids with improved cooling and lubrication properties while meeting all environmental requirements and making these processes commercially scalable.

Approximately, \$400,000 will be used to transition production from development to commercial scale; \$1,000,000 will be used for engine and vehicle dynamometer testing; and \$800,000 is for field demonstrations. A dynamometer is a device that absorbs the power of an engine in the absence of a vehicle to move. The test engine to be used is the new production engine for the HMMWV that has been the engine of choice for that vehicle for the past several years. A test cell is a physical

container or room that is properly outfitted for housing an engine-dynamometer combination for controlled and safe operations. Field testing of the nanofluids will occur through use of the HMMWV vehicle with the Optimizer 6500 Turbo-Diesel engine under extreme arctic and desert conditions.

Military vehicles are designed to meet exceedingly strict and arduous cooling, lubrication and overall performance requirements. One of the goals of the Tank Automotive Command is to increase the performance and durability of engines, power trains and their component parts to support Army transformation in the areas of system mobility, durability, reliability and survivability and may ultimately serve to reduce the logistics cost burden for the Objective Force.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Research, Development, Test & Evaluation, Army.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: STARCON.

Address of Requesting Entity: 11631 U.S. Route 23; Catlettsburg, KY 41129.

Description of Request: Authorize \$1,000,000 to develop the Cyber Forensics and Tracking Capability (CFTC) tool to support the Department of Defense cyber security operations for protecting digital forensic data for computer and network systems to counter emerging adversary threats. The primary objective of CFTC is preventing emerging cyber adversary techniques, called counter-forensics, whereby the criminal disguises and removes any trace of his illicit and potentially destructive network and computer activities. The CFTC will be demonstrated and tested through field exercises, technology demonstrations and other initiatives. CFTC is envisioned as an important part of the arsenal of cyber security solutions to thwart, track and prosecute adversaries.

CFTC operates in a network-centric environment using existing conventional computing platforms. CFTC is another cyber asset to protect critical systems and networks against increasingly sophisticated adversaries.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Operations & Maintenance, Air Force.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: TiER1 Performance Solutions, LLC.

Address of Requesting Entity: 6 East 5th Street, Suite 400, Covington, KY 41011.

Description of Request: Authorize \$3,000,000 for the Engineering Training and Knowledge Preservation System (ETKPS). The Air Force is facing significant turnover in its senior technical personnel. The Air Force Materiel Command (AFMC) could lose as many as sixty percent of its top engineers over the next three to five years.

Preserving the knowledge base is essential to AFMC and will be a massive undertaking requiring processes and tools to capture operational, technical, and critical thinking knowledge. Integrating the ability to capture, store, align, and transfer knowledge to the next generation workforce through a single, secure Web-based knowledge and training portal is necessary. Functionality of this solution must include the ability to track an individual's skills across competencies throughout his/her ca-

reer; evaluate all existing training and compare the cost-benefits of competing training approaches; allow experienced personnel to easily create new training and knowledge content in accordance with pre-defined standards; plug into existing defined competencies and skill requirements and capture knowledge from subject-matter-experts to address these; link novices to experts in real-time through a virtual Web Center; categorize, organize and search all knowledge and information across the enterprise; deliver assessments to determine skill proficiencies; deliver information in a variety of ways—through distance learning, on-line reference systems, technical manuals, job aids, mobile devices and other tools. FY 09 will be year four of this ongoing project.

Approximately, \$50,000 will be used for requirements analysis; \$125,000 will be used for functional design; \$225,000 will be used for enhanced feature development; and \$250,000 is for USAF system integration; \$450,000 is for user acceptance testing; and \$1,900,000 is for USAF selected site development. Requirements analysis is an ongoing rigorous process to ensure the product meets the very specific needs of the Air Force Materiel Command (AFMC). Functional design results in a document used to inform and gain agreement that what is being developed will satisfy the AFMC user requirements. Enhanced feature development results in a prototype developed per the functional design which is presented to AFMC for testing and feedback. USAF system integration establishes proper interfaces between the ETKPS system and existing Air Force IT systems. User acceptance testing is used to evaluate the quality and usability of the product. USAF selected site development will result in the deployment of ETKPS to six Air Force bases insuring consistency across all bases.

These system capabilities will enable AFMC to organize and align information to support on-going training and development of its total workforce. Funding for this effort is critical to AFMC for maximizing the effectiveness and efficiency of retaining existing knowledge capital and for building effective training programs that support the development of new personnel.

BAHA'I LEADERS ARRESTED IN TEHRAN

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I continue to be extremely concerned about the treatment of Baha'is in Iran. Recent reports indicate that on May 14, Iranian intelligence agents forcibly raided the homes and subsequently arrested six of seven prominent members of the Baha'i leadership in Tehran. The seventh member of the leadership group was arrested 2 months ago in Mashhad. They have reportedly been taken to the notorious Evin prison in Tehran. Many former prisoners have given horrifying accounts of the abuse, torture, and rape that takes place inside the prison walls.

The Baha'is are Iran's largest non-Muslim religious minority and have faced continuous persecution since the government banned all formal Baha'i activity in 1983. Under President

Ahmadinejad, harassment, attacks and arrests of Baha'is have become increasingly common.

In the early 1980s, 17 Baha'i leaders were arrested and either executed, abducted and disappeared in a systematic campaign to eliminate Baha'i influence in Iran. I pray that this is not the fate of the six arrested this past week.

Iran continues to break its promises to the international community. I call on the international community to follow the lead of the U.S. State Department and strongly condemn the unwarranted arrests and detention of the Baha'i leadership.

RECOGNIZING THE MILITARY FAMILIES OF NEW JERSEY'S EIGHTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the great Military Families of one of the great communities in New Jersey's Eighth Congressional District, the Township of Livingston in the County of Essex. These families, with the help and support of various veterans and civic groups throughout Livingston, strive to support their loved ones as they serve their Nation many miles from home.

It is only fitting that these patriotic citizens and their courageous family members be honored in this, the permanent record of the greatest democracy ever known, for their efforts in support of the brave servicemen and women who are fighting every day to help ensure that people everywhere have the right to live in peace and safety.

Livingston has a long and glorious history among the towns of New Jersey, and its residents have always been willing to do whatever was needed to defend American ideals. Their families have led the way in supporting their efforts, keeping the home fires burning, sending care packages as well as their prayers. At this time there are over twenty-five families whose loved ones currently serve our Nation in all branches of the military. I would especially like to commend the families of the following:

Nicholas Albicocco, Aaron Attermann, Jeffrey Cushman, Louis Del Tufo, Daniel Devlin, Michael Goldfarb, John Rey Julian, Daniel Oliva, Eric Powell, Lee Tam, Robert Tilley, Mikel Weich, Adam Winter, Charles Garbarino.

Brian Asman, Christopher Courter, Shea Datz, Joshua Denton, Jonah Eisenstark, Ryan Healy, John D. Kramer, Scott Perry, Steve Roman, Grant Thompson, John Tomczyk, Scott Wild, and Michael Wishnia.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to learning about and recognizing outstanding citizens such as these who are making the greatest of sacrifices for the sake of our Nation.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, the citizens of the Township of Livingston, and me in recognizing the outstanding contributions of these families to the United States of America.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I have received congressional authorization in the House-passed version of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 for two projects in California's 44th Congressional District which are described as follows:

Requesting Member: Congressman KEN CALVERT.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Standards Development—Research, Development, Test & Evaluation, NAVY.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Naval Surface Warfare Center, Corona Division.

Address of Requesting Entity: Naval Surface Warfare Center Corona Division, 2300 Fifth St., Norco, CA 92860.

Description of Request: I have received congressional authorization in the House-passed version of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 (NDAA FY09) for a requested project in the amount of \$2,000,000. The authorization is for a project which would continue work in the areas of Primary and Depot Maintenance calibration standards. Specifically the work will be done in the technology areas of Nuclear, Biological and Chemical (NBC), electro-optics, and physical-mechanical. The purpose of the work is to ensure measurement accuracy in support and maintenance of new advanced technology weapon systems, current weapon systems and associated support equipment. Specifically, the funding also continues efforts of calibration standards (hardware) in support of Nanoscale Dimensional Standards using Atomic Force Microscopy (AFM). Standards developed through this ongoing program provides continued measurement support and capability to ensure that our nation's advanced weapon systems operate as designed and detectors accurately recognize threats.

Requesting Member: Congressman KEN CALVERT.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Defense Wide—Research, Development, Test & Evaluation.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Center for Nanoscale Science and Engineering, University of California, Riverside.

Address of Requesting Entity: 900 University Avenue, Riverside, California 92521.

Description of Request: I have received congressional authorization in the House-passed version of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 (NDAA FY09) for a requested project in the amount of \$3,000,000 for 3-D-electronics technology. This project aims to take advantage of recent advances in nanomaterials and nanodevices to begin to address the issue necessary to take the electronics industry beyond the two-dimensional silicon based devices and wiring and to develop high density, 3D-electronics technology together with associated packaging, portable power sources and heat dissipation solutions. UC Riverside has substantial expertise in the development of nanomaterials that offer extraordinary properties when properly engineered for these applications. The proposed effort will fund technology development studies

in the following five areas: 3D integration of RF and Digital technologies; materials development for thermal management; materials development for 3D wiring; materials development for multi-technology isolation; and development of process equipment for advanced 3D processes and materials manufacturing. The availability of new approaches to very high density electronics and compact power sources that are built from the new generation of nanomaterials will greatly aid the DoD mission in providing advanced electronics and power in the battlefield.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, May 22, 2008 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 3

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the acquisition of major weapons systems by the Department of Defense.

SD-106

JUNE 4

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine systemic indifference to invisible wounds.

SR-418

10 a.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine ways to improve the detainee policy, focusing on handling terrorism detainees within the American justice system.

SD-226

JUNE 5

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine off-highway vehicle management on public lands.

SD-366

JUNE 26

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

Business meeting to mark up pending calendar business.

SR-418