

this committee in years past, and it's wonderful that we will act on it later this afternoon.

With respect to this amendment, I rise in reluctant opposition which I want to explain. I do understand the point that we should not be engaged in political correctness or censorship. I don't think my opposition is based on either of those things.

Former Defense Secretary Rumsfeld once wrote a snowflake which asked, Are we capturing and killing them faster than they are rising up against us? The answer was no, and it's still no.

It does matter that we try to win the argument, and not just with the next generation who could become suicide bombers or build the next lethal generation of IEDs, but we win the argument with moderate Muslims, many of whom live in the United States and want to help us.

And their guidance has gone into this guidance, published by the Homeland Security Department, which is that we not use language that inflames.

To the gentleman from Michigan, there is no prohibition in this to quoting the statements of Osama bin Laden and others who use these hateful words. Why would we want to censor that? The prohibition is directed at ourselves, words that will inflame the very communities we're trying to convince.

I would just close with the observation that if we had thought a little longer about using the phrase "axis of evil" we might have, it seems to me, engendered more cooperation on the part of some countries that have, sadly, moved far away from us, and engendered more cooperation on the part of populations which now look at America with disapproval.

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Chairman, I believe I have the right to close, so I will reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. REYES. Mr. Chairman, I will just yield myself the remainder of my time to say that this is not about political correctness. This is about recognizing that words matter and the way we use words matter, particularly to those that we're trying to influence and those that we're trying to bring over in this war of ideas.

I think it's important to recognize that, again, it's not about political correctness. It's about using common sense.

And with that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself the balance of my time.

This is absolutely about political correctness. If we can't use the words that our enemies use to describe themselves and their activities, when they say jihad is the only way to liberate Palestine, and we go to local law enforcement, when we go to others in America and we describe the motivations and the intentions of those who wish to do us harm, I ask my colleagues, how do you expect the intelligence community to explain the behavior or the motiva-

tion of our enemies? Do we expect the intelligence community to say these are kind of bad people that may want to do us harm? We can't really use the words that they use to describe themselves because we've restricted the access of those words.

How will America understand the nature and the character of our enemy if we can't use the words that they use to describe themselves and we need to come up with a whole new language that is totally out of context with the enemy and the nature of the threat that we face today?

I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HOEKSTRA).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Michigan will be postponed.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Committee will rise informally.

The Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HINCHY) assumed the chair.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Wanda Evans, one of his secretaries.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Committee will resume its sitting.

#### INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009

The Committee resumed its sitting.

AMENDMENT NO. 5 OFFERED BY MS. HARMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 5 printed in House Report 110-759.

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 5 offered by Ms. HARMAN:

At the end of subtitle A of title III, add the following new section:

#### SEC. 310. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING THE NEED FOR A ROBUST WORKFORCE.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) a robust and highly skilled aerospace industry workforce is critical to the success of intelligence community programs and operations;

(2) voluntary attrition, the retirement of many senior workers, and difficulties in recruiting could leave the intelligence community without access to the intellectual capital and technical capabilities necessary to identify and respond to potential threats; and

(3) the Director of National Intelligence should work cooperatively with other agencies of the Federal Government responsible

for programs related to space and the aerospace industry to develop and implement policies, including those with an emphasis on improving science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education at all levels, to sustain and expand the diverse workforce available to the intelligence community.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 1343, the gentleman from California (Ms. HARMAN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the Harman-Ehlers amendment, and I'm pleased to be here on the House floor once again with my friend VERN EHLERS to call attention to a looming crisis in our aerospace industrial base.

I represent the heart of the space industrial base and have long called my district the satellite center of the universe. Most of the intelligence satellites built in the United States are built in my district, and that is why it was such an honor to serve for 8 years on the Intelligence Committee and why I'm so proud of the work the committee is doing.

I have always been mindful of the need for a skilled industrial base. Simply put, rocket scientists don't grow on trees.

Earlier this year, on a visit to a major aerospace firm in my district, there was a stark reminder of the crisis facing this industry.

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Following a briefing on an important satellite program, I asked if any of the employees in attendance had anything to tell me. A 31-year-old engineer raised his hand and said, "All my peers are gone." Engineers his age, he explained, are leaving the aerospace industry for other fields, and very few are taking their place.

The problem is two-fold. More than 60 percent of aerospace industry workers are over 45, and 26 percent of them are eligible for retirement this year. So the result is a looming demographic cliff that leaves the intelligence community and the industry without the intellectual capital necessary to keep pace with global competitors. There are many reasons for this. Part of it is the training we give kids in secondary school. Part of it is Congress and the Department of Defense, who don't necessarily provide predictable funding streams.

We saw the results of our failure in the 1990s, when we declared a peace dividend, cut our procurement budgets, then tried to do defense procurement and satellite manufacturing on the cheap, and guess what happened? Launch failures, performance problems, and engineers abandoning the industry in droves. We have finally managed to regrow some of these specialties just at a time when, again, because of age and because other careers are more sexy, we may lose these people forever. This will hurt our national security. And this is why our amendment