

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CREDIT CARDHOLDERS' BILL OF RIGHTS ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2008

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5244, the Credit Cardholders' Bill of Rights Act of 2008, which seeks to reform the way in which major credit card companies do business and strengthen consumer protections. This bill, which has the support of a wide range of civic and consumer groups, would restore fairness to the credit card industry, which has been severely undermined by the abusive and predatory practices of some lending institutions.

H.R. 5244 would protect cardholders from arbitrary increases in their interest rates, by requiring companies to give 45 days notice before a rate increase. The bill would also prohibit credit card companies from engaging in the practice of "universal default" rate increases, in which companies increase interest rates on an existing balance for late payments to a different lending institution. Also, the bill would give cardholders more time to pay their bills and would forbid card companies from using misleading terms in advertisements.

Consumers deserve fair and decent practices in their financial dealings. Credit card companies should not be allowed unfairly to manipulate rates and fees to the consumer's detriment.

The events of the past week remind us of the danger of failing to regulate financial markets and institutions. The Credit Cardholders' Bill of Rights Act would establish clear and fair guidelines for credit card companies, and would help Americans suffering from ever-increasing debt. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important bill.

PINE VIEW MANOR

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Pine View Manor for 30 years of service to the Stanberry community. This 70 bed not-for-profit home for the aging was connected for many years with the Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society.

Pine View Manor has faithfully served this community since it's founding on September 17, 1978 after many years of planning by several business men, religious leaders and interested citizens.

Today, Pine View Manor is looking to the future by undergoing a renovation process that will provide an Assisted Living wing and is presently independently operated by a Board of Directors. Pine View Manor will hold a celebration on Sunday, September 28, 2008.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Pine View Manor and its 30 years of constant service. It is truly an honor to serve this fine organization in the United States Congress.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE DUNCAN HUNTER ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished career of the Honorable DUNCAN HUNTER for his service to the people of California and the United States House of Representatives. Congressman HUNTER has represented the 52nd Congressional District of the state of California for the past 28 years.

Congressman HUNTER was born and raised in Riverside, California, and graduated from Rubidoux High School. He attended the University of Montana before transferring to the University of California, Santa Barbara. Feeling compelled to serve in Vietnam, he left college and joined the United States Army in 1969.

Serving in South Vietnam, DUNCAN was a member of the 173rd Airborne and 75th Army Rangers during the Vietnam War. A decorated Vietnam War veteran, he was awarded the Bronze Star and the Air Medal as well as other service ribbons.

Following his service in Vietnam, DUNCAN earned his Juris Doctor from the Thomas Jefferson School of Law, and upon graduation, he opened his own law practice.

Elected to Congress at the age of 32, Congressman HUNTER was named a member of the Armed Services Committee in just his first term. From his post on this powerful panel, he supported President Ronald Reagan's massive military buildup in the arms race with the Soviet Union in the 1980s, and he was an outspoken critic of President Bill Clinton's efforts to scale back the military in the 1990s.

In the 109th Congress, Congressman HUNTER was named chairman of the House Armed Services Committee and serves as ranking member in the 110th. Chairman HUNTER is known as an ardent supporter of military modernization initiatives. With the nation's largest naval base located in the 52nd District, he has been a staunch supporter of military personnel and their families, ensuring they are well-compensated and well-equipped.

Chairman HUNTER has also been a leader in making our Nation's borders more secure. He was the guiding force behind legislation making the military the lead agency in illegal drug interdiction, using military units for building roads and fencing along the United States—Mexico border, and authorizing an additional 5,000 border patrol agents.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a devoted leader and friend

to many in this body. I know his family, his wife, Lynne; their two children; four grandchildren; and his many colleagues and friends join me in commending his accomplishments and extending thanks for his service over the years on behalf of the state of California and the United States of America.

Chairman HUNTER will surely enjoy the well-deserved time he now has to spend with his family and loved ones. I wish him the best of luck in all his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO THE FIREMAN'S FUND INSURANCE COMPANY

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, the recent wave of wildfires that have swept across California has brought brave firefighters from the state and around the country together to halt the spread of destruction and loss of life. Those who have courageously risked their lives to save others from fires, as well as those who support these courageous first responders by providing them with the resources they need, deserve our highest praise and support. That's why I am proud to rise today to recognize the Fireman's Fund Insurance Company of Novato, which is headquartered in my Congressional District, for their contributions to public safety and their commitment to the American fire service.

Fireman's Fund was founded in 1863 to support our Nation's firefighters, and in 2004 they launched the Fireman's Fund Heritage program, a forward thinking initiative that has awarded millions of dollars in grants each year to help firefighters prepare for threats to our communities. The grants are used for needed equipment, firefighter training, and community education programs, and are awarded through the company's independent agencies and company employees.

Since 2004, Fireman's Fund has generously supported more than 1,000 fire departments in 48 states across the country. Fireman's Fund remains a leader in California and in my District, where it has provided considerable financial and volunteer assistance to a large number of programs that benefit my constituents and our community. Fire departments in California alone have received \$5.5 million. On October 7, 2008, Fireman's Fund will reach a significant milestone, having awarded \$20 million total in grants once they provide Heath, Texas with a grant for community education. This is an accomplishment worth celebrating and commending.

By providing modern technology to improve the health and safety of firefighters, Fireman's Fund is helping to make communities across the country safer. Madam Speaker, I'm proud to recognize Fireman's Fund for its strong leadership and dedication to improving firefighter health and safety at the local, state and national levels.

• 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.

IN MEMORIAL OF OFFICER
PATRICK McDONALD

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, September 23, 2008, Officer Patrick McDonald, an 8-year veteran of the Philadelphia Police Department and a constituent of the 13th Congressional District, was murdered after pursuing a previously convicted felon. The shooter was wanted for a recent altercation with the police. The pursuit ended in a shootout that also injured 12-year veteran Officer Richard Bowes.

Officer McDonald, 30, was assigned to the Highway Patrol Division. He was known to his colleagues as a "stand up guy," the type of person who would "go out of his way for anybody." Another officer called him "a great cop."

Protecting the public was a McDonald family tradition. His father, Captain Larry McDonald, spent 34 years with the Philadelphia Fire Department. Families like the McDonalds are the backbone of Philadelphia's law enforcement, guardians who are willing to put themselves in harm's way for others, some of whom make the ultimate sacrifice for the safety of our city. The McDonald family's loss is a loss for all of us.

Officer McDonald grew up in Morrell Park. He graduated from Archbishop Ryan High School in 1996 where he played football and basketball. The toughness that he exhibited as a cop was developed on the football field. Glen Galeone, his coach, said Officer McDonald "always gave his all."

Officer McDonald dedicated his entire adult life to serving and protecting the people of Philadelphia. He worked as a paramedic before joining the Philadelphia Police Department in 2000. After he joined the force, Officer McDonald constantly worked to better himself by taking night and weekend classes at St. Joseph's University where he earned a degree in Criminal Justice in 2005. He was a role model for his neighbors and his fellow officers.

Officer McDonald joins Gary Skerski, Chuck Cassidy, Stephen Liczbinski, and Isabel Nazario as Philadelphia Police Officers from northeast Philadelphia killed in the line of duty since May 2006. The loss of these officers saddens and outrages me and my constituents. I ask that the House of Representatives extend its condolences to the McDonald family and the Philadelphia Police Department for their significant loss.

HONORING PURPLE HEART RECIPIENT
RICKE PETERSON OF LAND
O'LAKES, FLORIDA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an American soldier who was wounded in service to our Nation during the conflict in Iraq. Master Sergeant Ricke Peterson is a member of the United States Army who served with honor

and distinction on the battlefield. It is truly an honor to present this brave patriot with his Purple Heart medal.

Born in Melrose Park, Illinois, Mr. Peterson currently resides in Land O'Lakes, Florida. A decorated non-commissioned officer (NCO), Mr. Peterson comes from a long line of military service members. With a grandfather who served in World War I, a father who was in the Air Force, Reserves and Guard, an uncle who served in the Navy in Korea, two brothers who served, and a nephew who was seriously wounded in Iraq, no one can question the Peterson family's commitment to military service.

A soldier who spent his entire career in the United States Army, Mr. Peterson was just less than a month away from completing his twenty-eighth year of service when he was gravely wounded in Iraq. Indeed, Mr. Peterson had already completed his service commitment when his unit received orders to deploy to Iraq. Instead of leaving the Army prior to his deployment, Mr. Peterson requested to stay with his unit so that he could go to Iraq and share his years of expertise with the younger Army men and women.

On October 6, 2004, at the age of forty-four, Mr. Peterson was serving as the Force Protection NCO for the Army HHC, 4th BDE, 1st Infantry Division, assigned to Tikrit, Iraq. While traveling with his fellow soldiers, an anti tank mine tore off the front of his vehicle. The blast came through the floorboard, tearing through his legs and hitting him square in the chest. Mr. Peterson was peppered with shrapnel in his face, thighs, inner arms, feet and ankles, and he was eventually rendered unconscious.

Today Mr. Peterson is still recovering from his extensive injuries. Suffering from severe head trauma, he undergoes comprehensive physical therapy and is slowly getting better. Thankfully he has the support of his wife of twenty-seven years, Chung, as well as their two grown children, Ricke, Jr. and Sara.

Madam Speaker, it is soldiers like Ricke Peterson who joined the military to protect the freedoms that all Americans hold dear. While brave men like Mr. Peterson were wounded fighting for freedom and liberty, his family, friends and loved ones know that this Congress will always remember his bravery and commitment in battle.

TRIBUTE TO JOY SEITZ

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, during our time in Congress we all have benefited from the efforts of our staffs. I certainly have been blessed with the services of wonderful people through my career. One of those individuals, Joy Seitz, has been with me throughout all of my congressional tenure and helped me in my time in the Missouri State Senate.

Joy came to work for me on the State senate staff in 1974. She has been the anchor of my office in Jackson County, Missouri since it was opened in 1977. She has handled countless constituent calls and letters and has been an able advocate for them as an ombudsman and caseworker. She has for several years been the principal bookkeeper for my office. She has been competent and professional al-

ways and has always demonstrated a warm personality reflecting her wonderful parents and small town values.

It has been my great joy to witness her transition in life. She married Jim Seitz, the son of my long time good friends Ed and MaryBelle Seitz. Jim and Joy have raised two wonderful children, Michael and Rebecca both of whom have served as interns in my Washington office and are outstanding young adults.

Joy has been the model for what a Congressional staff member should be. She has been a calm voice in responding to constituents who were often frustrated with some aspect of the government. Her work in solving constituent problems has won many accolades and has made the government work better.

Joy Seitz will be retiring from Congressional service as we begin the new Congress in January. With this statement I want to recognize her 32 years of service to our country and to wish her many, many happy years with Jim and their family. While she will not answer the phone in my Blue Springs office she will continue to be a cherished friend.

HONORING THE 225TH ANNIVERSARY OF CONGRESS MEETING IN PRINCETON

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank my colleagues for supporting my resolution, H. Con. Res. 351, commemorating the 225th Anniversary of the Continental Congress meeting at Nassau Hall in Princeton, New Jersey.

On June 19, 1783, 80 soldiers defected from the Third Pennsylvania Regiment stationed in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, in order to "obtain justice" from the Continental Congress. Outraged by the lack of compensation for their service during the Revolutionary War, these soldiers marched to the Nation's capital recruiting new troops to join them in their cause. By the time they reached Philadelphia two days later, the number of disaffected troops had swollen to 300. The Continental Congress held an emergency meeting at the Philadelphia Statehouse to decide how to counter this uprising only to emerge to an angry and armed mob ready to take by force the back-pay owed to them by their government.

With the Nation's finances in disarray, the Continental Congress took refuge from the riot, and Continental Congress President Elias Boudinot ordered the body to reassemble in Princeton, New Jersey, on June 26 "in order that further and more effective methods may be taken for suppressing the current revolt, and maintaining the Dignity and Authority of the United States."

Congress descended upon the small town of Princeton, a village with little more than 60 homes, 300 residents, and three taverns which doubled as churches. In regard to the commotion brought to town by Congress, 19-year-old Princeton University student Ashbel Green, who would go on to serve as the President of the University, remarked "The pace of things is inconceivably altered in Princeton within a fortnight. From a little obscure village, we have become the capital of America."

The College offered Congress the use of Nassau Hall, where it met in the second floor library to conduct the essential business of our fledgling Nation. It was in these rooms that the foreign policy of our country began to be formed. However, Congress's time in Princeton was not all hard work. At Princeton's Fourth of July Celebration, members of the Continental Congress joined students of the University and townsfolk in celebration. According to Samuel Beach, a student at the college, at the end of the evening "some were drunken and all were tired." Congress did not reconvene for five days.

In August, the Continental Congress summoned General George Washington to Princeton to receive the formal thanks of the Nation for his dedicated service as commander-in-chief. Leaving Major General John Knox in charge of the encamped army at Newburgh, New York, General Washington traveled to the Rockingham estate in Rocky Hill, New Jersey with his wife Martha and a guard of dragoons. General Washington stayed at the Rockingham estate for the next three months, advising the Continental Congress on the creation of a peacetime military and pondering his military career. It is at Rockingham that General Washington completed writing his Farewell Orders to the Armies of the United States dismissing the troops and announcing his retirement.

During the time that Congress met there Nassau Hall and the town of Princeton played host to three future Presidents of the United States, seven signers of the Declaration of Independence, nine signatories of the Articles of Confederation, and 11 signers of the Constitution. It is where the seat of government was located when John Adams, John Jay, and Benjamin Franklin signed the Treaty of Paris on September 3, 1783, marking the end of the American Revolution and establishing the boundaries of the new Nation. Although Congress's tenure at Princeton was brief, this community played a pivotal role in the formation of the United States of America.

I would like to take a moment to recognize the unique role that New Jersey played in the American Revolution. In 2006, my colleagues in the New Jersey Delegation took action to help protect the battlefields and historic sites where this conflict took place. We passed legislation that created the Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area linking together 14 counties in New Jersey where the War of Independence took place. New Jersey was truly the Crossroads of the American Revolution for a number of reasons, as thousands of troops marched through the State and fought on our soil. The State's strategic location between the British stronghold of New York and the rebel capital in Philadelphia meant that New Jersey and New Jersey citizens were at the crossroads of the founding of our new Nation. In fact, New Jersey had more military engagements during the Revolutionary War than any other State. Crossroads has proved to be an exceptional way to preserve New Jersey's unique history for future generations.

I am pleased that the House of Representatives has passed H. Con. Res. 351 today commemorating the 225th Anniversary of the Continental Congress meeting in Nassau Hall in Princeton, New Jersey.

CONGRATULATING JOANY
CABRERA

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my most heartfelt congratulations to Joany Cabrera for winning the 2008 Congressional Arts Competition.

In the fourth largest school system in America, Joany has created a breathtaking piece of art that allows him to stand apart from his peers at Miami Jackson Senior High School.

It is a testament to the greatness of our Nation that a young man from a disadvantaged Latino family could have the fruit of his labor hanging in the halls of the United States Capitol to represent his community.

This beautiful painting which will represent south Florida for the next year will serve to remind us all that we should never be hindered by circumstance and that we should never accept anything less than the very best from ourselves.

I pray that Joany's devotion to art never waivers so that he may continue to inspire us with his work and bless us with his friendship.

HONORING NORTHWEST CHURCH

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Northwest Church upon celebrating their 50th anniversary. The church will be celebrating the anniversary throughout 2008 with golf tournaments, luncheons, all-church Bunko nights, reunions and a dedication and renaming of the church's chapel on September 28, 2008 at the church in Fresno, California.

In 1958 a group attending First Baptist Church in Kingsburg began discussing the possibility of establishing a Baptist General Conference church in Fresno, California. The core group of planners consisted of three families; the Swansons, the Bertzs and the Satterbergs. The group determined that Curt Martin, a recent graduate of Bethel Seminary, was to be the first pastor of, what was then, Northwest Baptist Church. Pastor Curt and his wife, Carol Martin, moved to Fresno in August and the first public service was held on September 21, 1958 in their home. The church was officially formed on November 13, 1958 with twenty-four members. That number quickly grew to sixty. With the rise in numbers, the visionaries decided to purchase a five-acre piece of property, complete with a farmhouse.

Almost one year after holding the first public service, they broke ground for the new church on September 20, 1959. The building was completed in 1960, with seating for one hundred. The members quickly realized that they were going to need more space for an educational unit. A building was completed for that purpose in the early 1960's. In 1961, Pastor Martin resigned to pursue his education goals. Reverend Eric Moody and Reverend Rollo Entz both served as senior pastor during the mid-1960s.

In 1968 a young Youth for Christ director, Bufe Karraker, was brought on to serve as interim Pastor of Northwest Church. At that time, the average attendance at the Sunday morning services was about seventy-five to eighty people. However, with Pastor Bufe's gusto and passion during the services, the people began pouring in. Pastor Bufe was asked to stay on as senior pastor. Within six years the refurbished chapel was full; over 750 people would filter in and out for the three Sunday morning services. There was excitement surrounding the church and growth was inevitable. Over the next three decades the congregation built seven additions, including an 850-seat sanctuary and office building. Pastor Bufe was instrumental in this growth, and after thirty-three years at Northwest Church he passed away at the age of seventy-four. Northwest Church has since been led by Dr. Jim Westgate (interim senior pastor), Pastor Scott Gossenberger, Pastor H. Spees and Pastor Mark Platt.

Over the years, Northwest Church has been instrumental in developing new congregations in the Fresno area including New Covenant Community Church, Central Community Church and New Harvest Church. The church currently supports twenty-three local and national missionaries, and offers various mission trip opportunities to members of the church. They hold three services on Sunday for about 1,200 worshipers, a Thursday night service, and the doors are open to the community for various gatherings, such as Sunday school classes, Weight Watchers group meetings, Alcoholics Anonymous and Alanon. The focus on religion, family and community is the foundation that has led Northwest Church to be so successful.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Northwest Church upon their 50 anniversary. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Northwest Church many years of continued success.

TRIBUTE TO THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF LAKE PARSIPPANY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the 75th Anniversary of the Lake Parsippany Property Owners Association of Parsippany, NJ.

Lake Parsippany sits in the center of the Township of Parsippany Troy-Hills, Morris County, NJ. The lake and grounds cover 168 acres and offer well kept swimming beaches as well as many different recreational areas to enjoy the summer. Boating, fishing, volleyball, and horseshoes, are just a few of the many sporting activities enjoyed at Lake Parsippany.

Lake Parsippany began in the early 1930's when the New York Daily Mirror, part of the Mirror Holding Corporation, purchased a large expanse of pasture and farmland in The Township of Parsippany. They dug out 159 acres and constructed a dam that formed Lake Parsippany, which became the headwaters for Eastman's Brook.

The Mirror Holding Corporation made the 7,916 lots surrounding the lake available to anyone agreeing to subscribe to the Daily Mirror for at least six months. Lots measured 20

by 100 feet and were offered for \$98.50 each. A minimum of two lots had to be purchased to build a cabin.

On October 29, 1933 the Mirror Holding Corporation held a meeting at Lake Parsippany. The meeting was attended by approximately 1,500 people. The meeting formed an incorporated organization of lot owners. The Mirror Holding Corporation then turned over the property to the new organization, The Lake Parsippany Property Owners Association.

Today, the Lake Parsippany Property Association is supported by member volunteers. The membership seeks to preserve the natural beauty of the lake through its fees, and through active volunteer participation in the community.

Madam Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the dedicated people of the Lake Parsippany Property Owners Association on their 75th anniversary.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Madam Speaker, I submit the following: H.R. 2638—The Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act.

Account: Research, Development, Testing and Evaluation, Army (R-1 Line 55).

Project: Compact Pulsed Power for Defense Applications, \$3 million.

Requesting Entity: Texas Tech University, 2500 Broadway, Lubbock, TX 79409.

Percent and source of required matching funds: The Center for Pulsed Power and Power Electronics (P3E) at TTU has an operating budget approximately of \$3 million supported almost exclusively by competitive grants from DOD and DOE laboratories and relevant U.S. contractors.

Justification for use of Federal taxpayer dollars: This initiative will continue the work of the P3E Center to develop compact electromagnetic radiation technology that will disrupt remote detonation electronics used in improvised roadside bombs and inner-city car bombs. The Department of Defense's Joint IED Defeat Organization (JIEDDO) is aware of the P3E Center's technology and has invited the Center to submit an unsolicited proposal for funding from JIEDDO, which is currently pending. The P3E Center also receives support from the Office of Naval Research.

In the past 10 years, the P3E Center has focused its research in the areas of high power microwave systems, explosively driven pulsed power, compact pulsed power and ultra high-power electronics. Much of this research has been sponsored by DOD and its agencies. These technologies have matured in the last few years to a point where system integration now is possible. A great push needs to be made in this area to allow these electric weapons to reach the military now, where they are clearly needed today. Funding from this initiative will accelerate the P3E Center's research to allow the compact pulsed power technology to be fielded by the military in a shorter period of time.

Account: Research, Development, Testing and Evaluation, Defense-Wide (R-1 Line 6).

Project: Zumwalt National Program for Countermeasures to Biological and Chemical Threats, \$1.2 million.

Requesting Entity: Texas Tech University, 2500 Broadway, Lubbock, TX 79409.

Percent and source of required matching funds: The Zumwalt Center will provide \$246,842 in matching funds coming from the State of Texas.

Justification for use of Federal taxpayer dollars: The Zumwalt Program for Countermeasures to Biological and Chemical Threats at Texas Tech University coordinates and facilitates multidisciplinary, basic and applied research in cooperation with the Department of Defense to enhance military capabilities to more effectively and efficiently identify, prevent, mitigate and eliminate biological and chemical weapons of mass destruction. This research is directly applicable to protecting Department of Defense (DOD) personnel and facilities from covert and overt exposures to biological and chemical weapon agents. The successes of this program thereby enable more effective and efficient identification, prevention, mitigation and elimination of potential and real threats posed by biological and chemical agents and weapons of mass destruction. Research is focused on the following areas: pre-incident communications and intelligence; personal protective equipment; detection and measurement of chemical and biological agents; recognition of covert exposure; identification of availability, safety, and efficacy of drugs, vaccines and other therapeutics; and creating computer-related tools for training and operations.

Account: Military Construction, Air Force.

Project: Multipurpose C-130 Maintenance Hangar.

Requesting Entity: Dyess Air Force Base, 7 Lancer Loop, Ste. 136, Dyess AFB, TX 79607.

Percent and source of required matching funds: As a Federal military installation, the Department of the Air Force is responsible for the construction and funding of this facility.

Justification for use of Federal taxpayer dollars: Dyess Air Force Base has two active duty C-130 squadrons that are heavily used in overseas deployments. For maintenance work, Dyess has a shortage of one bay and several other bays are substandard. For example, the facilities used for C-130 full cell maintenance are 50 years old and cannot fully enclose the aircraft. The Air Force has included funding for a new two-bay hangar in FY 2013 on its Five-Year Plan. However, the need for a new hangar is clearly there today.

The Air Force has said that it will begin replacing the old C-130H1 aircraft at Dyess with new C-130Js in 2010. Moving the funding for the hangar from FY 2013 to FY 2009 will ensure that the new aircraft at Dyess will have the necessary maintenance facilities.

TRIBUTE TO SHELLEY CLARKE

HON. ROB BISHOP

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize Shelley Clarke, the president and CEO of Goldenwest Credit Union, headquartered in my district in Ogden, UT, on her recent elec-

tion to the board of directors of the National Association of Federal Credit Unions, NAFCU.

For the past 30 years, Mrs. Clarke has been a part of the Goldenwest community, having started her career as a teller, working on the front lines helping customers with day-to-day transactions. She now leads more than 220 employees as CEO of Goldenwest Credit Union. As the president of Goldenwest she has focused on the personal and professional development of her employees, as well as providing helpful and personal service to all Goldenwest's members. This combination of member and employee satisfaction has been instrumental in Goldenwest's growth in recent years.

This dual commitment has also garnered much recognition for Goldenwest including distinction as Utah's "Best of State" in the credit union category for 2008 as well as the "Best company to work for" by Utah Business Magazine. Mrs. Clarke operates Goldenwest under the mantra "credit unions are organizations of people, not dollars." This belief is displayed in the community outreach Goldenwest provides through their sole sponsorship of the annual "5k For Schools" fundraiser as well as being the highest corporate donor for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life.

Mrs. Clarke's personal commitment to the community is also reflected in her chairmanship of the Ogden/Weber Chamber of Commerce.

It is because of the good work of Mrs. Clarke and others like her that credit unions enjoy the success they have today. Such service is the hallmark of our Nation's credit unions and I know that she will bring this dedication to her service on the NAFCU Board of Directors. I wish Mrs. Clarke the best.

ROBERT C. PYATT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Robert Pyatt, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 31, and by earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Robert has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Robert has shown an extraordinary commitment to Scouting as evidenced by earning over 30 merit badges. Robert is a recipient of Ad Altare Dei Religious Award Firebuilder in the Tribe of Mic O' Say with his troop.

Robert's Eagle Scout service project consisted of constructing and installing Blue Bird houses at the Living Community Health Care Center in St. Joseph, Missouri. This project continues the long tradition of community service established by the Boy Scouts of America.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Robert Pyatt for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE
RAY LAHOOD ON THE OCCASION
OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished career of Congressman RAY LAHOOD for his service to the people of Illinois and the United States House of Representatives. Congressman LAHOOD has represented the 18th Congressional District of the state of Illinois for 14 years.

RAY was elected to Congress in 1993 after having served as chief of staff to his predecessor, Republican Leader Bob Michel of Illinois. A native of Peoria, Illinois, RAY worked his way through school and taught in Catholic schools for six years. Following his service in the classroom, RAY became a staffer for Congressman Tom Ralisback. He was then elected to the Illinois State House of Representatives in 1982 where he served until joining Congressman Michel's staff.

A master of parliamentary procedure, RAY quickly developed a reputation for bipartisanship and civility. He was the Member his leadership would often tap to preside in the chamber during contentious floor proceedings, including the impeachment proceedings of former President Bill Clinton. A member of the Appropriations Committee, RAY serves on both the Agriculture and Legislative Branch Subcommittees and as the top-ranking Republican on the Select Intelligence Oversight Panel.

Throughout his career, RAY has received numerous awards, including three honorary doctorate degrees in political science, humane letters, and public service. In 2001, RAY was named the Ray A. Neumann Tri-County Citizen of the Year by the Downtown Kiwanis Club of Peoria, and in 1999, he received Peoria Notre Dame High School's Distinguished Alumnus Award.

A hallmark of RAY's term in office has been his support for farmers in his Illinois district. As a member of the Agriculture Subcommittee, RAY has been a tireless supporter of Illinois ethanol production. The Illinois Farm Bureau recognized his leadership on agriculture issues by awarding him their highest honor in 2005, the Charles B. Shuman Distinguished Service Award.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a dedicated leader and friend to many in this body. I know his family—his wife, Kathy; their four children; Darin, Amy, Sam and Sara; and his seven grandchildren, Ella, McKay, Henry, Luke, Oliver, Theodore, and Brogan—as well as his many friends and colleagues join me in praising his accomplishments and extending thanks for his service over the years on behalf of the state of Illinois and the United States of America.

RAY will surely enjoy the well-deserved time he now has to spend with his family and loved ones. I wish him the best of luck in all his future endeavors.

PAUL WELLSTONE AND PETE
DOMENICI MENTAL HEALTH
PARITY AND ADDICTION EQUITY
ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2008

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, the legislation we are voting on today, the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act, can be appropriately characterized as civil rights legislation. Our country has made a great deal of progress in ending discrimination over the last half century, but a person's medical condition is still the basis for discrimination. Nowhere has this fact been more evident than with respect to mental illness and the stigma that has been attached to it.

Until a generation ago, parents were accused of causing their children's mental illnesses. In passing the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act, America is taking a giant step to remove the stigma surrounding mental illness, and how proud I am that my constituent, David Wellstone, has taken up his late father's effort to make this bill, which I'm a cosponsor of, a reality.

This bill permanently reauthorizes and expands the Mental Health Parity Act of 1996 to provide for equity in the coverage of mental health and substance use disorders when compared to medical and surgical disorders. The legislation ensures that group health plans cannot charge higher copayments, coinsurance, or deductibles nor can they impose higher maximum out-of-pocket limits on mental health and addiction care than for medical and surgical benefits. While the bill does not mandate group health plans to provide mental health coverage, it does require parity if they do.

This is landmark legislation. It is fair and it is sensible. And it stands as a tribute to the families and patients who for decades have advocated for its passage. With true parity for mental health benefits, the door that was locked by stigma is once and for all open to coverage for more Americans, recognizing their worth and dignity.

How proud I am to have been part of the long fight which has brought us to this day!

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE
BUD CRAMER AND THE HONOR-
ABLE TERRY EVERETT ON
THEIR RETIREMENT FROM CON-
GRESS

SPEECH OF

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend, Congressman TERRY EVERETT, for his extraordinary service to the people of Alabama and the United States House of Representatives. TERRY EVERETT has represented the 2nd Congressional District of the state of Alabama with distinction and honor for the past 16 years.

Born in Dothan and raised in Midland City, TERRY joined the U.S. Air Force following high school. He learned Russian and served as an intelligence analyst in Europe. After his military service, TERRY returned to Dothan and entered the field of journalism. He worked as a sports reporter and covered the police beat for the Dothan Eagle. In his nearly 30 years in the newspaper business, TERRY wore many hats—from reporter, to editor and publisher, to eventual owner of five small papers in southwest Alabama.

TERRY sold his newspapers in the late 1980s and used the profits to start his own construction business, a business which also found great success. When Congressman Bill Dickinson announced his retirement in 1992 after 28 years of service, TERRY, due in large part to his love for country, chose to run for Congress.

Using the slogan, "Send a message not a politician!" the people of Alabama's 2nd Congressional District elected TERRY to Congress. He has been their voice in this body for eight terms and become one of the most respected congressmen on Capitol Hill.

TERRY is perhaps best known as an ardent supporter of military modernization initiatives as well as his work to protect America's space-based technology. As the first chairman, and current ranking member, of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, TERRY has worked tirelessly to bring major defense industry to Alabama. This post has also enabled TERRY to watch over the needs at Montgomery's Maxwell-Gunter Air Force base, home of Air University, and Fort Rucker, home of the Army's Aviation Warfighting Center. TERRY has also led the debate on protecting our nation's valuable space assets—assets on which our national defense depends.

Mr. Speaker, agriculture remains Alabama's number one industry, and TERRY, a former peanut farmer, has been a champion for farmers. As the second-ranking Republican on the House Agriculture Committee, TERRY has sponsored a vast array of agricultural programs and legislation that has helped ensure the stability of Alabama farmers.

Following the September 11th terrorists attacks on our nation, the central front in the war against terrorism became our ability to accurately gather, process, and understand intelligence. After careful consideration of many other qualified individuals, House Speaker Dennis J. Hastert appointed TERRY to the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence in January 2002. Accurately describing his work in this capacity, TERRY was once quoted as saying "some of the most important work I've done I can't talk about because it was on the Intelligence Committee."

TERRY has received numerous awards and honors throughout his career. While a local newspaper publisher, the Association of the U.S. Army at Fort Rucker twice nominated him for "Army Civilian of the Year." TERRY served as president and chairman of the board of the Alabama Press Association and chairman of the board of directors of the former Dothan Federal Savings Bank.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a dedicated leader and friend to many in this body. I know his family—his wife, Barbara—as well as his many friends

and colleagues join me in praising his accomplishments and extending thanks for his service over the years on behalf of the state of Alabama and the United States of America.

TERRY will surely enjoy the well-deserved time he now has to spend with Barbara and his beloved constituents. I wish him the best of luck in all his future endeavors.

CONSOLIDATED SECURITY, DISASTER ASSISTANCE, AND CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, it is with no small amount of misgiving that I will cast my vote in favor of this Continuing Resolution today. While I know that my colleagues on the Appropriations Committee worked diligently and in good faith to fashion a responsible and responsive bill for this Congress to consider, I regret that the White House did not do the same.

First and foremost, I do not believe this document should be repealing the twenty-seven year old congressional moratoria on offshore drilling. While I—like many of my colleagues—am willing to consider new ideas for responsible development in the context of broader, forward-looking legislation like The Comprehensive American Energy Security and Consumer Protection Act this House passed last week, I do not support unrestricted drilling three miles off our coastline, and I don't believe the American people do, either. Restoring common-sense environmental safeguards and developing a genuine vision for this Nation's energy future needs to be an early action item for an OBAMA Administration and the 111th Congress.

Second, while I am gratified that this CR includes important assistance for our struggling families in the form of additional funds for Pell Grants, the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program, and low income home energy assistance, I am disappointed that it does not include the kind of robust stimulus our economy clearly needs right now. It is simply astonishing that the President would threaten to veto \$50 billion for job-creating infrastructure improvements, unemployment insurance, food stamps and health care support for our states and citizens at the same time he is asking for \$700 billion to bailout Wall Street. This, too, must and will change under an OBAMA Administration and a strengthened Democratic Congress in 2009.

In spite of these and other shortcomings, we clearly must fund the federal government through the beginning of next year—and the Defense, Homeland Security and Veterans Affairs Appropriations bills included in this package, while not perfect, all, on balance, have my support.

Mr. Speaker, I will vote for this temporary spending measure today—mindful that Congress will be back to address its deficiencies in a few short months.

CONSOLIDATED SECURITY, DISASTER ASSISTANCE, AND CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, this is a bad week for those of us concerned over Congress' refusal to reign in federal spending. Not only are we preparing to deal with at least a multi-billion dollar bailout of the financial services sector, Congress today stands ready to add billions to the national debt by passing H.R. 2638.

I would not object to many of the items in this bill if they were offset by reductions on other, lower priority, programs. For example, I would support the disaster relief package if the package were offset by reductions in other spending, particularly reductions in our overseas commitments. Unfortunately, H.R. 2638 not only fails to reduce spending to finance disaster aid; it attaches money for the country of Georgia onto the disaster aid package. Georgia is not receiving this money because it was affected by a natural disaster but because it was involved in a military conflict with Russia—which was started by Georgia! It is an insult to the American people to divert money that could have gone to help the victims of Hurricane Ike to promote interference in a conflict that in no way threatens the security of the American people.

Another particularly objectionable part of H.R. 2638 is the section providing \$7.5 billion in loan guarantees for the auto industry. In exchange for the loans, the industry must agree to produce the type of automobiles favored by federal bureaucrats. Thus, this bill not only increases corporate welfare, it empowers federal bureaucrats to displace the judgment of consumers as to where the auto industry should concentrate its resources. As the failure of every centrally planned economy throughout history shows, when government officials usurp the decisions of consumers, workers, and entrepreneurs the result is economic stagnation.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2638 represents another missed opportunity for Congress to exercise fiscal discipline by funding the American people's priorities, such as disaster relief, by reducing spending on non-priority items, such as overseas spending. Therefore, I must oppose this bill. I hope that in the future Congress will fund items such as disaster relief by reducing spending in other areas instead of burdening future generations with more debt.

CONSOLIDATED SECURITY, DISASTER ASSISTANCE, AND CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for H.R. 2638, the Con-

tinuing Resolution, or CR, and to thank Chairman OBEY and the Democratic leadership for putting together a continuing resolution that includes a full year of funding for our troops, veterans, and first responders, while also guaranteeing continued funding for other essential Government programs.

I am especially pleased that the CR includes a \$7.5 billion appropriation to support \$25 billion in direct loans to automakers to re-tool their manufacturing facilities to produce the next generation of advanced technology vehicles. The loans will help keep jobs in Michigan and other States, and create new green jobs building new, more fuel efficient vehicles. This package will help us move quickly towards vehicles that will reduce our dependence on foreign oil and reduce our greenhouse gas emissions, and I have every confidence that just like the loan guarantees to Chrysler in the 1980s these loans will be repaid to taxpayers at a profit. These loans would not be in the CR were it not for the tireless work of the entire Michigan delegation, or the strong leadership of Speaker PELOSI, Majority Leader HOYER, Senate Leader REID, Michigan Senators LEVIN and STABENOW and all the Democratic and Republican Leadership in the House and the Senate.

I am pleased that we have also provided a full year of funding for the Department of Defense. This package includes important increases for training, addresses National Guard and Reserve equipment shortfalls, so that our troops are sent into battle well prepared and well equipped. It also contains increases for military health care, and for programs that support military families.

In addition to providing for our troops overseas, this bill provides for our veterans once they have returned home by continuing to strengthen the Department of Veterans Affairs. The funding provided for the VA in this bill builds upon prior efforts of the 110th Congress to provide our veterans with the health care and other benefits they deserve. In the last 3 years, Congress has increased funding for veterans' health care by \$11.8 billion. This year, Congress has provided \$47.6 billion for the VA, which is \$4.5 billion above the 2008 funding level and \$2.8 billion over the President's request. These increases will be used for improvements in veterans' medical care, including mental health treatment for veterans suffering from post traumatic stress disorder, or PTSD. The increases will also be used to hire more claims processors, provide state-of-the-art prosthetics, and make important facility improvements.

This bill also provides critical homeland security funding to protect our country from terrorist attacks and to help respond to devastating natural disasters. The CR contains \$4.2 billion in grant funding for port security and first responders, increases in funding to hire 2,200 new border patrol agents, and important new oversight provisions to ensure Department of Homeland Security is spending its money wisely and implementing the findings of the 9/11 Commission. The bill also provides \$22.9 billion in emergency disaster response assistance to help the gulf coast rebuild from Hurricane Ike, help communities in the Midwest that suffered from floods, and assist those in the West that were ravaged by wildfires.

Like many of my colleagues, I had hoped that this administration would be willing to

work with Congress as we began our work on the appropriations process. Unfortunately, most other government programs are going to be temporarily funded at last year's levels until March 6, 2009, because we did not receive the kind of bipartisan cooperation required to complete work on all 13 appropriations bills. As the unemployment rate continues to rise and American families are struggling, this administration refuses to recognize that increased funding for programs such as the Commodity Supplemental Food Program, unemployment insurance and employment service operations, the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, among others, is desperately needed.

Next year, Congress will have the opportunity to work with a new administration that I imagine will be more favorable to these programs, but until then I am pleased to see that some of these important programs will receive a much-needed increase. For example, this continuing resolution increases funding for student financial assistance programs by \$2.5 billion, with \$16.8 billion devoted exclusively to Pell grants. With the troubles in the financial markets, this funding is critical for students who rely on aid to finance their education. I strongly believe that higher education is the key to turning our economy around, especially in Michigan, and the fear of student aid being cut is a distraction our students and their families do not need. The increase in the Pell Grant Program will help those that need it the most, at a time when they need the help the most.

I am particularly pleased that this legislation will set an annual funding level of \$110 million for State unemployment insurance and employment service operations at the Department of Labor. As the State with the highest unemployment rate of 8.9 percent, families in Michigan know all too well the difficulty unemployed workers are having not only in finding a new job, but also receiving the critical training or assistance they need. Since this President took office Michigan has lost over 400,000 jobs. In the last 6 months alone, Michigan has lost an average of 3,820 jobs per month. Without further funding for unemployment insurance we cannot turn this trend around. We all can agree that finding a job during an economic downturn is extremely difficult. Therefore it is critical that families have the help they need to buy their groceries, pay their mortgages, and fill their gas tank until that next employer is found. I hope that as Congress turns to the economic stimulus package we can go a step further and extend unemployment benefits for States that need it the most.

This legislation also included a critical increase for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program, CSFP, and the Nutrition for Women, Infants and Children, or the WIC program. Without the increase of \$23.5 million for this program, 70,000 low-income women, infants, children, and elderly citizens, would risk losing access to food. With over 70,000 citizens relying on CSFP in Michigan, this increase is critical. This is also true of the WIC program which assists over 200,000 families in Michigan each year. This legislation would increase funding for this program by \$1 billion, which will greatly help mothers and their children buy the groceries they need at a time when food prices continue to sky rocket. When the price of a gallon of milk is the same price as a gal-

lon of gas, we need to ensure that our families are not forced to choose between the two.

While Michigan families are being forced to pay more for many goods and services, one of the most painful increases has come from rising energy costs. Fortunately, this legislation includes \$5.1 billion for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, which is \$2.5 billion more than 2008 levels and will assist 2 million additional households. LIHEAP, a critical but thinly stretched program, serves nearly 560,000 homes in Michigan. This funding will help the State of Michigan in its efforts to provide as many homes as possible with home energy assistance. The need for this funding is clear. The winter months bring with them rising utility costs, and the State of Michigan has seen an additional 30,000 LIHEAP applicants between June 2007 and June 2008. In addition, this bill provides \$250 million for weatherization assistance. Around 3,000 homes in Michigan are served by projects that increase their home energy efficiency. The increased funding will allow for weatherization of approximately 100,000 homes, saving low-income families \$400 in energy costs.

One thing that is not included in this bill is an extension of the decades-old moratorium on offshore drilling. This means for the next 5 months drilling is allowed up to 3 miles off the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts and parts of the Eastern Gulf of Mexico. The citizens of Michigan's 15th Congressional District are no strangers to high gas prices; in fact, average gas prices in Michigan are among the highest in the Nation. Despite the claims of the Bush administration and its Republican Congressional allies that drilling in the Outer Continental Shelf is some sort of panacea, allowing the moratorium to expire will have little effect on rising prices at the pump. I would remind my colleagues across the aisle that the Energy Information Administration reported in 2007 that, "access to the Pacific, Atlantic, and eastern Gulf regions would not have a significant impact on domestic crude oil and natural gas production or prices before 2030." Earlier this year, Republicans obstructed legislation that would require oil companies to start drilling on the 68 million acres of Federal oil reserves which they are warehousing or lose the ability to obtain new leases. If the Republicans were really concerned with bringing down gas prices, they would have voted for a bill that would have taken action now to increase oil production.

Fortunately, under the current plan, leasing in these off-shore areas will not begin until 2012. This most certainly means that the next President and the next Congress will steer the course of our national drilling policy. If I have anything to do with it, this policy will include a framework for leasing and development that complies with environmental laws and insists on proper direction and use of revenues gained from drilling.

This legislation provides funding for critical programs and ensures our government will continue to operate until March 6, 2009. While it is disappointing that partisanship and election year politics stopped us from completing our work on all 13 regular appropriations bills this year, I am hopeful that we will quickly finish our work next March when we have better leadership from the White House and a larger majority to work with. I once again thank Speaker PELOSI, Majority Leader HOYER, and Chairman OBEY for their hard work on this im-

portant bill, and urge my colleagues to support it.

ALTERNATIVE MINIMUM TAX
RELIEF ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH SANDLIN

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN. Madam Speaker, I regret that due to unforeseen circumstances I was unable to participate in one vote on the floor of the House of Representatives on September 24, 2008.

The vote was on H.R. 7005, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide alternative minimum tax, AMT, relief for individuals for 2008. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on that question. AMT relief is certainly necessary, and providing it for more than 25 million families in 2008 is projected to cost more than \$60 billion over 10 years. In addition, because the AMT fix in this bill is not paid for under pay-as-you-go rules, the fix can be expected to add tens of billions more in interest costs. In contrast, the fiscally responsible version of AMT relief that the House passed earlier this year with my support would have been revenue neutral, including through the elimination of a tax subsidy that continues to be provided to major oil companies during this time of record profits for the industry. I cannot support H.R. 7005, which would add many tens of billions more to the out-of-control national debt that is approaching \$10 trillion, when a fiscally responsible and fair alternative is available.

DUNCAN HUNTER NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT-

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill.

We've all read the stories about wounded troops being forced to repay enlistment or reenlistment bonuses. Chairman SKELTON is to be commended for including a provision that ensures that any servicemember who is retired or separated for a combat-related disability will not be required to repay any portion of a bonus or other benefit. The same provision ensures that the survivor of a member who dies on active duty will likewise not have to repay any bonus or benefit their deceased loved one was entitled to. I am also pleased this bill authorizes a much needed and well deserved 3.9 percent pay raise for our troops.

Today we are also ensuring that active duty families, military retirees, and their dependents are not socked with higher TRICARE fees or co-pays by extending the prohibition on such increase. The bill also encourages beneficiaries to use preventive health services by waiving copayments for preventive services.

We've all been troubled and saddened by the increased rates of suicide among

servicemembers and veterans. To address this crisis, the bill establishes a Task Force on the Prevention of Suicide by Members of the Armed Forces to bring together experts from both within and outside of the military to assess current service suicide prevention programs and policies and to examine the risk factors that can lead to suicide. The Secretary of Defense is required to develop a plan to improve suicide prevention based upon the recommendations of the task force. I urge Secretary Gates to convene this task force immediately and for the task force to complete its work as quickly as possible.

Mr. Speaker, as is always the case in bills crafted by Chairman SKELTON, this bill also authorizes additional necessary funds for key systems designed to help protect our troops. Two programs are of particular note. For example, the bill authorizes \$1.7 billion to procure, sustain, transport, and field Mine Resistant Ambush Protected, MRAP, vehicles for our troops overseas. Additionally, the bill authorizes \$2.2 billion for the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization, JIEDDO, and urges that \$10 million be used for Marine Corps and Army development of specialized counter IED dog teams. The bill also requires that the Director of the JIEDDO to develop a science and technology investment strategy for countering the threat of IEDs.

Additionally, I'm pleased this bill requires the Defense Department to take additional steps to reduce its energy consumption, consistent with mission and operational requirements. The bill establishes the position of Director for Operational Energy Plans and Programs and creates senior operational energy officials within each service. It also authorizes \$90 million for energy conservation programs on military installations.

I regret that a number of provisions that were in the House version of the bill were not included in the bill before us, including provisions dealing with the use of private security contractors and detainee interrogation-related activities. I am especially disappointed that the current bill does not include the detainee videorecording provision I authored and that was included in the House version of this bill. I look forward to working with Chairman SKELTON in the next Congress to correct this deficiency.

Mr. Speaker, this is a good bill; I will vote for it, and I urge my colleagues to do likewise.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE
BUD CRAMER AND THE HONORABLE
TERRY EVERETT ON
THEIR RETIREMENT FROM CONGRESS

SPEECH OF

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my good friend TERRY EVERETT, whom I have had the distinct pleasure of serving with in this House for nearly 2 decades. After 16 years of diligently representing the people of the second district of Alabama, he will be retiring when the 110th Congress adjourns. I want to take this opportunity to wish him well and thank him for his

friendship and dedication to the American people.

TERRY is a man who knows the meaning of hard work. His father was a sharecropper and worked on the railroad, instilling a strong work ethic with TERRY and his siblings at an early age. TERRY never forgot those lessons, and served his country with honor as an Air Force intelligence specialist in Europe before returning home to Dothan, Alabama, in 1959. He joined the staff of the Dothan Eagle as a beat reporter, and for 30 years climbed the corporate ladder with determination, working his way up to editor and publisher, and finally as the owner of his own newspaper chain. He has brought the same dedication and workhorse attitude to the House of Representatives.

In his service in the House, TERRY has devoted himself to ensuring that the United States remains safe and secure for our children and grandchildren from the growing threat of international terrorists and rogue states. As a member of the House Armed Services Committee, he has led the way for the United States to be on the cutting edge of military technology by pressing for advances in our Missile Defense System and in space technology, which is vital not only to our security at home, but also for our brave soldiers serving on the battlefields of Iraq and Afghanistan. His efforts have helped keep our Nation safe and strong in a time when threats to our security are quickly changing and adapting.

Madam Speaker, it has been an honor to have served with TERRY EVERETT in this great body. I want to wish him and his family well as he embarks on the next chapter of his life. I know the people of Alabama, like me, are proud to know him.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE
BUD CRAMER AND THE HONORABLE
TERRY EVERETT ON
THEIR RETIREMENT FROM CONGRESS

SPEECH OF

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the outstanding career of my friend, the Honorable ROBERT "BUD" CRAMER, for his service to the people of Alabama and the United States House of Representatives. Congressman CRAMER has represented the 5th Congressional District of the State of Alabama for the past 17 years ably and with distinction.

Born and raised in Huntsville, Alabama, BUD earned a bachelor's degree and a Juris Doctor from the University of Alabama. BUD is also a military veteran, where he served our country as an Army tank officer at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

Of all of his many achievements, BUD's work on behalf of abused children is perhaps his greatest legacy. Before his election to Congress, BUD served for 10 years as Madison County district attorney. It was during this time that BUD founded the National Children's Advocacy Center. The Center provides complete services and support for abused children, a fundamentally different approach to these types of cases, and now serves as the

national model for over 600 programs in 50 States and the District of Columbia.

Following his election to Congress, BUD continued to be a leading voice for children. He authored the landmark law, the National Children's Advocacy Program Act, which provided funds to expand and enhance the children's advocacy program into new communities. He is also a member of the Advisory Board for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

As a member of the House Appropriations Committee and the powerful Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, BUD has been an ardent supporter of NASA and missile defense. With Redstone arsenal and NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center both located in the 5th District, BUD has led the fight for many of NASA's programs including the international space station. In 2002, BUD was awarded the National Space Club's Von Braun Memorial Award for Space Exploration.

BUD has also overseen defense and national security intelligence issues as a member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. He was recently appointed to the newly created Select Intelligence Oversight Panel of the Appropriations Committee.

In Congress, BUD is perhaps most known for his independence. He is a founding member of the Blue Dogs, a coalition of more than 40 conservative House Democrats.

BUD has also worked hard to bring jobs to north Alabama. In fact, he has played a key role in bringing thousands of jobs to Alabama's 5th District, most notably, International Truck & Engine, Skyhook, Target, HiSan, West Teleservices, and Toyota as well as helping persuade Boeing to build a \$450 million rocket booster plant in Decatur in the 1990s. BUD was instrumental in the decision to restart Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant Unit 1.

Make no mistake; his work has not gone unnoticed. He was named "one of America's best Congressmen," by Money Magazine.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a devoted leader and friend to many in this body. I know his family, his daughter, Hollan; his three grandchildren, Dylan, Mason, and Patricia; and his many colleagues and friends join me in commending his accomplishments and extending thanks for his service over the years on behalf of the State of Alabama and the United States of America.

BUD will surely enjoy the well deserved time he now has to spend with his family and his beloved constituents. I wish him the best of luck in all his future endeavors.

CONDEMNING SEXUAL VIOLENCE
IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
OF THE CONGO

SPEECH OF

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2008

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 1227. This resolution condemns sexual violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and calls upon the United States Department of State and the international community to take immediate action to end this widespread crisis.

Since 1998, the Democratic Republic of the Congo has had 5.4 million conflict-related deaths, making it the deadliest humanitarian crisis in the world since World War II. Over the past decade, hundreds of thousands of women and girls have been violently raped as a result of this ethnic conflict. These rapes have been exceptionally violent, often involving forced incest and mutilation of the female's genital organs. Victims' mouths were cut off following the raping to prevent them from reporting the crime, while many women and girls were simply killed after being subjected to sexual abuse.

With sexual violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo at such tragically high rates, I strongly urge Congress to condemn the actions of the perpetrators of these rapes and to support measures to prevent the further escalation of this crisis. The Administration must act, in concert with the United Nations, to assure that the Congolese people have the resources needed to combat the situation. We need to work with other African leaders to assist the Congolese in preventing these violent sexual crimes from occurring.

The plight of women in Africa has for too long been ignored. I call upon my colleagues to join me in support of this resolution so that we can put an end to this deplorable situation that has been allowed to persist for over a decade. We cannot stand by any longer as such unspeakable acts continue to occur with impunity.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 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. 2638, The Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act.

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: Provide \$2,000,000 for Army, RDT&E, PE# 0305208A, Line # 177, Distributed Common Ground/Surface System 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: High Power, Ultra-Lightweight Zinc-Air Battery.

Account: RDT&E, Navy-Marine Corps Landing Force Technology.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Energizer Battery Manufacturing, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 25225 Detroit Road, Westlake, OH 44145.

Description of Request: Provide \$2,500,000 for the continued development (Phase II) of a high-rate capability air electrode for a zinc air battery system. The objective is to increase the rate capability by an additional 65 percent so as to support the high power requirements for equipment used in military and commercial applications. The subject zinc-air battery will provide the same energy and power of the incumbent battery (lithium-sulfur dioxide) for about half the weight and in a 60 percent smaller package. Approximately 63 percent is for labor; and 37 percent is for materials and other allowable indirect costs.

On average, a U.S. soldier consumes the equivalent of 1 AA battery per hour in combat, and an infantry platoon, for a 3-day mission, will require approximately 2,500 batteries, weighing a total of almost 400 lbs. Carrying this added weight induces fatigue and ultimately limits their effectiveness and ability to carry out their missions. Thus, with our heavily armed and battery laden troops increasingly confronting light and irregular forces, issues of battery weight and equipment reliability are more important than ever. The total project cost is expected to be approximately \$14,000,000. Energizer will provide the balance of this funding and will continue to devote tens of millions of private R&D dollars to support the continued development of this technology for high power military and commercial applications.

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.

Description of Request: Provide \$1,600,000 to complete the design, assembly, integration, test and evaluation of the Hyperspectral Integrated Force Protection sensor system (Hyper-IFP). Approximately 40 percent will be used for engineering development modeling and simulation; 20 percent will be used for subsystems assembly and testing; 15 percent will be used for system integration and ground testing; 15 percent 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. Taxpayer 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: 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.

Description of Request: Provide \$3,200,000 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 warfight-

ers. 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 airworthiness, and the development of processes to support airworthiness assessments of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS). Airworthiness 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: Out of Autoclave Composite Processing.

Account: U.S. Navy ONR Industrial Preparedness 0708011N.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: GKN Aerospace North America.

Address of Requesting Entity: 142 J.S. McDonnell Boulevard, St. Louis, MO 63042.

Description of Request: Provide \$1,600,000 to develop out of autoclave composite processing. Most composite lamination processes require the use of large, expensive autoclaves to cure lightweight composite structures for today's high technology military aircraft. The size of the parts fabricated is often limited by the size of the autoclave. This project will help develop composite curing processes that do not require an expensive or size limited autoclave for the manufacture of composite aircraft structures. This will result in lower cost aircraft structures and open additional opportunities outside of aerospace for high strength lightweight composites.

ADDRESSING THE HEALTH CARE CRISIS

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in addressing our health care crisis. The facts are clear: too many Americans lack access to quality, affordable health care.

Today, more than 47 million Americans, including 9 million children, lack health insurance. Last year, nearly two-thirds of U.S. adults struggled to pay medical bills, went without needed care because of costs, or were uninsured. Nearly 9 million people have lost their health insurance since 2000. This is unacceptable. In fact, in the richest nation in the world, it's absolutely shameful.

Countless Americans lay awake at night trying to figure out how they will pay mounting medical bills, whether they should go to the doctor for that recurring pain, or wondering if their health insurance will actually cover tests their doctor recommended. With soaring gas and food prices, working families across the United States are forced to make tough financial choices, often sacrificing needed health care and health insurance.

It is reality for Laura T. whose son Christopher was diagnosed with Burkitt's lymphoma in 2003. Though this family had insurance, the insurer refused to cover the treatments proven to help Christopher. No mother should ever have to fight with an insurance company for the life of her child, but that's exactly what this brave woman did. Laura fought these insurance companies and won. Because he received the appropriate treatments, Christopher is alive today. However, months of fighting for her child's life took a tremendous toll on her family. Laura and her three children lost their home. Her credit is ruined. Unfortunately, Laura and her family are not alone. Even more unfortunate is the fact that these families don't always win. Families across America are dealing with these situations every day.

While there are several issues that we disagree on, I am confident that we can all agree that no parent should have to fight for the medical treatment necessary for her child's survival. No family should have to forego needed health care because of money. Health care should not be a privilege to be reserved for the wealthy few. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to come together and fix our Nation's broken health care system.

ALTERNATIVE MINIMUM TAX RELIEF ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the AMT Relief Act of 2008 and urge my colleagues to do the same.

While I would prefer to eliminate the AMT entirely—and pay for it when we do—the fact of the matter is that failing to act on this legislation would subject over twenty-five million families—including nearly 335,000 in my congressional district—to an additional tax burden they were never intended to bear. Moreover, having recently visited with IRS Commissioner Shulman, there is no question that the IRS is better able to do its job and the taxpayers are best served when Congress completes its tax-related work in a timely fashion.

I am especially pleased that H.R. 7005 also includes legislation I introduced on a bipartisan basis with Congressmen RICHARD NEAL (D-MA), SAM JOHNSON (R-TX) and JIM RAMSTAD (R-MN) to correct the equally unin-

tended and all too frequently devastating treatment of incentive stock options under the Alternative Minimum tax. The AMT Credit Fairness and Relief Act will end the ISO AMT crisis once and for all by allowing affected taxpayers to claim the entirety of their unused credits over the next two years and abating all penalties and interest arising from this particularly egregious part of the code.

Madam Speaker, the AMT Relief Act of 2008 is vital middle class tax relief designed to correct several widely acknowledged defects in our tax law. I look forward to its passage and encourage its prompt consideration in the Senate so that it can be signed by the President without delay.

HONORING THE 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF JED AND JOYCE ROBERTSON

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. TERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize two of my constituents, Jed and Joyce Robertson, who this Sunday will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. Jed Robertson moved to Omaha in 1958 after attending trade school. Joyce followed him, and that same year they married and moved to Valley as newlyweds.

Jed and Joyce represent the hardworking stability of good Midwesterners. The same year they were married they hosted their first Thanksgiving dinner for their extended family. Jed and Joyce have continued that tradition by hosting Thanksgiving dinner every year since, and this November they will follow their 50th wedding anniversary with their 50th Thanksgiving dinner.

In their years together, Jed and Joyce raised two children, Kim and Kirk, and are blessed with four grandchildren: Meghan, Matt, Jeremy and JC.

Today I want to honor this great accomplishment that represents not only their love together but the values of Nebraska I'm proud to represent in Congress.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. COBLE. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2638, the Consolidated Security, Disaster, and Continuing Appropriations Act of 2009.

1. Requesting Member: Congressman HOWARD COBLE.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Research, Development, Test & Evaluation (RDTE), Air Force.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: RF Micro Devices (RFMD).

Address of Requesting Entity: 7628 Thorn-dike Road, Greensboro, NC 27409-9421.

Description of Request: Original request for additional funding of \$3 million for Air Force RDT&E account for Gallium Nitride, GaN, Microelectronics & Materials research and development. Gallium Nitride-based microelectronics is the next generation of semiconductor technology and is of critical importance to the development of many advanced defense systems. RFMD Aerospace and Defense Business Unit will be the recipient of the funding and use the funds to accelerate development and adoption of RFMD GaN technology. RFMD originally budgeted \$18 million over 3 years to complete this research project; RFMD will invest far more of its own money in Gallium Nitride-related research than it is seeking from the Federal Government—investing more than \$100 million on the research and development of Gallium Nitride technology, and is continuing to invest.

2. Requesting Member: Congressman HOWARD COBLE.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Research, Development, Test & Evaluation (RDTE), Navy.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: RF Micro Devices (RFMD).

Address of Requesting Entity: 7628 Thorn-dike Road, Greensboro, NC 27409-9421.

Description of Request: Original request for additional funding of \$3 million for Navy RDT&E account for Gallium Nitride, GaN, Microelectronics & Materials research and development. Gallium Nitride-based microelectronics is the next generation of semiconductor technology and is of critical importance to the development of many advanced defense systems. RFMD Aerospace and Defense Business Unit will be the recipient of the funding and use the funds to accelerate development and adoption of RFMD GaN technology. RFMD originally budgeted \$18 million over 3 years to complete this research project; RFMD will invest far more of its own money in Gallium Nitride-related research than it is seeking from the Federal Government—investing more than \$100 million on the research and development of Gallium Nitride technology, and is continuing to invest.

3. Requesting Member: Congressman HOWARD COBLE.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Research, Development, Test & Evaluation (RDTE), Navy.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: General Dynamics Advanced Information Systems, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 5440 Mill-stream Road, McLeansville, NC 27301.

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$1,600,000 to support the Autonomous Anti-Submarine Vertical Beam Array developed by General Dynamics Information Systems, Inc. These funds will be used to develop a vertical acoustic array small enough to launch from a nuclear guided missile submarine, SSGN, that will operate for 3 months as an antisubmarine warfare, ASW, detection system and transmit data over a secure radio frequency data link. Specifically, \$514,000 is for design and development labor; \$185,000 is for materials; \$4,000 is for ODC and travel; \$55,000 is for the subcontract; \$726,000 is for manufacturing; and \$116,000 is for program management. This request is consistent with the intended and authorized purpose of the Navy's RDTE account.

4. Requesting Member: Congressman HOWARD COBLE.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Research, Development, Test & Evaluation (RDTE), Army.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: PPG Industries, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 43245 Rosanna Drive, Allison Park, PA 15101.

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$1,600,000 for Phase 2 of an Advanced Composite Armor for Force Protection project being conducted with the Army Research Lab (ARL). Approximately 70 percent of this funding is for advanced materials research, development and process optimization; 15 percent is for ballistic testing and 15 percent is for integration of these advanced materials into armor solutions. Work performed with ARL discovered novel, high performance polyurethane plastics which exhibit extraordinary weatherability and energy dissipation properties. Combined with new fiberglass technologies, these materials form the foundation of an advanced ballistic system. This composite solution can be further optimized to meet evolving threat levels and other application specific requirements. The research objectives will be to develop advanced composite ballistic panel solutions that incorporate these new technologies in three phases. This request is consistent with the intended and authorized mission of the Army Research Labs. This is the second of three years of funding that will be needed to complete the study.

5. Requesting Member: Congressman HOWARD COBLE.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Research Development Test & Evaluation (RDTE), Air Force.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: The Timken Company.

Address of Requesting Entity: 1835 Dueber Avenue, Canton, OH 44706.

Description of Request: Provide \$1,600,000 for Timken's Hybrid Bearing project. Specifically, funds will be used to develop a high speed bearing for aerospace applications that will provide exceptional hot hardness, exceptional fatigue life, exceptional wear resistance, and exceptional fracture toughness. Defense applications would include the JSF main shaft bearing application, as well as other weapons platforms or devices requiring high speed bearings. Furthermore, this project will review various corrosion resistant steel, including CSS-42L, for use in the bearing, as well as the introduction of new ball and retainer materials in the final bearing design (such as silicon nitride balls, and a light weight carbon-carbon composite material for the retainer material). The hybrid bearing technology, which includes a variety of material and coating technologies, is being incorporated into the Joint Strike Fighter engine, and other platforms. This request is consistent with the intended and authorized purpose of the Air Force's RDTE account.

6. Requesting Member: Congressman HOWARD COBLE.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Research Development Test & Evaluation (RDTE), Navy (Marine Corps).

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Energizer Battery Manufacturing, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 25225 Detroit Road, Westlake OH 44145.

Description of Request: Provide \$2,500,000 for the continued development (Phase II) of a high-rate capability, air electrode for a zinc air

battery system. The objective is to increase the rate capability by an additional 65 percent so as to support the high power requirements for equipment used in military and commercial applications. The subject zinc-air battery will provide the same energy and power of the incumbent battery (lithium-sulfur dioxide) for about half the weight and in a 60 percent smaller package. Approximately \$1,575,000, or 63 percent, is for labor; and \$925,000, or 37 percent, is for materials and other allowable indirect costs.

On average, a U.S. soldier consumes the equivalent of 1 AA battery per hour in combat, and an infantry platoon, for a 3-day mission, will require approximately 2,500 batteries, weighing a total of almost 400 lbs. Carrying this added weight induces fatigue and ultimately limits their effectiveness and ability to carry out their missions. Thus, with our heavily armed and battery-laden troops increasingly confronting light and irregular forces, issues of battery weight and equipment reliability are more important than ever. The total project cost is expected to be approximately \$14,000,000. Energizer will provide the balance of this funding and will continue to devote tens of millions of private R&D dollars to support the continued development of this technology for high power military and commercial applications.

BREAST CANCER

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2008

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Breast Cancer Patient Protection Act, and I am proud to be a cosponsor of this important bill. In New Jersey, 132 of every 100,000 of our mothers, daughters, and grandmothers were diagnosed with breast cancer between 2000 and 2004. It is difficult to find a person who doesn't know someone who is affected by it.

Despite the prevailing medical standard of two to four days to recuperate and gain physical and emotional strength after breast cancer surgeries, "drive-by mastectomies" increasingly have become the norm. Women have been regularly faced with being sent home from the hospital a few hours after surgery by HMOs that refuse to pay for longer stays.

This bill would guarantee a minimum hospital stay of 48 hours for a woman having a mastectomy, and 24 hours for a woman undergoing a lymph node removal. Importantly, this bill will ensure that any decision to have a shorter hospital stay will be made by the patient and her doctor—not an insurance company more concerned with the bottom line than the health of the patient.

Forcing women to leave the hospital too soon after surgery is dangerous and demeaning. This bill will provide breast cancer patients undergoing one of the most physically and emotionally traumatic experiences of their lives, the care and dignity they deserve. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill, and I hope the Senate acts quickly to get this bill to the President's desk.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE BUD CRAMER AND THE HONORABLE TERRY EVERETT ON THEIR RETIREMENT FROM CONGRESS

SPEECH OF

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I respectfully request to include the accompanying article in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to supplement my remarks which were entered during the Special Order in honor of two Members of the Alabama delegation who are retiring.

[From the Dothan Magazine, March/April 2008]

MAN OF THE HOUSE—CONGRESSMAN TERRY EVERETT, DOTHAN'S VOICE IN THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EARNED RESPECT FROM ALL SIDES AS AN HONORABLE LEGISLATOR DURING HIS SIXTEEN YEARS IN WASHINGTON, DC. NOW HE'S COMING HOME

(By Ann Varnum)

Congressman Terry Everett recently shared a laugh with the audience at a luncheon for the Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce. Back in 1992 when he started his campaign for Congress, the polls indicated that he only had four-percent name recognition throughout Southeast Alabama. That fact was made no less comforting by his lovely wife, Barbara, who was quick to point out that the poll had a plus or minus accuracy rating of four percent, so Terry's true name recognition actually fell within the margin of error.

Of course, that was sixteen years ago, and all of that has radically changed. Terry Everett has become one of the most respected congressmen on Capitol Hill. One of the reasons for this is his innate ability to reach across the aisle and make friends even though the opposite side most certainly had completely different viewpoints from his own. He has earned the greatest respect from Republicans and Democrats alike.

During his almost sixteen years in Congress to date, Representative Everett has been known as an honest legislator and true gentleman. Reading through transcripts of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Strategic Forces hearing from May of 2007, it is quite evident how much Congressman Everett is respected by his colleagues.

California Democrat Representative Ellen Tauscher, the chairwoman of the subcommittee, opened the legislative hearing by referring to Everett's prior service: "I'd like to begin by saying it has been an absolute pleasure crafting this mark with my friend, Mr. Everett . . . He has been both cooperative and straightforward. Thank you very sincerely, Mr. Everett."

In 2001, when Representative Joseph Moakley, a Democrat from Massachusetts, died, a special memorial was held in the House Chambers. Democrat Representative Richard Neal, also from Massachusetts, remarked that Moakley was ". . . an old school Democrat. But do you know who he liked to have dinner with? This is going to kill them in Alabama when they find this out, the voters down there—Sonny Callahan, Terry Everett—that was the group he assembled with after hours. He enjoyed their company socially and loved their stories about Alabama and how they had come to Washington."

There is no doubt that Everett had a gift of making friends out of even total political opponents. He never wavered from his ideals

and conservative viewpoint, but it never interfered with making friends.

Perhaps his outstanding record in Congress had been forged earlier by the many roles Everett played in other areas of achievement before launching his political career.

Terry Everett was born February 15, 1937, in Dothan but grew up in Midland City. After high school, Terry served in the U.S. Air Force as an intelligence analyst in Europe in 1955. After serving his country in the military, Everett returned to Dothan in 1959 to embark on the career that would dominate more than half of his life—journalism.

He began as a farm and police beat reporter and sports writer for *The Dothan Eagle*. He would later achieve success as editor, publisher and finally owner of a chain of hometown newspapers, which he sold in the late 1980's. Terry Everett's first elected position was not in public office, but rather as President and Chairman of the Board of the Alabama Press Association. While a local newspaper publisher, the Association of the U.S. Army (AUSA) at Fort Rucker twice nominated him for "Army Civilian of the Year." Yet many would say the greatest milestone was not related to journalism or politics.

On December 16, 1965, Terry Everett's life was about to take on a brand new dimension. A mutual friend, Jeanette Comstock, introduced Terry to a bright, energetic young woman named Barbara.

After the couple started dating, Barbara and her parents were surprised to learn that Terry had decided to leave his job at *The Dothan Eagle* and start his own newspaper business. Convinced he was making a huge mistake, Barbara admits that she was a little upset about his plans. "At that time," she says, "I didn't know Terry well enough to know that when he said he was going to do something, he already knew how he would do it." On October 18, 1969, the Everetts were married at Cloverdale Baptist Church in Dothan.

"Over the years, Terry has shocked me with several other total-change-of-life declarations, and for some reason, it has always been a surprise to me. I, at least, eventually learned to expect that he would be successful. He started the newspaper and I worked beside him, learning the newspaper business from scratch. During the long hours of work, I learned to trust, respect and eventually love this shy man of few words," says Barbara.

The two continued to work side by side until there was another event that again radically changed the direction of their lives.

Barbara explains, "One evening in early 1992, Terry and I were watching the six o'clock news when Congressman Bill Dickinson made the announcement that after holding Alabama's Second Congressional District seat in the U.S. House of Representatives for twenty-eight years, he was retiring. Afterwards, Terry turned the television off and looked at me and said, "I am going to run for Congress." Although I knew Terry was very knowledgeable about government, the history of politics, and current events from his years of newspaper experience, I had never heard him say he had any desire to run for office himself. Unfortunately, my first comment was, "Who will vote for you?"

Since both Terry and Barbara really were committed, first to each other, and second, to a deep love for our country, the first "Everett for Congress" campaign was begun. Terry's first political slogan was "Send a message not a politician!" Barbara believes it is still what he believes after all these years. It was late in the evening when Everett answered a phone call telling him all the votes were in and counted. Terry Everett

was declared the new Congressman for Congressional District Two.

Both Everetts admit that there are challenges and rewards every day for people involved in holding a public office. Barbara says with all the peaks and valleys, the rewards far outweigh the difficulties. Having the support of people from southeast Alabama who say they love and respect Terry Everett and that they are praying for him every day is truly appreciated.

In early 2000, Barbara was diagnosed with breast cancer. Because Terry wanted to be with her during her treatment, the couple decided to have her surgery at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore, Maryland, which was only forty-five minutes away from the Everett's home in Washington. In March of 2000, while undergoing all of her procedures, hundreds of cards, phone calls, letters and gifts poured in to support Congressman and Mrs. Everett. One obvious fact was that so much of the concern was expressed from the liberal side of the political spectrum, showing the positive impact the Everett's had on their colleagues in Congress.

When asked about her life with Terry Everett, Barbara confides, "From the day we met until today I don't think Terry has changed one bit. If he tells you something, he will keep his word. If you believe in something, he respects you for it whether he agrees or not. He is the personification of a true public servant and statesman. I hope that, more than anything else, this will be the legacy for which he will be remembered."

Four years ago this August, Terry Everett had a bad case of shingles. Because of this, the nerves in his foot have been severely damaged so that he has suffered difficulty in walking. Even though Everett admits he is in good health, traveling back and forth from D.C. is becoming more difficult for him since he has the problem with walking. After discussing it with his wife, Barbara, and his chief of staff Wade Heck, Everett made the decision not to seek re-election after his present term is completed.

Mrs. Everett insists that she did not persuade her husband one way or the other in his decision. She adds, "The last sixteen years have literally been a journey of joy, and we are so honored and humbled to have been given this opportunity. But Terry is wise enough to know that life is made up of change and the time has come for our lives to change once again on a new journey. I can't wait to see what comes next. The only thing I can say with certainty is life with Terry has never been boring."

The Everetts have lived in a beautiful new Southern farm home on 400 acres of farmland near Rehobeth since 2001. According to Barbara, there are still so many things that need to be done around the house. Now, maybe they will have more time to actually do all their special projects. Barbara Everett herself stays busy working as Chairman of Governor Bob Riley's Task Force to Strengthen Alabama Families. It has the goal of restructuring the present Health and Human Service System in Alabama in order to do the best possible job of providing real help to Alabama's families.

Joe Williams, Congressman Everett's staff member in the Dothan office, says, "Mrs. Everett is the Congressman's best kept secret, though her dedicated work on so many community issues over the years is hardly a secret anymore. Not only is Mrs. Everett a capable leader in many causes, but she is driven by a passion for those initiatives."

Both of the Everetts have genuine compassion, strength of character, willingness to give of themselves in the service of others and the ability to get things done in a timely fashion. For all of that, Alabama's citizens of District Two will be forever grateful.

Here are some of Congressman Everett's key accomplishments in office:

First Chairman of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Strategic Forces (currently the Ranking Republican member)

Authored the current federal peanut title in 2002 Farm Bill

Secured \$250 million for new Fort Rucker construction since 1993, including the landmark new Soldier Service Center, Soldier Barracks, Post Headquarters, Base Family Housing Renovation, and Warrior Hall Flight Simulator Facility

Advocated Creation of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Center of Excellence at Ft. Rucker and the funding for the U.S. Army Flight School XXI

Secured over \$40 million since 1993 for Dothan I-10 Connector project

Secured \$2.5 million in 2001 to modernize Dothan Regional Airport runway, taxiway, remove old terminal

Secured \$202,000 in federal funds in 2003 for Multi-Purpose Arena at National Peanut Festival Fairgrounds

Secured \$19.2 million in federal funding to rebuild the Elba and Geneva levees

Secured "Free Trade Zone" designations to reduce import-export costs for Dothan industrial areas, including the Sony plant.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2638, the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act of 2009.

Requesting Member: Congressman VERNON J. EHLERS.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Rdte,A Research, Development, Test And Evaluation, Army.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Grand Valley State University.

Address of Requesting Entity: 301 Michigan Street, NE, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 49503

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for the Midwest Traumatic Injury Rehabilitation Center at Grand Valley State University (GVSU) in fiscal year 2009. The funding for this project will help Grand Valley State University partner with Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital to develop a specialized educational curriculum, and an integrated model of total patient care in order to help those servicemembers and veterans who suffer from a traumatic brain injury and/or limb loss. This bill provides \$1,460,000 for this project. Out of this amount, GVSU plans to spend \$400,000 on the educational design, \$985,000 for twenty veterans in treatment, and \$75,000 for evaluation and continuous improvement. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman VERNON J. EHLERS.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Rdte,N Research, Development, Test And Evaluation, Navy.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: GE Aviation.

Address of Requesting Entity: 3290 Patterson Avenue, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49512

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for GE Aviation in fiscal year 2009 for the Micro-munitions Interface for Tactical Unmanned Systems (MITUS). The funding would be used to develop an interface between Unmanned Air Systems (UAS) and micro-munitions, which are defined as weapons weighing less than 100 pounds. Integration of micro-munitions onto UAS's requires a stores/weapons management interface that provides a safe and effective integration between the weapon and the unmanned system. This bill provides \$1,600,000 for this project. Out of this amount, GE Aviation plans to spend \$250,000 to complete the development of key technologies for the MITUS project to include: high-speed communication network, airborne weapon emulator, interface for micro-munitions, unmanned safety architecture, universal stores management system; \$200,000 to conduct lab demonstrations of these enabling technologies and validation of the SAE industry interface standard; \$400,000 for the integration of these capabilities into various unmanned systems leading up to a flight demonstration; and \$750,000 for flight demonstration in FY09/FY10 to test the interoperability of tactical unmanned systems integrating the MITUS technologies with various micro-munitions, which includes items necessary to support flight test including: Safety board reviews, range time, UAS operation, munitions and targets. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

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

Requesting Member: Congressman DUNCAN HUNTER.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

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

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: L-3 Communications, San Diego, CA; MBDA, Los Angeles, CA; Raytheon, Tucson, AZ; Boeing, St. Louis, MO.

Description of Request: The Affordable Weapons System (AWS) program is an advanced technology initiative to design, develop, and produce an affordable precision guided weapon. Phase II to begin September 2008 will study best material approach, conops and system architecture refinement, and a comprehensive risk assessment leading to a preferred system concept with a flyaway cost of less than \$250 thousand. The results from the Phase I and Phase II study will support the development of an ICD leading to a new start program in 2010 with a 2016 first article delivery. An additional \$11.2 million will support the Phase II contracts.

Requesting Member: Congressman DUNCAN HUNTER.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

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

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Torrey Pines Logic.

Address of Requesting Entity: 12651 High Bluff Drive; San Diego, CA.

Description of Request: The Navy's need for a secure non-RF alternative to radio communication is well known. The need arises from operational scenarios, such as Underway Replenishment, where vessels are unable to use radios due to RF jammers, EMCON conditions, the presence of IEDs, and the need for a secure communication system that has a low probability of interception and detection. \$400,000 to the IR LED Free Space Optics Communications Advancement program will allow the program to advance LightSpeed technology, which is a proven, tested and fielded technology based on IR LED Free Space Optics (FSO) concepts. The funding will enable the advancement of the technology's size, weight, power, distance and bandwidth for the Navy's use in Special Operations and general services communities.

Requesting Member: Congressman DUNCAN HUNTER.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Procurement, Defense-Wide.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: California National Guard.

Address of Requesting Entity: San Diego, CA.

Description of Request: The Southwest Border Fence supports the President's border security initiative and makes for more efficient and effective use of the National Guardsmen deployed in support of Operation Jump Start. \$1.6 million will continue work on the 14-mile Border Infrastructure near San Diego, CA.

Requesting Member: Congressman DUNCAN HUNTER.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

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

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Information Systems Laboratories.

Address of Requesting Entity: 10140 Barnes Canyon Road; San Diego, CA.

Description of Request: The Tactical E-Field Buoy program will develop an affordable ASW buoy that is capable of detecting challenging targets in acoustically difficult littoral environments and is compatible with existing Navy air-deployed systems. \$1.6 million in FY09 will fabricate and ocean test the performance of a cluster-type array of small E-sensors against a submarine target.

Requesting Member: Congressman DUNCAN HUNTER.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

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

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Allarmed Laboratories, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 7203 Convoy Court; San Diego, CA 92111.

Description of Request: The Leishmania Skin Test will provide a tool for military physicians to screen service personnel prior to and after deployment to endemic regions, prevent contamination of the blood supply by identifying persons who should not become donors, and identify and provide definitive care to service members infected with the parasite. \$800,000 in FY09 funding will plan and execute a phase III clinical trial.

Requesting Member: Congressman DUNCAN HUNTER.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

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

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Trex Enterprises.

Address of Requesting Entity: 7203 Convoy Court; San Diego, CA 92111.

Description of Request: An unacceptable number of aircraft accidents involving all category Army helicopters conducting combat operations in Afghanistan and Iraq have been caused by the brownout phenomenon. \$1.6 million will continue development & testing of the Brownout Situational Awareness Sensor, specifically, to increase operating range and field of view; harden modular components; and, integrate the system platform.

Requesting Member: Congressman DUNCAN HUNTER.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Other Procurement, Navy.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: IBM.

Address of Requesting Entity: 4600 La Jolla Village Drive #300; San Diego, CA.

Description of Request: SSC-SD has developed algorithms that are extremely complex and computationally intensive on the High Performance Computing (HPC) nodes in the laboratory environment. This classified project related to IED detection has been an ongoing use of the HPC laboratory capability and with \$800,000 in supplemental funding, ready to be turned into an operational capability.

Requesting Member: Congressman DUNCAN HUNTER.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

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

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: San Diego DEFComm.

Address of Requesting Entity: 1870 Cordell Court, Suite 208; El Cajon, CA 92020.

Description of Request: JIST-NET will provide the warfighter with an integrated and single pane-of-glass planning and situational awareness system for satellite communications (SATCOM) and network communications. \$800,000 will allow SATCOM to move forward and operationally field JIST-NET in next 6 to 9 months.

Requesting Member: Congressman DUNCAN HUNTER.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Other Procurement, Air Force.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Telos Corporation.

Address of Requesting Entity: 19886 Ashburn Road; Ashburn, VA.

Description of Request: \$1.6 million will provide a communication system to the 147th Combat Communications Squadron in San Diego, CA, to improve wartime readiness levels and provide for a robust capability during a potential disaster.

Requesting Member: Congressman DUNCAN HUNTER.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Research, Development, Test & Evaluation, Air Force.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: SpaceDev, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 13855 Stowe Drive; Poway, CA.

Description of Request: Hybrid Sounding Rocket will benefit the Nation's defense through the accomplishment of designing and fabricating a new propulsion design that provides safe and environmentally friendly launch services for small payloads. \$800,000 will complete flight article design, complete three heavy motor ground test firings, selection and

preparation of a suitable launch site, complete first flight article, and the demonstration flight.

Requesting Member: Congressman DUNCAN HUNTER.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

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

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: East County Economic Development Council.

Address of Requesting Entity: 1870 Cordell Court, Suite 202; El Cajon, CA.

Description of Request: The Connectory, a proven business-to-business database, lets DoD compare and analyze objectively capabilities across the industrial base to address warfighter requirements, particularly limited production items. \$400,000 will expand the number of California companies profiled.

Requesting Member: Congressman DUNCAN HUNTER.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

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

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: SYS Technologies.

Address of Requesting Entity: 5050 Murphy Canyon Road; San Diego, CA.

Description of Request: The System for Intelligent Task Assignment & Readiness (SITAR) will support accurate, predictive 21st century readiness models. \$800,000 will enhance the SITAR program.

Requesting Member: Congressman DUNCAN HUNTER.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

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

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Surface Optics Corporation.

Address of Requesting Entity: 11555 Rancho Bernardo Road; San Diego, CA.

Description of Request: \$2.4 million for the Real-Time Hyperspectral Targeting Sensor will be used to miniaturize a small, low cost Hyper Sensor integrated with GPS location data and real time processing capability.

Requesting Member: Congressman DUNCAN HUNTER.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Other Procurement, Navy.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Cubic Corporation.

Address of Requesting Entity: 9333 Balboa Avenue; San Diego, CA.

Description of Request: \$1.6 million would provide Communications Data Link Systems to Navy flagships.

Requesting Member: Congressman DUNCAN HUNTER.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

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

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Navy Health Research Center.

Address of Requesting Entity: San Diego, CA.

Description of Request: \$2.4 million will implement a clinical trial of this vaccine for prostate cancer patients at the Veterans Medical Center, La Jolla, CA.

SUPPORT TAIWAN'S REQUEST TO THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO PARTICIPATE MEANINGFULLY IN THE ACTIVITIES OF 16 UNITED NATIONS SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, October 10 marks the National Day of the Republic of China. Due to its democratic system, Taiwan has been able to flourish economically and socially as we have seen over the past decades. Taiwan is now one of the world's leading economic powers.

To help us celebrate all the accomplishments of our friends in Taiwan, I urge my colleagues to support Taiwan's latest request to the United Nations General Assembly to participate meaningfully in the activities of 16 United Nations specialized agencies. I know leaders in Taiwan have worked tirelessly for Taiwan's participation in the United Nations and Taiwan's international participation will certainly encourage cross-strait dialogue and lead to permanent peace in the Asia-Pacific region.

Madam Speaker, congratulations to the people of Taiwan, their president, Mr. Ma Ying-jeou, and their Washington representative: Ambassador Jason Yuan. Jason is an experienced diplomat and he will be an effective bridge between Taiwan and Washington.

RECOGNIZING COTTONWOOD INDUSTRIES AND THE ABILITYONE PROGRAM

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize a program which, in the last year, has helped more than 43,000 Americans who are blind or who have severe disabilities gain skills and training that ultimately led to gainful employment; The AbilityOne Program.

The AbilityOne Program, formerly known as the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Program, harnesses the purchasing power of the Federal Government to buy products and services from participating community-based nonprofit agencies that are dedicated to training and employing individuals with disabilities. This program affords Americans with disabilities the opportunity to acquire job skills and training, receive good wages and benefits, and gain greater independence and quality of life. This comes in a segment of the population that has suffered from significant unemployment. But programs such as AbilityOne have come a long way in helping to bring people with disabilities into working society.

I recently had the pleasure of visiting with a community partner in the AbilityOne program. Cottonwood Industries, located in Lawrence, KS, employed 53 people last year, manufacturing products utilized by the Department of Defense in the continued protection of our country. Beyond AbilityOne, Cottonwood fur-

ther employed another 185 individuals with disabilities in other community opportunities. Cottonwood offers a range of services beyond employment to Americans who are in need of assistance. Community agencies like Cottonwood are very important to those who directly utilize them, but also to society as a whole.

It is with great pleasure that I extend my support to the AbilityOne Program. I also want to commend the dedication and commitment of Sharon Spratt, Executive Director of Cottonwood Industries, and her staff, for helping individuals who are blind or have a disability find employment. Their work helps Kansans to live fuller lives and become more active members of society. I also commend each AbilityOne program employee who works every day to improve their lives and make our country a better place to live.

NATIONAL DAY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Republic of China on the occasion of Taiwan's National Day on October 10, 2008. On behalf of my constituents, I extend best wishes and warm greetings to Taiwan President Ma Ying-jeou and Taiwan Representative Jason Yuan.

I also extend a warm welcome to the Taiwanese to visit our Virgin Islands shores and I look forward to continued good relations between our two countries for many years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ABILITY ONE PROGRAM

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the AbilityOne Program for its success this past year in helping 43,000 blind and disabled Americans gain skills and training necessary to be successful in the workforce.

The AbilityOne Program provides much-needed employment opportunities by using the purchasing power of the Federal Government to buy products and services from participating community-based nonprofit agencies that are dedicated to training and employing individuals with disabilities. New Horizons Rehabilitation Services, Inc., a community partner in the AbilityOne program within my own district, stands as a shining example of why this program is a winning proposition for all parties involved.

This past year, New Horizons employed over 70 individuals with severe disabilities through AbilityOne contracts. With the help of AbilityOne and other programs, New Horizons supported over 2,500 individuals in the community.

The direct impact of these organizations on the lives of disabled Americans cannot be overstated. For an individual with a severe disability who has never had the opportunity to

hold a job, be independent, participate in the community, or play an important role in society; the AbilityOne program and organizations like New Horizons are invaluable.

Madam Speaker, I commend the efforts of the President and CEO of New Horizons Stan Gramke, his staff, and the AbilityOne Program for their dedication and commitment to helping blind and disabled citizens find employment, live fuller lives, and become active members of society. I would also like to commend every AbilityOne Program on a job well done.

TRIBUTE TO BILL FORD

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. McGOVERN. Madam Speaker, on June 1, 2008, a great man passed way—William Patrick Ford, human rights advocate and the brother of martyred Maryknoll Sister, Ita Ford.

I had the privilege of knowing Bill Ford for many, many years. I was honored to call him my friend, but he was also someone who I admired, respected, and looked to as a model of how a man should live his life. Like so many outside of Bill's family, I first came to know Bill because I became active in seeking to bring to justice those in El Salvador responsible for ordering and carrying out the murder of Bill's sister, Maryknoll Sister Ita Ford, and three other American churchwomen in December 1980. Bill was a very skilled lawyer, who worked for an important Wall Street law firm. But he lived his life humbly, fully, and with integrity. He understood in the marrow of his bones the meaning of compassion, justice and mercy.

Every year, Bill would faithfully travel to El Salvador to visit Ita's grave, sometimes alone, and more often in the company of other Ford family members or relatives of another of the murdered churchwomen. On one of those occasions when Bill was making his annual pilgrimage to his sister's grave when I happened to be in El Salvador on congressional work. I asked Bill if I could accompany him on his trip to the remote Chalatanango province where the gravesites of the four churchwomen are located. This was during the middle of the Salvadoran civil war, I might add. It was one of my most memorable days in El Salvador, and I will treasure the memory of our conversation during that long, often anxious, jeep ride.

In December 2005, I joined the families of Sisters Ita Ford, Maura Clark and Dorothy Kazel, and of lay missionary Jean Donovan at events throughout El Salvador commemorating the 25th anniversary of the churchwomen's deaths. Nearly 300 people from around the world came to El Salvador to take part in these reflections, and hundreds more Salvadorans participated. I was honored to walk in the footsteps and recall the lives and contributions of these four remarkable American women. And there, at the emotional center of it all, were the families, and for me, especially Bill and his wife, Mary Ann.

Madam Speaker, Bill passed away in his home, surrounded by his family—Mary Ann and their children William, John, Miriam, Ruth, Elizabeth and Rebecca, and their eight grandchildren. He will be missed, and he will always be remembered and cherished in our memories of him.

[From The New York Times, June 3, 2008]

WILLIAM P. FORD, 72, RIGHTS ADVOCATE, DIES

(By Dennis Hevesi)

William P. Ford, a former Wall Street lawyer who spent more than two decades seeking to bring high-ranking military officials to justice after his sister and three other American churchwomen were murdered in El Salvador's civil war in the 1980s, died on Sunday at his home in Montclair, N.J. He was 72.

The cause was esophageal cancer, his son William Ford III said.

Mr. Ford's efforts eventually led to a \$54.6 million liability ruling against two former Salvadoran generals in a 2002 civil trial in Florida, where the generals were living after being granted residence by the United States.

Although the ruling was not directly connected to the murders of Mr. Ford's sister and the other women, it resulted largely from his long and tenacious campaign. The federal court jury found José Guillermo García, El Salvador's former defense minister, and Carlos Eugenio Vides Casanova, its former National Guard commander, liable for lasting injuries suffered by three Salvadoran immigrants to the United States who were tortured under the generals' command. "We pursued the case, with Bill in the lead," Michael Posner, president of Human Rights First, said on Monday. "In an extraordinary way, he went beyond simply grieving the loss of his sister; he became a leading advocate for justice in El Salvador."

Mr. Ford had been an influential figure in the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights, which in 2004 became Human Rights First.

On the night of Dec. 2, 1980, shortly after the start of El Salvador's civil war, Mr. Ford's sister, Ita, a Maryknoll sister; another member of the same order, Maura Clarke; the Ursuline sister Dorothy Kazel; and a lay missionary, Jean Donovan, were abducted, raped and shot to death. The next day, peasants discovered their bodies beside an isolated road and buried them in a common grave. The van they had been driving when they were stopped at a military checkpoint turned up 20 miles away, burned and gutted.

The killings came as the United States was beginning a decade-long, \$7 billion aid effort to prevent left-wing guerrillas from coming to power in El Salvador, and the case quickly became the focus of a bitter policy debate about Central America.

"This particular act of barbarism," a 1993 State Department report said, "did more to inflame the debate over El Salvador in the United States than any other single incident."

In 1984, four national guardsmen were convicted of murder in El Salvador and were sentenced to 30 years in prison. After 17 years of silence, the guardsmen said they had acted after receiving "orders from above." Their admissions were made to a delegation from the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights, including Mr. Ford.

For years, Mr. Ford lobbied politicians and made speeches, charging that the Salvadoran government had failed to conduct even a rudimentary investigation into the murders. In 1981, he pressed his case with the American ambassador to El Salvador, Dean Hinton, and the Salvadoran president, José poleón Duarte.

Mr. Ford also criticized the Reagan administration. The government, he said, "is so obsessed with the East-West confrontation that they are willing to tolerate the murder of American citizens in El Salvador." The Salvadoran junta had killed more than 30,000 people, he said.

It was an unusual stance for a lawyer who had been on the staff of the New York law

firm where Richard M. Nixon and John Mitchell had worked before Mr. Nixon became president and Mr. Mitchell became the attorney general. A year after his sister's murder, Mr. Ford said he had been "radicalized" by American support for a government "which is no more than a group of gangsters in uniform."

William Patrick Ford was born in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, on April 28, 1936, the son of William and Mildred O'Beirne Ford. Besides his son William, Mr. Ford is survived by his wife of 47 years, the former Mary Anne Heyman; another son, John; four daughters, Miriam Ford, Ruth Ford, Elizabeth Ford and Rebecca Ford; a sister, Irene Coriaty; and eight grandchildren.

Mr. Ford graduated from Fordham University in 1960 and earned his law degree at St. John's University in 1966. He was a law clerk to a federal judge and later a founding partner of the law firm Ford Marrin Esposito Witmeyer & Gleser.

Litigating securities and product-liability cases took a back seat for Mr. Ford after that day in 1980. Of the American government, he said a year later, "You can't take seriously the inscription at the base of the Statue of Liberty if at the same time you are sending arms, ammunition, trucks and police equipment to a junta which is murdering its own citizens."

This article has been revised to reflect the following correction:

Correction: June 4, 2008.

Because of an editing error, an obituary on Tuesday about William P. Ford, who spent decades pursuing justice after his sister and three other American churchwomen were murdered in El Salvador, misidentified the religious order of one of the slain women, Dorothy Kazel. She was an Ursuline sister, not a Maryknoll sister.

WILLIAM PATRICK FORD OBITUARY— MARYKNOLL SISTERS, JUNE 3, 2008

Ford—William Patrick, (Bill) beloved husband of Mary Anne, devoted father of Miriam, Bill, Ruth, Elizabeth, Rebecca and John and adored grandfather of Samuel, Thomas and Carolina Marth, Billy, Maggie and Mary Ita Ford, Anna and Alex Esteverena, son of the late William Patrick Ford and Mildred O'Beirne Ford, brother of Irene Coriaty and of the late Ita Ford, Maryknoll missionary. He died in the arms of his family after a courageous 17 month battle with end-stage esophageal cancer. Born on April 28, 1936, he was a graduate of Brooklyn Prep, Fordham University (B.A. 1960) and St. John's University (LLB 1966). Bill married Mary Anne Heyman on Feb. 4, 1961, whose decision to marry him, he later said, made him "the luckiest man alive." He served in the U.S. Army from 1957–1958, and again in 1961. He was a clerk to Federal Court Judge Richard Levett, a founder and senior partner of Ford Marrin Esposito Witmeyer and Gleser, recipient of honorary doctorates from Fordham University, St. John's University, the College of St. Elizabeth and Niagara University and claimed his greatest successes as the births of his six children and eight grandchildren. Bill served as an Essex County Democratic Committeeman. An active member of St. Cassian Church in Upper Montclair, NJ, he was a founding trustee of the North Jersey Inter-Religious Task Force on Central America and a member of the Commission on Justice and Peace for the Archdiocese of Newark. After the December 2, 1980 murder in El Salvador of his sister Ita and her companions, Bill tenaciously sought to bring those directly responsible for the deaths of his sister and her three religious companions to justice. For over 22 years, Bill worked unceasingly to hold those in command positions responsible for the death of

his sister and so many Salvadoran victims. His efforts laid the groundwork for the eventual successful prosecution of two Salvadoran generals. His personal courage, integrity and undying love of family are the hallmarks of a life well lived. He will be forever remembered by the quiet kindnesses he did for so many. May his soul rest in peace. Visitation Tuesday, June 3 from 2-4 and 7-9 PM at the Hugh Moriarty Funeral Home, 76 Park Street, Montclair, NJ. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated Wednesday, June 4 at 10:30 AM at St. Cassian Church, 187 Bellevue Avenue, Upper Montclair, NJ. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Maryknoll Sisters, Box 39, Maryknoll, NY 10545 or Cristo Rey NY High School, 112 East 106 St. NY, NY 10029.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2638, the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance and Continuing Appropriations Act. I have requested \$2.4 million in the FY 09 Defense Appropriations bill, Research, Development, Test And Evaluation, Navy, account for Electronic Warfare Associates. The entity to receive funding for this project is Electronic Warfare Associates, 250 International Parkway, Suite 240, Lake Mary, Florida, 32746. The FY 2009 funding will develop the necessary software tools for coordinated mission planning and mission rehearsal, common training tools, and consistent concepts of operations and tactics to ensure Marines are fully integrated between air and ground and can seamlessly operate in any theater with any service or coalition partner.

Results from operations in Afghanistan and Iraq all point to the critical need to better fuse data and coordinate action between Marine Corps air and ground EW elements. The necessity for integrated action and the essential nature of coordinated and uniform application of EW assets has become a focal point for the Marine Corps. The plan to resolve this serious shortfall is known as MAGTF (Marine Air Ground Task Force) EW 2020.

The basic Marine Corps fighting organization is a MAGTF. A MAGTF is sized according to the mission and can vary from a battalion to an entire division. It is a complete fighting unit that includes all combat elements—air, ground, and support. Electronic warfare is integral. The EA-6B Prowler provides airborne EW while Radio Battalions provide ground EW via equipment such as CESAS (Communication Emitter Sensing and Attacking System). They are supported by various planning and processing capabilities, such as TEAMS (Tactical EA-6B Mission Planning System) and TERPES (Tactical Electronic Reconnaissance Processing and Evaluation System). Despite being integral to a MAGTF, the current coordinated and standardized training, tactics, procedures and integration of the air and ground USMC EW elements is rudimentary, as is coordination with Air Force and Navy EW units.

Pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the

following information for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2638, the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance and Continuing Appropriations Act. I have requested \$450,000 in the Homeland Security Appropriations bill FEMA Predisaster Mitigation Account for the retrofitting of Crescent City High School in Putnam County. The entity to receive this funding is Putnam County located at 410 St. Johns Ave., Palatka, FL 32177. These funds will be used to retrofit the high school to serve as an emergency shelter during a hurricane, and to provide the school with the necessary generator to ensure that the shelter has the needed power during and following a storm.

With Florida's unique tendency of experiencing frequent hurricanes, wildfires and other natural disasters, there is currently no way to sufficiently accommodate Northeast Florida residents who have lost, or are forced to evacuate, their homes. When these catastrophes occur, emergency management services are forced to create temporary means to house, feed and provide the basic necessities of life for those who have been rendered helpless. The local high school in Crescent City is used as a shelter but is not a certified hurricane shelter. The only way to evacuate the area northbound is over a bridge on U.S. Hwy 17 that the FDOT closes when winds exceed 40 mph. As a result many of the most vulnerable people who live in mobile homes are stranded. In 2008 Putnam County was rated by the State of Florida to have a shelter deficit.

Pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2638, the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance and Continuing Appropriations Act. I have requested \$300,000 in the Homeland Security Appropriations bill FEMA State and local Programs Account for the town of Pomona Park Emergency Operations Center. The entity to receive this funding is the Town of Pomona Park located at 109 Worcester Street, Pomona Park, FL 32181-0001.

The funds for this project will be used to expand the current fire station which serves as the Emergency Operations Center in Pomona Park in order to make room for new equipment and provide room for emergency service coordination during a severe storm.

Pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2638, the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance and Continuing Appropriations Act. I have requested \$800,000 for the Mobile Medic Training Program which I requested be included in the FY 09 Defense Appropriations bill, Research, Development, Test And Evaluation, Army, account for Engineering and Computer Simulations. The entity to receive funding for this project is Engineering and Computer Simulations, 7770 S. Hwy. U.S. 1 Suite H, Bunnell, FL 32110. The funds appropriated in this bill will be used entirely for the research and development of a training simulation tool that will enhance the overall effectiveness of combat medical training by providing realistic casualty information through the utilization of a hand held PDA.

The Mobile Medic Training Program, through the utilization of a hand held PDA, will

provide realistic casualty information that allows the combat medic to practice medical treatments, thus bridging the gap between virtual and live environments.

This training simulation tool will enhance the overall effectiveness of combat medical training by providing realistic casualty information through the utilization of a hand held PDA. Currently, mobile computing technology, in the form of a hand held PDA that offers advice on diagnosis and treatment, provides medical reference material and tracks soldier treatment, is being used by combat medics. The Mobile Medic Training Program, through the utilization of a hand held PDA, will provide realistic casualty information that allows the combat medic to practice medical treatments, thus bridging the gap between virtual and live environments.

Pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2638, the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance and Continuing Appropriations Act. I have requested \$4.8 million for the Gateway System in the FY 09 Defense Appropriations bill, Navy Procurement account for the Gateway System manufactured by Ocean Design, Inc., located at 1026 North Williamson Boulevard in Daytona Beach, Florida 32114. The funding would be used for the Navy's procurement of the Gateway System.

This project benefits the constituents in my district. This system has been developed for the Navy to provide a "system of systems" approach to seeing and sensing the ocean floor, subsurface and surface of the littorals. The Gateway System is a fiber and electrical cable interconnect system that provides any number of electro-optical inputs and outputs to static or dynamic subsea assets such as acoustical sensors, detection sensors, video cameras and power docking stations. The Gateway acts as a hub for information and/or power centric activity in the underwater battle space and acts as an underwater networking tool that allows different units to communicate and share information. The system will be instrumental in enhancing maritime domain awareness and securing maritime approaches.

TRIBUTE TO RONALD McCLAIN,
GEORGE BINNO AND FRED GOLDA

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. LEVIN. Madam Speaker, on Friday, September 26, 2008, the Sterling Heights' Firefighters Union will host their Annual Dinner-Dance, honoring their 2008 retirees. This yearly event honors Sterling Heights firefighters for their dedication to protecting the public and recognizes their commitment to the community in which they serve. I am pleased to be associated with this fine organization and this wonderful evening when so many friends gather.

I rise today to pay tribute to the careers of three retiring firefighters.

Ronald McClain became a Sterling Heights firefighter on May 21, 1979. In May of the following year, he successfully completed the Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) curriculum, becoming one of the department's

first paramedics. On June 24, 1986, he was assigned to acting sergeant position and maintained that post through June 21, 1988. Ronald McClain received several other promotions throughout his career, including promotion to Firefighter on April 18, 1992, Lieutenant on July 5, 1994, Fire Captain on July 31, 1998, Battalion Chief on July 1, 2002 and Chief of Operations on October 21, 2003. In addition to these promotions, he also received the Outstanding Firefighter of the Year Award in 1991 and the Fire Chief's Award in March of 2002. Ronald McClain retired from the Sterling Heights Fire Department on February 29th of this year after nearly 29 years of dedicated service. He has continued his public service by becoming the chief of the South Lyon Fire Department.

George Binno became a Sterling Heights firefighter on January 9, 1978. In 1982 he became certified as an Emergency Medical Technician. In July of 1989, he was named Sterling Heights Fire Department's Employee of the Month. Throughout his career, George Binno was promoted three times: Fire Lieutenant on June 21, 1994, Fire Captain on August 16, 1997, and Battalion Chief on January 18, 2001. He received the Fire Chief's Award for his involvement in the implementation of the ICS and Radio Committee, and received the 5-Year Safe Driver Award in 2003. George Binno retired on February 29th of this year after 30 years of dedicated service.

Fred Golda became a Sterling Heights firefighter on September 5, 1989. Over the years he was an ardent participant in the fire department's Open House. He also assisted with facilitating and coordinating the department's Civilian Fire Academy. Fred Golda received the Fire Chief's Award four times for letters extolling above and beyond responses to several incidents. Throughout his career, Fred Golda was promoted several times: Fire Sergeant on July 27, 2002, Lieutenant on November 10, 2003, and Fire Inspector on January 21, 2005. He was honored with the 5-Year Safe Driver Award and the Meritorious Unit Citation for quick actions in the extrication of a DPW worker from a trench in November of 2003. Fred Golda retired on September 4th of this year after 19 years of dedicated service.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing these three heroes who have dedicated their lives to serving the public with valor, commitment, and honor.

HONORING REVEREND JAMES
EDWARD WALKER, JR.

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Reverend James Edward Walker, Jr., for 35 years as the pastor of Faith Gospel Temple Church of God in Christ. Reverend Walker will be honored at a dinner on September 27th in my hometown of Flint, MI.

Reverend Walker was called to the ministry in July 1972. He was installed as the pastor of Faith Gospel Temple Church of God in Christ the following January. For the past 33 years he served under Bishop P.A. Brooks in the Northwest Michigan Diocese, and Reverend

Walker was elevated to Superintendent in the Church of God in Christ in 1984. In this capacity, he oversees 3 churches in Flint and Saginaw.

Two passages of Scripture embody Reverend Walker's ministry, Hebrews 13:2 "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unaware" and Luke 6:35 ". . . do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again." In his work with Flint Community Schools, the homeless, persons in need, the hungry and persons facing life crises, Reverend Walker strives to help everyone with both temporal and spiritual assistance.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Reverend James Walker, Jr., for 35 years of spreading the joy of Our Lord Jesus Christ to the distressed and needy. May he continue his ministry for many, many years to come.

INTRODUCTION TO LEGISLATION
TO CREATE AN INDEPENDENT
CENSUS AGENCY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing a bill with my colleagues Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. CLAY, Mr. HONDA, and Mr. WAXMAN to establish an independent Census agency. It is indispensable to the basic principles of democratic representation that the decennial census is seen by the American public to be completely independent and nonpartisan. Elevating the Census Bureau to the status of an independent agency is a powerful statement to the American people and their leaders that the decennial census and the other critical surveys conducted by the Census Bureau are protected, and that our Government will summon the best demographers, statisticians, scientists and managers we can find to lead this vital agency.

HONORING FREDRICKA D. WANZA
ON HER, 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor and congratulate a dear constituent of mine, Ms. Fredericka D. Wanza on her 90th birthday. As members of my community gather to celebrate Ms. Wanza, I take this opportunity to convey to her warm wishes on this milestone occasion.

Fredericka D. Wanza was born on September 28, 1918 to Fredrick Dean and Gladys Ward-Dean in Overtown-Miami, Florida.

Her parents died when Fredericka was a very young girl and she and her five sisters were cared for by her Grandmother and then her Aunt and Uncle in Miami and Ocala, Florida.

Fredericka D. Wanza married James Willie Wanza, former Northwestern Sr. High School Coach, approximately 35 years ago and out of this union, a daughter Theta Wanza Shipp and James Willie Wanza II were born. Today,

Fredericka Wanza has 5 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

Fredericka Wanza was educated in Miami-Dade County Public Schools and matriculated from Florida A&M College in Tallahassee, Florida.

Fredericka Wanza was the first African American visiting teacher for Miami-Dade County Public Schools, she retired in 1975. From 1976-1982 she managed her own real estate company; servicing Miami-Dade, Broward and Leon counties. In 1982 she opened her own day care center in Miami Gardens, Florida.

Fredericka D. Wanza is the Founder and Director of Wanza and Braxton Day Care Center, where she dotes on the young children and instills good behavior all while preparing them for primary school.

Fredericka D. Wanza is a life-long member of St. Agnes Episcopal Church and a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated.

The 17th Congressional District of Florida is blessed to have a leader and role model like Fredericka D. Wanza.

CELEBRATING 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF AGUDATH ACHIM, OF ALTOONA PENNSYLVANIA

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct privilege to rise today to congratulate and celebrate the congregation of Agudath Achim of Altoona, Pennsylvania, on their 125th anniversary. Agudath Achim which translates to "a union of brothers and sisters" began its long and rich history in 1883 when its members began meeting in the homes of their neighbors and fellow worshipers.

It was through this humble beginning that the men and women of Agudath Achim were able to pool their resources, their faith and their effort into the construction of their first wooden synagogue in 1895. This wooden Shule sat on the site of the congregation's second synagogue which dates back to 1925 and has served as the congregation's home ever since.

The contribution made by the Jewish people to Pennsylvania and our national heritage cannot be understated. In 1746 the first man to explore what is now Blair County and the home to Agudath Achim was a Jew named Colonel Conrad Weiser. He was followed in 1754 by Stephen Franks, founder of Frankstown, Pennsylvania. In 1778 General Daniel Roberdeau, a Jew from York, Pennsylvania and a member of the Continental Congress became aware of the presence of lead mines in central Pennsylvania. At his own expense, General Roberdeau traveled to our region and built a fort in what would one day become Altoona to begin mining and processing much-needed lead ammunition to General Washington's troops at Valley Forge.

These early pioneers were part of a larger group of hardworking and devout Jews that helped lay the foundation for the Pennsylvania we know and love today. The men and women of Agudath Achim carry with them this heritage and they have given tirelessly and

unflinchingly of their energy, time and finances to enrich and improve their community.

The congregation of Agudath Achim is an extended family who shares in the celebrations, joys and sorrows life brings. The Agudath Achim membership is proud of their heritage and with God's help will grow in strength and continue to be an inspiring factor in the lives of its membership and to the larger community of Blair County and the city of Altoona.

Over the past 125 years, the members of Agudath Achim and Jews throughout the world have born witness to immense transformations of their people. They have endured the horrors of intolerance and inhumanity brought on by the Holocaust. They have been uplifted by the formation of the State of Israel and they have seen their community flourish through Jewish immigration from post-war Europe. Through it all, the congregation of Agudath Achim endured and provided a stable foundation on which to grow.

The fact that we are able to commemorate Agudath Achim's 125th anniversary is a testament to the character of its members and the congregation's success is a testament to all of the men, women, and children who have made the Agudath Achim Synagogue the paramount focus of their lives. I would like to congratulate Hazzan G. Michael Horwitz, Dr. Elliott Bilofsky, Joel H. Hollander and the synagogue's past presidents of both the Synagogue Boards and the Sisterhood and all of their past and present members who have guided Agudath Achim's destiny over the past 125 years. I have no doubt that the members of Agudath Achim will continue their path of excellence as they begin to write the next chapter of their history.

NATIONAL BIBLE WEEK
STATEMENT

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. AKIN. Madam Speaker, it was my great pleasure to serve this year as the Congressional Co-chair for the House of Representatives for National Bible Week, November 23 through November 30, 2008.

The Bible was foundational to the development of our country. The English Puritans came to the New World to follow the Bible according to the convictions of their own consciences. Of the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence, 24 had what today would be considered Bible college or seminary educations. Only a few years later, in 1782, Congress itself authorized the printing of the Bible.

The Bible has found its way into everything from casual conversation—expressions like “by the sweat of your brow” and “the salt of the earth” and myriad others all come from Scripture—to the landscape of America. From Corinth, Maine to Bethel, Alaska, the Bible has marked our national map.

More than any map, however, the Bible has marked who we are as a people. Earlier generations of Americans almost inhaled the words of Scripture as they inhaled the air. To read the inaugural addresses of our Presidents, from George Washington to George W. Bush, is to read repeated allusions to or quotations of biblical texts.

The Bible speaks to the uniqueness of man—that we are all made in the image and likeness of God. It speaks of the greatness of God—that He is the object of true worship, the fount of all blessings, and the Redeemer, Law-giver, Friend, Savior and Judge.

Historically, we have been a people of the Book. We lose our allegiance to and our reliance on the Bible to our grave peril.

The Bible can be hard to understand. Yet as the theologian R.C. Sproul has written, “We fail in our duty to study God's Word not so much because it is difficult to understand, not so much because it is dull and boring, but because it is work.”

And it is worthwhile work. There can be nothing nobler than seeking not only to know the Bible's teachings but also to know the Bible's God.

It was President Lincoln who said, “I believe the Bible is the best gift God has ever given to man. All the good from the Savior of the world is communicated to us through this book.” Or, as Jesus Himself remarked, “Search the Scriptures . . . for they testify of Me.”

Today, Madam Speaker, I echo Abraham Lincoln's comments and urge my colleagues and all Americans to reacquire themselves with the Bible. As literature, it is unmatched. As philosophy, it is unparalleled. And as truth, it will make you free.

I commend the National Bible Association for its outstanding work to bring the Bible to the attention of all Americans of every faith and creed. And I am humbled by the opportunity to serve in such a way as to draw attention to this most precious of books.

HONORING JEANNE ANN
WHITMIRE FOR HER ADVOCACY
OF ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE
ISSUES

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I would like to honor Jeanne Ann Whitmire for her commitment and dedication to Arkansas children. Jeanne Ann, an attorney in the Office of Chief Counsel for the Arkansas Department of Human Services in Van Buren, has placed hundreds of children in both foster care and adoptive homes throughout the Third District of Arkansas.

She has an outstanding record of fighting for adoption and foster care issues. Not only is she proactive in placing children in loving homes, but she practices what she advocates, sharing her love with an adopted daughter.

Jeanne Ann's efforts were nationally recognized by the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute through its program Angels in Adoption, which honors the good work of the American people who have enriched the lives of foster children and orphans in the United States and abroad.

I thank Jeanne Ann for the unselfish work she does on behalf of children. Jeanne Ann is a true hero and a champion for Arkansas children, showing them there are people who care and finding them a place they can call home.

HONORING DR. SURESH ANNÉ

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Suresh Anné. Dr. Anné is the President of the Genesee County Medical Society. He will be honored at the Genesee County Medical Society and Genesee County Medical Society Alliances Presidents' Ball on November 1st in Flint, MI.

After graduating from the Andhra Medical College in Andhra Pradesh, India, Dr. Anné practiced medicine in India. He was the Resident Medical Officer for a construction company in Amman, Jordan before coming to the United States. After completing a residency in Internal Medicine at Hurley Medical Center and a fellowship in Allergy/Immunology at the State University of New York, Dr. Anné returned to Flint and established a practice in the Flint area. He belongs to numerous professional associations and has received many awards for clinical research. Dr. Anné is currently involved in a treatment study for hereditary angioedema.

In addition to his practice, Dr. Anné is an open consultant at the Genesee County Free Medical Clinic, sees patients at the five hospitals in the Flint and surrounding areas, and teaches at the NRI Academy of Sciences Medical School and Hospital in Andhra Pradesh. He also cofounder of “Medical Office Management Systems, Inc.” a company dedicated to helping physicians manage the business and patient sides of their practices. Dr. Anné is also enthusiastic about cricket, and during 2006 helped to create the first cricket grounds in the Flint area. Married 25 years to Dr. Aruna Anné, the couple have a daughter, Lajari.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the work and life of Dr. Suresh Anné. His dedication to the field of medicine is to be commended, and I wish him continued success for many years to come.

HONORING ZAKA SEARCH AND
RESCUE

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an Israeli organization that has dedicated itself to assisting the victims of terrorist attacks and other life-threatening situations, and making sure that those who pay the ultimate price receive a proper Jewish burial. ZAKA Search and Rescue is an organization of 1,500 volunteers who live and work throughout the State of Israel. At a moment's notice, they are prepared to drop everything and rush to the scene of a traffic accident or terrorist incident. Wearing their trademark yellow vests and weaving through traffic jams on motor scooters, ZAKA volunteers are often the first to arrive on the scene. They provide first aid to victims until emergency medical personnel arrive on the scene. When an incident results in fatalities, ZAKA volunteers perform the grim but necessary work of collecting and

preserving victims' remains so they can be buried according to Jewish law, and helping family members cope with the tragedy.

ZAKA volunteers are widely recognized and respected throughout Israel for their devotion to the difficult duties they perform. During 2007, they participated in more than 18,000 life-saving or search-and-rescue incidents. More than 2,000 times they were involved in activities to honor the dead after fatal accidents or attacks. Because of their professionalism, they have forged close working relationships with police and other emergency responders.

ZAKA has also expanded its work to respond to accidents and catastrophes around the world. They helped identify Jewish victims of the deadly Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami in 2004 in Thailand, Sri Lanka, India, and Indonesia. They helped return the remains of victims of plane crashes in Russia and Namibia. They helped save 2,000-year-old Jewish catacombs in Italy. And they helped rescue and preserve sacred Jewish Torahs in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina.

I had the privilege of speaking at a lunch last week here in Washington honoring ZAKA and its founder, Yehuda Meshi Zahav. ZAKA's motto is "Saving those who can be saved, and honoring those who cannot." They live up to this motto every day. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this great organization, and to the many volunteers who give selflessly of their time to help those in need in Israel and around the world.

TRIBUTE TO GAYLE O. AVERYT

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a tremendous business and civic leader and a great friend. Mr. Gayle Averyt is being honored on October 1st for accomplishing an extraordinary feat—50 years of service to the same employer—Colonial Life & Accident Insurance Company.

After earning a bachelor's degree from Davidson College and an MBA from Harvard Business School, Gayle joined the staff of Colonial in 1958 at the age of 25. He rose through the ranks at Colonial, proving himself a very capable and collegial businessman. By 1970, he became Chairman of the Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer at a youthful 37 years of age. He held those positions for 23 years, until assuming the title of Chairman Emeritus of Colonial Life in 1993. That was the same year Colonial merged with UNUM Corporation of Portland, Maine, and he served on UNUM Corporation's Board of Directors from 1993–1999.

Gayle is a former member of the Board of Directors of the Health Insurance Association of America and served as Secretary of the South Carolina Insurance Commission. He also served on the Board of NationsBank, a board member of the National Association (Carolinas) from 1992–1995 and as a member of the Board of Directors of the South Carolina Ports Authority from 1995–1999.

Despite his hectic career, Gayle believed in his community and sought opportunities to

give back. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the Foundation for Columbia's Future and is a former member of the Executive Committee (1979–1995) and Vice President (1988–1995) of the South Carolina State Fair Association. He has been a trustee of the University of South Carolina Business Partnership Foundation and is past president of the University of South Carolina Research and Development Foundation, having served as a Trustee of the Foundation from 1980–1991. He is past president of the University of South Carolina Orchestra Association and served on the board of the Cultural Council of Richland and Lexington Counties.

Gayle has been awarded numerous recognitions. In 1989, the South Carolina State Chamber of Commerce recognized him as South Carolina Businessman of the Year. The University of South Carolina awarded him the honorary degree of Doctor of Public Service that same year. He received Distinguished Service Awards from USC and from the Moore School of Business at USC in 1993 and 2006 respectively. In 1994, he received the Order of the Palmetto, which is the highest civic honor awarded by the Governor to individual citizens for outstanding service to the state. Four years later, he was inducted into the South Carolina Business Hall of Fame.

While Gayle has been a lifelong Republican who has been very active in numerous political campaigns, he has been a very ardent support of me and my political efforts. I am proud to call him a dear friend.

Gayle is married to the former Margaret "Peg" Finlay, and the two have three daughters, Caroline, Margaret, and Elinor. They are very active members of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Columbia.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating Gayle Averyt for a remarkable career at Colonial Life & Accident and a lifetime of dedication to his community. He is a man of honor and integrity. I applaud his many contributions, and extend my best wishes and Godspeed on this tremendous occasion.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE PASSING OF STAFF SERGEANT DARRIS JULIUS DAWSON UNITED STATES ARMY

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I rise today to honor the sacrifice of Staff Sergeant Darris Julius Dawson. On September 14, 2008, while serving his third tour in Iraq, Staff Sergeant Dawson was killed in the line of duty in Tunnis, Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Staff Sergeant Dawson joined the United States Army shortly after graduating from Escambia High School in Pensacola, Florida. Darris re-enlisted twice and was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division out of Fort Stewart, Georgia.

Madam Speaker, the Northwest Florida community is proud of his service, and we offer our sincere condolences to his wife, four

children, family and friends as they mourn their loss of this fine man. On behalf of the United States Congress and a grateful Nation, I am humbled to recognize his dedication and love for our country. May God continue to bless Darris and all of the men and women in uniform who protect our freedom, and may God continue to bless America.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND HARD WORK OF EDWARD JOHNSON

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Edward Johnson, Arkansas' 2008 Outstanding Older Worker of the Year.

His commitment and dedication to establishing employment opportunities for Americans who are beyond the traditional retirement age has helped play a vital role in Arkansas' economy.

There is no one more deserving of this recognition. Mr. Johnson loves to see the excitement on a veteran's face when he or she gets a good job.

He continues to lead a life of service he started when he joined the Army in 1948. Serving tours in Japan, Korea, Panama, and Vietnam and earning numerous medals he hasn't retired from helping his neighbors.

Following his military career, Mr. Johnson became the Workforce Services Veterans representative for areas in the third district, a position he has held for 30 years.

Married to his lovely wife, Louise, he has taught the importance of being involved in the community to three children and seven grandchildren.

Mr. Johnson remains active with the chamber of commerce and he enjoys the company of his family and friends.

I congratulate Mr. Johnson and thank him for his service.

CELEBRATING OXI DAY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to join Hellenic-Americans and Philhellenes everywhere to celebrate "OXI Day (No Day)," which falls on the 28th of October. This year marks the 68th anniversary of a very important day in Hellenic history, the day on which brave Greek patriots said "No" to fascism, "No" to injustice, and "No" to slavery. For those individuals who lived through that momentous period and their descendants, many of whom live in the 14th Congressional District of New York, "OXI Day" is more than a memory: it is the embodiment of Hellenism and its highest ideals.

At dawn on October 28, 1940, General Ionnas Metaxas was confronted with an ultimatum. An Italian ambassador delivered a message directly from General Mussolini demanding that Greece allow Axis forces to enter Greek territory and occupy certain unspecified "strategic locations" or face war.

General Metaxas simply replied "No" and committed the brave people of Greece to resistance against Axis oppression. With level-headed determination and steadfast resolve, the citizenry of Greece mobilized. Men went calmly to their closets and retrieved their military uniforms and weapons. Women went about their necessary tasks, and the children assisted as they were able.

On OXI Day, the people of Greece chose the harder path, the path of resistance. That brave generation of Hellenes refused to submit to oppression even at the cost of their homes, their land, and their lives. Theirs was an act of self-sacrifice that clearly proclaimed the humanitarian ideals of their Orthodox Christian faith and their ethnic heritage. The Greeks' brave defense of their land was a crucial turning point in the Axis eastern advances. Dogged resistance by Greek patriots weakened Axis morale and derailed the Nazi war effort by delaying the eventual attack on Soviet Union. The Greeks' sacrifice will forever be remembered and honored by the free nations of the world.

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting the heroes of OXI Day. In their brave words and deeds we see all of the highest virtues of Hellenic heritage: passion for justice, courage at a time of trial, unity in the midst of conflict, and willingness to sacrifice one's life for the good of others. On this day, we thank Greece for saying "OXI."

HONORING THE NEW DOVE CHOCOLATE CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, I stand today to commend the opening of the new Dove Chocolate Center for Excellence in Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania on Monday, September 29th. On the 29th, I will join Dove in celebrating the completion of a \$70 million factory expansion. The expansion not only represents an investment in Mars production capacity, but represents a \$70 million investment in the Elizabethtown community as well.

Mars Snackfood US has a history in Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania, dating back to 1970 when Mars, Incorporated purchased the Klein Chocolate Company. In order to keep up with production demand, their facility, which was originally built in 1915, has been renovated and expanded several times since the purchase in 1970. Today, the Elizabethtown plant is the center of the Mars Snackfood US chocolate making world, roasting and grinding the cocoa beans used in the company's various snack products.

Mars currently employs more than 300 people at the Elizabethtown plant, and the expansion will retain current jobs and add more than 30 new jobs as well. As a part of the financial commitment to the expansion, in November 2007 Mars showed its ongoing commitment to the Elizabethtown community by contributing \$125,000 to the borough to be used for mitigating traffic concerns during the expansion project.

I want to congratulate Mars on the completion of a successful expansion project and praise their commitment to American jobs by

maintaining and indeed expanding production here in Pennsylvania, to the benefit of the Elizabethtown community. It is important that we recognize firms like Mars for their investment in the communities in which they operate. At a time when many jobs are being sent overseas, I commend Mars for creating expanding opportunities for employment right here in Pennsylvania's 16th Congressional District.

TAIWAN NATIONAL DAY

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. ROYCE. Madam Speaker, I wish to recognize the Republic of China's National Day, which is October 10th.

Madam Speaker, Taiwan and the U.S. have a long and valued partnership. For over half a century, a close relationship has existed between the United States and Taiwan, which has been of significant political, economic, and cultural advantage to both countries. Taiwan is one of the few vibrant democracies in the region, and its citizens enjoy all of the civil liberties found in the United States and Europe. Freedom House, in its ratings of freedom, consistently rate the people of Taiwan to be among the freest in Asia.

As a member of the Congressional Caucus on Taiwan, it gives me great pleasure to witness the impressive democratic and economic transformations that Taiwan has undergone. Mr. Ma Ying-jeou was elected president of Taiwan in March of this year and took office in May. The transfer of power from the Democratic Progressive Party to the Nationalist Party was smooth and peaceful. President Ma stresses economic competitiveness for Taiwan, strong bilateral relations with the United States, and gradual improvement of cross-strait relations.

Again, I extend my congratulations to the people of Taiwan on their National Day.

HONORING THE SOUTHFIELD VETERANS COMMISSION AND SOUTHFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. LEVIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Southfield Veterans Commission and Southfield Public Library for their outstanding participation in the Veterans History Project of the Library of Congress.

The Library of Congress Veterans History Project collects and archives the personal recollections of U.S. wartime veterans, to honor their service and to share their stories with current and future generations.

The Southfield Veterans Commission and Southfield Public Library have worked together to ensure that veterans from the city of Southfield and surrounding communities have their stories included in and honored by the project. Their efforts have become a model for other organizations and communities.

Under the leadership of chairman Dan Brightwell, the commission has collected the

histories of over 70 local veterans. Each week, members of the commission volunteer their own time and skills to interview and record the stories of each veteran and prepare the histories to be archived at the Library of Congress.

These interviews have preserved extraordinary stories of individual service and important moments in our Nation's history. They include the first-hand accounts of a young man at Pearl Harbor on the morning of December 7, 1941; a 21-year-old Army nurse lieutenant treating the wounded on Fiji islands; a Marine fighting on the island of Peililu and Guadalcanal; a Tuskegee Airman shot down over Germany and captured as a prisoner of war; a 19-year-old Army private storming Normandy beach, and veterans from the most horrific battles of the Vietnam conflict.

The Southfield Public Library was named as a Partner Archive to serve as a local repository for Veterans History Project interviews. The library provides space each week for the collection of veterans' histories and has created an online archive where residents can easily view and enjoy local veterans' stories.

This Veterans Day, November 11, 2008, I am proud to recognize the Southfield Veterans Commission, the Southfield Public Library, and the local veterans who have contributed their stories to the Veterans History Project at a special event, "Honoring Southfield's Veterans," at the Southfield Public Library. This special celebration brings together the Southfield community to honor local veterans for their service to their fellow citizens and country and the work of the local volunteers to preserve their stories so that future generations can learn from their service and sacrifice.

RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL DAY OF TAIWAN

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise to extend my warmest wishes to the Taiwanese people in anticipation of the celebration of their National Day on October 10, 2008.

For nearly 30 years, the U.S. and Taiwan have shared an official commitment of friendship and cooperation. Not only is the bond between our peoples very strong, but the framework established by the 1979 Taiwan Relations Act continues to provide a solid foundation for the close relations between our two countries. Our ties have been particularly strengthened by the Taiwanese-American community, which has made pivotal contributions to American social, economic, and political life.

When I recently visited Taiwan, I met with newly elected President Ma Ying-jeou and learned about the great development in his country. I witnessed first-hand the success of Taiwan's robust democracy and vibrant economy. This year, Taiwan has risen to become the U.S.'s ninth largest trading partner. Through the maintenance of strong dialogue and collaboration, our nations will surely continue to benefit from the mutual advantages we offer one another.

Taiwan also plays a critical role in the shared goal of maintaining peace and stability

in the Asia-Pacific region. Today, Taiwan's relations with the People's Republic of China have expanded—particularly through direct flights and expanded tourism and investment. Moreover, the Taiwanese economy continues to see steady rises in its Gross Domestic Product, GDP, trade surplus, and foreign reserves that show the benefits of embracing democracy and a market-based economic system.

As we approach Taiwan's National Day, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Taiwan for its friendship and wishing the Taiwanese people continued prosperity and success.

HONORING ALVINA ELIZABETH
SCHWAB PETTIGREW

HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH SANDLIN

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to take this opportunity to honor the service of Alvina Elizabeth Schwab Pettigrew as a member of the Women Accepted for Voluntary Emergency Service, WAVES, during World War II.

Born on a farm in Mina, South Dakota, Pettigrew is a true American hero who greatly contributed in the effort to end the war. In October of 1942, Pettigrew joined more than 600 women from across the United States and enlisted in the WAVES.

The WAVES reported to the Naval Communications Annex in Washington DC at the height of World War II. They were given the top secret operation of cracking the Germans' complex codes that were used to radio instructions from German headquarters to the submarines that were sinking United States ships. This operation was so secretive that the women were warned that they could be shot for treason if they ever revealed their activities. Pettigrew and her fellow WAVES saved the lives of countless sailors by working around the clock to decipher German code until the end of World War II.

To honor the WAVES' service to the United States of America, the Cathedral Heights neighborhood of Washington, DC will include, as part of a public arts project to restore turn-of-the-century "call boxes," Pettigrew's portrait and a description of the WAVES' secret operation that was conducted less than 200 yards away in the Navy Annex. It will be an everlasting tribute to their effort to end the war.

Our Nation and the State of South Dakota are far better places because of Pettigrew's service and that of all WAVES. I join with all Members of the House of Representatives and South Dakotans in expressing my gratitude for their commitment to serving and protecting our Nation. They will never be forgotten.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ROLL
CALL 814 MEETING TO CONSIDER
FINAL REPORT

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. DELAHUNT. Madam Speaker, this is being a long and, at times, tedious, but productive process.

When we began last September, I said that I hoped our efforts would be "truly bipartisan, and conducted in as . . . open a manner as possible." The committee's transparency and level of collaboration had to reflect the deep commitment to this institution held by the individual members of this select committee. I believe we have stayed true to that goal, and have demonstrated, throughout the past year, that bipartisanship does exist, and more importantly, can work.

Norm Ornstein—an American Enterprise Institute Resident Scholar, and a Roll Call contributing writer—is someone I hold in high regard. In May, he reflected on the rancor and partisanship that had taken hold of the House, and in so doing, referenced our Committee. He wrote:

This week, indeed this whole month, will be a key test in whether the political process in Washington can rise above the dysfunction [and partisanship] that has been the norm . . .

He went on to say,

That dynamic appears to be gelling on another front with the emergence of public hearings on the "stolen vote" from August of last year . . . It appears, though, that instead of a long deliberative process creating a greater understanding of the insensitivities and failings of both the majority and the minority, and a determination on both sides to do better, the result will be another wedge issue driving more distrust and hostility between the parties.

I have long regarded him and his work with tremendous respect, for its insight and accuracy. However, I believe I can say that in this case, he was wrong, and we exceeded expectations. Against the apparent odds, we will be adopting, at the conclusion of this meeting, a single, bipartisan report of which I believe we can all be proud.

I must recognize and commend the Committee members, who are not just my colleagues, but are my friends, and with whom it has truly been an honor to serve. MIKE PENCE, the Ranking Member, has throughout this entire task brought a spirit of comity, collegiality and a genuine love of the institution; STEVE LATOURETTE and KENNY HULSHOF with whom I've worked before and whose integrity and familiarity with the issues before us served the committee well. Of course, my Democratic colleagues: ARTUR DAVIS, who took on the burden of serving as Vice-Chair, and thereby, a lead role in the investigation; and STEPHANIE HERSETH SANDLIN, who, as usual, brought adeptness, civility and focus to our work.

I also want to thank a number of other individuals for their critical guidance and assistance. Former House Parliamentarian Charlie Johnson, whose infinite wisdom on these matters provided a foundation for the committee's work, and whose continued consultation on the recommendations allowed us to submit a product that truly serves the institution. In ad-

dition, I want to thank Judy Schneider and Mike Koempel of CRS for their hours of assistance on our interim report, which charted the course of our investigation, and their invaluable support throughout.

In addition, we would not have been able to conduct an appropriately thorough investigation without the assistance and cooperation from the Clerk of the House, Lorraine Miller, and her staff; House Parliamentarian John Sullivan, and his staff; and the various leadership staff. They provided their time and effort without hesitation, and for that, we want to acknowledge and thank them.

The assistance provided by our outside counsel—King and Spalding's Tom Spulak and George Crawford on the Democratic side, and Dickstein Shapiro's Mark Paoletta and Andrew Snowden, was exceptional. Each one of them has a long career of service to this House, and I am thankful that once again, the House received the benefit of their knowledge and dedication.

Lastly, I must praise the diligence and collaboration of the committee's professional staff. They dedicated the time and effort to see this effort through, while still carrying out their existing responsibilities in their primary offices. Mr. DAVIS' legislative counsel, Chanelle Hardy; Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN's Deputy Chief of Staff, Russ Levens; Mr. LATOURETTE's Chief of Staff, Joe Guzzo, and Mr. HULSHOF's Chief of Staff, Eric Rasmussen, and now Aaron Smith. I especially want to thank my legislative counsel, Davida Walsh, and MIKE PENCE's counsel, Josh Pitcock, who assumed the respective roles of Democratic and Republican staff director. I also want to extend my deepest appreciation to the committee's Democratic and Republican General Counsels, Muftiah McCartin and Hugh Halpern—from the House Rules Committee. They have been tireless in every capacity, and their extensive expertise has been invaluable.

Turning to the report, I believe it speaks for itself. What you will see when you read it—and we are suggesting that it be required reading for the entire Membership—JOKING—is that Roll Call 814 arose out of a confluence of factors that I will not repeat now—but that it was a "perfect storm," if you will.

I believe that the core recommendation is the repeal of the new House rule added to clause 2(a) of rule XX at the beginning of the 110th Congress. For those who are unfamiliar, it is a single sentence that reads "a record vote by electronic device shall not be held open for the sole purpose of reversing the outcome of such vote." As I have said before—I thought it sounded good at the time, so I'm saying it again—it is "a rule that was enacted with a noble intent to curb other perceived abuses, but a rule that is, at best, difficult to enforce, and at worst, the catalyst for the raw anger that we observed on August 2nd."

It is unworkable because, in the words of Mr. Johnson, "others can claim to know because they have seen pressure brought to bear externally, but it is the Chair's intent as discerned by the Chair at the moment in time as the vote is being kept open," that is dispositive. Furthermore, it would be "inappropriate to require the Chair to declare a reason for delaying a vote. However, without such a declaration, it would be virtually impossible to find a violation of the rule.

Worse than its impracticality, however, is the corrosive incentive the rule creates for the

membership to genuinely question the motives of their colleagues in the Chair. At a time when rancor and tension exist in the House chamber and when the parties increasingly view each other with suspicion, the rule acts to compound the negativity. I know that the rule was a good faith effort to infuse integrity and transparency into the voting process—laudable goals that are not lost on anyone here; however, I guess what I'm saying is, its time to go back to the drawing board. I think all of us on this panel would be happy to share our thoughts—in detail—should the leadership choose to take our recommendation.

I would just like to take a moment to speak about MIKE McNULTY, the man who was in the Chair during Roll Call 814. For quite some time but I would say now, more than ever, what is lacking in Washington is the willingness to admit mistake, acknowledge error, to be candid and forthright about a misstep. The irony, I think, is it's a rare person who doesn't find such an admission refreshing. However, our custom and practice tends to be: "blame the other guy." Not MIKE McNULTY. He is special, truly exceptional, not just as a member and presiding officer, but as a human being. And while his character and integrity has long been recognized on both sides of the aisle, I think this incident has both magnified and confirmed this perception. We all know it was a most difficult moment for him. But he earned our respect not only for his apology to the membership, but for his conduct and candor with the committee as well. The Nation needs more MIKE McNULTYS in Congress, and we're all grateful, and have been better served, by his willingness to resume his duties in the Chair. I just want to reiterate here today, the respect and admiration the members have for him.

It should be noted that during his interview with the committee, Republican whip, ROY BLUNT told us that after August 2, he personally reached out to Mr. McNULTY and told him that he "should feel confident in his respect that the Members have for him personally."

Similarly, the Republican Leader BOEHNER went to the floor on August 3—the next day—and said: "I accept the regrets offered by my friend from New York. Having been in the Chair myself, I can understand how it can happen. He and I are friends. He is, in fact, one of the fairest Members who could ever be in the chair."

And certainly, this view is echoed on the Democratic side of the aisle, as stated by our own Majority Leader, STENY HOYER, who said: "I believe Mr. McNULTY is an extraordinarily honest person of high integrity . . . He's a wonderful human being."

And while I commend Mr. McNULTY for his honesty and his courage, I also want to suggest that even in error, he has made a contribution to this institution. As I've said in at least one of our prior meetings, none of us here sought this assignment, but I believe strongly that this committee's report is a benefit to the institution.

I am also hopeful that an even greater benefit has accrued. Many outside this committee viewed it with skepticism and cynicism. One the one hand, we would be the product of a political stunt, a microcosm of the partisanship and rancor in the House; on other hand, certainty that we would never meet, would never investigate or deliberate, and certainly never report.

To revisit Ornstein's article, he further stated,

[If we have] a House as deeply divided along partisan lines as it was in the previous Congress—and a House with no common denominator of trying to do something to solve the problems we have at home and abroad . . . if we can't [reduce this divide and distrust], the clear and urgent needs of the country will be left to fester.

The issues we've examined in this committee—most notoriously, a botched motion to recommit on a bill that never became law—do not compare to the issues we're currently facing as a Congress, and as a Nation. However, in light of Mr. Ornstein's ominous warning, I am hopeful that what we've done here is to demonstrate that we've succeeded at what the people want and deserve—which is accountability, responsibility, and transparency; and the commitment, the wherewithal and the humility to put our heads together to solve the problems that confront us.

RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments on 40 years of success.

The San Luis Obispo Council of Governments, SLOCOG, is an association of local governments in the San Luis Obispo County region. Its members include all 7 cities Arroyo Grande, Atascadero, Grover Beach, Mono Bay, Paso Robles, Pismo Beach and San Luis Obispo, as well as unincorporated areas of the County. SLOCOG provides transportation, public works, and environment planning and funding for the region, and serves as a forum for the resolution of regional issues.

Over the course of four decades, San Luis Obispo County residents have looked to SLOCOG to lead our community forward. They have adopted a regional infrastructure plan, and helped certify several important projects, including the Cuesta College siting plan, the Lopez Lake water project and numerous community sewer and water plans. In addition to preparing the region's infrastructure plan, SLOCOG works in coordination with local transportation agencies in the region, including the San Luis Obispo Regional Transit Authority, the Air Pollution Control District, and the California Department of Transportation.

Since 1998, I have had the pleasure of working closely with SLOCOG to successfully address important regional priorities, such as the designation of Highway 1 north of the city of San Luis Obispo as a National Scenic Byway and All American Road, and securing Federal funding for such high priority regional transportation system improvements as the widening of Highway 46 East and the Santa Maria River Bridge, and bikeways, boardwalks and streetscapes throughout the region.

During its 40 years of existence, SLOCOG's activities have touched every aspect of the lives of the citizens of the Central Coast. I rise to express my appreciation and gratitude to its board members and staff, and applaud them

for the work they continue to do to improve the economic well-being and quality of life of the residents of San Luis Obispo County.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I call upon my colleagues to join me in congratulating SLOCOG's past accomplishments and in wishing them the best of luck in the many years to come.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SIMON LAKRITZ

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to the life of Simon Lakritz. Mr. Lakritz was devoted to his family and to his hometown of Hanford where he was an educator, city councilman, and mayor. He passed away on September 17th, 2008.

Simon Lakritz was born in Detroit, Michigan, in 1930. He moved with his mother, brother and sisters to Arizona in the 1940s. He attended Tucson High School from 1945 to 1949 and the University of Arizona from 1949 to 1953.

Upon graduation from college, Mr. Lakritz entered the U.S. Army, stationed in California at Fort Ord. He served during the Korean war at the European Army central command, in Heidelberg, Germany. Before leaving Germany, Lakritz married Mary "Mimi" Elizabeth Lyon at Fort Ord, and both traveled to Europe to begin married life overseas.

After returning to the states, Simon obtained his master's degree in Latin American history and pedagogy from the University of Arizona.

Soon after receiving his degree, Simon and his family moved to California and began his first job at Hanford Joint Union High School as a history teacher. He proved himself to be a popular educator.

Simon went on to a career of 37 years teaching and serving as coordinator of Federal programs for disabled and economically disadvantaged students at Hanford High School until his retirement in 1994.

While he led a successful career in education, Simon had a passion for public service and believed strongly in representative democracy.

During his 25 years on the city council, he served five times as mayor. In 2002, he was elected to the Hanford Joint Union High School District board of trustees, and also served as a mentor to teachers at Chapman University.

Simon volunteered his time to community organizations, including the NAACP, the Kings County Commission on Aging, of which he was a co-founder, and the Hanford Taoist Temple Preservation Society.

Simon Lakritz was preceded in death by his wife Mary "Mimi" Elizabeth in 1991. Surviving are his four children, Andrew Morris Lakritz, Jeffrey Lakritz, Bradley William Lakritz and Thomas Spencer Lakritz, and his four grandchildren: Ania, 11, of Arlington, Va.; Emily, 18, Noah, 12, and Mia, 10, of San Rafael.

REAFFIRMING THE STIMSON
DOCTRINE OF NON-RECOGNITION

HON. ALCEE HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a joint resolution regarding the Stimson Doctrine of Non-Recognition, which was a policy adopted in the 1930s, stating that the United States government will not recognize territorial changes brought about by force alone. The Stimson Doctrine became the foundation for sections of the U.N. Charter dealing with the inviolability of recognized borders and territorial integrity.

This principled policy was perhaps, most famously, applied to the three Baltic republics that were forcibly incorporated into the Soviet Union in 1940. Throughout the Cold War the United States never recognized this violent and illegitimate incorporation.

Following the collapse of the Soviet empire, many had hoped that a non-recognition policy would become a dated relic of a bygone era. Sadly, recent events have exposed the naiveté of this view and I strongly believe that the Stimson Doctrine should be reaffirmed and reapplied and continue to be a fundamental principle of our foreign policy.

As noted Russian scholar Paul Goble recently wrote in an article entitled, "It's Time for a new Non-Recognition Policy" and I quote,

That does not mean that we must counter any such action militarily or refuse to have anything to do with the aggressor—until 1991, after all, we had an embassy in the capital of the Soviet Union even though we did not recognize the USSR's right to control the Baltic countries—but it does mean that we must never recognize such actions as somehow legitimate, a step that would open the floodgates of aggression not only in Eurasia but around the world.

Sometimes we cannot do more, but as the great Russian memoirist Nadezhda Mandelstam reminded us, we can never afford to do less.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting the bedrock principle

of respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty and support this measure.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 48th Anniversary of the Republic of Cyprus. It was on October 1, 1960, that Cyprus became an independent republic after decades of British colonial rule.

I am honored to represent Astoria, Queens—one of the largest and most vibrant communities of Greek and Cypriot Americans in this country. I truly enjoy participating in the life of this community and treasure the wonderful and vital Cypriot friends that I have come to know. Cyprus has long been a key partner for the United States, and our friendship rests on the bedrock of shared democratic values.

As a member of the European Union, Cyprus is playing a vital role in European affairs while also strengthening relations with the United States. Unfortunately, the commemoration of Cyprus' Independence Day this year, as in the past, is clouded by the fact that Turkish military forces continue illegally to occupy Cyprus, in violation of U.N. Security Council resolutions. On July 20, 1974, Turkey invaded Cyprus, and to this day continues to maintain an estimated 40,000 heavily armed troops on the island.

I have introduced H. Res. 407, which expresses the strong support of the House for the positive actions by the Government of the Republic of Cyprus aimed at opening additional crossing points along the cease-fire line. On April 3, the border crossing at Ledra Street in Nicosia was opened, and for the first time in decades, people could walk the full length of the street. I hope that more positive steps will be taken to end the division of Cyprus and to bring people together.

On March 21, 2008, President Christofias and Turkish-Cypriot leader Talat agreed to establish working groups and technical committees as stipulated in the July 8, 2006, agreement for which the House of Representatives expressed its full support by passing H. Res. 405 last year. I am pleased that new comprehensive negotiations regarding the unification of Cyprus within a bizonal, bi-communal federation have recently begun.

I believe that the United States must play an active role in the resolution of the serious issues facing Cyprus. The relationship between Cyprus and the United States is strong and enduring, and we stand together celebrating democracy and freedom.

TRIBUTE TO ROGER ALLEN

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the retirement of Roger Allen at the Lennox Industries factory in Marshalltown, Iowa, and to express my appreciation for his dedication and commitment to the community, his co-workers and factory.

For 50 years, Roger has worked in many roles for Lennox Industries, which manufactures and installs residential and commercial air conditioning and heating systems. His most recent job was as a material handler and forklift operator in several areas of cooling assembly and fabrication. Roger was known for his superb customer service, spotless accident record, reliable attendance, knowledge of the factory and upbeat personality around his co-workers each day.

I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in commending Roger Allen for his service to Lennox Industries and the Marshalltown, Iowa community. I consider it an honor to represent Roger in Congress, and I wish him and his wife Linda a long, happy and healthy retirement.