TRIBUTE TO CHUCK ATKINS OF THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

(Mr. GORDON Tennessee asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise to sadly announce a retirement. No, it's not mine; it's much worse. The chief of staff of the Science and Technology Committee, Chuck Atkins, is going to be retiring at the end of this year.

As all of us know, if we are going to run our business well and be successful, we have to have good friends that will give us advice. We have got to have an outstanding staff that will help us execute our work. Chuck has been both of those for me.

Chuck has served his country with distinction in a number of ways. From the jungles of Vietnam as a decorated marine, including a Purple Heart, to the Halls of Congress, Chuck has been a patriot.

He first came to Washington in 1993 with our former colleague Scotty Baesler, from Kentucky. Then in 1998, Chuck took on the chore of being the chief of staff for my personal office. Later, when I became ranking member of the Science and Technology Committee, Chuck took on those additional responsibilities as the staff director there.

In 2007, when I had the good fortune of you allowing me to serve you as the chairman of the Science and Technology Committee, Chuck then became the staff director for the committee. Quite frankly, he has been the key to our committee's success, skillfully putting together an outstanding staff, mentoring them, bringing them along to really perform to their maximum potential, and doing all of that, I am very pleased, in a bipartisan manner.

I will tell you one quick story there. When I first became elected, as you know, the majority staff has two-thirds to one-third, and so there was a big switch. Chuck went to the minority staff and said they could be the first ones to interview for our new expanded staff. After interviewing them, because he wanted to get the very best that he could, our first five hires were from the Republican staff. All the other Republican staff members who didn't have a job, he said they could stay and help us work until they could find another job.

I think because of that, over the last 2½ years, we have been so successful in being able to pass 82 bipartisan bills and resolutions. Twenty-seven of those have been signed into law and many more are in the pipeline to be signed.

Chuck, thank you for a job well done. I hope that Chuck's wife, Merry, is listening. If so, Merry, thank you for putting up with Chuck for those late nights, and thank you for, I am sure, having to put up with the frustration that he would bring home from having to work with me.

Mr. HALL of Texas. Would the gentleman yield?

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Certainly.

I yield to my friend and ranking member of the Science and Technology Committee, Mr. HALL.

Mr. HALL of Texas. BART, I agree with you. I certainly want to pay tribute to Chuck Atkins.

He has been a loyal servant of this House. He is respected on both sides of the House. It has been a pleasure to work with him. I can say that he is really a man of integrity who led his staff admirably.

Part of the reason the Science and Technology Committee has such a bipartisan committee is because of staffers like Chuck Atkins who dedicated themselves to serving a cause greater than he felt himself to be. He served us in war and peace as a Vietnam veteran. He has a long history of serving our Nation, so it should come as no surprise he chose to come to Washington to give his services here.

Chuck, you are going to be missed. I hope you have a good retirement from the House of Representatives. Thanks to you for all you have done for the greatest good for the greatest number.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, 5-minute voting will continue.

There was no objection.

CONDEMNING PERSECUTION OF BAHA'IS IN IRAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 175, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 175, as amended.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 407, nays 2, not voting 23, as follows:

[Roll No. 808]

YEAS—407

Ackerman
Aderholt
Adler (NJ)
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Austria
Baca
Bachus
Baird
Baldwin
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boccieri
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Bright
Broun (GA)
Brown (SC)
Brown, Corrine
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cantor
Cao
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cassidy
Castle
Castor (FL)
Chaffetz
Chandler
Childers
Chu
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Dahlkemper
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis (TN)
Deal (GA)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Driehaus
Duncan
Edwards (MD)
Edwards (TX)
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Flake
Fleming
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Giffords
Gingrey (GA)
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gordon (TN)
Granger
Graves
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grijalva
Guthrie
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Halvorson
Hare
Harman
Harper
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Heinrich
Heller
Hensarling
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Himes
Hinchey
Hirono
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Hunter
Inglis
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick (MI)
Kilroy
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kirkpatrick (AZ)
Kissell
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Kosmas
Kratovil
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lee (CA)
Lee (NY)
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mack
Maffei
Maloney
Manzullo
Marchant
Markey (CO)
Markey (MA)
Massa
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McMahon
McNerney
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Minnick
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (NY)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Myrick
Nadler (NY)
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Neugebauer
Nunes
Nye
Oberstar
Obey
Olson
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Perriello
Peters
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Polis (CO)
Pomeroy
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Putnam
Quigley
Radanovich
Rahall
Rangel
Rehberg
Reichert
Reyes
Rodriguez
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schauer
Schiff
Schmidt
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sestak
Shadegg
Shea-Porter