

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2010

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 4899, the "Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2010." I oppose the Senate amendments because they will deny job programs to Americans, while continuing to fund a war that has gone far too long.

I want to thank Chairman OBEY for his timely leadership on this legislation. Clearly, opposing a bill that you are charged with bringing to the floor is not easy. However, this is an important moment to decide the direction that our military involvement and national economy are headed. Without some of the programs cut by the Senate, and with the knowledge revealed by the leaked documents, the sum of this bill is no longer palatable.

As originally conceived, H.R. 4899 would have provided funding for the needs of the American people, from national security, housing, employment, health, to education. I fully support these efforts and want to stress that we must continue to provide policies and funding that ensure that the United States remains a global leader in science and technology, including space exploration, which not only results in knowledge-building, but also in hundreds of thousands of jobs throughout the Nation.

The legislation would provide resources to support over 350,000 jobs for youth ages 16 to 21 through summer employment programs. This age group has some of the highest unemployment levels, 25 percent for those aged 16 to 24. This funding will allow local Workforce Investment Boards to expand successful summer jobs programs that were funded in the Recovery Act.

The legislation would also fully fund the settlement of both the Cobell and Pigford class action lawsuits. The Cobell settlement concerns the government's management and accounting for over 300,000 American Indians, trust accounts, and the Pigford settlement ends a decades-old discrimination lawsuit brought by black farmers against USDA.

Before it was amended, this supplemental appropriation would have provided over \$24 billion to keep teachers, firefighters and law enforcement personnel on the job while states continue to recover from the recession; over \$13 billion for Vietnam veterans and survivors exposed to Agent Orange; \$5.7 billion for PELL; \$2.8 billion for Haiti; \$677 million for border security; \$275 million for the Gulf Coast oil spill including unemployment benefits program and unemployment assistance related to the oil spill and an oil spill relief employment program that are underway for the self-employed businessmen and women who were greatly impacted by the Gulf Coast oil spill.

This bill would also provide \$10 billion for an Education Jobs Fund to provide additional emergency support to local school districts to prevent impending layoffs. It is estimated that this fund will help keep 140,000 school employees on the job next year.

Yet, despite these programs, the main purpose of this bill is to extend funding for our military—funds to pay for the war in Afghanistan. It is this that I object to. Although the situation in Afghanistan is far from perfect, the return on our investment has diminished to a point where it no longer makes sense to maintain a large-scale deployment. Additionally, as the human and financial costs continue to rise, the war in Afghanistan is becoming increasingly unpalatable to the citizens of the United States. More than 1,000 U.S. soldiers have been killed in Afghanistan since October 2001, and half of all deaths have occurred since the beginning of 2009. Roadside bombings are on the rise, causing double the number of fatalities in 2009 that they did in 2008. And 2010 is on track to be even worse by that measure. Today we learned that one of two American servicemen who disappeared last week in a dangerous area south of the Afghan capital has been confirmed dead. The war in Afghanistan should end as safely and quickly as possible, and our troops should be brought home with honor and a national day of celebration. I strongly believe that this can and must be done by the end of the year.

This stance is borne from my deeply held belief that we must commend our military for their exemplary performance and success in Afghanistan. As lawmakers continue to debate U.S. policy in Afghanistan, our heroic young men and women continue to willingly sacrifice life and limb on the battlefield. Our troops in Afghanistan did everything we asked them to do. We sent them overseas to destroy the roots of terror and protect our homeland; they are now caught in the midst of an insurgent civil war and continuing political upheaval.

With the change in military leadership to General Petraeus, one year before the target drawdown date of July 2011, America faces a critical juncture in our involvement in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Recently, I returned from a 5-day trip to Afghanistan where I met with our outstanding men and women serving in the region. Although I found our troops and civilians to be of the highest caliber, I left Afghanistan with the impression the reasons for keeping them in a dangerous theatre have diminished. Today, we are at risk of forgetting the impetus for going to war. This is a dangerous mistake. Extending our involvement beyond the initial mandate is an unnecessary risk that makes the United States vulnerable.

Throughout the discussion of the Administration's proposed surge, I expressed my concern for the cost of sending additional troops, as well as the effect that a larger presence in Afghanistan will have on troop morale. The White House estimates that it will cost \$1 million per year for each additional soldier deployed, and I believe that \$30 billion would be better spent on developing new jobs and fixing

our broken healthcare system. Many leaders in our armed forces, including Secretary Gates, have said that it is optimal for troops to have two years between overseas deployments; yet, today, our troops have only a year at home between deployments. Expanding the number of U.S. forces in Afghanistan by 30,000 will negatively impact troop morale and will bring us further away from the conditions necessary to maintain a strong, all-volunteer military.

I very strongly believe that our Nation has a moral obligation to ensure that our veterans are treated with the respect and dignity that they deserve. One reason that we are the greatest Nation in the world is because of the brave young men and women fighting for us in Iraq and Afghanistan. They deserve honor, they deserve dignity, and they deserve to know that a grateful Nation cares about them. Whether or not my colleagues agree that the time has come to withdraw our American forces from Afghanistan, I believe that all of us in Congress should be of one accord that our troops deserve our sincere thanks and congratulations.

It is because I respect our troops that I am voting to bring them home from a war that has strayed far beyond its original mandate. The United States will not and should not permanently prop up the Afghan government and military. To date, almost \$27 billion—more than half of all reconstruction dollars—has been apportioned to build the Afghan National Security Forces.

U.S. military involvement in Afghanistan will come to an end and, when U.S. forces leave, the responsibility for securing their nation will fall to the people and government of Afghanistan. Governance is more than winning elections, it is about upholding human rights, especially the rights of women; it requires fighting corruption. Governance requires fighting corruption. Governance requires providing for the freedom to worship. Governance requires establishing schools that provide education from early childhood through higher education.

Yet, Afghanistan has largely failed to institute the internal reforms necessary to justify America's continued involvement. The recent elections did not reflect the will of the people, and the government has consistently failed to gain the trust of the people of Afghanistan. The troubling reports about the elections that were held on August 20, 2009 were the first in a series of very worrisome developments. The electoral process is at the heart of democracy and the disdain for that process that was displayed in the Afghanistan elections gives me great pause. The Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction recently released his quarterly report which detailed our Nation's efforts to work with contractors and the Afghanistan government to prevent fraud and enhance transparency. This is the 8th report by the Special Inspector General but, as a recent series in the Washington Post showed, we are unable to stem the flow of corruption and waste within Afghanistan,

• 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.

despite our efforts at reforming our own contracting procedures. This money likely comes from the opium trade and U.S. assistance and, the Washington Post estimates, totals over one billion dollars each year.

The task of establishing legitimate governing practices remains formidable. A November 17, 2009 report from Transparency International listed Afghanistan as the second most corrupt country in the world, continuing its second straight year of declining in the corruption index. Such news is disparaging and provides an important dynamic to how we consider our strategy with regards to Afghanistan going forward. In January, a UN survey found that an overwhelming 59 percent of Afghans view public dishonesty as a bigger concern than insecurity, 54 percent and unemployment, 52 percent. This is telling for a country with widespread violence and an unemployment rate of 40 percent.

As Co-Chair of the Congressional U.S.-Afghanistan Caucus, I have called for policies that allow the United States to provide benefits to the people of Afghanistan. Our effort must enhance our efforts at building both hard and soft infrastructure in Afghanistan. Change in Afghanistan is going to come through schools and roads, through health care and economic opportunity, and through increased trade and exchange. The Afghan people need our help to achieve these objectives, but I am not convinced that our military is the solution. If the Government of Afghanistan can demonstrate a responsible and non-corrupt commitment to its people, I believe that America should respond with appropriate and targeted foreign assistance.

I am also concerned that the United States is shouldering too much of the burden in Afghanistan. Although the terror attacks on American soil prompted NATO to respond with collective military action, no nation is immune from the threat of terrorism. Although the troops and resources provided by our allies have been invaluable to date, especially in regarding development for the people of Afghanistan, questions must be raised about how long other nations will remain involved in Afghanistan. France and Germany, for example have already questioned whether or not to send additional troops. NATO resources must continue to focus on improving the livelihoods of the Afghan people, but if the support of these governments waiver, American troops and Afghan citizens will suffer the consequences.

I agree with our President that a stable Afghanistan is in the best interest of the international community and I was pleased to see President Obama's outreach to our allies for additional troops. Currently, 41 NATO and other allied countries contribute nearly 36,000 troops. That number is expected to increase by nearly 6,000 with at least 5,000 additional troops coming from NATO member countries. Multilateralism is vital to ensuring that our operations in Afghanistan succeed.

Madam Speaker, today, we face difficult realities on the ground. The Taliban attacks our forces whenever and wherever they can. Agents of the Taliban seek to turn the people of Afghanistan against us as we attempt to provide them with help in every way we can. This situation is unsustainable. Afghanistan's history has earned it the nickname, "The Graveyard of Empires," and I believe that we should not take this grim history lightly. By in-

cluding a timetable for our operations in Afghanistan, we focus our mission and place it in a long-term context. But there is no need to ignore the successes and heroic work of the Armed forces and the civilian humanitarian workers. We can declare victory having achieved a stable government in Afghanistan and bring our troops home with honor.

Although development to improve the lives of the Afghan people is important, defeating al-Qaeda, and the threat they pose to America and our allies is the most important objective of our operations. To that end, I believe that Pakistan, not Afghanistan, is now the key to success and stability in the region. Over the past 8 years, Coalition Forces have successfully pushed most of al-Qaeda out of Afghanistan and into Pakistan. This has not only put them outside the mandate of our forces, but has also forced Pakistan to address an enlarged terrorist threat.

During his State of the Union Address, President Obama spoke of the importance of Pakistan when he noted "America will remain a strong supporter of Pakistan's security and prosperity long after the guns have fallen silent, so that the great potential of its people can be unleashed." As the Co-Chair of the Congressional Pakistan Caucus, I know, first hand, of the great potential of the Pakistani people, and I strongly believe that the recently approved assistance package to Pakistan will work to this end. U.S. foreign assistance to Pakistan will improve Pakistan's capacity to address terrorist networks within its own borders, but I worry that a troop increase will cause even more refugees and insurgents to cross into Pakistan.

Ultimately, we in Congress must decide what is in the best interest of the American people. Fighting al-Qaeda was in the best interest of the American people in 2001, as it continues to be today. Yet, we are now fighting an insurgency—not al-Qaeda—in Afghanistan. This should not be their mission, and we must bring our troops home.

MAKING EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR DISASTER RELIEF AND SUMMER JOBS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2010 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Madam Speaker, as you know, the Senate has proposed to strike out a portion of the Act that is vital to supporting the career development of our nation's youth. My amendment would reinstate the section of the bill pertaining to "Employment and Training Administration", which appropriates \$600 million dollars in grants to states to support summer employment programs for youth.

The recent recession has affected various sectors, and unemployment has been borne by many sectors of the economy, particularly in the housing and banking sectors. The suffering that comes with a major economic downturn has been felt not only by the adult population, but by our youth as well, and they have been hindered in their efforts to acquire summer employment as I speak. Statistics also demonstrate that youth minority groups have been more affected than other groups of young individuals. Data assembled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates that in July 2009, 51.4 percent of young persons between the ages of 16 and 24 were involved in some form of summer employment. This was the lowest recorded rate since 1964. The youth unemployment rate, at 18.5 percent, was also a record low since the onset of the Bureau's

statistical studies almost forty years ago. In comparison to a 4 percent rise in unemployment for white youth, 7 percent more African Americans and 10 percent more Hispanics became unemployed between 2006 and 2009. These numbers are troubling, and indicate a need for intervention on our part.

It is important that in our efforts to aid in the economic recovery effort, we do not forget our young Americans. Their career development is crucial to ensuring that whatever economic strides we make today will be sustainable tomorrow. As such, we must ensure that we do not neglect the hardships that have been inflicted upon them as a result of the economic downturn. These funds will promote the intellectual development of our youth, which, in turn, will promote a healthy and innovative economy. Studies have also shown that such an initiative could work to decrease the likelihood of criminal activity by young individuals, who are less likely to engage in such activity when they are involved in productive use of their time.

This Amendment will provide an indispensable source of support for our States to help them develop our youth. For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to support my Amendment on summer youth jobs.

I thank you for consideration of H.R. 4899 for the Fiscal Year 2010 Emergency Supplemental Appropriations bill. Finally, no family, no settlement money for the Black farmers, no monies to save the jobs of teachers, police and fire personnel. This bill is lacking in helping more of the American People.

HONORING THE CAREER OF
KENNETH CANTER, D.P.M.

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the service of Kenneth Canter, Doctor of Podiatric Medicine, who recently retired after 32 years serving our veterans at the Minneapolis VA Medical Center.

Dr. Canter received his undergraduate degree from the University of Maryland in College Park, Maryland and his medical degree from the Pennsylvania College of Podiatric Medicine in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1972. He began his career with the Department of Veterans Affairs in Minneapolis in 1977 as one of the first 35 podiatrists hired to treat our veterans. For 32 years, he worked at the Minneapolis VA Medical Center, retiring as Chief of Podiatry in June 2010.

Dr. Canter cared for Minnesota veterans with compassion and respect, always taking additional care to render the finest and most effective treatments. Aside from treating his patients, he authored scientific articles and mentored podiatrists who came to the VA for post-graduate training. Dr. Canter's dedication to outstanding medical care and sincere concern for our nation's veterans are the qualities of a truly great VA doctor, and I am proud that he is a resident of my Congressional District.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Dr. Kenneth Canter for his distinguished 32 years of service to Minnesota veterans.

HONORING THE HENDERSON
MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Henderson Memorial Baptist Church for their remarkable perseverance and dedication to their community.

The Henderson Memorial Baptist Church was formed in the homes and barns of the people of Farmington in 1810. Without a building to meet in, community members met in private spaces until they built their church in 1836. From its humble beginnings, the church and its members formed a strong bond that lasts to this day.

Despite many obstacles, the congregation continues to thrive. Two major fires disrupted the ability of church members to practice in their building in 1886 and again in 1938. Both of these fires were devastating, especially considering the loss of a new Austin pipe organ bought through donations during the Great Depression. However, the congregation has always rallied to rebuild and continue their good work.

The community of the Henderson Memorial Baptist Church has always come together and united for the common goal of keeping their church and congregation alive. The resiliency shown by this congregation during their tumultuous history is highly commendable.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the Henderson Memorial Baptist Church for their resiliency, perseverance and extraordinary dedication.

A TRIBUTE IN RECOGNITION OF
THE WEEKLY DOWNTOWN LOS
ANGELES COMMUNITY NEWS-
PAPER, THE GARMENT & CIT-
IZEN, AND ITS FOUNDER, EDI-
TOR AND PUBLISHER, JERRY
SULLIVAN

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Los Angeles Garment & Citizen newspaper in Downtown Los Angeles, which, after 10 years in publication, is closing its doors this month.

With a weekly circulation of 10,000, the Garment & Citizen covered Downtown and the adjacent areas of Echo Park, Angeleno Heights, Silverlake, Westlake, Pico-Union, Chinatown, Little Tokyo, the Arts District and portions of south Los Angeles.

As the member of Congress who represents Downtown, I know the closure of this free weekly will leave a void. Jerry Sullivan, the paper's founder, editor and publisher, started the Garment & Citizen in 2000 to report Downtown area news and events that were not being reported elsewhere.

Every week, one could always count on Jerry to run news items that directly related to the diverse readership he served. The articles heralded the achievements of Downtown students, workers, families and businesses, and

provided a vehicle for residents to share a wide range of viewpoints.

I also salute the paper's contributors. They include John Fish, Roberto Porras, Sam Hassan, Rick Ness, J.C. Choe, Raby Savage, Eugene Yi, and Elias Cruz, among others. As Jerry says, they all served the Garment & Citizen and the community with great skill and dedication.

I wish Jerry well as he pursues new endeavors. While the Echo Park resident will no longer hang his notorious fedora in the office of the Garment & Citizen, all of us here in the U.S. House of Representatives will continue to have a unique connection to Jerry. We have the privilege of working closely with one of Jerry's eight siblings, John Sullivan, who has served as House Parliamentarian since May 2004. Upon learning of this tribute, John said of his brother, "It is impossible for me to overstate how proud I am to be Jerry's brother, and I know I can say the same for each of our brothers and sisters."

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to please join me in thanking Jerry and his team for their accomplishments and success in publishing the Garment & Citizen. To fully tell the story of the newspaper, I would like to submit into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD Jerry's own reflections. They clearly reveal his passion and commitment to the news industry and Los Angeles' culturally rich Downtown neighborhoods that he and I both know well, love and celebrate.

WHAT WORKED

(By Jerry Sullivan, Editor & Publisher, Los Angeles Garment & Citizen)

"A lot of famous folks have said that they wouldn't change a thing if they had it all to do over again.

I don't think any of them ever had to shut down a community newspaper.

I would change some things if I had it to do over again.

I'd make some changes—apply the lessons of experience—because whatever I did as the founder and editor and publisher of the Los Angeles Garment & Citizen didn't get the newspaper through these historically tough economic times.

I can carry the weight of that outcome because—while I would make some changes if I had it all to do over—there are so many things that I would make sure to do again.

I would again keep my eyes and my mind wide open in order to give the community the coverage it deserves.

I'd still tell everyone's truth—not just this niche or that demographic group. I'd keep striving to tell the stories of the entire community, and to explain how and why this segment or demographic group matters to the other.

I'd continue to acknowledge the fact that readers are smart.

I'd keep giving advertisers credit for their roles as members of the community.

I'd always do my best to hold both readers and advertisers accountable for their actions as community members.

I'd keep assuming that immigrants are part of our American culture—whether they've obtained citizenship or remain uncertain about taking that step.

I'd still speak truth to power in plain language.

I'd still keep a civil tone in all matters.

I'd still receive whoever found their way to my office, and listen to their story even if their only point is to let someone know that they weren't always in the shape they're in today.

I'd continue to make ideas the heart of reporting.

I'd keep in mind that important and even great ideas can come from unexpected sources buried deep in conversations.

I'd keep the Letters to the Editor section as a truly open forum for all voices and viewpoints in the community.

I'd continue to laud police officers for the job they do so well the vast majority of the time.

I'd keep calling police officers to task—and give others the opportunity to do so—on matters of public concern.

I'd continue to make space for the poets who happen to wash dishes or manufacture garments on their day jobs.

I'd keep reminding longtime, hard-pressed Downtown residents that property owners have a right to build lofts—and young, upscale tenants have a right to move into them.

I'd still tell developers and young, upscale tenants that a community existed Downtown long before anyone built any lofts—and remind them that all communities deserve respect.

I'd keep telling the folks in Echo Park about the Lions Club.

I'd continue to highlight the success stories of youngsters in Westlake and Pico-Union.

I'd keep mentioning Angeleno Heights at every legitimate opportunity.

I'd always expect the unexpected in Chinatown.

I'd still keep some space reserved on deadline for late-breaking news on the latest community cause in Little Tokyo.

I'd keep asking why suffering has such a comfortable home on Skid Row.

I'd remember to always respect my elders on Bunker Hill.

I'd continue to appreciate the artists of the Arts District.

I'd continue to learn from the contentious culture of the Fashion District.

I'd keep marveling at the blend of old and new ways in the Jewelry District.

I'd still highlight folks who work hard and choose decency every day as the Local Heroes of our society.

There are many more things I would do again, because the Garment & Citizen earned some great victories. Our coverage has mattered. We saved taxpayers money. We gave credit where it was due to the mothers and fathers, sons and daughters, and workers and business owners who make our city work. We added valuable insights, criticisms and plaudits to the public debate.

The Garment & Citizen served with honor and distinct style. We developed a voice that reached our readers and earned a strong and unique connection with their lives. We reached rich, poor, working-class and middle-class individuals and families. We reached across ethnic and racial and religious lines. We reached them all—and called them a community.

The Garment & Citizen will disappear but the community shall remain.

It's now up to others to serve this community with the comprehension, courage, and clarity that's called for by the guarantee of freedom of the press that we enjoy under the 1st Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

The Garment & Citizen has demonstrated that it can be done.

Our fate also shows that it could be done better.

I will look upon the next effort with interest.

Respectfully,

JERRY SULLIVAN.

TRIBUTE TO TRACY PATTON, 2010
STATE WINNER OF LETTERS
ABOUT LITERATURE COMPETITION

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Tracy Patton and congratulate her as a state winner of the Library of Congress 2010 Letters About Literature competition.

Letters About Literature is a program developed by the Library of Congress in partnership with Target Stores and state Centers for the Book. It aims to promote reading and writing to young people in fourth through twelfth grades across the nation. Students are encouraged to read a book, then write a letter to the author, dead or alive, conveying their appreciation for the book and its impact on their lives. More than 70,000 students from across the nation that entered the contest, a 25% increase from last year's competition.

The Letters About Literature competition divided students into three divisions by age, and the top letter from each age level were chosen from the states. Level three included all high school students, in ninth through twelfth grades. Tracy was chosen as the Level 3 state winner for 2010 by West Virginia's panel of judges, comprised of authors, editors, publishers, librarians, and teachers. She addressed her letter to renowned playwright and poet William Shakespeare, about his tragedy *Romeo and Juliet*. Tracy is from Charleston, West Virginia and attends Capital High School. Tracy's teacher, Rosalie Blaul, submitted this winning letter.

It is an honor to pay tribute to Tracy Patton, a student that has committed herself to scholarship in reading and writing. Bright young minds such as hers are truly the future of the Mountain State, and I wish her congratulations.

PROTECTING GUN OWNERS IN
BANKRUPTCY ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2010

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5827, the Protecting Gun Owners in Bankruptcy Act of 2010. This legislation will ensure that individuals' Second Amendment rights are secure when they enter into bankruptcy.

In these challenging economic times, I have heard from families in Michigan's 15th Congressional District concerned they will lose their ability to protect themselves and their families should they enter into bankruptcy. As the Supreme Court recently ruled in *Heller vs. the District of Columbia* and confirmed in *McDonald vs. Chicago*, the Second Amendment affords individuals across the nation the right to keep and bear arms for the purpose of self defense. Hardworking Americans who have lost their jobs due to the economic downturn should not fear that they will be stripped of those rights because they are try-

ing to turn their lives around through bankruptcy proceedings.

Most States, including Michigan, do not protect gun owners in bankruptcy because firearms are not listed among the "household goods" exempt from the claims of creditors. In 2005, amendments to the bankruptcy code made it even more unlikely firearms would be considered a "household good." However, H.R. 5827 changes that. Specifically, it permits firearms—rifles, pistols and shotguns, up to an aggregate value of \$3,000—held primarily for the personal, family or household use of the debtor to be exempt from the claims of creditors under federal exemption law.

Enacting H.R. 5827 will allow the citizens of Michigan and across the United States the ease of knowing they can protect themselves and their families in good times and bad. This is an important bill and I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for it.

HONORING THE AGENCIES INVOLVED IN CONTAINING THE RANGE 9 AND MERIDIAN BOUNDARY FOREST FIRES IN NORTHERN MICHIGAN

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the men and women who showed bravery and perseverance in fighting the Meridian Boundary and Range 9 Fires in northern Michigan's Crawford County and surrounding areas in May of this year. Through their impressive efforts the fire's damage was contained with minimal loss of structures and no loss of life.

On May 18, two separate forest fires broke out only two counties apart—one in Crawford County and the other on land within Camp Grayling's Range No. 9 near the border of Crawford and Kalkaska Counties. Federal, State and local agencies worked together, managing the two fires as one single complex. In total, 16 local fire departments worked alongside members of the Michigan Army Reserve National Guard and State and federal forest management officials, to have the fire 95 percent contained within 8 days.

In all, nearly ten thousand acres were impacted by the fires, with 12 residences destroyed and 6 residences damaged. These firefighters and responders acted with expertise in the field and crews worked around the clock to fight and contain the blaze. Without their determined efforts and quick response the situation on the ground likely would have been far worse.

Agencies involved in containing the Meridian Boundary and Range 9 Fires were: South Branch Township Fire Department, Higgins Township Fire Department, Frederic Township Fire Department, Beaver Creek Township Fire Department, Grayling Fire Department, Lovells Township Fire Department, Luzerne-Big Creek Township Fire Department, Tri-Town Fire Department, Merritt Fire Rescue Department, Clam Union Fire Department, Lake Missaukee Area Fire Department, McBain Fire Department, Lake City Fire Department, Otsego County Fire Department, Otsego Lake Township Fire Department, Vanderbilt Corwith Fire

and Rescue, Michigan Army Reserve National Guard, Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment Forest Management Division and USDA Forest Service, Mio Ranger District.

Madam Speaker, the men and women of these agencies did excellent work controlling and containing the Meridian Boundary and Range 9 forest fires and keeping people in the surrounding communities safe. Therefore, I ask that you, and all of my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives, join me in recognizing their service, honoring their bravery, and thanking them for the heroic job they did in fighting these fires.

HONORING MR. IRVIN R. LAI

HON. JUDY CHU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Ms. CHU. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great loss to our community, Mr. Irvin Lai, who passed away on July 16, 2010, at the age of 83. My heart goes out to his son, Laurence; his daughters Arlene Lowe, Corinne Gill, Irene Jong, Kathleen Lih and Pauline Yau; his brother Collin and sister Mildred Wong; his 12 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; and the rest of his family and friends.

Irvin was an extraordinary citizen, a role model for community activism and a powerful advocate for the Chinese American community. His selfless and just nature was cultivated in childhood during the Great Depression by his mother, Effie Lai, an unpaid social worker who helped Chinese immigrant women navigate the U.S. social welfare system. It was his mother's work, and his education in a segregated "Oriental" school, that taught him the importance of joining together and helping his community.

Lai first served his country as a teenage volunteer in the U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Marines during World War II, where he achieved rank of Chief Steward during his 2 years of service. In 1950 he was drafted into the Korean War, where he served for 2 years in the 4th Infantry Division, 42nd Field Artillery in Germany.

But it was upon his return from the war that Mr. Lai's civil rights activism really took off, when he joined the Los Angeles Lodge of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance in 1957. He worked his way up to national Grand President of the Alliance by 1985, and along the way he fought hard for equal political and economic rights for all Chinese Americans.

Irvin is probably best known for saving the Peking duck in America, when he led the charge to change a law that required Chinese restaurateurs to throw away large quantities of Chinese roast duck and dim sum, or receive costly citations. As a direct result of testimony from Mr. Lai before the State Legislature, a roast duck exemption was added to the health code.

Mr. Lai also stepped forward to help arrange the proper reinterment of Chinese remains unearthed during construction of the Gold Line Eastside Extension, and the preservation of artifacts found at the site.

I urge all my House colleagues to join me in honoring our community hero, Mr. Irvin for

his remarkable service and contributions to our country.

TRIBUTE TO MOLLY LOVERN, 2010 STATE WINNER OF LETTERS ABOUT LITERATURE COMPETITION

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Molly Lovern and congratulate her as a state winner of the Library of Congress 2010 Letters About Literature competition.

Letters About Literature is a program developed by the Library of Congress in partnership with Target Stores and state Centers for the Book. It aims to promote reading and writing to young people in fourth through twelfth grades across the nation. Students are encouraged to read a book, then write a letter to the author, dead or alive, conveying their appreciation for the book and its impact on their lives. More than 70,000 students from across the nation that entered the contest, a 25% increase from last year's competition.

The Letters About Literature competition divided students into three divisions by age, and the top letter from each age level were chosen from the states. Level two included all students in seventh and eighth grades. Molly was chosen as the Level 2 winner for 2010 by West Virginia's panel of judges, comprised of authors, editors, publishers, librarians, and teachers. She addressed her letter to Jean-Dominique Bouby, about his book, *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly*. Molly is from Fairmont, West Virginia and attends Bluefield Middle School. Molly's teacher, Mrs. Putorek, submitted the winning letter.

It is an honor to pay tribute to Molly Lovern, a student that has committed herself to scholarship in reading and writing. Bright young minds such as hers are truly the future of the Mountain State, and I wish her congratulations.

RECOGNIZING THE HEROISM OF
EVAN LANGSTON

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Evan Langston, for his act of heroism. His call to action in an emergency situation saved the lives of his fellow citizens in Franklin County, Arkansas.

Mr. Langston was the first to arrive at an accident on highway 309 in April and helped the passengers get out of the burning car. He successfully helped a mother and her children get out of dangers way. By doing so, he saved their lives and I would like to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Langston with the honor he deserves.

By acting as a good samaritan, he prevented a great tragedy within his community, and for that I wish to honor him with my appreciation. Mr. Langston's selfless actions have not gone unnoticed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. KING of New York. Madam Speaker, I regret that I was unable to be in Washington from July 12 through July 15 and missed roll-call votes 434 through 466 due to illness.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2010

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4899, the Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2010.

This Supplemental Appropriations Act provides funds to meet the needs of our troops abroad and our families at home. It provides emergency flood relief for those recently washed out of their homes, improves Federal mine safety for those risking their lives to get energy from American soil, and supports disabled veterans who have given so much to our nation.

This funding will reduce injuries and increase recovery in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. It will reduce injuries by replacing vulnerable military transports with mine-resistant ambush-protected vehicles, and provide ballistic protection for helicopters that are in the line of fire. Even with this additional protection, injury is inevitable, but this bill enhances the healing mission. It funds field medical equipment to help heal those who are injured in battle and it funds health care for soldiers when they come home. Veterans exposed to Agent Orange, and their survivors, will finally receive the disability payments they deserve. The promises kept in this bill fulfill our commitments to soldiers today and our veterans from past conflicts.

Unfortunately, this version of the bill leaves out necessary funding for priorities here at home. Our children need teachers. Our neighborhoods need first responders. I agree that ignoring the needs of our states and local communities is wrong. However, we cannot make that right by ignoring the needs of our troops, our citizens in the Gulf, and by leaving our citizens to face hurricane season with no possibility of help from FEMA. Without this funding, the President can still declare disaster areas. But those declarations need to be backed up with the people, the expertise, and the funds provided in this bill. The need to support our troops and keep them safe will not go away either.

The funding in this bill will assist America in our shared, but fragile recovery. Forest lands damaged by natural disaster can be restored. Coast Guard helicopters damaged in the line of duty can be replaced. Fisheries in the Gulf Coast can be helped towards recovery and restoration.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting "yes" on this bill.

TRIBUTE TO CARA LASWELL, 2010 STATE WINNER OF LETTERS ABOUT LITERATURE COMPETITION

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Cara Laswell and congratulate her as a state winner of the Library of Congress 2010 Letters About Literature competition.

Letters About Literature is a program developed by the Library of Congress in partnership with Target Stores and state Centers for the Book. It aims to promote reading and writing to young people in fourth through twelfth grades across the nation. Students are encouraged to read a book, and then write a letter conveying their appreciation for the book and its impact on their lives to the author, living or dead. Of the 70,000 students from across the nation that entered the contest, a 25% increase from last year's competition. Cara was chosen as the 2010 state winner by West Virginia's panel of judges, comprised of authors, editors, publishers, librarians, and teachers.

The contest divided students into three divisions by age, and the top letter from each age level were chosen from the states. The youngest division included students from fourth through sixth grades. Cara Laswell from Fairmont wrote the winning Level 1 letter from West Virginia. Her letter was addressed to Jerry Spinelli about his book *Stargirl*. Cara attends Fairmont Catholic Elementary School, and her letter was submitted by her teacher Cynthia Garcia.

It is an honor to pay tribute to Cara Laswell, a young student that has committed herself to scholarship in reading and writing. Bright young minds such as hers are truly the future of the Mountain State, and I wish her congratulations.

RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL
CONVENIENT CARE CLINIC WEEK

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, today I rise in recognition of National Convenient Care Week and in support of the 1,100 retail-based convenient care clinics in our nation.

Convenient care clinics, which are based in retail outlets with pharmacy services across the nation, provide an extension to our traditional health care system. Primarily staffed by nurse practitioners, these clinics provide preventative services like vaccinations, as well as acute illness diagnosis and treatment. Furthermore, they can also provide needed services to help manage chronic illnesses.

Convenient care clinics are an important component of our health care system. Not only are they a way to relieve the stress on busy emergency rooms and primary care offices, but they also provide care to working families who benefit from their extended hours and walk-in policies.

For all of these reasons, I encourage my colleagues to support National Convenient Care Week.

DR. WALTER L. SMITH

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to herald the achievements of Dr. Walter L. Smith, and to acknowledge our pride in his contribution to the education community.

Dr. Smith was born and spent his early childhood in Tampa, FL before moving to live with family in Cairo, Georgia and Harlem, New York. A self-proclaimed rebellious child, Dr. Smith dropped out of high school at the age of 16 to work at a processing plant. After stints in the Army studying medical laboratory technology and working in a hospital, he moved back in Tampa in 1957 and enrolled in St. Petersburg's Gibbs High School, which doubled as a community college by night. By the age of 23, he had completed his GED and started classes at Gibbs Junior College, where he served as the first student body president. Dr. Smith continued his educational pursuits at Florida A&M and earned his bachelor's and master's degree. After graduation, Dr. Smith was named an African American Institute Scholar and studied at the University of Cape Coast in Ghana and the University of Lagos in Nigeria. Upon his return, Dr. Smith continued his education at Florida State University, where he received his PhD in Higher Education.

Dr. Smith served as Provost of Hillsborough Community College before accepting the position as President at Roxbury Community College in Massachusetts. In 1977, Dr. Smith returned to Florida to serve as the President of his alma mater, FAMU. Our community burst with pride. During his presidency, FAMU grew from seven to eleven schools and colleges. The university also became a Division of Graduate Studies and Continuing Education under his tenure in office. In 1985, Dr. Smith ended his presidency and was named a Senior Fulbright Scholar to the University of Malawi in Central Africa and served as the International Team Leader for Higher Education in the Republic of South Africa. There, he built South Africa's first American-based community college.

In 2000, Dr. Smith moved back to his hometown of Tampa and opened a local library. Named in his honor, the Dr. Walter L. Smith Library, located in a converted house just blocks from his childhood home, serves as both a learning center and haven for local children to cultivate their interests and follow their dreams toward higher education.

Dr. Smith's perseverance and successes have most recently been recognized with the Cornelius P. Turner Award. This award, presented annually by the GED Testing Service of the American Council on Education, recognizes a GED graduate who has made outstanding contributions to society and speaks volumes about Dr. Smith's unlikely road to success.

The Tampa community is proud to recognize Dr. Smith for this award and his many significant contributions to the education community. His determination and hard work have made him an inspirational leader within our Tampa Bay community.

THE TELEWORK IMPROVEMENT
ACT**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the Telework Improvement Act. This bill will help to modernize the Federal Government by expanding and improving the availability of teleworking in federal agencies. I thank Chairman TOWNS and the House leadership for their work on this legislation.

With this bill, Congress takes important steps to improve the efficiency of the Federal Government by allowing more Federal employees to have access to telework. Today, many private companies have more vigorous and flexible telework policies that result in increased efficiency and productivity. Yet telework continues to be under-utilized by Federal agencies. H.R. 1722 will require Federal agencies to develop policies within one year that allow qualifying employees to telework. This bill ensures accountability by directing the Office of Management and Budget to issue guidelines to prevent improper uses of official time or resources by those working outside the office.

Madam Speaker, I also oppose the Republican Motion to Recommit on H.R. 1722. The underlying legislation makes clear that Federal employees are strictly prohibited from visiting inappropriate websites using government computers. In addition, this motion contains a provision designed to indiscriminately and unfairly prohibit an employee from collective bargaining activities while they are teleworking. Under current law, official time for union activity may only be used to represent employees in adverse actions, attend official meetings with management, and bargain union contracts. To disallow these activities from being performed through telework would constitute a rollback of existing policy.

I urge a "no" vote on the Republican Motion to Recommit and urge my colleagues to support final passage.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2010

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the war supplemental funding bill.

After years of war that have strained our military, their families, and the country, I cannot continue to support funding for the war in Afghanistan—a war marked by increasing violence and attacks on our troops and no clear definition of success.

The last time this measure was before us, I voted with my colleague Rep. BARBARA LEE on her amendment to prevent an escalation and limit funding to the safe and orderly withdrawal of our troops and military contractors from Afghanistan.

I also voted in favor of the McGovern-Obey amendment that would require the President

to provide Congress with a plan for the expeditious redeployment of U.S. troops in Afghanistan and a timeline for completion of the redeployment.

But the bill before us is simply a continuation of a policy that needs to be changed—with no accountability and no debate on the merits of continuing this conflict in a country beset by corruption and seemingly endless violence.

Contained in this bill is badly needed funding for Haiti, disaster relief and funds for our veterans, which I wholeheartedly support and would urge a separate up or down vote.

But a vote for this bill before us today is a vote to continue this war and the time has come to bring our troops home.

Reports of corruption abound in Afghanistan, and without a true partner in the Karzai government, our prospects for making real progress have grown dim.

In recent days, even more troubling reports have come out of the region indicating that Pakistan intelligence may be collaborating with elements of the Taliban against the United States. With claims such as these coming to light, how can we move forward with business as usual on the war?

I cannot in good conscience vote to continue funding this war at so high a cost and with no guarantee that our efforts are reaching our goals there and keeping the American people safe.

That is why I vote "no" today.

H.R. 5897, THE "ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION AND INNOVATION
ACT OF 2010"**HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce H.R. 5897, the "Economic Revitalization and Innovation Act of 2010", to authorize the programs of the Economic Development Administration, EDA, for 5 years. This legislation creates new programs and adds additional flexibility to EDA's current authorities to ensure that EDA will continue to meet the challenges of high unemployment in economically distressed communities and the need for innovative job creation programs.

In 1965, I served as a staff member of the Committee on Public Works when President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Public Works and Economic Development Act into law, creating EDA. I was a strong supporter of EDA then and I continue to support the agency now, 45 years later.

I know EDA works because I have seen it work first-hand: providing infrastructure investment, job training, and planning funds to create jobs and economic opportunities in economically distressed communities across the Nation—from blighted urban and rural communities to regions devastated by natural disasters. In fact, we need look no further than in Congress' own back yard where EDA provided critical funding to reconstruct the Eastern Market facility, which was destroyed in a fire. Eastern Market, with assistance from EDA's flexible and responsive programs, was quickly rebuilt, restoring not only bricks and mortar, but economic opportunity for small businesses and jobs for the local community.

In the current difficult economic climate, EDA plays a strategic role in supporting the efforts of economically distressed communities to cope with a diverse range of economic disruptions and move toward recovery. Part of EDA's success is due to the fact that it truly operates its programs as an investor, seeking to obtain the maximum impact for the Federal dollar. EDA investments are also instrumental in attracting private capital to communities. In fact, in fiscal year 2009, EDA invested \$466 million in infrastructure that attracted \$11.7 billion in private investment—or \$25 for every \$1 of Federal investment.

What enables EDA to operate such effective programs is its extensive network of more than 800 local economic development partners across the country. These partners, with assistance from EDA, perform the rigorous regional planning activities necessary to ensure viable, locally-supported, job-creating projects that EDA then funds on a competitive basis. Such projects include:

Construction of a job training center in Delaware to train former auto workers in green building technology and alternative energy systems;

Expansion of port infrastructure in Georgia to allow for increased exports of U.S. manufactured products;

Conversion of an obsolete furniture factory in Mississippi to train workers for new advanced manufacturing positions; and

Expansion of rail infrastructure in Tennessee to service a new industrial park where the first Volkswagen automobile plant in the United States will locate.

These projects are just a handful of EDA's efforts to create jobs and provide the building blocks for economic development in economically distressed communities throughout the nation.

H.R. 5897, the "Economic Revitalization and Innovation Act of 2010", reauthorizes EDA for 5 years and provides the necessary funding and investment tools to enable EDA to help regional and local communities raise the standard of living for their citizens, increase the overall rate of economic growth by expanding economic opportunities, increasing international competitiveness, and fostering a climate to create jobs.

H.R. 5897 provides \$500 million for Economic Development Administration, EDA, investments for each of fiscal years FY 2011 through FY 2015, for a total authorization of \$2.5 billion. This annual investment level is equal to the FY 2008 authorization level, but represents a significant increase over current appropriations levels.

Specifically, the bill authorizes:

\$2.225 billion for economic development investments, including public works and economic adjustment grants;

\$180 million for planning grants to Economic Development Districts (EDDs);

\$50 million for university centers in States, including DC, without such centers; and

Such sums as necessary for EDA administrative expenses.

The authorized funding levels in H.R. 5897 will support grants to economically distressed communities, increased staffing to assist communities, and new and expanded programs.

With more than 8.4 million jobs lost during the recent recession, the call from the American people is "jobs, jobs, jobs." H.R. 5897 is a considered response to this dire need. Major

provisions in H.R. 5897 that accomplish the goal of increasing jobs and support to distressed communities include:

Providing loan guarantees, up to a total of \$500 million, to construct business incubators and science and research parks;

\$25 million in annual funding to support green and alternative energy investments;

Direct funding using EDA's existing network of non-profit lenders to lend to technology and manufacturing companies;

Increased funding to EDA's network of local planning organizations;

Assistance to communities to incentivize manufacturing and technology companies to locate or relocate to the United States from overseas, or "on-shoring";

Funding and direction to EDA and its local planning partner organizations to capitalize on economic development opportunities from high-speed rail; and

Greater flexibility in EDA funding to allow communities to adapt to new economic circumstances, such as high home foreclosures and reduced tax revenues.

By focusing EDA's efforts on proven programs and projects such as business incubators, which tend to generate the greatest number of long-term jobs, we can help facilitate and support the economic renaissance that so many communities need.

I cannot overstate the importance of this legislation. I am sure that every Member has seen firsthand the devastation of lost jobs and distressed communities. As we consider reauthorization of EDA, we must recognize the current economic picture is unsettled: investor confidence and enthusiasm has given way to uncertainty and wariness of future development opportunities. However, EDA, the only Federal agency tasked with the mission of supporting economic development in distressed areas from the ground up, must be empowered to continue to identify opportunities for future economic growth, job creation, and global competitiveness using its expertise and model of proven success.

A complete summary of H.R. 5897, the "Economic Revitalization and Innovation Act of 2010," is included with my statement.

[Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, July 28, 2010]

H.R. 5897, THE "ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION AND INNOVATION ACT OF 2010"

(Introduced by the Honorable James L. Oberstar, the Honorable Eleanor Holmes Norton, and Other Members of the Committee)

AUTHORIZED FUNDING LEVELS AND JOB CREATION GOALS

Authorized Funding Levels

H.R. 5897, the "Economic Revitalization and Innovation Act of 2010," provides \$500 million for Economic Development Administration (EDA) investments for each of fiscal years (FY) 2011 through FY 2015, for a total authorization of \$2.5 billion. This annual investment level is equal to the FY 2008 authorization level, but represents a significant increase over current appropriations levels.

Specifically, the bill authorizes:

\$2.225 billion for economic development investments, including public works and economic adjustment grants;

\$180 million for planning grants to Economic Development Districts (EDDs);

\$50 million for university centers in States (including D.C.) without such centers; and

such sums as necessary for EDA administrative expenses.

Job Creation Goals

Requires that recipients of EDA assistance establish job creation goals as a condition of receipt of EDA assistance, and penalizes recipients for failure to satisfy job creation goals.

EXPANDED SUPPORT FOR BUSINESS INCUBATORS AND SCIENCE AND RESEARCH PARKS

Loan Guarantee Funding

Provides a total of \$500 million in loan guarantees (i.e., a guarantee of non-Federal financing) to enable EDA to provide loan guarantees for the construction and development of business incubators and science and research parks.

Construction Funding

Continues funding for the construction or expansion of business incubators and science and research park facilities under EDA's public works grant program (requiring matching funds).

Operations Funding

Clarifies EDA's ability to provide business incubator operating support.

HIGH-SPEED RAIL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

High-speed Rail Economic Development

Requires EDA to coordinate and evaluate opportunities (including studies and reports) related to high-speed rail projects in conjunction with its local economic development partners and the Department of Transportation. In addition, the bill directs university centers to conduct research and provide technical assistance to communities with respect to the economic development opportunities related to high-speed rail projects. Provides \$500,000 per year to EDDs for high-speed rail economic development planning.

Sustainable Economic Development

Creates a new program for investment (\$25 million annually) in projects focused on economic development and job creation connected to alternative energy technologies (photovoltaic, wind, and geothermal), including assistance to communities for business attraction or retention and alternative energy focused job training analyses.

"ON-SHORING" OF JOBS TO THE UNITED STATES AND INCENTIVES TO ENCOURAGE PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENT IN TECHNOLOGY AND MANUFACTURING COMPANIES

On-Shoring Incentive

Establishes three separate programs to allow or provide preference for EDA investment assistance to projects that locate or relocate technology and manufacturing companies to the United States, including:

Incubator Loan Guarantee Program to provide assistance to a facility that will house technology or manufacturing companies locating or relocating to the United States;

Sustainable Economic Development Program to provide assistance to support the efforts of communities to attract technology and manufacturing businesses locating or relocating to the United States; and

Equity Financing Program to establish preference for a Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) equity investment for technology and manufacturing companies that locate or relocate to the United States.

Equity Financing

Creates a new program that allows EDA's current RLF program to be used to fund investment (up to \$250,000 per company) in exchange for equity. This program will leverage the network of existing RLF third-party, non-profit intermediaries to administer the program. Provides preference to incubator companies, companies commercializing technology at science and research parks, and

technology or manufacturing companies locating or relocating to the United States.

FLEXIBILITY IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
FUNDING OF PROJECTS

*Revolving Loan Funds and Construction
Projects*

Provides EDA grant recipients with authority (pursuant to EDA approval) to redirect funds for new projects that meet EDA criteria.

*BRAC- and Department of Defense-Impacted
Communities*

Authorizes EDA to consider "mission growth" of Defense Base Closure and Realignment (BRAC) or Department of Defense-impacted communities as a criterion for assistance, and allows EDA to consider economic opportunities and not simply economic injury as a basis for assistance to these communities.

Declining Tax Revenue Communities

Authorizes EDA to consider communities' declining tax revenues as the basis for increased Federal share of project costs or an eligibility determination, such as substantial home foreclosure rates creating economic conditions allowing grant assistance to particular communities or regions.

DEFINED ROLE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
DISTRICTS AND INCENTIVES FOR REGIONAL
PLANNING

Role of EDDs

Clearly defines the responsibilities of an EDD in statute to ensure that local communities have an established role in developing economic development projects.

Multi-Regional Planning and Incentives

Allows EDDs to consolidate without the current penalty of reduced EDD funding.

IN CELEBRATION OF FIFTEEN
YEARS OF U.S.-VIETNAM DIPLO-
MATIC RELATIONS

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of 15 years of U.S.-Vietnam diplomatic relations. On July 14, 2010, I joined former President Bill Clinton, Senator JOHN KERRY and Senator JOHN MCCAIN in offering remarks at an event hosted by Ambassador of Vietnam Le Cong Phung and Assistant Secretary of State Kurt Campbell in honor of this occasion.

While time will not permit me to elaborate about the competing interests of ridding the world of colonialism versus communism and America's decision to eventually intervene in Vietnam, the majority of the American people did not know of the complexities facing the countries of the Asia region.

Why, for example, did Ho Chi Minh and so many other Asian leaders become followers of socialist, Marxist, and communist ideologies? One obvious reason is that the worst examples of those who advocated freedom and democracy were those European countries that came and colonized so many of these Asian nations, including Vietnam.

For some 100 years, Vietnam was colonized and exploited by the French and, during President Dwight Eisenhower's Administration, the French government requested American military assistance to fight the Vietnamese who, under the leadership of Ho Chi Minh, were

struggling for independence from French colonial rule. President Eisenhower refused to help the French in Vietnam for the simple reason that French exploitation and colonial policies in the region went against the ideals upon which America was built.

Subsequently, in 1954, long before American intervention in Vietnam, Ho Chi Minh led his people to fight against French colonialism for which the famous battle of Dienbienphu was fought to liberate his country. While Ho Chi Minh's early intent was to get rid of 100 years of French colonialism and establish a better life for his own people, regrettably when the U.S. entered the fray in 1955 and by the time the Nixon administration withdrew U.S. troops forces in 1973, millions of U.S. troops had served in Vietnam, with more than 58,000 killed.

Three to four million Vietnamese were also killed, as were 1.5 to 2 million Laotians and Cambodians. For what, we ask? As a result of this horrific war, U.S.-Vietnam diplomatic and economic relations were virtually non-existent for more than 20 years following North Vietnam's victory in 1975—until President Bill Clinton announced the formal normalization of diplomatic relations with Vietnam on July 11, 1995.

Prior to this, President Clinton announced the end of the U.S. trade embargo in 1994 and, 2 months later, the U.S. Congress passed the Foreign Relations Authorization Act which contained a Sense of the Senate express the chamber's support for the normalization of relations with Vietnam.

In 1997, President Clinton appointed the first post-war ambassador to Vietnam and signed the landmark U.S.-Vietnam bilateral trade agreement, BTA, in 2000. Vietnam did its part, too, improving cooperation on POW/MIA and refugee issues and moving forward on its ongoing reform efforts.

In November 2000, President Clinton visited Vietnam, the first trip by a U.S. President since Richard Nixon went to Saigon in 1969. Tonight, we applaud former President Clinton for his visionary leadership which has led to this moment. I also commend Ambassador Le Cong Phung for the tremendous service he has rendered to his country.

Today, economic ties are the most mature aspect of our bilateral relationship with trade flows exceeding \$15 billion in 2009, more than ten times the level in 2001. But we can do better, and one area that must be addressed is our forgotten responsibility to the victims of Agent Orange because part of normalizing relations means coming to terms with our past.

As Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific and the Global Environment, I have held a series of hearing about Agent Orange and our need to clean up the mess we left behind.

From 1961 to 1971, the U.S. military sprayed more than 11 million gallons of Agent Orange in Vietnam. Agent Orange was manufactured under Department of Defense, DOD, contracts by several companies including Dow Chemical and Monsanto. Dioxin, a toxic contaminant known to be one of the deadliest chemicals made by man, was an unwanted byproduct and is thought to be responsible for most of the medical problems associated with exposure to Agent Orange.

According to Hatfield Consultants, the U.S. Department of Defense as well as Dow Chemical and Monsanto knew as early as 1967 of

the potential long-term health risks, and sought to "censor" relevant news reports, "fearing a negative backlash from government and the public."

More than 30 years later, while research clearly shows that Agent Orange was much more hazardous than anyone would admit, U.S. and Vietnamese victims have not been adequately compensated, and Vietnam has not been cleaned-up. Ironically, Dow is now doing business in Vietnam but refuses to help the victims of Agent Orange, and this is not right.

In 2007, after 40 years, I, too, returned to Vietnam and, at a closing dinner hosted by the National Assembly of Ho Chi Minh City, I had long discussions with members of their Foreign Affairs Committee who had also served in the Vietnam War. Although we were once enemies, we embraced each other as friends who share the same hopes and dreams for our families and countries, and this is how it should be but full normalization will not be achieved until the Agent Orange issue is addressed. It is my sincere hope that we will come together and agree on a way to make this matter right.

Once more, I congratulate the government and people of Vietnam and applaud former President Bill Clinton, President George W. Bush, President George H.W. Bush, President Ronald Reagan, President Barack Obama and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton for all they have done to get us where we are today.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2010

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I have grave concerns about the legislation before the House to provide \$37.1 billion for ongoing military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. Our total war spending in Iraq and Afghanistan including the funding provided by this bill will exceed \$1 trillion. Yet this spending comes without a viable exit strategy for the conflict in Afghanistan which is the longest war in our nation's history.

The recent publication of tens of thousands of leaked field reports on Afghanistan confirm what we already know: Our continued troop presence is alienating the local population, corruption is rampant in the Afghan government, the Taliban population is stronger than ever, and our Pakistani partners are unreliable at best.

Afghanistan is known as the graveyard of empires for a reason. No one since Ghengis Khan—not Alexander the Great, not the Persians, not the Ottomans, not the British, nor the Soviets—has been able to succeed in this troubled country. Some have said the definition of insanity is continuing to do the same thing over and over again and hoping for a different result. We should learn from those who came before us.

Madam Speaker, without an exit strategy, approving billions more of hard-earned taxpayer dollars for the war in Afghanistan is difficult enough to justify. But this cost pales in comparison to the loss of American lives. June

was the deadliest month in the war thus far, when 102 Americans made the ultimate sacrifice.

It is also hard to justify supporting this legislation with billions more for war when the Senate stripped out \$10 billion for an Education Jobs fund that the House provided to help our school districts retain and develop their teaching workforce. I cannot cast a vote for war funding when we can't find the resources to invest in our schools and students.

Most importantly, the President said our mission in Afghanistan must be definable and winnable. I believe it is neither, and I will vote against funding for it.

CONGRATULATING TEAM WASHINGTON AT LAST WEEK'S SPECIAL OLYMPICS IN LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Team Washington on an outstanding performance at last week's Special Olympic National Games in Lincoln, Nebraska.

I'm proud to say that Washington's team took home eleven gold, twenty-two silver and fifteen bronze medals. Two of these medalists are from my district: Jason Raymond from Spokane won one gold and three bronze medals in swimming, and Scott Tobin of Cheney brought home three gold and one silver medal in Track and Field.

Our athletes also won medals in bowling, weight-lifting, shot-put and aquatics—and they were extraordinarily successful in many other events, too.

So today I'd like to congratulate the twenty-seven talented, brave and hardworking athletes from my home State of Washington.

They have inspired us with their strength and determination—and are paving the way for a brighter future for my son Cole and all those with special needs.

On behalf of the U.S. Congress, congratulations, Team Washington. Thank you for making us proud.

POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS IN THE DOMESTIC AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise to draw my colleagues' attention to recent positive developments in the domestic automobile industry. Two-and-a-half years ago, at the onset of the current recession, such good news would have seemed improbable, yet thanks to constructive engagement by the best workers in the world, reinvigorated management, attractive product design, and, in the case of Chrysler and General Motors, timely and thoughtful intervention by the federal government, the United States' automakers are back on track to become industry leaders.

Such leadership is already manifest in three measurable areas. First, after consistent losses for the past 5 years and record low levers of U.S. aggregate demand for the sale of light vehicles, Chrysler, Ford, and General Motors have all reported positive operating earnings and cash flow for the first quarter of 2010. Second, according to the 2009 Harbour Report, all three major U.S. automakers now match or exceed Toyota North America's labor productivity levels in major manufacturing operations in North America. Third and finally, according to the most recent JD Power Initial Quality Survey, the Ford Motor Company is now the highest quality mass production automaker based on consumer rankings, beating out Honda, Toyota, and Nissan.

Indeed, these accomplishments merit praise and confirm the wisdom of the Federal Government's role in nursing the domestic auto industry, whether through loans or tax credits, back to health. This in mind, however, we in Congress and the Administration must continue working together to protect the nascent recovery of Chrysler, Ford, and General Motors and the millions of American jobs they support. We must direct Federal support toward the manufacturing sector to rebuild our dwindling supply base. Further, we must enact initiatives to improve the flow of private credit to consumers, suppliers, and automakers alike, so that they can grow and put more Americans back to work. We must also stridently oppose lop-sided trade agreements and unfair foreign trade practices that put our domestic industries at a competitive disadvantage. Finally, we must ensure our automakers and suppliers have the requisite support to meet future technical challenges, for which foreign companies will surely receive state-financed aid.

I urge my colleagues to join with me in congratulating the domestic automobile industry for its most recent achievements, wish it continued success, and help it compete in the future by creating a level playing field with our trade partners.

IN HONOR OF MAJOR GENERAL RUPERT H. BURRIS

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a fallen hero who was a respected and dedicated officer in the United States Air Force. On July 13, 2010, our State and Nation lost a great patriot when Maj. Gen. Rupert H. Burris of the U.S. Air Force, aged 84, passed away at his home in El Dorado.

General Burris was born in Whelan Springs, Arkansas, to his late parents Thomas and Estelle Burris and attended high school in El Dorado. General Burris graduated from Jackson College in Honolulu, Hawaii.

General Burris enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Forces during World War II and served as a crew member of a B-17 bomber in the European theater of operations. He completed more than 30 bombing missions over Germany and France, serving as an armorer and gunner.

Following the war, General Burris re-enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Forces in 1947, eventu-

ally entering Officer Candidate School in 1948. What followed was a long and distinguished military career. General Burris held numerous commands in the United States and overseas, becoming the first nonrated officer ever to head an Air Force major command.

During his highly decorated career, General Burris received many military awards and decorations, including the Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster; Bronze Star Medal; Meritorious Service Medal; Air Medal with four oak leaf clusters; Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters; Air Force Outstanding Unit Award Ribbon with "V" device; Good Conduct Medal; Vietnamese Honor Medal, First Class; Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm; and the Republic of China Meritorious Service Medal, Class A, Second Degree.

My thoughts and prayers go out to his daughter and son-in-law Clarice and Chris Long; his brother, Thomas; sister, Jane; four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. I know I, along with all Arkansans, will sorely miss General Burris' presence and will try to find solace in the fact General Burris defined what it meant to be a true patriot—dedicating your life to the service of our great Nation and to leave your community better than you found it.

Our Nation is safer and stronger because of the men and women who have dedicated their lives to military service like General Burris. Today, I ask all members of Congress to join me as we honor the life of Maj. Gen. Rupert H. Burris and his legacy, as well as each man and woman in our Armed Forces who gives the ultimate sacrifice in service to our great country.

CONGRATULATING THE PATIENT ADVOCATE FOUNDATION ON THE OPENING OF THEIR NEW HEAD-QUARTERS IN HAMPTON, VIRGINIA

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I take great pride in the fact that Virginia is home to the Patient Advocate Foundation and that the Nation's most vulnerable citizens have such a great group of people working diligently on their behalf. I cannot mention health care in Virginia or the Patient Advocate Foundation without telling you how proud I am to know and have worked with its founder, Nancy Davenport-Ennis. Not only is she an incredible force for health care in Virginia and the Nation, she is also a constituent and a friend.

Nancy's efforts embody the struggle of her friend and mentor, Cheryl Grinnel. Cheryl's battle with cancer and her frustration with the insurance industry inspires Nancy and all of us to do what we can to correct the egregious context in which a patient has to operate in trying to obtain the level of medical care needed to address a serious health condition. Drawing on that inspiration, Nancy and her husband, John Ennis, founded the Patient Advocate Foundation. Nancy and John have worked tirelessly to get laws on the books in Virginia, and she is now at the forefront of the effort to close the health disparities gap and

secure more funding for research and clinical trials.

Since 1996, the Patient Advocate Foundation has advocated for patients who are working through the complexities of a serious illness while navigating through health insurance red tape, selecting the right treatment options for them and their family, while dealing with possible financial problems that arise due to the chosen method of treatment and addressing care giver stress. The Foundation gives hope to many patients and their families on a daily basis. Its number one goal is to get patients the necessary treatment after they are diagnosed with cancer or other life-threatening diseases. Through the Virginia Cares for the Uninsured program, VCUP, the Patient Advocate Foundation provides assistance to individuals who have been diagnosed with a chronic illness but do not have health insurance to pay for treatment or cannot afford treatment. The goal of the Foundation is to connect these individuals with doctors and facilities that will donate treatment services or accept reduced fees while ensuring the patient gets all necessary treatment. The advocacy efforts and community connections of Nancy and John, the executive board of directors, staff and volunteers at the Patient Advocate Foundation are often critical in making this happen.

Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Nancy Davenport-Ennis, president and CEO, the executive board of directors, the staff and volunteers of the Patient Advocate Foundation on the opening of the Foundation's new headquarters in Hampton, Virginia. The Patient Advocate Foundation's executive board of directors includes directors from Virginia as well as national directors including Admiral Deborah Parham Hopson, appointed to serve this year on the Federal Coordinating Council. Three national non-profit patient advocacy organizations are represented on the executive board of directors by Dr. Lovell Jones, co-founder of the Intercultural Cancer Council; Dr. Alan Balch of the Preventive Health Partnership, a collaborative of the American Heart Association, American Diabetes Association and the American Cancer Society; and Venus Gines, executive director and founder of the Dia de la Mujer Latina, Inc. The Foundation's support is partially derived from national non-profit organizations in the United States including the American Cancer Society, Lance Armstrong Livestrong, the Leukemia Lymphoma Society and the Susan G. Komen Foundation. Support over the years has also come from the Centers for Disease Control, the federal appropriations process, the Commonwealth of Virginia and by the Foundation's annual fundraiser in Hampton Roads, where it receives strong support from the business community.

Madam Speaker, with the assistance of 180 full-time employees in their national headquarters in Hampton Roads, a corporate foundation office in San Diego, California, and with satellite locations in Iowa, Florida, North Carolina, New York and Nevada, the Foundation successfully closed 55,364 cases of patients diagnosed with chronic, debilitating and/or life-threatening conditions just last year. The Foundation provides services in both English and Spanish with special national outreach programs to underserved populations, specifically, the African American community and the Hispanic and Latino communities. Additionally,

the Foundation serves the Asian population and Pacific Islanders.

Madam Speaker, access to quality, affordable health care is critical to the well being of our country, today and in the future. While we have accomplished a tremendous feat by passing the health care reform bill this year, we still have much more work to do in Congress and on Main Street U.S.A. I believe the work that the Foundation does is key to fixing our health care system not only in Virginia, but nationwide. It is imperative that we have organizations like the Patient Advocate Foundation to assist the chronically ill through the health care system by helping them get insurance coverage, medical assistance and medication.

Again, I commend the Foundation for all of the work that it has done for the citizens of the 3rd district of Virginia and wish it continued success in its new home.

HONORING THE VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA ON THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MAPLEWOOD CARE CENTER, AND THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HOMESTEAD ASSISTED LIVING CENTER

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to congratulate the Volunteers of America on the 40th anniversary of the Maplewood Care Center, and the 15th anniversary of The Homestead Assisted Living Center. These centers provide a caring community through assisted living housing, short-term rehabilitation, long-term care and dementia care for senior citizens.

The Volunteers of America are a national, non-profit organization that has been active in Minnesota for 114 years. Providing quality community programs and services to those in need for over a century has made them a leader among Minnesota's human service organizations.

A dedication to caring for Minnesota's seniors led the Volunteers of America to open the doors of its Maplewood Minnesota Care Center in 1970. This quality center has provided my community with skilled nursing care for individuals with chronic diseases and for those recovering from illness or injury. In addition to participating in both the Medicare and Medicaid programs. Joining the Maplewood Care Center, on what is now known as the Volunteers of America Maplewood Campus, in 1995, The Homestead Assisted Living Center provides care and an atmosphere of independence for seniors. An on-site Dementia Support group provides support for families with loved ones with dementia.

I commend Volunteers of America for their commitment to Minnesota seniors and for their dedication to providing compassionate, quality care, and housing for those in need.

Madam Speaker, in honor of Volunteers of America, I am pleased to submit this statement.

TRIBUTE TO EDWARD M. CUNNINGHAM

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. BERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise here today to pay tribute to Edward M. Cunningham. On July 19th, 2010 the cause of justice in America and Arkansas lost one of its faithful servants, Edward M. Cunningham of Jonesboro, Arkansas.

After completing special agent training in the FBI, Edward Cunningham dutifully served for over 30 years in law enforcement. He was also a United States Navy Veteran following his service in World War II. His stations would take him to San Francisco in 1951, Little Rock in 1964, Blytheville in 1967, and Jonesboro in 1971. These cities were made safer and their futures brighter by his work and dedication.

He would employ these many years of expertise in his tenure as Chief of Police in Jonesboro from 1979 until his retirement in 1987. Even after his retirement he continued his work by helping to educate the next generation of law enforcement agents by teaching Criminology at Arkansas State University.

A cancer survivor of 51 years, he pledged his time and efforts to encourage and support those battling cancer through his work with the St. Bernard's Auxiliary. Edward Cunningham was a magnanimous individual and a beloved member of his community.

I send Edward's family my deepest condolences for their loss, and hope they can find some comfort in the thought of the powerful and positive mark he left on the communities he served. I ask today of my fellow colleagues that we stand and honor the legacy of Mr. Edward Cunningham.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$13,258,280,104,675.66.

On January 6, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$2,619,854,358,381.86 so far this Congress.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

COMMEMORATING THE TURKISH INVASION OF CYPRUS

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 36th anniversary of the Turkish invasion and continuing occupation of the

northern part of Cyprus. Since then, Cypriots have suffered from the division of their country and countless violations of their human rights by Turkish occupation forces. Even today, there is one Turkish soldier for every 2 Cypriots, making Cyprus one of the most heavily militarized places on Earth. It is important that we recognize not only the anniversary of the invasion, but also the island's ongoing problems at the hands of Turkey.

On July 20, 1974, Turkish troops unlawfully occupied the northern part of Cyprus with a heavily-armed force that maintains control of 37 percent of Cyprus today. This has resulted in the usurpation and exploitation of Cypriot property, as well as the creation of hundreds of thousands of refugees. Additionally, an influx of Turkish immigrants has settled into the evicted Cypriots' homes, permanently altering the demographics of Cyprus and outnumbering native Cypriots by two to one. The UN has passed a multitude of resolutions calling for Turkish withdrawal from Cyprus, but they have been continually ignored.

As Cyprus has always been a reliable partner of the United States, we must not forget the injustices suffered by its people. We must uphold the ideals of freedom, democracy, justice, human rights, and the international rule of law. By invading Cyprus, Turkey is in direct offense to all of these. As much as we would rather have no such grievance to recognize, it is important that we commemorate these injustices today.

I urge my colleagues to join me in expressing the hope that Cyprus will be reunified soon and that peace will return to this beautiful and historic land in the eastern Mediterranean.

IN MEMORY OF DORILL WRIGHT

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. GALLEGLY. Madam Speaker, I rise in memory of Dorill Wright, a close, personal friend of my wife, Janice, and me, who passed away on Sunday.

Dorill served as Mayor of Port Hueneme, California, from 1974–1990 and served as a city councilman and planning commissioner before that. He decided to run for office, he said, because if you're unhappy with government, you should do something about it. It was that same philosophy that led me to my first run for public office.

A member of the Christian Church of Oxnard, Dorill and Jacquelyn, his wife of 63 years, believed in God, community and family and devoted their efforts to all three.

Born and raised in Missouri, Dorill served in the Army Air Corps during World War II. After college, the Navy hired Dorill and four other engineers to form a research laboratory for structures with electrical check equipment.

In 1950, the staff and laboratory were transferred to the Port Hueneme Naval Construction Battalion Center and in 1957 Dorill transferred to Point Mugu. There he served as a field and design engineer and was later named head of the technical support department.

In 1965, Dorill moved his family to Port Hueneme and Dorill started his long and lasting impact on the city. He joined the Chamber of

Commerce, was appointed to the city Planning Commission, was elected to the City Council in 1970, and served on the California Coastal Commission, the Oxnard-Port Hueneme Wastewater Treatment Authority and the Ventura County Association of Governments.

The dedication and love Dorill gave to Port Hueneme was reciprocated when the city named the cultural center in his honor.

Jacqueline passed away in 2005. Surviving Dorill are his three daughters, Valory Wright-Pietruszenko, and her husband, George; Jacquelyn Jay, and her husband, William; and Dorilan Arko, and her husband, Ron; seven grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I know my colleagues will join Janice and me in offering our condolences to the Wright family, and in remembering a remarkable man whose life of service will live on in all those whose lives he touched.

VIET BAO DAILY NEWS' 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WRITING ON AMERICA AWARD

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Viet Bao Daily News' 10th Anniversary of the Writing on America Award. In 2000, Viet Bao Daily News established the Writing on America Award with one simple mission—to create an opportunity for Vietnamese people to share their individual experiences.

The writing competition soon turned into a grand annual award celebration, and then became a uniting set of stories for thousands of Vietnamese people. The initial objective of the writing contest was to preserve the Vietnamese language and cultural values. However, the impact exceeded Viet Bao's initial expectation. The writings have become more than just a compilation of shared, collective philosophical values—they are a means to preserve historical values.

I applaud Viet Bao Daily News for these important achievements. I would also like to congratulate all of the winners and participants, who have contributed countless inspiring stories on their experiences and journey to assimilate in American society. I look forward to seeing the future contributions that Viet Bao Daily News will make to this great country.

HONORING THE VEILLEUX/VIGUE FAMILY REUNION

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Maine Veilleux/Vigue Family Reunion which takes place on September 11, 2010 at the St. John Regional Catholic School in Winslow, Maine.

The history of Maine is rich with the stories of Franco-American heritage. As residents of Maine for many generations, the Veilleux and Vigue family history is intertwined with the history of Maine.

In 1658, Nicolas Verieul, the Veilleux/Vigue family patriarch, immigrated to Canada, and in 1665, he and Marguerite Hyardin, his wife, began the Verieul family. Eventually, many Verieul descendants moved to Maine to become integral parts of the seasonal labor workforce in the early 1800's and permanent residents of Maine in the mid to late 1800's.

The Veilleux/Vigue family history is a story of hard work and significant achievement. Many descendants of Nicolas and Marguerite Verieul have founded their own businesses and thrived as entrepreneurs in the State of Maine. Members of the family have been homemakers, service members, doctors and business owners. What marks them all is their dedication to family, community and hard work.

With their family reunion, the Veilleux/Vigue family has great cause for celebration. For generations, their pioneering family has prospered in Maine and helped make our state a better place. This occasion is a chance to honor the past generations for their sacrifices to give their children a better life today and look ahead to the bright future of the Veilleux/Vigue family.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the hard work, dedication and accomplishments of the Veilleux/Vigue family for their reunion September 11, 2010.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DEAN HELLER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. HELLER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 474, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION EARMARK RESCISSION, SAVINGS AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2010

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Surface Transportation Earmark Rescission, Savings and Accountability Act, and commend my colleague Rep. Betsy Markey for bringing this legislation to the floor today.

Consistent with the Democratic majority's commitment to budget discipline, this bill rescinds unobligated funding for 309 earmarks contained in previous surface transportation authorizations, saving taxpayers \$713 million. While some only like to talk about fiscal responsibility, we are actually delivering it, scrutinizing the budget line by line to find savings for the American taxpayer.

Mr. Speaker, this is good government legislation. It's common sense legislation. It's what our constituents expect of us. And it's part of the Democratic agenda to bring real and responsible budget discipline back to Washington, DC.

I urge a "yes" vote.

THE THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF
HOUSE RESOLUTION 121**HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA**

OF AMERICAN SOMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Korean American Voters' Council for their continued commitment to the advancement of the Korean American community and to remind my colleagues about House Resolution 121, the "comfort women" resolution which was passed by the U.S. House of Representatives on July 30, 2007.

The Korean American Voters' Council was a strong advocate and key initiator in educating members of Congress on the "comfort women" issue three years ago when House Resolution 121 was passed. The Korean American Voters' Council is a grassroots non-profit organization built up of volunteers who work on constituency development, civic participation, voting rights advocacy, and community education within Korean American communities across the country.

Friday, July 30, 2010, will mark the third anniversary of the passing of House Resolution 121. House Resolution 121 calls upon the Government of Japan to make an official and unequivocal apology, taking responsibility for the Japanese Imperial Armed Force's role in enslaving over 200,000 girls and women of Asia as "comfort women" before and during World War II.

House Resolution 121 was sponsored by my distinguished colleague, Representative MICHAEL M. HONDA, and it was my privilege to serve as a co-sponsor of this bill and to hold the first hearing ever held in the U.S. Congress on this sensitive subject. The hearing was held before the House Foreign Affairs' Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific and the Global Environment on February 15, 2007 and paid tribute to those who suffered while acknowledging the past contributions of those Members of Congress like former Chairman Henry Hyde of the House Foreign Affairs Committee and also the late Congressman Lane Evans who also championed this cause.

It has been three years since passage and the resolution clearly expressed a need for a formal acknowledgement and apology by the Government of Japan, through the Prime Minister to the victims of this atrocity. The Government of Japan has had multiple changes in the Prime Minister position and not one has formally acknowledged and apologized for this human rights violation. The victims are running out of time for this apology, as most of them are elderly, and the time is now for the Government of Japan to formally apologize for their past mistake.

I strongly urge the Government of Japan to formally acknowledge and apologize in order to begin the reconciliation process and to create better relationships in the future. Japan cannot move forward by erasing the past and it is of the utmost importance that Japan follows through on House Resolution 121.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO
REVEREND EARLINE MCGREGOR**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, on August 13 a birthday dinner will be held for Reverend Earline McGregor of Kendleton, Texas, to celebrate his eighty-fifth birthday and thank him for his years of community service. It is my pleasure to join the people of Kendleton in wishing Reverend McGregor a happy birthday and thanking him for all he has done for his community, his state, and his country.

Earline McGregor was born on August 26, 1926 in Brenham, Texas. He spent over a year in the army in World War II. After receiving an honorable discharge from the Army, Earline McGregor decided to continue to serve his country by joining the Air Force. After twenty years of distinguished service in the Air Force, he retired with an honorable discharge in 1971.

Since leaving the military, Reverend McGregor has worked as a Metro Bus Driver in Austin and also owned his own landscaping business. Today, Reverend McGregor serves his community by working as an associate minister and Sunday school teacher at Oak Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Kendleton, Fort Bend County, Texas under the leadership of Pastor Pleas Mayfield Sr.

Madam Speaker the parishioners of Oak Hill Missionary Baptist Church, and the entire Kendledon community, are fortunate to have the services of someone as dedicated to public service as Reverend McGregor. It is therefore a pleasure to once again join the people of Kendleton in wishing a very happy birthday to Reverend Earline McGregor.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, Monday July 26th, I was unable to cast my votes on H.R. 1320, H. Res. 1504, and H.R. 3101 and wish the record to reflect my intentions had I been able to vote. Last night I was conducting a town hall meeting at the Mahomet Village Hall in Mahomet, Illinois and was unable to travel to Washington, DC in time for the votes.

Had I been present on rollcall No. 467 on suspending the rules and passing H.R. 1320, To amend the Federal Advisory Committee Act to increase the transparency and accountability of Federal advisory committees, and for other purposes, I would have voted "nay."

Had I been present on rollcall No. 468 on suspending the rules and passing H. Res. 1504, Recognizing and honoring the 20th anniversary of the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present on rollcall No. 469 on suspending the rules and passing H.R. 3101,

Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING FIRE CHIEF POSEY W. DILLON AND VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER WILLIAM DANIEL ALTICE

HON. THOMAS S.P. PERRIELLO

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. PERRIELLO. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor two brave firefighters from Rocky Mount, Virginia, who passed away on July 26, 2010.

Earlier this week, Fire Chief Posey W. Dillon and volunteer firefighter William Daniel (Danny) Altice were tragically killed in a fatal traffic accident while responding to a house fire in Rocky Mount, Virginia. While we mourn this heartbreaking event, we are reminded of the risk our first responders assume every day to protect us all. Throughout Franklin County and the 5th District, we are in mourning over the passing of these two courageous men, who committed themselves to the service of others.

Fire Chief Dillon was a man of remarkable faith, who strove to serve his community throughout his life. From 1980 to 2000, he served on the Rocky Mount Town Council, including 8 years as Vice Mayor. In 2006, he was reappointed to the Town Council and re-assumed his position as Vice Mayor two years later. Additionally, he spent 33 years with the Rocky Mount Volunteer Fire Department. During this time, he rose up through the ranks, becoming Chief in 1990, a position he would hold for 20 years. His vision and leadership throughout his 30 years of civic involvement helped shape the town of Rocky Mount and his legacy will continue long after his passing.

Danny Altice began as a volunteer firefighter at the age of 20 and served the Rocky Mount community for over 47 years. During his distinguished career, he spent seven years as Fire Chief from 1977 to 1984, and was awarded the 2008 Lifetime Achievement Service Recognition Award by the Rocky Mount Volunteer Fire Department. He helped teach younger members of the department how to handle difficult situations and could always be counted on for his leadership through challenging circumstances. In becoming a firefighter, he followed in the footsteps of his father, who was a founding member of the Rocky Mount volunteer force. His legacy will be carried on by his brother, who serves as a firefighter in Rocky Mount, as well as his son, who serves in Boones Mill.

My heart and prayers go out to the families of our fallen heroes and to the entire Rocky Mount community, which has lost two of its finest. In remembrance of their sacrifice, I have requested that two flags be flown over the United States Capitol and then presented to their loved ones. On behalf of Virginia's 5th District, I honor the passing of these heroes, and ask that their legacies be remembered for years to come.

INDIAN ARTS AND CRAFTS
AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 21, 2010

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 725, the Indian Arts and Crafts Amendments Act of 2010, and specifically the tribal law and order provisions now included.

The federal government has a unique trust relationship with the 564 sovereign tribal nations in the United States, and it is part of this trust responsibility for the federal government to provide law enforcement in Indian Country. The United States is not meeting its obligation. There are not enough law enforcement officers patrolling reservations, and the statistics illustrate the consequences. American Indians and Alaska Natives suffer from the highest crime rates in the nation. Federal law enforcement failed to prosecute more than half of the violent crimes in Indian Country, including sexual assault cases. This is especially troubling because the U.S. Justice Department found that one in three Native women will be raped in her lifetime.

That is why I urge my colleagues to support this bill and the tribal law and order provisions within it. This legislation improves law enforcement on tribal land by encouraging the prosecution of more crime, by increasing penalties for reservation offenders and by establishing protocols to address sexual violence. It encourages coordination between federal agencies, law enforcement officials and tribal communities for investigation and prosecution purposes. Under this act, tribal courts would be able to sentence offenders up to three years; currently, they can only sentence for up to one year. These changes are desperately needed.

This bill is a positive step towards meeting our trust responsibility and protecting Indian Country. As a member of the Congressional Native American Caucus, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 725.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, on Monday, July 26, 2010, I was unable to be present for recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote No. 467 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1320, as amended), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 468 (on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1504, as amended), and "yes" on rollcall vote No. 469 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3101, as amended).

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 5817, THE
FOSTERING SUCCESS IN EDU-
CATION ACT**HON. JOHN LEWIS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I am proud to sponsor the Fostering Success in Education Act. This legislation is the House companion to Senator FRANKEN and Senator MURRAY's bill and lays out a clear road map to assisting young people in the child welfare system.

This legislation continues the efforts of the P.L. 110-351, Fostering Connections Act by improving educational assistance for those most in need—children and youth in the child welfare system. I hope that the Fostering Success in Education Act will enjoy the same bipartisan support and consideration to help these young people who have no one else.

Today, more than half a million children are living in foster care. As a member of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support, I have constantly heard from young people who struggle as they are constantly moved from home to home, and school to school when they are in foster care. Those in the child welfare system have not chosen this life; they did not ask to be victims of neglect and abuse. For a variety of reasons beyond their control, foster care children are uprooted from all that they know and rely on us for help.

We all remember our years in elementary, middle, and high school. We recall our friends, classmates, teachers, extracurricular activities, favorite classes, and hardest subjects. For foster care youth, it's a whirlwind of memories. Names, faces, classes, teachers, grades, and subjects are a blur. Imagine being the new kid, over and over and over again without the support you need. Imagine maneuvering the bureaucracy and politics of different schools and school districts on your own as a 12-year-old, as a 16-year-old, as a 6-year-old. This bill ensures that youth in foster care have school stability, immediate access to tools and resources, and the necessary support for academic success.

Madam Speaker, I believe that each and every young person has a right to a childhood; each has a right to a basic education. I believe that in addition to consistency, friendships, and healthy relationships, education is the key to opportunity, stability, and success. It is a cornerstone of our nation's values of democracy, hope, and infinite possibility.

The Fostering Success in Education Act takes us one step further in the right direction and responds to these all-too-real issues. Madam Speaker, I hope all of my colleagues will support this worthy and important legislative effort.

HONORING BILL LEGERE

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bill Legere on being

named the Maine Hospital Association's Caregiver of the Year and to recognize his many accomplishments as a medical professional.

After studying health care at the University of Southern Maine, Bill went on to work at Central Maine Medical Center. As a nurse practitioner in the ER at CMMC, he provides medical care and comfort to patients and their families.

When he suddenly and tragically lost his 9-year-old daughter, Grace, two years ago, Bill's response was not to give in to grief. Instead, Bill and his wife launched the Foundation for Hope and Grace, a charity in Grace's memory that provides grants to families looking to adopt and financial help to organizations that help orphans and other children in need.

Bill's ability to set people at ease, his willingness to stay late to support his colleagues and his empathy and selflessness in all aspects of his life meant that this year he was nominated by co-workers for the Caregiver of the Year award. He was selected from among 19 Maine doctors and nurses by the award committee, who was impressed by his outstanding work and humanistic approach to medical care.

An accomplished, compassionate, and deeply humble man, Bill Legere exemplifies the type of caregiver that every hospital and community would be lucky to have. His co-workers related stories of Bill taking the time to reassure a frightened child and being an ally for patients who might otherwise be intimidated by the medical process.

Bill has left a lasting mark on CMMC, its workers, its patients, and their loved ones. On behalf of the people of Maine, it is with pride that I congratulate Bill for his excellent work. I wish him, his wife Teresa, and his daughters Sarah and Deanna the best, especially as Sarah and Deanna become big sisters to their new sisters from Uganda.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Bill Legere for his continued commitment to providing medical care and support to the people of Maine.

NEXT GENERATION PUBLIC
SAFETY DEVICE ACT OF 2010**HON. JANE HARMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Ms. HARMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the bipartisan Next Generation Public Safety Device Act of 2010 with my Energy and Commerce colleague Representative JOHN SHIMKUS, Co-Chair of the E-911 Caucus. Our legislation is intended to spur development of 21st Century public safety communication devices that will provide the highest-speed transmission of data, voice, and video services over the Internet.

Almost a decade after 9/11, America's first responders still do not have the communication tools they need to support their mission.

Currently, the public safety device market is a monopoly. There are two reasons for lack of competition: first, this particular market is relatively small, and second, the device requirements are unique. As a result, first responders and local governments can pay up to \$5,000 per radio. The money spent on these devices

has not enabled seamless on-the-ground coordination between first responders or the ability to access databanks, fingerprint records, facial recognition software, or streaming video.

To solve the problem, our bill authorizes \$70 million for a research and development grant program to build devices that support data, video, and voice communications.

This bill charges the National Telecommunications and Information Agency to coordinate with a working group, consisting of the Federal Communications Commission, the DHS Office of Emergency Communications, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, and public safety stakeholders, to develop criteria, evaluate devices in multiple stages, and select products for funding and licensing. This process will produce devices ready for first responders' use within five years—hopefully sooner. Thereafter, the GAO will study the process by which the program was carried out, the impacts of the grant program on competition in the market and the development of first responder devices. The cost of this program will not add to the deficit because it is offset by extending the authority of the FCC to auction spectrum.

Directed research and development is essential to achieving interoperability because it will drive down cost and develop devices that public safety has a hand in selecting. Equally as important, this bill will accelerate the development of those devices, quickly giving public safety more options with new cost savings to states and localities, and assurance that the technology can be trusted for their important work.

This bill has the support of the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials, which has identified research and development as one of its top priorities. The Fraternal Order of Police and the National Emergency Numbers Association also endorse the bill, as do Sprint and the Rural Cellular Association.

We in Congress must ensure public safety officials have access to a competitive, dynamic, and innovative market for the devices that are used to save lives and help protect our communities.

I hope that this effort will bring technologists, first responders, and government together to create innovative solutions for a major national security concern, and urge prompt action on this legislation.

THE DIRECT CARE WORKFORCE EMPOWERMENT ACT

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, imagine a very tall corporate office building, and a man is working inside sitting at his desk dressed in a suit and tie. He is talking on the phone while working from his computer and sipping a latte.

Now imagine a very small home in a quiet neighborhood, and a woman is working inside, wearing sneakers and comfortable clothes. She is straining to lift up an elderly man almost twice her size trying to help him put on his t-shirt to get ready for lunch.

Is the work the corporate man is doing more important than the home-worker? More valued? Better paid?

I am here to say that all work has dignity. I am here to say that our nation's laws should respect the work we all do.

Yet, even in America, some workers are paid less than the minimum wage.

Even in America, some are denied overtime pay.

Even in America, some people do not have health insurance or other benefits, and their wages are so low that they need to turn to food stamps to make ends meet.

I am introducing legislation today to show that in America, all work does have dignity.

I am introducing legislation that will say, "Regardless of the work you do, if you do it well, you should be compensated enough to take care of your family and put food on the table."

This legislation is meant to provide equity to those we trust enough to let in our homes and care for our loved ones. Home care workers are the linchpin of our nation's long-term care system, providing essential care and daily living services to more than 13 million Americans.

However, they are among the worst-paying jobs in America—mostly because of Department of Labor regulations that exclude them from federal minimum wage and overtime protections.

In 1975, after Congress had revised the Fair Labor Standards Act to include previously excluded domestic service workers, the Department of Labor issued rules that exempted home care aides from the federal overtime and minimum wage protections.

The Clinton Administration's Department of Labor issued proposed rules to correct this injustice, but the Bush Administration withdrew those proposals.

Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis, tasked with the tough job of trying to fix eight years of neglect and anti-worker policies at the Department of Labor, has committed to remedy this injustice by including it on her regulatory agenda. And I commend those efforts.

But I believe that workers not only need the right regulations, but they also need the right law. I want to make sure that any administration—whether it is this one, or one to come, can never tell any worker they are "less than."

The Direct Care Workforce Empowerment Act would do three things: ensure that home care workers receive the federal minimum wage and overtime protections of the Fair Labor Standards Act; improve federal and state data collection and oversight with respect to the direct care workforce; and establish a grant program to help states improve direct care worker recruitment, retention, and training.

Yesterday, someone asked me why this was so important to me. Home care touches all of us—most of us in this room know someone who has required the assistance of a home care worker.

They help their patients with daily living, enabling them to stay in their homes and maintain independence. As the daughter of a father living with Alzheimer's—I know just how important home care workers are.

Yet, every year, home care aides land on Forbes magazine's list of the "25 worst-paying jobs in America." The mean annual wages put them behind parking lot attendants.

Once hired, they leave in droves; turnover rates run 50 to 80 percent a year.

Rights earned decades ago by similar workers continue to be denied to these hard-

working healthcare providers. Yet, even healthcare reform signed into law this year failed to protect these workers, even though their jobs directly relate to quality of care.

People with disabilities, seniors, and anyone needing home care on a permanent or temporary basis deserves caring, decently trained, and well-paid workers caring for them.

Direct-care workers constitute one of the largest and fastest-growing workforces in the country, playing a vital role in job creation and economic growth, particularly in low-income communities.

These workers help their clients bathe, dress, eat, and negotiate a host of other daily tasks. They are a lifeline for those they serve, as well as for families struggling to provide quality care.

If labor conditions are not improved, the demand for more workers may prove difficult to meet and the quality of care may decline. Those who work in the industry will become less and less able to meet basic living expenses for themselves and their families.

Let's make things right for workers—no matter whether they sit behind a desk or care for someone in a home.

Our working Americans—care givers and care receivers—deserve this.

RECOGNIZING THE FREIGHT RAILROAD INDUSTRY

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2010

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1401, expressing gratitude for the contributions that the air traffic controllers of the United States make to keep the traveling public safe and the airspace of the United States running efficiently, and for other purposes. I must commend and thank Congresswoman MCCARTHY for her leadership on this legislation and her dedication to recognizing the brave work of air traffic controllers.

Just last week, a plane taking off from my home state of Georgia was forced to make an emergency landing at Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport after a tire blew during takeoff. The plane circled the skies for several hours and with the help of air traffic controllers on the ground, the plane was able to land safely. No one was injured, and the passengers were routed to another flight.

This example is just one of many describing the crucial job of air traffic controllers, a group that might remain unrecognized were it not for this resolution. Everyday air traffic controllers work to keep the traveling public safe and U.S. airspace running efficiently. They execute their job with the highest level of efficiency and maintain a calm and professional manner despite the stressful circumstances they may encounter.

H. Res. 1401 serves as a small thank you and acknowledgement to air traffic controllers for their often heroic actions, dedication, and quick and skilled decision making to help avert many accidents and tragedies. Additionally, the resolution serves as an opportunity to encourage greater investment in the modernization of the air traffic control system so that

they have the resources and technology to better carry out their mission.

Mr. Speaker I urge my colleagues to support this legislation. It serves as an opportunity to give air traffic controllers the acknowledgment they so deserve and encourage them to keep our skies safe for all.

NINA ARCHABAL'S 23 YEARS OF SERVICE TO MINNESOTA AS THE DIRECTOR OF THE MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Nina Archabal for her 33 years of service to the Minnesota Historical Society, including 23 years of service as the Director.

The Minnesota Historical Society is a private nonprofit organization that was founded in 1849 to preserve the history of the State of Minnesota, while providing educational and cultural learning opportunities. Today, the society operates 26 historic sites and museums throughout the state of Minnesota.

Ms. Archabal began her distinguished career with the Minnesota Historical Society in 1977. In 1987, Archabal became the Historical Society's 10th Director after serving nine years as deputy director.

While at the helm of the Historical Society, Archabal oversaw several major projects including the construction of the Minnesota Historical Society Center in Saint Paul, the Mille Lacs Indian Museum in Onamaia and the Mill City Museum in Minneapolis. These projects have helped to preserve and protect Minnesota's past and tell Minnesota's story. Visitors to Historical Society sites learn about our past through unique and engaging exhibits, including "living history" demonstrations like the beloved celebration of the holidays at the Saint Paul home of Minnesota's first territorial governor, Alexander Ramsey, where visitors experience Christmas 1875 by meeting "members" of the Ramsey family, sampling fresh cookies from the wood-burning stove. These unique traditions make history accessible and understandable to young and old alike.

Throughout her career, Nina Archabal has demonstrated strength of character, hard work, dedication and perseverance that has made the Minnesota Historical Society a national model for historic preservation and interpretation. I value her service and commitment, which will be felt by generations of Minnesotans in the future.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Nina Archabal for her 23 years of service for the state of Minnesota. It is my honor to submit this statement.

SOCIAL SECURITY'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. WAXMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the

Social Security program. Social Security has been one of the most popular and successful government programs in our nation's history. It is a social compact that extends across all generations and all income groups. More than 95 percent of American workers pay into the system and without it, more than half of today's seniors would live below the poverty line. In addition to lifting millions of elderly Americans out of poverty, Social Security provides vital social insurance to countless disabled workers and survivor benefits for dependent spouses and families. Because so many people depend upon the Social Security benefits they have earned over a lifetime of work, any changes in the current system must be reviewed very carefully. Any effort to change the Social Security system should be bipartisan, reflect broad public support and continue to ensure a guaranteed benefit with annual cost-of-living adjustments. I will continue to work with my colleagues to preserve and strengthen the current Social Security program and to oppose any plan that would violate our nation's compact with retirees.

RECOGNIZING PASTOR SHAWN BLACK

HON. JOHN CAMPBELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. CAMPBELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a constituent of mine, Pastor Shawn Black of Calvary Chapel in Costa Mesa, California. Pastor Black served as our guest Chaplain this morning. Eight years ago, he founded Project Prayer Flag, a non-profit organization which has supported over 700,000 American military personnel by providing care packages and support for troops' families. Pastor Black himself volunteered for military service at age 17, and in addition to his ministry, has spent over twenty years in law enforcement, including a stint as a Federal Air Marshal from 2002–2005. I would like to thank him for opening this session of Congress today in prayer, as well as for his many years of dedicated service to our country.

TRIBUTE TO NICK DANIEL BACON

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. BERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of a Medal of Honor recipient, a committed advocate of veterans' rights, and a true American hero. On July 17th, 2010 Nick "Nicky" Bacon passed away at the age of 64 after a hard-fought battle with cancer. He lived a life of service to our nation's military, our country and our state.

Nick Bacon served in the United States Army from 1963 to 1984; in his service he displayed a love of country and faithful service to his fellow soldiers. While serving, he risked his life and led two platoons forward through heavy enemy fire to save men pinned down on the battlefield. It was for this act of selfless valor and courage under fire that Nick Bacon earned the Congressional Medal of Honor. In

his long and dedicated career he was also awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, Legion of Merit, two Bronze Stars, and Purple Heart.

Following his service in the Army, Nick Bacon served his fellow veterans and his state as Director of the Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs and President of the Medal of Honor Society. He had steadfast support for the veterans of Arkansas and was instrumental in the creation of the Arkansas State Veterans Cemetery and the Arkansas State Veterans Cemetery Beautification Foundation.

I wish First Sergeant Bacon's family the deepest condolences for their loss. Nick Bacon conducted his life in a selfless, dedicated manner that we all should aspire to; his service and sacrifice will not soon be forgotten in his state or by his fellow soldiers. I ask today of my fellow colleagues that we stand and honor the legacy of First Sergeant Nick Bacon.

HONORING MR. SHEPARD "SHEP" LEE

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the accomplishments and life of Shepard "Shep" Lee, who passed away on June 23rd of this year.

Shep was a well-known entrepreneur and philanthropist within the state of Maine. After taking over his father's local automobile dealership in 1947, he eventually expanded the business to encompass thirteen locations throughout Maine. He was a true pioneer in his field and was never afraid to take a risk to help the business community. He was the first local car dealer to use television ads in the 1960s and employ a board of directors. He was a tireless advocate of economic development in Maine, even offering advice to competitors.

In addition, Shep is remembered for his contributions to the greater community. A graduate of Bowdoin College, he championed educational progress, donating generous amounts to both Bowdoin and Bates Colleges and the George Mitchell Scholarship fund. He sat on the law and business school boards of the University of Southern Maine, the board of the Muskie School of Public Service and the Maine Community College Board.

His life-long commitment to gender equality and civil rights was also remarkable. He was an active member of the Maine branch of the NAACP and served on the board of the American Civil Liberties Union, later receiving the Roger Baldwin Award, the ACLU's higher honor. Shep supported gay rights legislation well before the passage of Maine's non-discrimination law.

An advisor, friend and tireless fund-raiser for Senator George Mitchell, the late Justice Frank Coffin and the late Edmund Muskie, Shep's political activism was notable both locally and nationally. He is fondly remembered by his friends, family and colleagues, and his contributions to the State of Maine will not soon be forgotten.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Shepard Lee for his life of dedication and service to his community and his country.

H.R. 5892, THE WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2010

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, together with Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment Chairwoman EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON, I rise today to introduce H.R. 5892, the "Water Resources Development Act of 2010". This legislation continues the longstanding tradition of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure to address the critical infrastructure needs of the Nation, including its water-related infrastructure.

The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure is second to none in terms of authorizing investment in our Nation's vital infrastructure projects. Whether the issue is investment in our Nation's wastewater infrastructure, investment in our nation's highways and public transit, or investment in our nation's water-related infrastructure, this Committee is committed to investment in our Nation's infrastructure, to create well-paid jobs that cannot be outsourced, and to ensure the economic and environmental health and well-being of this Nation for decades to come.

Every day, we see and hear of the Nation's crumbling infrastructure, and, on a bipartisan basis, are moving an agenda to repair and replace existing assets, and to plan for the next generation of highways, bridges, transit systems, airports, water transportation, and water-related infrastructure.

Last year, in an effort to stave off the worst impacts of the economic downturn, Congress passed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Pub. L. 111–5. The Recovery Act has already played a key role in putting Americans back to work. The Recovery Act enabled communities to invest in safe and reliable modes of transportation, invest in our Nation's economy and environment, and ensure that the next generation will be provided with the same opportunities that were provided to us by our predecessors.

Yesterday, our Committee held its 20th oversight hearing on the implementation of the Recovery Act, and heard testimony that, as of July 2009, 17,024 highway, transit, and wastewater infrastructure projects have broken ground across the nation, totaling \$32.7 billion—that is 86 percent of the total available formula funds. Within this total, work has been completed on 6,920 projects, totaling \$5.3 billion. Many of the projects built with these Recovery Act funds were originally considered and authorized by this Committee, including projects and studies authorized in prior water resources development acts.

Under the Recovery Act's appropriation of \$4.6 billion for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Corps, the agency has committed \$3.9 billion for 793 projects, or 85 percent of its total allotment. These investments have enabled the Corps to repair or improve 155 lock chambers, and maintain or improve harbors and waterways that serve over 2,400 commercial ports. In addition, through the Recovery Act, the Corps has initiated 1,132 flood risk management projects to improve dam or levee safety, and 1,034 projects to maintain or upgrade recreation areas.

The basis for these types of investments is the water resources development act. For dec-

ades, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure has strived to enact a water resources development act every Congress. Since at least 1986, this Committee has been successful in reporting legislation, every Congress, to meet the water-related infrastructure needs of the Nation. While these efforts were not always successful in moving a bill to the President's desk for his consideration, the tradition of our Committee, under both Democratic and Republican majorities, is to address the critical needs of the Nation in a timely and regular manner.

Following the successful enactment of the Water Resources Development Act of 2007, Pub. L. 110–114, the current Democratic and Republican leadership of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure renewed our commitment to enactment of a water resources development act in every Congress. Through a water resources bill, Congress authorizes critical navigation, flood damage reduction, and environmental restoration projects and studies carried out by the Corps. Throughout its history, these water resources development acts have provided the Corps with the authority to carry out nationally significant projects that have improved the economic prosperity of the nation, have protected its citizenry from the threat of flooding and coastal storms, and have put in place restoration efforts for many of America's natural treasures. In the Water Resources Development Act of 2007, Congress authorized major navigation projects along the coasts of the United States, and throughout its interior, authorized projects for the long-term recovery and restoration of coastal Louisiana from the effects of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and authorized the first critical projects for the restoration of the Florida Everglades.

Today, the Corps maintains more than 11,000 miles of channels for commercial navigation and operates locks at 230 sites. One-half of all locks are more than 50 years old. The Corps also maintains 300 deep commercial harbors and 600 shallow coastal and inland harbors. There are 75 hydropower plants at Corps facilities producing one-fourth of the Nation's hydroelectric power. To address flood risks, the Corps manages 383 major lakes and reservoirs, and 8,500 miles of levees. The Corps estimates that, on average, its civil works projects prevent \$20 billion in flood damages every year.

The enactment of water resources development acts has a unique history, in which Congress authorizes each individual project. Since the first authorizations for these projects in the earliest days of our Nation, Congress has always provided line-item authorizations for each project. Congress has never authorized a blank check to the Corps to enable it to invest wherever it chooses.

Given this unique history, and in the interest of transparency and accountability, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure charted a new chapter for project authorizations at the outset of the 110th Congress. We adopted a policy requiring each project authorization in the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 to be requested by a Member of Congress and accompanied by a "no financial interest" certification signed by the requesting Member.

Every project authorization included in the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 was specifically requested by a Member of

Congress, either in the House of Representatives or the United States Senate, and each request of a Member of the House was accompanied by a certification from the Member that neither he nor she nor his or her spouse had a financial interest in the project. This information was made publicly available through the Committee report, the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, and in the Joint Explanatory Statement of the Conference Report prior to consideration of the legislation in the House of Representatives.

That transparency and accountability principle continues to be the policy of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure in the formulation of H.R. 5892, the "Water Resources Development Act of 2010." In December 2009, the Committee received more than 2,000 individual requests from both Democratic and Republican Members for projects and studies to be included in the water resources development bill. Although this bill includes only a small percentage of those requests, the legislation introduced today represents progress in meeting the next generation of critical navigation, flood damage reduction, and environmental restoration projects for our Nation.

In addition, with the introduction of this legislation, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure has instituted an additional measure of transparency and accountability by requiring that all project and study requests included in the introduced bill be publicly disclosed and made electronically-available on the Internet, along with a copy of the individual certifications from Members of Congress stating that neither the Member nor his or her spouse has a financial interest in the project, and a copy of a letter from the State or local government expressing support for the project.

A summary of H.R. 5892, the "Water Resources Development Act of 2010", is included with my statement.

H.R. THE "WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2010"
IN GENERAL

Reaffirms the continuing commitment of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure to the nation's water resources infrastructure, and a regular authorization schedule for the Civil Works Program of the Army Corps of Engineers to address new and emerging water resources needs, and to fine-tune the Corps' missions and responsibilities.

Authorizes three projects with Chief of Engineer's reports relating to hurricane and storm damage reduction, and ecosystem restoration.

Includes technical changes to the Corps' programmatic authorities, including: clarifying the intent of Congress related to the Corps' crediting authority; increasing the transparency of independent reviews; and improving the effectiveness of mitigation that addresses impacts from Corps' projects on the natural environment.

Establishes a policy for increased expenditures from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund to ensure that annual revenues collected are utilized to meet the nation's navigation maintenance dredging needs.

Authorizes the Corps of Engineers to work with local communities in the assessment and evaluation of local flood control structures, including levees.

NAVIGATION AND COMMERCE

Authorizes four small projects for navigation.

Authorized additional Federal funding for the upgrade of the St. Lawrence Seaway.

FLOOD DAMAGE REDUCTION

Authorizes 29 small flood damage reduction projects.

HURRICANE AND STORM DAMAGE REDUCTION
AND SHORE PROTECTION

Authorizes the project Mississippi Coastal Improvements Program, Hancock, Harrison, and Jackson Counties, Mississippi.

Authorizes the project West Onslow Beach and New River Inlet (Topsail Beach), Pender County, North Carolina.

Authorizes ten smaller projects for shoreline and streambank protection.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION AND
PROTECTION

Authorizes the project for Mid-Chesapeake Bay Island Ecosystem Restoration Project, Chesapeake Bay.

Authorizes 31 smaller projects for aquatic ecosystem restoration and increases the per-project limit for small aquatic ecosystem restoration projects and small project modifications for improvement of the environment to \$10 million.

Authorizes the Corps of Engineers to upgrade the initial electrical barrier and implement additional barriers in and around the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal to enhance efforts in keeping the Asian Carp from entering the Great Lakes.

Directs the Secretary to study the potential for hydrologic separation of the Mississippi River basin system and the Great Lakes basin at the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal. Directs the Corps to develop a comprehensive plan for restoration of the Chesapeake Bay, in coordination with other Federal agencies and consistent with the Chesapeake Bay Agreement.

Directs the Corps to develop a comprehensive plan for carrying out ecosystem restoration projects within the coastal waters of the Northeastern United States.

STUDY AUTHORITY

Authorizes the Secretary to undertake more than 160 studies for potential future water resource projects, including potential projects for navigation, flood damage reduction, hurricane and storm damage reduction, environmental restoration, and water supply.

WATERSHED PLANNING

Increases the opportunities for the Corps to facilitate watershed planning and carry out watershed and river basin assessments.

Authorizes the Corps of Engineers to undertake a comprehensive water supply and allocation study for the State of Georgia.

CONGRATULATING ROGERS-LOWELL
CHAMBER FOR RECEIVING
FIVE-STAR U.S. ACCREDITATION

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Rogers-Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce for receiving a five-star accreditation from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. There are 66 chambers in the country to hold this honor and it is the only chamber in Arkansas to earn this recognition, the U.S. Chamber's highest accreditation.

The chamber goes through accreditation every five years. This measures achievement and shows how to reach and maintain industry standards. Accreditation also provides a path to building effective chambers and helps

chambers effectively fight for business. The chamber received a perfect score on five of the nine sections of the review.

The Rogers-Lowell chamber received this award five years ago and is a great example for the state and the country. This honor truly reflects the chamber's enthusiasm and dedication to working on behalf of the Arkansas business community.

This is an honor in which few receive. I am very proud of the Rogers-Lowell Area Chamber for this accomplishment. I am confident the good work will continue and I look forward to celebrating and recognizing its future successes.

HONORING THE WILLIAM LADD
CHAPTER OF VETERANS FOR
PEACE

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the William Ladd Chapter of Veterans for Peace for their 25 years of commitment to the cause of world peace.

Veterans for Peace was founded in 1985 and is comprised of veterans from all across the country. It includes men and women veterans of all eras and duty stations spanning the Spanish Civil War, World War II, the Korean, Vietnam, Gulf and current Iraq wars as well as other conflicts.

The founding and success of the Maine chapter of Veterans for Peace is a story of humanitarianism and cooperation based on collective experience. Twenty five years ago, several Maine Vietnam veterans drew up the organizational documents for what today has become a leading voice for peace in the Nation.

For 25 years, Maine Veterans for Peace have used their unique perspective as veterans to work toward increasing public awareness of the costs of war. They are a constant reminder that non-violent means of problem solving are not just possible, but necessary. They have tirelessly worked to restrain the government from intervening, overtly and covertly, in the internal affairs of other nations, to end the arms race and to reduce and eventually eliminate nuclear weapons, to seek justice for veterans and victims of war and to abolish war as an instrument of national policy. To achieve these goals, members of Veterans for Peace use non-violent means and maintain an organization that is both democratic and open.

With their 25th anniversary, the William Ladd Chapter of Maine Veterans for Peace has great cause for celebration. Their successful work and meaningful contributions to the State, the Nation and the world are immeasurable.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the William Ladd Chapter of Veterans for Peace for their outstanding work to change and bring peace to the world.

CONDEMNING TERRORIST
ATTACKS IN KAMPALA, UGANDA

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2010

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1538, condemning the July 11 terrorist attacks in Uganda, which claimed over 70 lives, including an American citizen, and Delawarean, Nate Henn.

Nate was in Uganda working as a volunteer for Invisible Children, a group dedicated to ending the practice of child soldiers in war. Nate left University of Delaware in 2008 and had been working with Invisible Children ever since. The tribes he worked with nicknamed him "Oteka," which means "The Strong One" and from all the accounts of his work that I have read, he was more than deserving of that name.

This coordinated terrorist attack was both brutal and targeted, taking place in areas of Kampala where many Ugandans and others gathered to watch the World Cup games. This resolution rightfully calls on the administration to work with the international community to address the security threat emanating from Somalia, particularly the al Shabaab terrorist network, which claimed responsibility for these vicious attacks. I am hopeful that we can work together with the international community to eliminate extremism and promote stability and peace in Somalia, and throughout the region.

As a cosponsor of H. Res. 1538, I strongly support this measure and urge my colleagues to join me in condemning the July 11 terrorist attacks and honoring the victims, particularly Nate Henn.

PASSAGE OF NATIONAL CRIMINAL
JUSTICE COMMISSION

HON. MARCIA L. FUDGE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Ms. FUDGE. Madam Speaker, the House's endorsement of the National Criminal Justice Commission is a major victory as the bill moves towards final passage. My constituents believe a thorough examination of America's criminal system is needed, and I agree.

Our Nation has approximately 5 percent of the world's population, but roughly 25 percent of the world's prison population. About 1 of every 45 adults is currently behind bars, which is five times the world's average incarceration rate. These rates indicate inconsistencies and flaws within our judicial system. This must change.

African Americans are far more likely to be incarcerated for drug offenses than other groups. We represent only 12 percent of the U.S. population, but 74 percent of America's drug offenders who have been sentenced to prison. This must change.

If we fail to implement effective reform, our Nation will continue to spend more on prisons while depleting already financially stressed State budgets. As significantly, we will not make our communities safer or reduce high recidivism rates.

I look forward to the day we receive the Commission's report. Then we can begin the crucial task of reforming and improving America's ailing criminal justice system.

RECOGNIZING 20TH ANNIVERSARY
OF AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 2010

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 20th Anniversary of the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, which I deem to be one of the greatest civil rights laws ever passed by our Congress.

Since the establishment of the Americans with Disabilities Act, more than 50 million Americans are able to more wholly enjoy their lives, thanks to the ongoing elimination of barriers on employment, public services, transportation, telecommunications and public accommodations.

Prior to the passage of this Act, our disabled American citizens—wounded warrior veterans, men, women and children—faced higher rates of poverty, lower graduation rates, significantly lower unemployment rates and were too often denied their right to fully participate in society.

This Act made vital changes, prohibiting discriminating against qualified individuals with disabilities in the workplace; requiring state and local government entities to accommodate qualified individuals with disabilities; providing better access to many modes of public transportation; and requiring places of public accommodation to make their goods and services easily accessible to the disabled.

While many great changes have been instituted since the passage of this act, there is still a lot of work to be done. In a nation as great as ours, it is a stunning reality that our disabled grandparents and parents, sons and daughters, and the wounded warriors who have so bravely served around the globe to preserve democracy and promote freedom, continue to struggle with inequalities that do not have to exist.

I'm putting the Wounded Warrior Fellowship Program to work in our area to provide an employment opportunity for a wounded or disabled veteran living in southern West Virginia. There are 170,783 veterans in West Virginia—51,500 in our Congressional District alone—and that number is growing exponentially every day. These brave men and women returning from Iraq and Afghanistan face a 21 percent unemployment rate; add to that fact, the vulnerable position as a wounded or disabled soldier, and we know the challenges to secure a good paying job grow tremendously.

It is our duty as leaders to support each and every one of our disabled Americans. While I salute this historic piece of legislation, I continue to work on a bipartisan basis, to help identify and address the remaining barriers against the disabled, which truly undermine America's goals and the ideals upon which our great country was founded.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, on July 27, 2010 I was delayed during the vote on the adoption of H. Con. Res. 301, the Pakistan War Powers Resolution.

However, if I had been present, I would have voted "yes" on H. Con. Res. 301.

HONORING THE BOY SCOUTS OF
AMERICA'S CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Centennial Anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America. For the past 100 years, the Boy Scouts of America have worked tirelessly to provide an educational program for boys and young adults to build character, to train in the responsibilities of participating citizenship, and to develop personal fitness.

William Boyce founded the Boy Scouts of America on February 8, 1910 using, as a model, the British system of Scouting created by General Robert Baden-Powell in 1907. In 1916, the organization was granted a Congressional Charter, and as the organization grew, it served more and more young men, teaching them to live by the Scout Law. Since its inception, over 110 million Americans have been members of the Boy Scouts of America.

I am proud to say that my life has been strengthened through scouting. As a young man, I was a member of Troop 201 in Mobile, Alabama. It was while earning my merit badges in Citizenship in the home, community, and the Nation that my interest in our great political process was ignited. From my experience as an Eagle Scout, I know the time, effort, and thorough dedication the Boy Scouts instilled in me, to be a better person, and to serve God and the greater good of our country.

For a full century, boys and men have gathered and declared: "On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight." And for a full century, we have constantly remained Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, and Reverent. Our future leaders are cultivated through a combination of educational and fun activities, instilling lifelong values. Through various programs, the Boy Scouts of America strive to create a more conscientious, responsible, and productive society, and they have succeeded now for 100 years.

The distinguished products of scouting can be found among my colleagues. Of the 111th Congress, 211 members have participated

with the Boy Scouts of America, either as a youth member, an Eagle Scout, an adult volunteer, or some combination of the three. Personally, I take great store in what I learned as a Boy Scout and Eagle Scout. The experience has been a great influence on both my personal life and my work in Congress. I am especially honored to have received the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award, and I also am honored to have been a part of Alvin Townley's book, "Legacy of Honor: The Values and Influence of America's Eagle Scouts."

Madam Speaker, we should all be inspired by the Boy Scouts of America and we should all be motivated to incorporate their goals into our daily lives. As the Boy Scout slogan says, we should all "do a good turn daily." For the past 100 years, the Boy Scouts of America have lived this ideal, and our country is a better place due to their actions. On this day, I extend my sincerest congratulations to the Boy Scouts and join them in celebrating their Centennial Anniversary, and I pray that God will grant them one hundred more!

RECOGNIZING 20TH ANNIVERSARY
OF AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 2010

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to rise today in honor of the 20th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. On July 26, 1990, thousands gathered on the South Lawn of the White House as former President George H.W. Bush signed into law legislation that would provide a clear and comprehensive national mandate for the elimination of discrimination against individuals with disabilities. This moment changed the lives of so many Americans, and I rise today to recognize the overwhelming importance of this law.

Over the past 20 years, this law has allowed Americans with disabilities to have access to educational opportunities, employment, transportation, buildings, and community affairs that once presented insurmountable obstacles.

In June of 2008, it was my honor to advance the cause of this legislation even further by voting in favor of the Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act, legislation which provides Americans with disabilities an even broader scope of freedom and protection. And today, it is my honor yet again to support a House Resolution recognizing and honoring this 20th anniversary of the original Act.

Mr. Speaker, this law has improved the lives of millions of Americans with disabilities. But while we celebrate the freedom and opportunities provided by the ADA, we must also recognize that there is more work to be done. We should help all Americans, regardless of their physical or mental abilities. I am committed to continuing this work, and I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure all people can reach their full potential.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

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

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, July 29, 2010 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

AUGUST 3

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the report of the Quadrennial Defense Review Independent Panel.

SD-G50

10 a.m.

Budget

To hold hearings to examine a status report on the United States economy.

SD-608

Environment and Public Works

Children's Health Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the state of research on potential environmental health factors with autism and related neurodevelopment disorders.

SD-406

Judiciary

Administrative Oversight and the Courts Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine protecting public interest, focusing on understanding the threat of agency capture.

SD-226

2:15 p.m.

Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Peter Michael McKinley, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Colombia, Rose M. Likins, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Peru, Christopher W. Murray, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of the Congo, Mark Charles Storella, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Zambia, James Frederick Entwistle, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eric D. Benjaminson, of Oregon, to be Ambassador to the Gabonese Republic, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, Phillip Carter III, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire, J. Thomas Dougherty, of Wyoming, to be Ambassador to Burkina Faso, Michael S. Owen, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Sierra Leone, Laurence D. Wohlers, of

Washington, to be Ambassador to the Central African Republic, Patrick S. Moon, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Luis E. Arreaga-Rodas, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Iceland, Daniel Bennett Smith, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Greece, Scot Alan Marciel, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Indonesia, Judith R. Fergin, of Washington, to be Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, Helen Patricia Reed-Rowe, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Palau, Paul W. Jones, of New York, to be Ambassador to Malaysia, James Franklin Jeffrey, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Iraq, Maura Connelly, of New Jersey, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Lebanon, Gerald M. Feierstein, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Yemen, and Francis Joseph Ricciardone, Jr., of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Turkey, all of the Department of State, Mark Feierstein, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, Mimi E. Alemayehou, of the District of Columbia, to be Executive Vice President of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, Richard M. Lobo, of Florida, to be Director of the International Broadcasting Bureau, Broadcasting Board of Governors, Nisha Desai Biswal, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, and a routine list in the foreign service.

S-116, Capitol

2:30 p.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine transforming government through innovative tools and technology.

SD-342

AUGUST 4

9 a.m.

Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider S. 2982, to combat international violence against women and girls, and Treaty between the United States of America and the Russian Federation on Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms, signed in Prague on April 8, 2010, with Protocol (Treaty Doc. 111-05).

S-116, Capitol

Impeachment Trail Committee (Porteous)

Organizational meeting of the Impeachment Trial Committee on the Articles Against Judge G. Thomas Porteous, Jr.

SR-301

10 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

To hold an oversight hearing on the use of oil dispersants in the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill.

SD-406

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine for-profit schools, focusing on the student recruitment experience.

SD-106

Armed Services

SeaPower Subcommittee

Strategic Forces Subcommittee

To receive a briefing on the Navy's plans for the next generation Ohio class ballistic missile submarine.

SVC-217

Judiciary

Terrorism and Homeland Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine government preparedness and response to a terrorist attack using weapons of mass destruction.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Investigations Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine social security disability fraud, focusing on case studies in Federal employees and commercial drivers licenses.

SD-342

AUGUST 5

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SR-418

10:30 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Economic Policy Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the Obama Administration Manufacturing Agenda.

SD-538

SEPTEMBER 15

2:30 p.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine implementation, improvement, and sustainability, focusing on management matters at the Department of Homeland Security.

SD-342

SEPTEMBER 22

10 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine a legislative presentation focusing on the American Legion.

345, Cannon Building

SEPTEMBER 23

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine Veterans' Affairs disability compensation, focusing on presumptive disability decision-making.

SDG-50

POSTPONEMENTS

AUGUST 3

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Energy Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the role of strategic minerals in clean energy technologies and other applications as well as legislation to address the issue, including S. 3521, the "Rare Earths Supply Technology and Resources Transformation Act of 2010".

SD-366