

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2354) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes:

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the Fiscal Year 2012 Energy and Water Appropriations bill. At a time when our economy is already fragile, the Majority appears intent on reducing Federal funding for the very programs that drive technological innovation, economic growth, and job creation.

Scientific research lies at the very heart of the national innovation system that keeps us competitive, enhances our quality of life, fuels our economy, and improves our national security. Investments in our Federal science agencies and our national innovation infrastructure are not big government spending programs that we cannot afford. They are minimum down-payments on our country's national security, public health, and economic vitality that we cannot afford to postpone.

Yet, this bill contains enormous cuts to several programs at the Department of Energy that are critical for supporting innovation and increasing American economic competitiveness.

This bill slashes nearly \$43 million in funding from the Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Science compared to Fiscal Year 2011. The Office of Science is the Nation's primary sponsor of research in the physical sciences and has been integral to the development of dozens of innovative technologies. Some have become the underpinnings of modern scientific disciplines; some have revolutionized medicine; some have advanced our national energy security; some have made our troops safer. That is the nature and the power of scientific research—the ultimate outcomes cannot necessarily be known in advance, but investments in basic discovery can yield enormous dividends. I offered an amendment to restore funding to the DOE Office of Science so that it could maintain current operations. Unfortunately, my amendment was defeated.

This bill provided \$100 million for the Department of Energy's Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E). ARPA-E supports high-risk, high-reward research on energy technologies. Funding for ARPA-E directly contributes to the creation of new technologies, new industries, and new jobs. Yet, the Majority intended to slash funding for this valuable program by an astonishing 81 percent relative to the President's request.

Fortunately, the House passed an amendment offered by my colleague Mr. SCHIFF that

will restore funding for ARPA-E to Fiscal Year 2011 levels. I was pleased to join my colleagues in voting for this important amendment.

This legislation contains \$1.3 billion for energy efficiency and renewable energy programs, a remarkable 59 percent less than President Obama's request. This is the worst possible moment to slash funding for sustainable energy technologies. The DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy supports research and development of sustainable energy technologies that strengthen the economy and protect the environment. Research in sustainable and efficient energy technologies increases our energy security, reduces our dependence on foreign oil, creates jobs, and increases our economic competitiveness. Yet the Majority made devastating cuts to this valuable program.

Remarkably, the Majority was not satisfied with these cuts to energy efficiency programs. The House adopted by voice vote an amendment that would bar the Department of Energy from using funds to enforce energy efficiency standards for light bulbs enacted by the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007. Yet, just days before, the House rejected an identical measure. This efficiency standard, enacted in a bipartisan bill signed into law by President Bush, simply requires that new light bulbs use 25 to 30 percent less energy than traditional incandescent light bulbs. No light bulbs are banned. No consumers will be forced to use one type of light bulb over another type.

Since Congress acted 4 years ago, lighting companies have invested significant capital and resources into research, development, and new technologies—exactly the kind of investments that our economy desperately needs. So again, the Majority has voted to thwart technological progress and cost American jobs and money.

While I do not object to the committee's decision to add disaster relief funding for projects resulting from tornadoes, storms, and floods across the Midwest and Southeast, I oppose strongly the decision to rescind \$1 billion in unobligated funding for high-speed rail projects. In May, the U.S. Department of Transportation awarded Amtrak \$450 million in funding to upgrade its rail infrastructure to support more frequent and faster high-speed rail service, and to improve reliability of current service between New York and Washington. Now this funding will be unavailable. This will result in a loss of jobs and infrastructure in my Central New Jersey district—one of the busiest segments of the Northeast Corridor and where the densest concentration of Acela Express high-speed rail operations occurs. This provision amounts to a step backward in the development of the nation's intercity rail infrastructure.

In May, the U.S. Department of Transportation awarded Amtrak \$450 million in funding to upgrade its rail infrastructure to support more frequent and faster high-speed rail service, and to improve reliability of current service

between New York and Washington. Specifically, this award would upgrade electrical power, signal systems, track and overhead catenary wires in my Central New Jersey district—one of the busiest segments of the Northeast Corridor (NEC) and where the densest concentration of Acela Express high-speed rail operations occurs. This work is critical to Amtrak's plan to double high-speed Acela service between New York and Washington by 2022.

Budgets reflect, in dollars and cents, our priorities as a nation. We must provide Federal support for programs that encourage scientific research and support economic development. At a time when our economy is already fragile, abandoning scientific research would cause the U.S. to lose even more high-tech jobs to our foreign competitors. That is not the way to compete in the future, especially when the economy is in a fragile recovery. For all of these reasons, I am voting against this bill.

IN HONOR'S LIGHT, IN HONOR OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE MEDAL OF HONOR ON JULY 12, 2011, RANGER SGT. 1ST CLASS LEROY PETRY, 75TH RANGER REGIMENT, THE UNITED STATES ARMY

HON. GEOFF DAVIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 21, 2011

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, on May 26, 2008, Sgt. 1st Class Leroy Petry of Sante Fe, New Mexico, while on his 8th tour of duty in both Iraq and Afghanistan and in the midst of a firefight, distinguished himself conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty. Ranger Sgt. Leroy Petry lost his right hand and suffered severe wounds after picking up a live grenade and throwing it away from his fellow soldiers, thereby saving the lives of his comrades. He also was wounded in both legs and in the midst of the battle tied tourniquets to his legs and arm. Today we honor this great American Hero and the many like him with the presentation of The Medal of Honor to him at The White House by President Barack Obama. I ask that this poem penned in his honor by Albert Caswell, be placed in the RECORD.

IN HONOR'S LIGHT

In . . .
In the battle, but comes the light!
From out of such darkness, so very bright!
All between life and death, that which so ignites!
So brilliant, and so very bright!
To lead the way, to win that fight!
To save their Brother In Arms, its height!
While, forsaking one's own most precious life!
Shining there, all in their most heroic glare so bright!
Leading the way, all in what they so gave so right!
All In Honor's Light!
For, from only out of one's soul . . . Can but only such brilliance, so flow!
Can but only such light but shine so!

• 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.

When, who lives . . . or dies? And who but
lives to see another sunrise?
When, it all so depends on you! Such Splen-
did Splendor, Such God-like Light!
Which, bring's such tears to even The Angels
eyes! All in such selfless sacrifice!
While, bathed all In Honor's Light! Good-
ness! Evil! Darkness! Light!
Those Brave Hearts, Who Evil Must Fight!
Who so shine, who but bring their
light!
All In Honor's Light!
Moments! Are all we have! When, it all so de-
pends on you!
When, death but lies so very close! As when
you Leroy, so rose to such new heights!
Ranger, all in your most brilliant light! As it
all so came shining through!
All in valor's most magnificent hue! For
what child will now be born?
For which love's, will so live on?
Who might change the world, or rise . . . all
In Honor's Height!
Sgt. 1st Class Petry, All because you! When,
All In Honor and Death . . .
What your fine heart, so pledged!
For what was right and what is true! 'Ah yes,
Ranger's lead, Leroy as so did you!
All for our nation, and that old Red, White
and Blue!
All for your Brothers In Arms, as your most
courageous heart so grew!
All in, Your Most Magnificent Hue! All In
Honor's Light, So Very True!
As why this day Ranger Petry, you so shine
so true!
With all of those other magnificent's . . .
Who now so who, have so shown All Honor's
Light so too!
As this Medal of Honor, we now bestowed
upon You!
All In Honor's Light! This hue!
OOO-AH!

—by *Albert Carey Caswell.*

IN HONOR OF PAUL BURIK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 21, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Paul Burik, who is being honored at this year's American Nationalities Movement's awards dinner.

Mr. Burik, was born in Budvar, in what was then Czechoslovakia. In 1968, during the Soviet invasion, he and his father managed to escape and settled in Cleveland, Ohio. After graduating from Kent State University with a degree in architecture, Paul spent much of his professional career working as Chief Architect for the City of Cleveland.

Mr. Burik is currently the President of the Cleveland Cultural Gardens Federation, an organization consisting of more than two dozen gardens representing various nationalities. Among the gardens is a Czech Garden. Since he became President, the Cultural Gardens have expanded annually for the past four years and several more nationalities are waiting to build a garden. Mr. Burik is also the President of the Cleveland Chapter of the Czech and Slovak Society of Arts and Sciences, a nonprofit cultural organization.

Mr. Burik currently resides in Avon, Ohio, with his wife, Fran, with whom he has two children and two grandchildren. In Avon, Paul is the co-Founder and Secretary of the French Creek Development Association, an organization dedicated to the improvement and promotion of downtown Avon.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Paul Burik, a man who has dedicated so much of his time and talents to his community and its betterment.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF NEW YORK PRESBYTERIAN HOSPITAL

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 21, 2011

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor and privilege to congratulate New York—Presbyterian Hospital for its impressive achievement of once again ranking number one among New York hospitals according to U.S. News and World Report's 2011–2012 Best Hospital Rankings. Nationally, New York—Presbyterian ranked sixth out of almost 5,000 hospitals. The hospital offers the highest quality comprehensive care, which has also landed it on U.S. News' Honor Roll for the eleventh year in a row. Achieving this prestigious distinction is no small feat. In order to reach this list, a hospital must be ranked at or near the top in at least six specialties. New York—Presbyterian is highly ranked in 11. These specialties include Cancer; Cardiology & Heart Surgery; Diabetes & Endocrinology; Geriatrics; Neurology & Neurosurgery; Orthopedics; Psychiatry; and Pulmonology. The hospital is also nationally ranked in 15 adult and 10 pediatric specialties.

New York—Presbyterian Hospital is the largest not-for-profit, non-sectarian hospital in the United States, with 2,409 beds and nearly 2 million inpatient and outpatient visits annually. The hospital has 6,144 affiliated physicians and a staff of nearly 20,000. New York—Presbyterian is a teaching hospital with five major centers located throughout New York State. It is accredited by the Joint Commission and the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities.

There are many other attributes to this great institution that keep it among the nation's top hospitals. New York—Presbyterian Hospital puts its patients first, staying on the cutting edge of life-saving technology. As the only hospital in the United States affiliated with two Ivy-League medical schools, the hospital seeks to reinvent medical practice, offering breakthrough treatments for brain and prostate cancers. The hospital has centers and institutes dedicated specifically to cardiology and reproductive medicine. New York—Presbyterian Hospital offers world class care, with the largest solid organ transplant program in the nation. Safety and quality are top priorities for the hospital and they have created an award-winning "Patient Safety Fridays" program that has been adopted by medical centers throughout the country.

It brings immense honor to the fifteenth district of New York and to the state as a whole, for the commendable work of this hospital to be recognized on a national scale. I congratulate New York—Presbyterian, the President and CEO of the hospital, Dr. Herbert Pardes, and encourage them to keep up the great work.

RECOGNITION OF BEVERLY ARMSTRONG AND HER SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE UNITED STATES ARMY

HON. JOHN W. OLVER

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 21, 2011

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the invaluable service of Beverly Armstrong to the United States of America. Like many military spouses, Beverly has devoted her life to the United States Army as the wife of Retired Sergeant First Class John P. Armstrong and as a Department of the Army Civilian. After twenty-one years of loyal and dedicated service to the U.S. Army as a civilian employee, Beverly retired from Fort Devens, Massachusetts on June 30, 2011.

Beverly Armstrong was born in Fredericksburg, Virginia on October 11, 1947. Beverly met SFC Armstrong when he returned to Virginia in 1967 from his first tour of duty in Vietnam and they married two months later. Shortly after, SFC Armstrong was deployed to Fort Wainwright, Alaska and Fort Leonardwood, Missouri with Beverly by his side. SFC Armstrong was deployed to a second tour of duty in Vietnam two years later where he was wounded by gunfire. SFC Armstrong returned to active duty in Korea and Germany while Beverly remained in the United States. Their last active duty posting was at Fort Devens, Massachusetts where SFC Armstrong retired in 1986.

Beverly and SFC Armstrong both returned to the U.S. Army in 1989 as civilian employees. Beverly continued serving her country and its military as a Military Pay Clerk, Statistician at the U.S. Army Hospital, and a Procurement Clerk and Purchasing Agent, all at Fort Devens. Later, as a Contract Specialist within the Fort Devens Contracting Office, Beverly honored her country by processing contracts for soldiers involved in Operations Desert Storm, Desert Shield, and Enduring Freedom. During her tenure as a federal employee with the U.S. Army, Beverly served with pride and valor just as she has served her country throughout her life.

Beverly Armstrong contributed twenty-one years of civilian service in addition to over forty years as a military spouse. Beverly stood by SFC Armstrong through six deployments including three overseas and one in a combat zone. Military families sacrifice much in the support of our troops. It is only fitting that all Americans recognize their considerable service for our country. On the occasion of her retirement, I commend Beverly for an extensive and auspicious civilian career with the U.S. Army and express my sincere gratitude for her distinguished service to the United States of America.

ADDRESSING OUR NATION'S POVERTY PROBLEM

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 21, 2011

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, earlier today my colleagues spoke about poverty in