

measures to make these critical investments. States need more certainty to plan their projects and industry needs to know that we are committed to rebuilding our infrastructure so they have the confidence to hire back employees who have been laid off.

Additionally, this bill does not include relief for those FAA employees who were furloughed through no fault of their own when Congress failed to extend authorization this summer. It is important to make these workers whole, and we should work quickly to provide retroactive pay.

Mr. Speaker, we need an ambitious agenda of investment that will put Americans back to work, repair our crumbling infrastructure, and jumpstart our economy. We need a long-term reauthorization of these critical programs. The American people are waiting—it's time to get the job done.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2011

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to state for the record that my vote against the Holt amendment to the Empowering Parents through Quality Charter Schools Act was made in error. I strongly support this amendment that requires the Secretary of Education to give priority to schools that make investments in green building improvements. We must ensure that Federal investments in our schools set the highest standard for green school building practices. I remain a staunch supporter of green building innovation and I look forward to advancing this important cause in Congress.

HONORING J. CONRAD (JC) SENECA ON HIS NEW RESTAURANT, THE ARMOR INN TAP ROOM

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2011

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise today to honor J. Conrad (JC) Seneca upon the occasion of the opening of his new restaurant, the Armor Inn Tap Room, in Western New York.

An entrepreneur with a diversified portfolio of business interests, JC recently purchased the former Hoak's Armor Inn, located in the town of Hamburg. That establishment has undergone a tremendous rehabilitation, and will feature upscale dining in an historical atmosphere. Located where it is, it is certain to draw the attention of Buffalo Bills fans, tourists and the local community.

None of this comes as much of a surprise, however, because JC has been a substantial member of our community throughout his life. A native of the Cattaraugus Reservation in Irving, JC was a multi-sport star athlete while at Silver Creek High School. After graduation, JC served with honor and distinction with the United States Air Force, eventually studying at Bryant and Stratton and at Buffalo State College.

After a stint as a radio disc jockey, JC became incredibly active within the Seneca Nation and on behalf of Native Americans throughout the United States. JC currently serves as a Seneca Tribal Councilor, and has served in a number of business and government capacities on behalf of his nation. JC was a member of President-elect Bill Clinton's Transition Team and has led efforts to ensure cooperative working relationships between other governments and the Seneca people.

You know, Mr. Speaker, we all are a product of our upbringing, and JC is no different. JC's father, William Seneca, an ironworker and World War II Marine veteran, served honorably as President of the Seneca Nation, and later served as Special Liaison Officer for the Bureau of Indian Affairs. JC's mom practiced nursing, and was later elected Clerk of the Seneca Nation. Without question, JC's parents served as a strong example for the value of public service and instilled in him a dedication to make contributions back to his own community. As a result, all of those who comprise all of his communities—on a large or small scale—are better for the contributions he continues to make.

JC's new enterprise will add dozens of additional names to the list of employees—native and non-native—for whom he has helped create jobs in Western New York. That is why, Mr. Speaker, I urge you to join with me and with all Western New Yorkers in wishing the very best of luck to JC Seneca upon the opening of the new Armor Inn Tap Room, and to thank JC and his family for the many significant contributions that they make to life here in Western New York.

A TRIBUTE TO CHARITY CAMPBELL

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Charity Campbell, a Norwalk physical education teacher known for her leadership and high expectations, in receiving the 2012 Iowa Teacher of the Year Award from Governor Terry Branstad.

Along with teaching sixth and seventh grade physical education at Norwalk Middle School, Ms. Campbell is the Norwalk Middle School girls' track coach and girls' varsity track coach at Norwalk High School. It's her outstanding leadership qualities in addition to skills in physical education that make her special to the Norwalk community.

For example, Ms. Campbell helped her craft and create a mentoring program for first-year teachers at Norwalk schools. She instructs teachers how to use activities that will increase the student's hands-on learning directed at helping them focus and succeed in the classroom.

In 2010, Ms. Campbell's physical education program was named as a top observation program through PE4Life, a nonprofit organization dedicated to improve children's health and wellness in their everyday lives.

I am honored to represent Ms. Campbell in the United States Congress, and I wish her the best in her continuing service to the Norwalk community. I know my colleagues in the

U.S. Congress will join me in congratulating and honoring Ms. Charity Campbell and her 15 years of teaching young Iowans.

TRIBUTE TO MR. R. CATER LEE

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2011

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the life of a truly great American, Mr. R. Cater Lee, of Gulf Shores, Alabama, who passed away on August 13, 2011, at the age of 90.

Mr. Lee was a veteran of World War II and a member of America's "Greatest Generation" who helped to liberate Europe from Nazi tyranny. He flew 31 missions with the 448th Bomb Group, Second Air Division, of the Eighth Air Force in the European Theatre. He proudly served as a bombardier and navigator aboard the B-24 Liberator. For his courage and service he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters. Mr. Lee so loved his country that he continued to serve in the U.S. Air Force Reserves during the Korean War, attaining the rank of Major.

After his service to his country, Mr. Lee came home to Alabama, eventually settling in Birmingham, where in 1966 he was one of the co-founders of Vulcan, Inc. He would serve as president of the company for twenty years. At the time of his death, he was chairman of the board of Vulcan Inc., in Foley. Not only a patriot and successful businessman, Mr. Lee was also a leader in his community.

He was a past chairman of the South Baldwin Chamber of Commerce and of the Gulf Shores Water Board. He was a former member of the Gulf Shores City Council and recipient of the Free Enterprise Person of the Year Award. Mr. Lee's love of country was only rivaled by his love of family, community, and golf. He served as president of Gulf Shores Golf Club for many years.

Mr. Lee cherished all four generations of his family. The loss of Mr. Lee is one that should be mourned throughout the state and nation, as he was the embodiment of American ideals of patriotism, hard work and giving back to one's community.

On behalf of the people of South Alabama, I offer condolences to his daughter, Linda Lee Koniar and her husband, John, and his two sons, Bubba and his wife, Cheryl, and Tommy and his wife, Sandra. Mr. Lee had eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren, all of whom he loved with all his heart. My thoughts and prayers go out to all his family.

VOTE ON H.R. 2587, PROTECTING JOBS FROM GOVERNMENT INTERFERENCE ACT

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2011

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, September 15, 2011, I will be absent and unable to cast my vote in favor of H.R. 2587, the Protecting Jobs from Government Interference

Act, because I will be in Florida attending the memorial service for my friend, David I. "Dave" Bitner. David Bitner was a great Florida statesman, my esteemed colleague in the Florida legislature, and my personal friend for over 20 years. I was saddened by Dave's death on September 8, 2011, which came soon after his diagnosis with ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease). Although I wish to cast my vote in favor of H.R. 2587, my long-time friendship with Dave and his wife, Wendy, requires me to attend the memorial service in Dave's honor.

I support the Protecting Jobs from Government Interference Act, and I voted in favor of H. Res. 372, the rule for H.R. 2587, in the Rules Committee hearing held on July 26, 2011. (Rules Committee Record Vote No. 121.) I strongly believe in the right of American business owners to make decisions regarding where and when to conduct business, and the right of states to determine the best labor policies for their citizens. I oppose excessive governmental regulation and interference by federal executive agencies that do not have the authority to supplant the best operational judgment of businesses in their employment, production, location, and other investment decisions. Recently, the National Labor Relations Board has taken unprecedented, protectionist actions on behalf of labor unions that fly in the face of federalism, and this cannot be allowed to continue. I am proud to represent the constituents of the 8th Congressional District of Florida, which is a right-to-work state, and I will continue to oppose efforts to impede American private enterprise, capitalism, and economic freedom.

Mr. Speaker, I would have voted "yea" in favor of H.R. 2587, had I been present, rather than in Florida for the memorial service for my friend, David Bitner, in support of his wife, Wendy.

HONORING LT. COL. ANTHONY
SHAFFER, SENIOR INTEL-
LIGENCE OFFICER, UNITED
STATES ARMY RESERVE (RE-
TIRED)

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2011

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to honor Lt. Col. Tony Shaffer, Military Intelligence Corps, for his twenty-five years of service as a field intelligence operative and more than three decades of service to the nation in both the Army National Guard and Army Reserve.

Col. Shaffer's extensive career started in January 1981, while still in high school, when he enlisted in the Ohio Army National Guard.

He went on to graduate from Wright State University in 1986. And this year, 2011, Col. Shaffer was chosen as their College of Liberal Arts Alumnus of the Year.

Col. Shaffer's storied career has been distinguished by his willingness and ability to work at the cutting edge of our nation's intelligence community. He has successfully endeavored to adapt new technology and use these capabilities to ensure the protection of the American people. It is likely that most of Lt. Col. Shaffer's work will never be fully rec-

ognized—but I can assure you it is appreciated by me and the American people.

During his initial years of service, he deployed to Germany during REFORGER 85 to conduct anti-terrorism operations against the Red Army Faction, RAF, and other German based terrorism groups. He was also assigned to the Army's New York City Resident Office during a critical period when foreign terrorists were targeting the United States.

In 1988 he attended training at "The Farm" where he graduated first in his class of the Military Operations Training Course, MOTC, at Camp Perry, VA.

He was promoted to Captain in 1990 and was brought to active duty by the Army for the first Gulf War in 1991 where he worked to develop a key classified program named STARWATCHER B. After the conclusion of the first Gulf War, he was appointed to serve as the chief of the Army's global clandestine HUMINT collection program, and ran specific the Special Access Program, SAP, operation, unclassified nickname: CAROLINA MORNING, which netted highly significant information that was critical to the national leadership during the 1990s.

He was the senior HUMINT advisor to the J2/Senior Intelligence Officer of Joint Inter-agency Task Force East, JIATF-E. JIATF-E conducted counter-drug operations in the Transit Zone between Columbia and the United States southern border. During this tour he was successful in integrating highly specialized hybrid technology/human intelligence operations to obtain high value intelligence information to support the operational forces.

In 1995, Tony transitioned to Defense Intelligence Agency, DIA, as part of the consolidation of all Service, Army, Navy, Air Force, and USMC, controlled HUMINT into the Department of Defense.

He created and directed Task Force STRATUS IVY—a one-of-a-kind special mission task force that harnessed the skills of officers from the National Security Agency, NSA, Army Intelligence and Defense Intelligence Agency that conducted direct support to Department of Defense, Special Operations Command and other non-DoD agencies.

After his promotion to Major, due to his highly sought after skills, he was assigned to serve at both the HUMINT Support Element, HSE, at both Special Operations Command, SOCOM, and the Joint Special Operations Command, JSOC. He also served as a team leader of classified element that provided direct support to the Director of Operations of Defense HUMINT Service, DHS.

During this period of his career he participated in multiple highly classified operations—the most notable, a project known as ABLE DANGER—the controversial counterterrorism operation that was designed to detect, degrade and counter Al Qaeda capabilities that was successful in detecting Al Qaeda cells operating within the United States before the 9/11 attacks.

He had two peacetime overseas deployments—the first to Thailand where he was attached to the III Marine Expeditionary Force, MEF, to attend Exercise COBRA GOLD 1991; the second to New Zealand with attachment to the New Zealand Defense Force for Joint Warrior Interoperability Demonstration in mid 2001.

Just after the 9/11 attacks, in December 2001, he was returned to active duty for a 30-

month period, during which he commanded a DIA operating base and had two successful combat tours to Afghanistan.

He commanded Field Operating Base, FOB, Alpha, a joint DIA/CIA brigade equivalent unit conducting classified collection and special operations support regarding terrorists just after the 9/11 attacks.

During his two undercover combat tours in Afghanistan, he participated in the search for senior Al Qaeda leadership in Afghanistan and is credited for helping to break the back of the Taliban's first attempt to return to power in Afghanistan.

Col. Shaffer received the Bronze Star Medal, BSM, for performance as an Operations Officer of the HUMINT Support Detachment in Afghanistan supporting CJTF 180 and CJFT 121.

After promotion to lieutenant colonel in 2005, he was attached to Navy's premier counterterrorism think-tank, DEEP BLUE at the Pentagon where he worked on key situational awareness and counterterrorism technology and tools.

In 2005 to 2006, Tony worked with the U.S. Congress and testified on multiple issues that relate to the 9/11 terrorist attacks and intelligence failures.

In 2006 he was assigned to and commanded the Special Troops Battalion, STB, of the 9th Theater Support Command, Ft. Belvoir, VA.

He was then, in 2007, selected to serve as the G6/Senior Information Officer, Anti-Terrorism Officer and Public Affairs Officer of the 94th Division, Force Sustainment, Ft. Lee, VA—the 94th Division was re-activated in 2008 and was one of Gen George Patton's key divisions that participated in the Battle of the Bulge, Ardennes, in 1944–45. He remained with the 94th Division until he reached his mandatory retirement date, MRD, in July of 2011.

He continues to serve this great nation through his work at the Center for Advanced Defense Studies where, as a Senior Fellow, he continues to influence national defense strategy and policy through research and advocacy of critical national security issues.

Over these three decades Lt. Col. Shaffer has served with distinction and unmatched willingness to conduct high risk operations, while always recognizing the ethical and moral responsibility of his office.

Lt. Col. Shaffer's keen operational judgment and dynamic leadership has contributed substantially to the development of critical national level intelligence capabilities—many of which remain in operation today. His influence over national defense and security is indelible and significant—his service has constantly worked to identify threats and then develop capability to protect the American people. He consistently worked to influence national intelligence policy and capabilities to insure the security of the American people and has done so in keeping with the highest traditions of the U.S. Army.

On behalf of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, I would like to recognize Col. Shaffer's outstanding accomplishments, courageous attitude and past and present devotion to this nation. I wish to congratulate him, his wife Rina, and sons Alexander and Ryan on the completion of long and distinguished career.