United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 112th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 158 WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 2012 No. 81

Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, June 4, 2012, at 2 p.m.

House of Representatives

FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 2012

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Eternal God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

We pause now in Your presence, and acknowledge our dependence on You.

We ask Your blessing upon the men and women of this, the people's House. Keep them aware of Your presence as they face the tasks of this day, that no burden be too heavy, no duty too difficult, and no work too wearisome.

Help them, and indeed, help us all, to obey Your law, to do Your will, and to walk in Your way. Grant that they might be good in thought, gracious in word, generous in deed, and great in spirit.

Make this a glorious day in which all are glad to be alive, eager to work, and ready to serve You, our great Nation, and all our fellow brothers and sisters.

May all that is done this day be done for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. COURTNEY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. COURTNEY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to five 1-minute requests on each side of the aisle.

STUDENT LOAN DEBT

(Mr. WELCH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, the other day, I received a letter from a constituent, Lana Kunkel. Like many Vermonters, she is concerned about the doubling of Stafford student loan interest rates scheduled for July 1.

This is very personal for her. She used the Stafford loan to get a good education and start a career as a nurse. She is now a contributing member of the community. She is also the granddaughter of former U.S. Vermont Representative and Senator Bob Stafford, for whom the Stafford student loan program is named. Here is what she had to say about her grandfather:

I know my grandfather's intention for these loans was accessibility and not profit. I understand that times are tough and people are looking everywhere, but this is just not right. My grandfather was known as a gentle giant, but if he were alive today, I think he would oppose this with force.

Mr. Speaker, Bob Stafford knew that a higher education was the clearest path to the middle class in this country—and he was a good Republican. We should not let the interest rates double. There is no justification for having these interest rates go from 3.4 to 6.8 percent. We have 30 days to act.

THE FOREST PRODUCTS FAIRNESS ACT OF 2012

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, the USDA Biobased Markets program was created to provide new markets for farm commodities and to encourage consumers to purchase environmentally friendly biobased products. Unfortunately, under the current law, most forest products are excluded from both the Federal procurement preference and the market label of the USDA Biobased Markets program. For instance, bamboo plywood is already eligible for the BioPreferred label and is used as a ''green'' alternative for hardwood flooring or lumber.

The Forest Products Fairness Act of 2012 modifies the definition of ''biobased product'' to clarify that forest products should be included in the Biobased Markets program if they

Printed on recycled paper.

meet the minimum biobased content requirements. The Forest Products Fairness Act of 2012 will enable U.S. producers to build back a competitive advantage through stronger, expanded product markets and new economic opportunities so that the industry can better compete in the global marketplace.

Including U.S.-made forest products as part of the USDA's BioPreferred program is a win-win for consumers and producers. It will promote healthy, well-managed forests and the protection of communities that rely on these jobs and industries to survive.

EXPIRATION OF INTEREST RATE FOR STAFFORD STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM

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

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, in 29 days, the interest rate for the Stafford student loan program is going to increase from 3.4 percent to 6.8 percent. This will add thousands of dollars of additional debt costs for middle class students all across America.

Yesterday, The Christian Science Monitor reported that Speaker BOEHNER called this issue a phony issue and a distraction from the real issues. There is nothing phony about adding thousands of dollars of added debt to middle class students. There is nothing phony about the Federal Reserve Board report that came out yesterday that showed that student loan debt increased by $30 billion in the first quarter of this year, surpassing credit card debt. The only thing, frankly, that is a pretense around here is the work schedule: in this week, only 1 full day, 2 part-time days, and 40 days for the next 5 months.

It is time for us to get to work in this Chamber and to fix problems like the Stafford student loan interest rate.

VETERANS SKILLS TO JOBS ACT

(Mr. DENHAM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DENHAM. Members, the recent Memorial Day weekend and now the ever-escalating high unemployment numbers remind us of how many veterans are out of work and of how many who will be returning home to no jobs.

For the last year, I've worked on the Veterans Skills to Jobs Act. When I left the active duty military, I realized that it would take me several years to get the credentialing on the civilian side that I already had on the military side.

We have the best, most sophisticated, trained workforce in the military. As they return home, we need to make sure that not only do they have jobs but that they have high-paying skilled jobs. By credentialing them through the Department of Defense before they get discharged, we give them the opportunity to capture those jobs immediately.

When I introduced this bill, several weeks later, the Senate introduced a companion bill, and now, today, the President has declared his support for the bill. It is time to show leadership in both Houses, to show leadership in the Presidency, and to pass this bill.

Our brave men and women who have served so bravely and sacrificed so much deserve jobs when they get home, high-paying jobs that will allow them to get back into our society.

□ 0910

PASS THE DISCLOSE ACT

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, Americans are growing more and more cynical of politics and politicians with good reason. Citizens United opened the floodgates to unrestricted special-interest campaign spending in elections, and we need to put an end to the influence of secret money in our elections.

I advocate the DISCLOSE Act. It would shine the light on secret money in political campaigns. The DISCLOSE Act requires public reporting by super-PACs, corporations, unions, and outside groups within 24 hours of making a campaign expenditure or transferring funds of $10,000 or more to other groups for campaign-related activities.

Mr. Speaker, I tell you, when I'm on the trail and I talk to my constituents, everyone is outraged by the millions, and possibly billions, of dollars that are going to be spent on the Presidential, congressional, and Senate campaigns. It makes sense to have some transparency. We should pass the DISCLOSE Act so that at least those who make these contributions have to say who they are. It's only fair.

FIGHT AGAINST OBAMACARE

(Mrs. BLACK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, as one of the most outspoken opponents of ObamaCare, I hope in the upcoming week that the Supreme Court strikes down this disastrous piece of legislation. But the fact is, no matter what the Supreme Court decides about ObamaCare, it does not change the reality that this law is horrible policy. That is why I voted more than two dozen times to either defund or repeal ObamaCare since being elected to Congress.

Yesterday, in the House Ways and Means markup, we successfully passed out of committee two bills that would repeal the ObamaCare tax hikes: one, the medical tax device; and, number two, the medicine-cabinet tax.

It is clear that the House must continue to fight against ObamaCare until either the Supreme Court overturns this law in its entirety or until we have willing partners in the Senate and the White House.

SUZANNE McDANIEL: A HERO TO VICTIMS

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to celebrate the life of a friend and someone who changed the lives of victims throughout the Nation.

Suzanne McDaniel appeared in my court years ago as one of the first prosecutor-based victim assistance directors in the State of Texas. She went on to start the Texas Crime Victims Clearinghouse, the first of its kind anywhere in the United States.

In recognition of her incredible work, she was tapped as the State's crime victim information officer, educating and influencing the community and the State legislature with her vast knowledge of victims' issues. This led to her role as a legislative liaison for the State coalition of victim organizations and her leadership on the board of the National Organization of Victim Assistance.

Suzanne's accomplishments are far reaching, touching lives in Texas and throughout our Nation. A crime victim wrote:

> Suzanne feels everyone is important and needed in the fight to improve assistance for crime victims. I have never heard her say, It's not my job. In fact, she has never been shy about poking her nose into things and offering assistance. Her enthusiasm and dedication is boundless.

Mr. Speaker, her work will continue to touch crime victims for many years to come, and victims are safer in America because of Suzanne McDaniel and her life.

And that's just the way it is.

REPORT ON H.R. 5882, LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

Mr. CRENSHAW, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 112–511) on the bill (H.R. 5882) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes, which was referred to the Union Calendar and ordered to be printed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DENHAM). Pursuant to clause 1, rule XXI, all points of order are reserved on the bill.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in

which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the further consideration of H.R. 5325, and that I may include tabular material on the same.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 667 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 5325.

Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) kindly take the chair.

□ 0916

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 5325) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes, with Mr. POE of Texas (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Thursday, May 31, 2012, all time for general debate had expired.

Pursuant to the rule, the bill shall be considered for amendment under the 5-minute rule.

During consideration of the bill for amendment, the Chair may accord priority in recognition to a Member offering an amendment who has caused it to be printed in the designated place in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Those amendments will be considered read.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 5325

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I—CORPS OF ENGINEERS—CIVIL

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

CORPS OF ENGINEERS—CIVIL

The following appropriations shall be expended under the direction of the Secretary of the Army and the supervision of the Chief of Engineers for authorized civil functions of the Department of the Army pertaining to river and harbor, flood and storm damage reduction, shore protection, aquatic ecosystem restoration, and related efforts.

INVESTIGATIONS

For expenses necessary where authorized by law for the collection and study of basic information pertaining to river and harbor, flood and storm damage reduction, shore protection, aquatic ecosystem restoration, and related needs; for surveys and detailed studies, and plans and specifications of proposed river and harbor, flood and storm damage reduction, shore protection, and aquatic ecosystem restoration, projects and related efforts prior to construction; for restudy of authorized projects; and for miscellaneous investigations, and, when authorized by law, surveys and detailed studies, and plans and specifications of projects prior to construction, $102,000,000, to remain available until expended.

CONSTRUCTION

For expenses necessary for the construction of river and harbor, flood and storm damage reduction, shore protection, aquatic ecosystem restoration, and related projects authorized by law; for conducting detailed studies, and plans and specifications, of such projects (including those involving participation by States, local governments, or private groups) authorized or made eligible for selection by law (but such detailed studies, and plans and specifications, shall not constitute a commitment of the Government to construction); $1,477,284,000, to remain available until expended; of which such sums as are necessary to cover the Federal share of construction costs for facilities under the Dredged Material Disposal Facilities program shall be derived from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund as authorized by Public Law 104–303; and of which such sums as are necessary to cover one-half of the costs of construction, replacement, rehabilitation, and expansion of inland waterways projects shall be derived from the Inland Waterways Trust Fund: *Provided*, That the limitation concerning total project costs in section 902 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986, as amended (33 U.S.C. 2280), shall not apply during fiscal year 2013 to any project that receives funds provided in this title.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. SCALISE

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 3, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $10,000,000)''.

Page 28, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $10,000,000)''.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Louisiana is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the opportunity to present this amendment.

What we're doing is we're transferring $10 million from the Department of Energy salary and expenses account over the Corps of Engineers' construction account. The reason this is critical is because it allows us to move forward on infrastructure improvements, including in Louisiana something that we've been trying to do to restore our coast and get moving on the Louisiana coastal area, which is one of many projects in the Corps' budget that is backlogged and not funded, and yet is critical for improving infrastructure, for creating jobs, and for doing things to protect our wetlands.

Mr. Chairman, I bring this football because in Louisiana we lose one football field of land every hour along the gulf coast in Louisiana due to coastal erosion. We have a plan that we put forth. Governor Bobby Jindal and his team have a solid plan in place that they've moved forward on. Mr. Chair, this is an authorized program. We're just trying to make sure that this program can move forward like so many others across the country that would improve our waterways and would strengthen our coastlines.

You've got salaries that are being funded for projects now. And if you look at the Department of Energy, we've actually cut back on a lot of the work that they do at the Department of Energy. Rightfully so. They are eliminating programs that are unnecessary, and yet their salaries still continue to go up.

□ 0920

You know, we ask people to do more with less. In this case, they're doing less with more, and so we're moving money out of a salaries account for people that are doing less work and moving it into actually doing coastal projects, actually doing work that improves our coasts and strengthens the area, protects the vital infrastructure for the oil and gas industry that feeds this Nation's energy needs and the seafood that feeds this Nation's great taste for great things like shrimp and oysters and crabs.

This is a bipartisan amendment, and I want to thank the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. RICHMOND) for helping us with this amendment.

I yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. RICHMOND).

Mr. RICHMOND. Thank you to my colleague from Louisiana. We have the great honor and awesome responsibility of representing the coast of Louisiana.

Mr. Chairman, the coast of Louisiana, since 1950, has sent to the American Treasury almost $150 billion. Up until 2006, we didn't receive any revenues back from the Federal Government for drilling off of our Outer Continental Shelf.

What we do today is ask for the ability to help ourselves, protect our citizens, and make this country safer. At the end of the day, I'd like to remind the Chair that our State has over 40 percent of the Nation's wetland losses. We have 80 percent of wetland loss, we only have 40 percent of the Nation's wetlands.

If you look at what we give back to this country, I think that you will see that a $10 million investment would be a very good investment into our country, into our State, if you look at the cost-benefit analysis.

Our wetlands produce a third of the Nation's seafood supply and much of our domestic energy. Our coast is the home to the port, the country's largest port system. These ports move the overwhelming majority of our imports and exports in this country.

It's not just about the oil and gas production, it's not just about Louisiana's importance in terms of our energy production for this country, but it also makes the residents of Louisiana safer. That coastal land and those barrier islands produce the first defense against hurricanes. We also saw during Hurricane Katrina, the devastation that could be caused.

We're just asking this body to approve this amendment, which will help

Louisiana protect our citizens, protect America's energy production.

Mr. SCALISE. I thank my colleague from Louisiana for his comments, and I just urge all of our colleagues to vote for this amendment so that we can actually use money to do real projects instead of to fund the bureaucracy of Washington. Especially when we're actually reducing the workload that they have to do, let's actually shift that money over to an area where we can actually increase jobs, protect our Nation, protect our energy and infrastructure that benefits the entire country.

With that, I would urge passage of this amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from New Jersey is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. I do appreciate the passion of both of these gentlemen for coastal restoration. I know it's a high priority for his district and his State. Of course, the focus is Louisiana, and they have suffered greatly.

The bill before us includes $10 million to continue studies, engineering, and design work on various components of their program in Louisiana. That is more than 9 percent of the entire investigations account dedicated to continuing work on coastal restoration in Louisiana.

The committee has had to make some tough choices in this bill, though. While overall funding for the Corps of Engineers has increased slightly above the President's request, unfortunately, it is reduced by 4 percent from fiscal year 2012. The construction account, specifically, is also slightly above the President's budget request, but that is still a reduction of almost 13 percent from fiscal year 2012.

The Corps has numerous projects already under construction that were not included in the President's budget and so are unlikely to be funded in fiscal year 2013. While construction funding is trending downward, I believe it is most prudent to prioritize funding for ongoing projects so they can be completed, actually completed, and the Federal Government can realize the public safety, economic and other benefits from previous spending rather than starting new projects.

Given this particular project as currently authorized approaches $2 million and likely will continue to grow in costs, it would not be prudent to begin another new major new project while we have so many existing commitments.

For these reasons, I must oppose the amendment and urge my colleagues to vote ''no.''

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Indiana is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. I appreciate the recognition and rise to express, first of all, to my colleague and friend from Louisiana my appreciation for his argument today, and particularly the football analogy that he used. I say that as a Notre Dame graduate, and I would congratulate him on his victory the last time our two teams played on the field.

Having said that, however, both he and my colleague on the Democratic side, I join with the chairman in reluctant opposition to the amendment. The chairman has opted for a policy of no new starts, a policy that I strongly support and have opted for during these times of budgetary constraints.

I would point out that while there is only $10 million in the amendment before the House today, the fact is this project will cost several billion dollars by the time we are done, and starting it now is a cost that we cannot afford to adequately fund because we do not have the resources in the bill.

Over the last several years, we have, in fact, terminated hundreds of ongoing projects, to our great dismay and to the weakening of the infrastructure of our economy in this country. But until we as an institution, the Congress, have the intestinal fortitude to adequately fund our infrastructure in these types of very necessary investment—that is not the argument before us—I cannot support adding to the inventory of projects that we must start but cannot.

If the allocation for the bill were different, I might be able to support the gentleman's amendment. Again, as it now stands, we are short of cash. The fact is the amount in the bill today—and the chairman and I and every member of the subcommittee fought to add $82 million to the President's request. We are $631 million today, in this bill, below what we were spending as a Nation on these projects 2 years ago. We don't have the money, unfortunately, to fund the gentleman's amendment, and therefore, again, I express my sincere appreciation for what he wants to do but my reluctant opposition to his amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. SCALISE).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Louisiana will be postponed.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. HOLT

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 3, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $2,000,000)''.

Page 7, line 4, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $2,000,000)''.

□ 0930

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from New Jersey is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Chairman, today the 2012 Atlantic hurricane season officially begins, and so I come to the floor to speak for increased resources to prevent flood damage, as they have devastated our communities in New Jersey and around the eastern United States.

In H.R. 5325, Chairman FRELINGHUYSEN and the committee have provided for the U.S. Corps of Engineers $1.5 billion for planning, training, and other measures to ensure the readiness of the Corps to respond to floods, hurricanes, and other natural disasters. I thank the chairman and the committee for that work.

This amount is $216.7 million below the amount that the Corps received for flood preparation in 2012. My amendment would provide an additional $2 million so the Corps can continue critical lifesaving flood preparation work. Although this won't close the funding gap, my amendment would demonstrate the commitment of Congress to addressing proactively the variety of problems that can result from severe weather events and flooding.

Last August and September, many central New Jersey residents experienced flood damage due to Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee. Evacuations and property damage can be a heavy burden to bear for many of our constituents. In recent years, there have been deaths in New Jersey from such flooding.

I was traveling through my district during and after last year's hurricane and saw firsthand the flooding damage in the Delaware and Raritan River Basins and elsewhere. When Hurricane Irene hit New Jersey last year, it cast more than 10,000 people from their homes and left more than 190,000 utility customers without power; 11 inland rivers and their tributaries crested, with some at record levels.

The best time to address flooding is before the severe weather occurs. Unfortunately, it seems that severe weather events like floods and droughts will become only more common as the Earth's temperature continues to rise. There are a number of critical infrastructure and public works projects throughout central New Jersey that the Corps is at work on, that the Corps is aware of, that the Corps is planning to deal with, and they must continue in order to prepare for these severe weather events.

Again, I appreciate the foresight and the wisdom of Chairman FRELINGHUYSEN. This amendment would provide additional funds and incentives to the Corps to continue with these important projects.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from New Jersey is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Chairman, I understand the gentleman, my colleague from New Jersey, is trying to show support for the Army Corps of Engineers' construction program. He's been a longtime advocate for projects important to his district, and I commend him for that.

And I agree with him in his desire to invest more in water resources infrastructure. There have been numerous flood control needs, for instance, across the entire country, including our home State of New Jersey. Experience has shown us that it's cheaper to try to prevent flood damages than trying to recover from them.

Although I believe the underlying bill that we've put together—Mr. VISCLOSKY and I—struck a careful balance among all priorities in the bill, including national security and innovation, I do not have any objection to his amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Indiana is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. I would join the chairman in supporting the amendment.

I would mention that the Corps' investment in 2010 alone protected infrastructure in this country and prevented over $28 billion worth of damages. The amendment is a modest one and it is spread across all of the accounts for a 0.14 percent increase. As the chairman noted, he worked very vigorously to increase the amounts over the President's request by $6 million. We remain $217 million below last year's level.

So, again, I would join the chair in supporting the amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. KING OF IOWA

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 3, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $1,000,000)''.

Page 5, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $571,429)''.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Chairman, I offer this amendment, which strikes a million dollars out of the Fish and Wildlife account and it inserts $571,429 into the Reserve Maintenance account. So it is a net savings of $428,571, which would go to deficit reduction.

But my purpose is not to focus on the deficit reduction component of this, Mr. Chairman. My purpose is to make the statement that we have watched in that Missouri River system, the Pick-Sloan system that has six dams upstream and the longest channel in the United States going downstream, and we suffered a flood last summer, the 2011 flood of epic proportions.

The system had been designed and completed in 1968 based upon the largest runoff ever, which was 1881. Now it's 2011. Now the Corps of Engineers declares that last year's flood was a 500-year event. USGS says it's between a 70- and a 1,000-year event. The Corps picked the 500-year event, which defines it as an anomaly for them, and they refuse to manage the river in a fashion that protects us from serious downstream flooding. So instead of creating a habitat for fish and wildlife, which is the least tern, the piping plover, and the pallid sturgeon, now we have hundreds of miles of camel habitat—sand and dead trees—from the flooding.

I have a bill, H.R. 2942, that needs to move through this Congress. This is an opportunity to speak to the necessity to direct the Corps of Engineers to protect us from serious downstream flooding and consider fish and wildlife in the interests upstream. This redirects some of those funds to that to send a message to the Corps of Engineers to take a little bit out of their Fish and Wildlife account, which is around $70 million, and put a little bit into their Maintenance account, which is around $7 million, and start to adjust this proportion.

But it is a token vote, Mr. Chairman, because there's much more that needs to be done. We need to be able to discharge 120,000 cubic feet per second out of Gavins Point Dam and be able to maintain that within the channel. If we can do that, then the fisheries' interests upstream have a very minimal impact when the Corps is finally, under H.R. 2942, directed to adjust the levels to protect us from serious downstream flooding.

That is the argument. I urge the adoption of this amendment, the message that would be sent, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. I move to strike the last word, Mr. Chairman.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from New Jersey is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Chairman, let me commend the gentleman from Iowa for his strong advocacy and passion for his district and his State and his constituents. First and foremost, he's very, very concerned about a critical issue.

We all know that there are significant water resource needs across our country, and we're doing our best in our bill to address them responsibly. The clarification I would like to be make is that the amendment simply adjusts overall account numbers. It does not direct funding to any specific project.

I would advise, respectfully, the gentleman and any other colleagues thinking of offering similar amendments—and we understand why people do; because they have a passion—that under the earmark ban, the final bill will not include funding towards specific projects in an amount above the President's budget request.

Instead of listing specific projects, our bill includes additional funding for categories of ongoing projects, primarily navigation and flood control. Final project-specific allocations will be made by the administration following the enactment of our bill.

With that clarification in mind, I'm pleased to support the gentleman's amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 0940

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Indiana is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. While I regret that we just received a copy of the gentleman's amendment while he was speaking, I have no objection to it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. KING).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Iowa will be postponed.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES

For expenses necessary for flood damage reduction projects and related efforts in the Mississippi River alluvial valley below Cape Girardeau, Missouri, as authorized by law, $224,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which such sums as are necessary to cover the Federal share of eligible operation and maintenance costs for inland harbors shall be derived from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

For expenses necessary for the operation, maintenance, and care of existing river and harbor, flood and storm damage reduction, aquatic ecosystem restoration, and related projects authorized by law; providing security for infrastructure owned or operated by the Corps, including administrative buildings and laboratories; maintaining harbor channels provided by a State, municipality, or other public agency that serve essential navigation needs of general commerce, where authorized by law; surveying and charting northern and northwestern lakes and connecting waters; clearing and straightening channels; and removing obstructions to navigation, $2,507,409,000, to remain available until expended, of which such sums as are necessary to cover the Federal share of eligible operation and maintenance costs for coastal harbors and channels, and for inland harbors shall be derived from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund; of which

such sums as become available from the special account for the Corps of Engineers established by the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 shall be derived from that account for resource protection, research, interpretation, and maintenance activities related to resource protection in the areas at which outdoor recreation is available; and of which such sums as become available from fees collected under section 217 of Public Law 104–303 shall be used to cover the cost of operation and maintenance of the dredged material disposal facilities for which such fees have been collected: *Provided*, That 1 percent of the total amount of funds provided for each of the programs, projects or activities funded under this heading shall not be allocated to a field operating activity prior to the beginning of the fourth quarter of the fiscal year and shall be available for use by the Chief of Engineers to fund such emergency activities as the Chief of Engineers determines to be necessary and appropriate, and that the Chief of Engineers shall allocate during the fourth quarter any remaining funds which have not been used for emergency activities proportionally in accordance with the amounts provided for the programs, projects or activities.

REGULATORY PROGRAM

For expenses necessary for administration of laws pertaining to regulation of navigable waters and wetlands, $190,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2014.

FORMERLY UTILIZED SITES REMEDIAL ACTION PROGRAM

For expenses necessary to clean up contamination from sites in the United States resulting from work performed as part of the Nation's early atomic energy program, $104,000,000, to remain available until expended.

FLOOD CONTROL AND COASTAL EMERGENCIES

For expenses necessary to prepare for flood, hurricane, and other natural disasters and support emergency operations, repairs, and other activities in response to such disasters as authorized by law, $27,000,000, to remain available until expended.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. CLEAVER

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 6, line 18, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $3,000,000)''.

Page 7, line 4, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $3,000,000)''.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Missouri is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to offer an amendment to bolster the Army Corps of Engineers' ability to fight floods and to quickly begin repair efforts as the floodwaters recede. Last year, my constituents, as well as thousands of others living along the Missouri River, experienced a flood of historic proportions and catastrophic damages. Levees were overtopped or breached, fields were damaged, and hundreds of farmers, homeowners, and businesses had to evacuate. Over 400,000 acres of farmland were flooded along the river, including approximately 207,000 in Missouri. Total repair costs from the flood are estimated to reach $2 billion.

The Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies account provides funding to assist in the immediate flood-fighting efforts and the repairs. Historically, Congress has provided limited funding annually for this account, mainly relying on supplemental appropriations as emergencies arise.

Funding for this account the last 2 years has been lower than the 5-year average appropriation of $55 million. As was the case last year, after an emergency the Corps must wait on supplemental appropriations from Congress or they must transfer funds from existing appropriations for temporary emergency efforts. The Corps did this internal transfer last year during and after the 2011 flood. However, it takes time to transfer those funds and temporarily deprives other worthy projects of funding. This is especially burdensome given the Corps' long construction backlog of over $62 billion worth of projects.

This amendment is a straight transfer of funds to increase funding for the Corps' Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies account and in turn reduce funding for the Corps' expenses account. This transfer would increase the funding to equal the amount that the Senate Appropriations Committee allocated, bringing total funding for that account to $30 million for fiscal year 2013.

Mr. Chairman, ensuring adequate annual funding for emergencies will better prepare the Corps to respond and save time and effort in trying to reroute funds. And we all know that emergencies will continue to occur as our climate continues changing and development continues in flood-prone areas. It is incumbent upon us to provide the people who respond to these emergencies with the most resources possible. And so on behalf of the families living along the Missouri River who are in desperate need of help from this body, I ask for your support by adopting this amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from New Jersey is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this amendment. Let me assure the gentleman that we are very sympathetic to his concern for fixing the infrastructure that was damaged in last year's flood event. In fact, we provided $1.7 billion to the Corps of Engineers for that exact purpose.

The issue the gentleman raises, however, is something that all Members need to be aware of: based on the definitions in last year's amendments to the Budget Control Act, disaster relief funds may only be used in locations declared major disasters under the Stafford Act.

For some agencies, like FEMA, that may make sense. But for the Corps of Engineers, there are times when that definition is too restrictive. We all need to be aware of the potential consequences of forcing regular appropriations to the account for these disaster-related damages that happen to be in the wrong location according to the Budget Control Act.

That notwithstanding, the gentleman's amendment would try to address some of these needs, and I'm pleased to support his amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting Chair. The gentleman from Indiana is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. I rise in support of the amendment, and join with the comments made by the chairman, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLEAVER).

The amendment was agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the supervision and general administration of the civil works program in the headquarters of the Corps of Engineers and the offices of the Division Engineers; and for costs of management and operation of the Humphreys Engineer Center Support Activity, the Institute for Water Resources, the United States Army Engineer Research and Development Center, and the United States Army Corps of Engineers Finance Center allocable to the civil works program, $177,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2014, of which not to exceed $5,000 may be used for official reception and representation purposes and only during the current fiscal year: *Provided*, That no part of any other appropriation provided in title I of this Act shall be available to fund the civil works activities of the Office of the Chief of Engineers or the civil works executive direction and management activities of the division offices: *Provided further*, That any Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies appropriation may be used to fund the supervision and general administration of emergency operations, repairs, and other activities in response to any flood, hurricane, or other natural disaster.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. BROUN OF GEORGIA

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 7, line 4, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $5,325,000)''.

Page 7, line 22, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $150,000)''.

Page 13, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $45,000)''.

Page 16, line 20, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $1,710,000)''.

Page 31, line 23, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $12,000,000)''.

Page 47, line 22, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $2,259,510)''.

Page 48, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $882,450)''.

Page 48, line 14, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $350,310)''.

Page 48, line 20, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $320,370)''.

Page 49, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $42,750)''.

Page 49, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $7,500)''.

Page 50, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $3,810,840)''.

Page 51, line 20, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $102,000)''.

Page 52, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $30,000)''.

Page 56, line 24, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $27,036,730)''.

Mr. BROUN of Georgia (during the reading). Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading.

Mr. DICKS. I object to the suspending of the reading.

The Acting CHAIR. Objection is heard.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk continued to read.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Chairman, I reserve a point of order.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from New Jersey reserves a point of order.

The gentleman from Georgia is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, this amendment would reduce the administrative and salaries and expenses accounts in the underlying bill by just 3 percent. It is similar to an amendment that I offered to the Commerce, Justice, and Science appropriations bill just a few weeks ago.

My message today is the same as it was then: we are in a fiscal emergency, and it is imperative that we work to get spending under control here in Washington, D.C.

Over the last 2 years, the House has voted to reduce our own administrative accounts—our Members representational allowances—by over 11 percent. As we all know, this has resulted in pay freezes, and in some cases pay cuts, for a number of our own staff members.

Yet during this same period of time, many agencies have seen reductions which are much lower than those which we have taken here in the House.

□ 0950

Amazingly, some of these Agencies funded under this bill have seen large increases in their administrative accounts. For example, under this bill, the Appalachian Regional Commission would receive a 9 percent increase in its administrative account over the FY11–FY13 period. Likewise, the salaries and the expenses account for the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board would see a 21 percent increase. But if you think those increases are big, think again. This legislation would provide the Department of Energy's departmental administration account with a 64 percent increase over 2 years.

Mr. Chairman, I'm not arguing the merits of any of these Agencies. But during this fiscal crisis, just 3 percent could yield significant savings—nearly $30 million in the case of Agencies funded under this bill.

It's time to tighten our belts. I urge support on my amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from New Jersey is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Chairman, I rise to oppose the amendment, but certainly understand it and share the passion of the gentleman for reducing Federal spending, and our bill does plenty of that. As we went through the process, we did exactly that.

This amendment would cut administrative expenses across the entire bill. Over many months and public hearings, our committee, in a bipartisan way, has already considered each administrative account separately and has made specific cuts while maintaining oversight to prevent wasteful spending. We've done our job. The gentleman's amendment cuts all administrative accounts indiscriminately without regard to where funds are needed and where cuts are possible.

We understand where he is going, but the committee has done its work. Therefore, I must strongly oppose his amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time. I continue to reserve my point of order, though.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Indiana is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Chairman, I move to express my strong opposition to the amendment. Some would suggest outrage; I will simply say opposition.

The fact is, across-the-board cuts to administrative accounts when we have significant problems as far as the administration of some of these programs in the Department of Energy is a profound mistake.

What I really want to emphasize at this point to all of our colleagues in the House is that members of this subcommittee and the full Appropriations Committee—which approved this bill, the people of this committee approved this bill—have made value judgments account by account.

The fact is, for renewable energy—and we will have amendments on this issue—there is a $428,345,000 reduction in this bill. In the Office of Science, there is a $72,203,000 reduction. For environmental clean-up for defense sites, for example, there is an $88,872,000 cut. These were all discrete decisions made and value judgments.

So I would emphasize to my colleagues that there are significant cuts and savings in this bill. I strongly oppose the gentleman's amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Chairman, I make the point of order that the amendment proposes to amend portions of the bill not yet read.

The amendment may not be considered en bloc under clause 2(f) of rule XXI because the amendment proposes to increase the level of new budget authority in the bill.

I ask for a ruling from the Chair.

The Acting CHAIR. Does any other Member wish to be heard on the point of order? If not, the Chair will rule.

To amend portions of the bill not yet read pursuant to section 3(j)(1) of House Resolution 5, an amendment must propose only to transfer appropriations from an object or objects in the bill to a spending reduction account.

Because the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia proposes to increase the spending reduction account by more than the amount being transferred out of other accounts, it may not avail itself of section 3(j)(1) of House Resolution 5 to address the spending reduction account.

The point of order is sustained. The amendment is not in order.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY FOR CIVIL WORKS

For the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works as authorized by 10 U.S.C. 3016(b)(3), $5,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2014.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

The Revolving Fund, Corps of Engineers, shall be available during the current fiscal year for purchase (not to exceed 100 for replacement only) and hire of passenger motor vehicles for the civil works program.

GENERAL PROVISIONS, CORPS OF ENGINEERS—CIVIL

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 101. (a) None of the funds provided in this title shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that—

(1) creates or initiates a new program, project, or activity;

(2) eliminates a program, project, or activity;

(3) increases funds or personnel for any program, project, or activity for which funds are denied or restricted by this Act;

(4) reduces funds that are directed to be used for a specific program, project, or activity by this Act;

(5) increases funds for any program, project, or activity by more than $2,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less; or

(6) reduces funds for any program, project, or activity by more than $2,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less.

(b) Subsection (a)(1) shall not apply to any project or activity authorized under section 205 of the Flood Control Act of 1948, section 14 of the Flood Control Act of 1946, section 208 of the Flood Control Act of 1954, section 107 of the River and Harbor Act of 1960, section 103 of the River and Harbor Act of 1962, section 111 of the River and Harbor Act of 1968, section 1135 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986, section 206 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1996, or section 204 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992.

(c) The Corps of Engineers shall submit reports on a quarterly basis to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing all the funds reprogrammed between programs, projects, activities, or categories of funding. The first quarterly report shall be submitted not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 102. None of the funds made available in this title may be used to award or modify any contract that commits funds beyond the amounts appropriated for that program, project, or activity that remain unobligated, except that such amounts may include any funds that have been made available through reprogramming pursuant to section 101.

SEC. 103. None of the funds in this Act, or previous Acts, making funds available for Energy and Water Development, shall be used to award any continuing contract that commits additional funding from the Inland Waterways Trust Fund unless or until such time that a long-term mechanism to enhance revenues in this Fund sufficient to meet the cost-sharing authorized in the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (Public Law 99–662) is enacted.

SEC. 104. Within 120 days of the date of the Chief of Engineers Report on a water resource matter, the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) shall submit the report to the appropriate authorizing and appropriating committees of the Congress.

SEC. 105. During the fiscal year period covered by this Act, the Secretary of the Army is authorized to implement measures recommended in the efficacy study authorized under section 3061 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1121) or in interim reports, with such modifications or emergency measures as the Secretary of the Army determines to be appropriate, to prevent aquatic nuisance species from dispersing into the Great Lakes by way of any hydrologic connection between the Great Lakes and the Mississippi River Basin.

SEC. 106. The Secretary of the Army may transfer to the Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Fish and Wildlife Service may accept and expend, up to $4,300,000 of funds provided in this title under the heading ''Operation and Maintenance'' to mitigate for fisheries lost due to Corps of Engineers projects.

SEC. 107. None of the funds appropriated in this Act shall be available for use by the Chicago District of the United States Army Corps of Engineers to fund any travel that is outside of the District's area of operation unless such travel is directly project-related or is specifically requested by a Member of Congress.

SEC. 108. Of the funds provided for ''Olmsted Locks and Dam, Ohio River, IL & KY'' in the table under the heading ''Corps of Engineers–Civil—Construction'' in the report of the Committee on Appropriations accompanying this Act, not more than 50 percent may be available for obligation until—

(1) the Corps of Engineers completes a review of the project, including method of construction;

(2) the Corps of Engineers develops a plan for the expeditious completion of project construction;

(3) the findings of the review and the project completion plan have been communicated to the appropriate committees of the Congress.

SEC. 109. Amounts made available by this Act for the ''Investigations'', ''Construction'', and ''Operation and Maintenance'' accounts of the Corps of Engineers may not be used as provided under the heading ''Additional Funding for Ongoing Work'' in the matter relating to each such account in the report of the Committee on Appropriations to accompany this Act until the report required under such heading is submitted.

SEC. 110. None of the funds made available by this Act or any subsequent Act making appropriations for Energy and Water Development may be used by the Corps of Engineers to develop, adopt, implement, administer, or enforce a change or supplement to the rule dated November 13, 1986, or guidance documents dated January 15, 2003, and December 2, 2008, pertaining to the definition of waters under the jurisdiction of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.).

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. MORAN

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 12, beginning on line 6, strike section 110.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Virginia is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Chairman, as the Clerk read, this would strike section 110 of this bill.

This is a legislative rider that is bad policy and does not belong in an appropriations bill. This rider, 110, permanently blocks the Army Corps of Engineers from fixing existing policies that are confusing and inconsistent and not working. It risks great harm to fresh sources of drinking water, and it jeopardizes flood protection and outdoor recreation, specifically because section 110 prohibits the Army Corps from clarifying the limits of Federal and State authority under the Clean Water Act.

Mr. Chairman, two Supreme Court cases over the last decade addressed the scope of the Federal Government's authority under the Clean Water Act. The Court's rulings did not require less regulation and protections, but urged the Congress and the executive branch to provide a sound rationale and consistency to clarify the limits of Federal authority. The Corps and the EPA have now issued draft guidance clarifying Federal authority that adheres to the Court's rules. Congress, by contrast, has not.

With this rider, Congress is about to make matters much worse—worse because blocking completion of the guidance and any subsequent regulations which the bill's rider would do would be bad for the public's health, bad for businesses, and bad for farmers. It's especially bad for 117 million Americans whose drinking water comes from headwaters and non-perennial streams. Shouldn't we be concerned about what toxic material is dumped into these streams?

It's bad for American businesses who need certainty. Without updated guidance, businesses will often not know when they need a Corps' permit in order to develop land.

□ 1000

This uncertainty could subject them to civil and criminal liability, and certainly will cost them extra money.

It's bad for farmers because this rider eliminates the agricultural exclusion for prior converted cropland that was added to the waters of the United States rule at the farmers' request.

Section 110 invalidates all rules issued after the rule dated November 13, 1986, but not until 1993 did the Corps and EPA define the waters of the U.S. to exclude ''prior converted cropland.''

Claims that Federal guidance and regulations are unnecessary because of State clean water programs are wrong as well. Thirty-three States joined a brief in the most recent of the Supreme Court cases urging the Court to uphold Federal protections for wetlands adjacent to non-navigable streams. States noted that Federal safeguards were critical (A) because water flows between States, (B) because maintaining a Federal floor of pollution control creates parity between States, and (C) because States have come to rely on Federal protections and would face serious administrative and financial burdens if they were solely responsible for these requirements.

Finally, even though the rider may block the guidance clarifying Federal and State authority, it does not make the Clean Water Act requirements for a permit go away. States are still required to implement and enforce the law, and dischargers still must obey it. Likewise, third parties may still file lawsuits.

The real consequence of this rider will be to frustrate the Federal Government's efforts to explain where State or Federal authority under the Clean Water Act ceases to exist. If this rider prevails, more lawsuits will ensue.

So I urge my colleagues to vote to strike this rider to bring clarity to a confusing issue.

Let me say, Mr. Chairman, that many of the groups involved have finally come together and realized that they need clarity on a very difficult issue. There are times when water goes underground during the summer and the surface dries up, but that water is still present, and much of that water is interstate. You need Federal control.

One of the biggest things that I think perhaps the gentleman may not be aware of is the fact that this rider, if it is passed in this bill, would eliminate the agricultural exclusion for prior converted cropland. The fact is that this rider invalidates all rules that were issued after November 13, 1986, and it wasn't until 1993 that the Corps and EPA defined the waters of the U.S. to exclude prior converted cropland. So a lot of the farm community is going to be very upset if the gentleman's rider is not removed. And the fact that 33 States have joined a brief asking the Federal Government to do what the EPA and the Federal Corps of Engineers is doing means that we are going to cause major problems if this rider is passed in this bill.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. REHBERG. I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Montana is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. REHBERG. Mr. Chairman, you heard it here first. My urban colleague says the Federal Government wants to control your water on private property in rural areas like Montana.

The life of a Montana farmer is hard, up before the sun rises, working all day just to make ends meet. Between the cycle of plowing, planting, and harvesting, there are tractors to fix, barns to repair, and products to bring to market. The last thing any Montana farmer needs is another Federal mandate to

follow, more red tape to cut through, and more Federal paperwork to fill out.

This country was founded by farmers. They understood from personal experience that farming is a full-time job and you can't do it right if you only do it part of the time. So the Framers of the Constitution set up a representative government that lets farmers elect men and women to fight on their behalf so they can go about their business.

The House of Representatives was meant to be the closest to the people. It's not just our privilege to stand up for our Constitution; it's our constitutional duty.

The Constitution delegates legislative power to the Congress, but lately, President Obama has, in too many cases, tried to circumvent the constitutional separation of powers. Congress managed to prevent the disastrous cap-and-trade energy tax from becoming law, so President Obama expanded the definition of a harmful pollutant in the Clean Air Act to include carbon dioxide, the stuff that we exhale.

Congress blocked the massive legislation landgrabs like the Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act, so the Obama administration crafts secret plans to designate 13 million acres as national monuments using the Antiquities Act. The Antiquities Act, by the way, was passed to protect archaeological sites.

And now the Obama administration is looking to expand its reach, over the objections of both the Congress and the Supreme Court, to control water, all water everywhere.

You know, if there's one resource that's more important to dryland farmers than time, it's water. And in arid States like Montana, where we've got plenty of land, there's lots of dirt between light bulbs. The difference between feast and famine can be a little bit of water. And now some folks in the Federal Government want to get involved.

It's been a long fight. Let me show you how we got there.

Back in 2001 and 2003, the Supreme Court limited the authority of the Federal Government to regulate water. Unelected bureaucrats were trying to control water, all water, including melted snow, mud puddles and prairie potholes and irrigation ditches. But the Supreme Court said no.

This makes sense. There is a role for the Federal Government. We want clean water and a safe environment. But living in Montana means you live off the land. It means you grew up learning how to take care of your environment. In fact, Montanans were some of the first conservationists. But the role of government is not unlimited. We don't need the Federal Government thinking for us, and we don't need the Federal Government to tell us how to take care of our irrigation ditches.

The Clean Water Act gives the Federal Government authority to regulate navigable waters of the United States. President Obama and his allies in Congress are trying to eliminate the requirement that waterways be navigable. Simply eliminating that word gives the Federal Government nearly unlimited power. Fortunately, those legislative efforts have failed.

So in December 2010, the Corps of Engineers crafted a plan to identify water subject to jurisdiction under the Clean Water Act. The goal is to significantly expand Federal jurisdiction over water. The Obama administration and his allies are trying to solve a problem that does not exist.

Fortunately, the Constitution provides a check to the Obama administration's power grab. Montana farmers have a safety net—the House of Representatives. It's our job to fight this battle so that they don't have to. It's our job to act as a check and balance to over-reaching executive actions.

That's what this language does. It simply prevents the President from carrying out his plans. It ensures that when a farmer wakes up before the sun rises, they don't have to worry about onerous Federal regulation. They can just go to work on their farm. That's what the Founding Fathers would have wanted, and that's why I hope you'll join me in opposing this amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the requisite number of words.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Michigan is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DINGELL asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DINGELL. I want to begin by expressing great respect and affection for my friend from Montana who has just spoken. It was a fine speech, but it has nothing to do with the issues before us.

What the committee, in this legislation, has done has been to simply assure that the Corps of Engineers may not put forth guidelines clarifying the law as it was enunciated by the Supreme Court in the case that we are discussing in connection with the Clean Water Act.

It does something more. It fixes it so that farmers will lose certain protections which have been put in for their benefit by the law. And you're going to find, as my friend from Maryland has so wisely observed, that you are going to hurt a bunch of American farming public by denying them a protection which has been given them. Citizens, under the language of the committee bill, will have no way of knowing what the law is or how it is interpreted by the committee.

It is not an issue before us today whether or not you agree with the Clean Water Act. The question is, simply: Is the Corps of Engineers going to be able to tell people what the law is and how it is to be interpreted by the Corps and how citizens will then have to behave?

□ 1010

Under the law, the amendment simply says the Corps may inform people of what the law, as set forth in the Supreme Court's rulings, means. I think that is something which is important in terms of seeing to it that people may go forward with their planning, with economic development and everything of that sort.

It is not wise to deny citizens this kind of information. It is extremely unwise to deny business the opportunity to know what it is they must do to comply with the law as enunciated by the Supreme Court. The amendment makes great sense. The bill, as written, simply re-fights an issue that is not before this body at this time. I hate to see the kind of confusion that is being inflicted upon this body by a simple misunderstanding of what the law is, what the bill does, and what the amendment does.

I urge my colleagues to support the amendment. If you want clarity, if you want people to know how to comply with the law as set forth by the Supreme Court, adopt the amendment. If you want confusion and if you want misfortune to be visited on farmers and the public and confusion to afflict economic development and business, then support the bill as it is and oppose the amendment.

There is a tremendous lack of wisdom here in this fight. Let us understand the issue that plagues us, which is simply whether or not the Corps of Engineers is going to be able to tell people what the law is. At issue is not any change in the law. The amendment accepts the fact that the Supreme Court has made a decision. I happen to strongly disagree with that decision by the Supreme Court. Unfortunately, I am going to have to wait until some future time to come down and attack what is clear misbehavior by the Supreme Court. I was on the floor and had a colloquy with the management of the legislation at the time the bill was passed, and the Supreme Court has clearly disregarded and ignored the legislative history and, worse than that, the clear language of the bill. That issue is not before us today.

What is before us today is simply: Are the Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Government going to be able to tell the people what the law is as set forth by the Supreme Court?

To say anything else about this legislation is either to be misled or to mislead. I would beg my colleagues to vote in favor of the intelligent approach of seeing to it that we are going to allow people to know what the law is and allow the Corps of Engineers to set out what the law is for the benefit of business, industry, and people.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. Chair, I rise in support of the Moran-Dingell amendment which will protect not only the Clean Water Act but also the power and integrity of the United States Congress.

When the Clean Water Act was passed, I stood on the floor of this House as one of its

authors and explained the intent of the Conference Report on the Clean Water Act in a colloquy with Representative Jim Wright of Texas, who was managing the bill. I said, ''the conference bill defines the term 'navigable waters' broadly for water quality purposes. It means all 'the waters of the United States' in a geographical sense. It does not mean the 'navigable waters of the United States' in the technical sense as we sometimes see in some laws.''

In 2006, the Supreme Court significantly restricted the original Congressional intent of the Federal government's authority under the Clean Water Act. The Supreme Court completely ignored Congress' intent to provide a broader definition of ''U.S. waters'' and instead upended 35 years of precedence simply because they refused to properly review the legislative history of laws made on this floor by those managing the bill.

Because of the Supreme Court's misguided decision, the Army Corps of Engineers is working on new guidelines that will take into account the decision of the Court and define what their new jurisdiction will be under the Clean Water Act. This is not a massive expansion of power by the Corps as some would have the House believe. This is simply an honest attempt to comply with the Supreme Court's decision.

By preventing the Corps from spending any funds to implement these new guidelines, this House would be casting a dark pall of uncertainty over the country. If someone wants to build a home or new business near a wetland or other body of water, do they need to consult with the Army Corps of Engineers before doing so? The language in this bill would not answer that question and would lead to more costs and confusion to that homeowner or businessperson in legal and court fees. The language in this bill would lead to more court battles and create a wonderful mess that would lead to lawyers making plenty of money.

I ask my colleagues to not let the Supreme Court to blatantly ignore established Congressional intent and to instead allow the Army Corps of Engineers to do the work we told them to do and to implement new guidelines conforming to the court's decision.

Please vote for the Moran-Dingell Amendment.

Mr. GIBBS. I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Ohio is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GIBBS. I rise today in strong opposition to this amendment.

My friends on the other side of the aisle are absolutely right in that, currently, there is an assault going on with regard to the Clean Water Act; but it is not by us, rather by this administration. We are not trying to roll back the Clean Water Act but, instead, allow it to work as it was written.

This administration is currently trying to circumvent congressional intent and expand the scope of the law beyond its drafted words. This guidance would substantially change the Agency's policy on waters subject to the jurisdiction under the Clean Water Act, undermine the regulatory community's rights and obligations under the Clean Water Act, and erode the Federal-State partnership that has long existed between the States and the Federal Government in implementing the Clean Water Act.

By developing this guidance, the Agencies have ignored calls from State agencies and environmental groups, among others, to proceed through the normal rulemaking procedures; and they have avoided consulting with the States, which are supposed to be the agencies partnering in and implementing the Clean Water Act. The agencies cannot circumvent the Administrative Procedure Act through this guidance or change the scope and meaning of the Clean Water Act or the statute's implementing regulations.

If the administration and the Members on the other side of the aisle seek statutory changes in the Clean Water Act, then a proposal must be submitted here in Congress for legislative action, and we should have a healthy debate. Until that time, we must stop this current process.

Also, I would like to add to the gentleman's earlier comments in that I think the intent of the Clean Water Act passed constitutional muster because of the word ''navigable'' in the Interstate Commerce Clause. This guidance put out essentially circumvents the word ''navigable,'' so I have to raise a question of the constitutionality of this type of amendment.

I urge strong opposition to this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Maryland is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of my colleague Mr. MORAN's amendment to strike this rider in the fiscal year 2013 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act. For 40 years, the Clean Water Act has helped remove pollution from our drinking water and protect our precious natural resources.

The act regulates the discharge of pollution into navigable waters; but put simply, it makes sure that a glass of water you get from the tap or the fish you catch in any fishing hole or river isn't contaminated by pollutants. Now, some of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle forget that, before the Clean Water Act was passed, rivers caught on fire; oil spills in inland waters were rampant; and few communities had modern wastewater treatment facilities.

The ill-conceived rider in this bill would have a severe impact on my home State of Maryland. In fact, the EPA estimates that 55 percent of the streams in Maryland either do not flow year-round or are ''first order'' headwater streams. These are waters most vulnerable to pollution or destruction if the Army Corps and EPA are not able to adopt policies to restore the longstanding protections for these waters. Without these protections, sewage and industrial waste discharges, oil spills and completely filling in streams for development may not be subject to Federal law even when streams provide drinking water, as they do in the Fourth Congressional District of Maryland.

The EPA says that 3,990,016 people in Maryland receive some of their drinking water from areas containing these smaller streams. In Montgomery County alone, 1,846,500 residents are at risk of having their drinking water polluted. These residents use surface water supplied by public drinking water systems that rely on smaller streams that are at risk of losing clean water protections. Also, many waters in Maryland, from small streams to the Chesapeake Bay, are interstate waters. Without strong Federal safeguards for waters of the United States, those States that want to or are able to take State-level steps to protect waters will be unsuccessful.

Even with the Clean Water Act, the Potomac River—I live on the banks of the Potomac River—is listed as the most endangered river by the group American Rivers as part of their America's Most Endangered Rivers of 2012. The river receives this inauspicious award because it's polluted by agriculture runoff, sewage runoff from roadways and from enough pharmaceuticals that male fish have been caught with female characteristics. The Anacostia River, which also flows through my district, is polluted by trash, sewage, and other contaminants. A cleanup of the Anacostia is slowly taking place due in no small part to the guidance provided under the Clean Water Act. Urban rivers like the Potomac and Anacostia are affected by runoff from streets and parking structures.

I want to pause here for a minute because all of us here in this Capitol receive our water, our tap water and our drinking water, from those waters that I am talking about, from the Anacostia and the Potomac. So keep that in mind, Members of Congress, when you're drinking a glass of water.

It's one of the many reasons that I favor public transportation, transit-oriented development, and bike riding. Our air and water are protected when we make smart transportation decisions, and I have to say that we haven't made a single smart transportation and jobs decision in this Congress since the Republicans took over. This is why I support a bipartisan and Senate-passed MAP–21 and hope that the conferees agree to a report that reflects the priorities in that bill, because that's about protecting our drinking water.

So let's be clear about what's at stake. The Clean Water Act protects almost 60 percent of U.S. streams, and that's why 33 States joined a brief in the most recent Supreme Court case on the issue urging the Court to uphold Federal protections for wetlands adjacent to non-navigable tributaries.

□ 1020

These States noted that Federal safeguards were critical because water flows between States, because maintaining a Federal floor of pollution control creates parity among States, and because States have come to rely on Federal protections and would face significant administrative and financial burdens if they were solely responsible for these requirements. Now the success of the Clean Water Act is being threatened by a dirty-water rider attached to the FY 2013 Energy and Water appropriations bill.

I hope you'll join with me and millions of people across the country to stand up for clean water, for safe drinking water, for the health of fishermen, and for fish and wildlife. Future generations will not remember the industries we've made slightly wealthier by rolling back this bipartisan passed bill, but our future generations will know that we are the reason their drinking water is making them sick.

I urge my colleagues to vote for the Moran-Dingell amendment and to strike this dangerous and reckless rider.

With that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Missouri is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Chair, I have to rise in strong opposition to my friend's amendment.

Today, the EPA and the Corps of Engineers are writing guidance in order to dramatically expand the reach of the Clean Water Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act. The EPA and Corps' understanding of waters of the United States would grow to encompass—in my rural district and a lot of rural districts all over this country—dry ditches, culverts, and—who knows—swimming pools and snow, as well.

This guidance is called ''Identification of Waters Protected by the Clean Water Act,'' and it's clear that the draft guidance, which has already been published, says it is not a rule and it is not binding. But let me tell you what's happened in my congressional district. Number one, this guidance is actually causing already the Corps of Engineers to fine a couple of people in my congressional district who supposedly have dry ditches on their property, and they are about 10 different streams removed from the Mississippi River, perhaps. Only when it rains does it stay wet for a day. These people are being told that they're going to have to pay hefty fines unless they stop the development of this particular area on their land. This is absolutely the craziest thing I've ever heard. Nobody is talking about impacting your clean water. This is out in the country. This is in rural areas. This is where there hasn't been a stream running in 100 years. Why that would be called a navigable water is beyond me.

The language included in the underlying bill is just simply going to stop the Corps, along with the EPA, from expanding their regulatory reach. And as I said, it's going to drastically be expanded to include culverts, dry ditches, and the rain falling on our fields. God knows there's going to be a mud puddle there, and it's suddenly going to become a navigable water because you might be able to put somebody with an inner tube in there in the puddle in the yard to be able to swim until it dries up.

Come on. Let's use sound science. Let's use some common sense. Let's follow proper rulemaking. The last thing we need to do is to continue to increase the power of the Federal Government. And this amendment under consideration—and I love my colleagues who are offering it—would further empower the regulatory agencies, and it would endanger more than anything else our private property rights.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support private property rights and join me in demanding transparency and accountability of our regulatory agencies. I urge my colleagues to vote ''no'' to defeat this amendment.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Indiana is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of Mr. MORAN's amendment and would point out that I think the gentleman from Michigan in his earlier remarks hit the nail on the head. This is an issue of clarity versus confusion.

The fact is we have become the ''Congress of Confusion.'' We are charged with running a Nation of 300 million people with domestic and international responsibilities. We have now confused the physician community of the United States more than 17 times—sometimes at a 2-week interval—as to what the reimbursements are going to be under the Medicare program. We have people who have suffered loss of life, significant property damage, and dislocation through floods in our Nation. We are unable as an institution to resolve our differences on flood insurance and have continued it—if I am correct—at least 11 times. The fact is we have an infrastructure, as far as our highways and bridges, that is crumbling. We have now eight or nine times continued that because we cannot make a decision, and we continue to confuse the States, contractors, and our communities as to what the policy of the United States Government is going to be. And depending on what year you died, the last four years—including 2012—this Nation has had three different estate-tax laws, and the current one expires at the end of this year, leading to confusion and the hiring of numerous accountants, insurance agents, and attorneys, all of whom I love.

Why confuse this Nation more by not adopting the clarity of the Moran amendment? There is no question that the two Supreme Court decisions have significantly confused this issue and created uncertainty as to the scope of the Clean Water Act. During multiple hearings before the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, witness after witness spoke of how these cases have blurred the lines on what the waters subject to Federal protection are.

The reason in short is because in neither case could the majority of Supreme Court justices agree on what was the appropriate test for determining the scope of Federal protections based on their reading of the term ''navigable.'' No majority or the court could agree what navigable means. In fact, in one of the cases the level of confusion on the court is reflected in that there are five separate opinions filed in the case with no opinion having more than four supporters on the Supreme Court of the United States.

The resulting confusion in interpreting the Clean Water Act is apparent to both the regulated community and regulators. The fact is, the industry has asked for clarification of this confusion through agency rulemaking. The gentlewoman mentioned that we need a rule in this. We do need a clarified rule. However, this legislative rider that is in the bill proposes the status quo of confusion and that that is acceptable. It will only result in increased implementation costs to the Federal Government, to the States, and to the regulated community. It will increase delays in the implementation of important public works projects and protracted litigation on the disparity of this language.

We need to adopt Mr. MORAN's amendment to ensure that we have clarity. We should be taking actions to address the legitimate concerns that have been expressed. But the fact is this is an issue that Congress and the administration needs to address in the authorizing process to clarify it. This is not an issue that should be continued in confusion and perpetuity through the appropriations process.

Again, I strongly support the gentleman's amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Pennsylvania is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the amendment and urge my colleagues to support a clarification of the Clean Water Act.

Mr. Chairman, Republican administrators of the EPA—from William Reilly to Russell Train—have all expressed support for protecting our streams, rivers, wetlands, lakes, and other waters of the United States from pollution and from destruction. The rider in this bill will perpetuate the

current confusing and cumbersome bureaucratic situation.

□ 1030

I would suggest it's time to take a step forward, not take a step backward, and I urge my colleagues to oppose the rider and to support the amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DICKS. I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Washington is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DICKS. I received a letter from the American Fisheries Society, the American Fly Fishing Trade Association, the Sportfishing Association, Backcountry Hunters and Anglers. I think these are very important groups. As a westerner, I pay attention to these people. It says:

MARCH 30, 2012.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: As sportsman-conservation organizations representing millions of hunters, boaters, and anglers nationwide, we ask you to oppose any legislation that would block the administration's very deliberate and vital action to clarify and restore long-standing Clean Water Act protections for streams and wetlands across the country. We reaffirm our support for Clean Water Act guidance currently being reviewed and finalized in an interagency process coordinated by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

Sportsmen rely on clean water to ensure the opportunity to enjoy hunting, angling, and other outdoor-based recreation (and business) in the great outdoors. When wetlands are drained and filled and streams are polluted, sportsmen are often the first to be directly impacted. Consequently, hunters, boaters, and anglers have consistently advocated for conserving our nation's waters.

Since 2001, U.S. Supreme Court decisions in SWANCC (2001) and Rapanos (2006), along with 2003 and 2008 agency guidance that is inconsistent with those decisions and the related science, have combined to erode longstanding Clean Water Act safeguards for headwater streams and critical wetlands.

Headwater and intermittently flowing streams comprise 59 percent of all stream miles in the continental United States, and are particularly vulnerable under the decisions and existing agency guidance. At-risk wetlands and tributaries provide clean water for iconic systems such as the Mississippi River Delta and the Chesapeake Bay. They recharge aquifers like the Ogallala, help retain floodwaters in areas such as the Prairie Pothole region and Missouri River Basin, and provide important fish and wildlife habitat throughout the nation. According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), prairie pothole wetlands in the northern Great Plains, together with similar wetlands in southern Canada, produce 50 to 70 percent of all North American ducks. However, in its most recent report on the status of wetlands nationwide, the FWS found the rate of wetland loss jumped 140 percent between 2004 and 2009. As these waters are polluted and diminished, their ecological, public health, and recreational benefits are lost, as well.

As we all work to create jobs and support economic recovery, we should nurture rather than neglect the economic benefits of hunting, angling, and other outdoor recreation. Hunting, boating, and angling have a tremendously positive impact on the nation's economy, including in rural communities, and support millions of jobs across the country. Consider the following:

Using data from the FWS, the American Sportfishing Association estimates angling generates $125 billion in annual economic activity and supports more than 1 million jobs.

Using similar information, the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation estimates hunters contribute nearly $25 billion to the economy, which supports 600,000 jobs.

Data from the National Marine Manufacturers Association indicates that recreational boating contributes over $41 billion and 337,000 jobs to the U.S. economy.

The FWS reports duck hunting alone generates $2.3 billion for the economy every year and supports 27,000 private sector jobs.

In order to effectively safeguard key components of our economy, the sports and traditions that millions of Americas enjoy, and the health and integrity of some of our most important fish and wildlife resources, it is essential to act now to restore lost Clean Water Act protections consistent with existing law and science.

The Army Corps of Engineers and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed new guidance last spring for determining Clean Water Act jurisdiction. The draft guidance is science-based and clearly respects the Supreme Court's decisions. Over the course of three months last summer, the agencies conducted an almost unprecedented public engagement process for a guidance document. More than 200,000 Americans commented and EPA has reported that the clear majority of those comments support the proposed guidance. During this process, more than 250 hunting, angling, and conservation groups from 28 states also weighed in backing the guidance and subsequent rulemaking.

To complete this process the guidance must be finalized as a first step in affirming longstanding clean water protections for many wetlands and streams. This guidance importantly maintains existing exemptions for normal agricultural activity. At the same time, it will provide increased clarity and consistency that is badly needed by land owners, developers, conservationists, and state and federal agencies alike. We urge you to support—and not oppose—this important first step.

As a follow-up to final guidance, we also support agency action to further clarify and strengthen the regulatory definition of ''waters of the United States.'' There is widespread agreement among groups across the spectrum about the inherent value of rulemaking to address critical aspects of this issue. In closing, we urge you to support—and not oppose—the important and careful steps being taken by the administration to clarify and affirm long-standing protections for wetlands and streams across the United States.

Respectfully,

Gus Rassam, Executive Director, American Fisheries Society; Randi Swisher, President, American Fly Fishing Trade Association; Gordon Robertson, Vice President, Government Affairs, American Sportfishing Association; Jim Akenson, Executive Director, Backcountry Hunters and Anglers; Bruce Akin, Chief Executive Officer, BASS, LLC.; Jim Martin, Conservation Director, Berkley Conservation Institute; Rob Olson, President, Delta Waterfowl; David Hoskins, Executive Director, Izaak Walton League of America; Thom Dammrich, President, National Marine Manufacturers Association; Larry Schweiger, President and CEO, National Wildlife Federation; Paul Krausman, CWD, President, The Wildlife Society; Whit Fosburgh, President and CEO, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership; Chris Wood, President, Trout Unlimited; Steve Williams, President, Wildlife Management Institute.

So that's why we must today enact the Moran amendment that takes out the language unfortunately added in full committee on this subject. It is the right thing to do. It is the right thing to do. From an environmental perspective and from a hunter, fisherman, outdoor recreational perspective, it's necessary to protect our future.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SIMPSON. I move to strike the last world.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Idaho is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SIMPSON. I thank the chairman for his recognition. I don't have the letter to read, but listen, the only argument that's being made here that makes any sense is we have got to bring clarity to this issue. We have got to bring clarity to the confusion of this issue.

Well, I will tell you that a hanging is clarity, but it's not necessarily the right option. That's essentially what we're doing here. We're giving control of all these waters that have traditionally been in the control of the States to the Federal Government. And I will tell you, we will have an opportunity to debate this same issue again on the Interior bill dealing with the EPA. This deals with the Army Corps of Engineers.

The fact is is that you don't need this to clarify this, the policies proposed by the Army Corps of Engineers. You can clarify it by legislatively defining what ''navigable'' means. If the Supreme Court has a problem trying to decide what ''navigable'' means, then let's address that so we know what we intend by that.

The argument is made repeatedly by some of those that have supported this amendment, whether you are from Virginia or Maryland, and I will tell you, if you want in Virginia or Maryland or Washington or Michigan, the Army Corps of Engineers and the EPA to control every drop of water that falls on your State, I'll help you do it. Let's write legislation to do that so that you guys can have the clarity of the EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers. But in western States, we actually protect those waters by State law. What you are trying to do is exempt State law or override State law and have the Federal Government take control of these. That's just flat wrong.

If you don't think Virginia protects its headwaters enough, then put a bill in to allow the EPA and the Army Corps to control every drop of water that falls in the State of Virginia. You don't need this to bring clarity to this, and the States are doing a good job that do State regulations of headwaters.

Mr. MORAN. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. SIMPSON. I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. MORAN. I would like to ask the gentleman what we do about waters that are interstate, they flow down.

Mr. SIMPSON. Well, let me answer that question for you.

Mr. MORAN. Yes, please.

Mr. SIMPSON. If there are waters that the State is not regulating and they will eventually flow into navigable waters, and the only way to control the pollution in those navigable waters—the State is going to ultimately start controlling those headwaters if they're not doing their jobs.

You seem to think that States have no ability to control the State waters that are under State control. They do have the ability to control those State waters, and they do a good job of it in most States. I'm not sure about Virginia. I haven't followed Virginia.

Mr. MORAN. But I suggest to the gentleman, they use the Federal definition in order to enforce the quality of the water coming from other States. That's the problem.

Mr. SIMPSON. The point is that they become navigable waters at some point. If they are being polluted by waters that are controlled by the States, eventually the State is going to have to say, You know what, we have got to get control of this; otherwise, we're going to have problems downstream.

Mr. MORAN. How do they control water from another State?

Mr. SIMPSON. You seem to think that the only way to address this problem is to have a Federal bureaucracy. You know what, we could bring clarity to all of our problems by just eliminating the States. Why have States? Why not have everything under Federal control? That makes sense, because everything goes from State to State eventually. It makes no sense to me.

This does not bring clarity to the situation and it does not help in the regulation of our Clean Water Act. This does not make the waters of the United States cleaner. All it does is give more authority to the Army Corps of Engineers and the EPA.

□ 1040

If you want to bring charity, then bring a bill down here to define what navigable means. And you can do that. As I said, a hanging is clarity—not necessarily the best outcome.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MORAN).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. REHBERG. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Virginia will be postponed.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

SEC. 111. As of the date of enactment of this Act and thereafter, the Secretary of the Army shall not promulgate or enforce any regulation that prohibits an individual from possessing a firearm, including an assembled or functional firearm, at a water resources development project covered under section 327.0 of title 36, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the date of enactment of this Act), if—

(1) the individual is not otherwise prohibited by law from possessing the firearm; and

(2) the possession of the firearm is in compliance with the law of the State in which the water resources development project is located.

TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT

CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT COMPLETION ACCOUNT

For carrying out activities authorized by the Central Utah Project Completion Act, $19,700,000, to remain available until expended, of which $1,200,000 shall be deposited into the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Account for use by the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission. In addition, for necessary expenses incurred in carrying out related responsibilities of the Secretary of the Interior, $1,300,000.

For fiscal year 2013, the Commission may use an amount not to exceed $1,500,000 for administrative expenses.

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

The following appropriations shall be expended to execute authorized functions of the Bureau of Reclamation:

WATER AND RELATED RESOURCES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For management, development, and restoration of water and related natural resources and for related activities, including the operation, maintenance, and rehabilitation of reclamation and other facilities, participation in fulfilling related Federal responsibilities to Native Americans, and related grants to, and cooperative and other agreements with, State and local governments, federally recognized Indian tribes, and others, $833,635,000, to remain available until expended, of which $29,000 shall be available for transfer to the Upper Colorado River Basin Fund and $6,985,000 shall be available for transfer to the Lower Colorado River Basin Development Fund; of which such amounts as may be necessary may be advanced to the Colorado River Dam Fund: *Provided*, That such transfers may be increased or decreased within the overall appropriation under this heading: *Provided further*, That of the total appropriated, the amount for program activities that can be financed by the Reclamation Fund or the Bureau of Reclamation special fee account established by 16 U.S.C. 6806 shall be derived from that Fund or account: *Provided further*, That funds contributed under 43 U.S.C. 395 are available until expended for the purposes for which contributed: *Provided further*, That funds advanced under 43 U.S.C. 397a shall be credited to this account and are available until expended for the same purposes as the sums appropriated under this heading: *Provided further*, That of the amounts provided herein, funds may be used for high priority projects which shall be carried out by the Youth Conservation Corps, as authorized by 16 U.S.C. 1706.

CENTRAL VALLEY PROJECT RESTORATION FUND

For carrying out the programs, projects, plans, habitat restoration, improvement, and acquisition provisions of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act, $39,883,000, to be derived from such sums as may be collected in the Central Valley Project Restoration Fund pursuant to sections 3407(d), 3404(c)(3), and 3405(f) of Public Law 102–575, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Bureau of Reclamation is directed to assess and collect the full amount of the additional mitigation and restoration payments authorized by section 3407(d) of Public Law 102–575: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available under this heading may be used for the acquisition or leasing of water for in-stream purposes if the water is already committed to in-stream purposes by a court adopted decree or order.

CALIFORNIA BAY-DELTA RESTORATION

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For carrying out activities authorized by the Water Supply, Reliability, and Environmental Improvement Act, consistent with plans to be approved by the Secretary of the Interior, $36,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which such amounts as may be necessary to carry out such activities may be transferred to appropriate accounts of other participating Federal agencies to carry out authorized purposes: *Provided*, That funds appropriated herein may be used for the Federal share of the costs of CALFED Program management: *Provided further*, That the use of any funds provided to the California Bay-Delta Authority for program-wide management and oversight activities shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior: *Provided further*, That CALFED implementation shall be carried out in a balanced manner with clear performance measures demonstrating concurrent progress in achieving the goals and objectives of the Program.

POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION

For necessary expenses of policy, administration, and related functions in the Office of the Commissioner, the Denver office, and offices in the five regions of the Bureau of Reclamation, to remain available until September 30, 2014, $57,000,000, to be derived from the Reclamation Fund and be nonreimbursable as provided in 43 U.S.C. 377: *Provided*, That no part of any other appropriation in this Act shall be available for activities or functions budgeted as policy and administration expenses.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

Appropriations for the Bureau of Reclamation shall be available for purchase of not to exceed five passenger motor vehicles, which are for replacement only.

GENERAL PROVISIONS, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

SEC. 201. (a) None of the funds provided in this title shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that—

(1) creates or initiates a new program, project, or activity;

(2) eliminates a program, project, or activity;

(3) increases funds for any program, project, or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted by this Act;

(4) restarts or resumes any program, project or activity for which funds are not provided in this Act, unless prior approval is received from the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate;

(5) transfers funds in excess of the following limits—

(A) 15 percent for any program, project or activity for which $2,000,000 or more is available at the beginning of the fiscal year; or

(B) $300,000 for any program, project or activity for which less than $2,000,000 is available at the beginning of the fiscal year;

(6) transfers more than $500,000 from either the Facilities Operation, Maintenance, and Rehabilitation category or the Resources

Management and Development category to any program, project, or activity in the other category; or

(7) transfers, when necessary to discharge legal obligations of the Bureau of Reclamation, more than $5,000,000 to provide adequate funds for settled contractor claims, increased contractor earnings due to accelerated rates of operations, and real estate deficiency judgments.

(b) Subsection (a)(5) shall not apply to any transfer of funds within the Facilities Operation, Maintenance, and Rehabilitation category.

(c) For purposes of this section, the term ''transfer'' means any movement of funds into or out of a program, project, or activity.

(d) The Bureau of Reclamation shall submit reports on a quarterly basis to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing all the funds reprogrammed between programs, projects, activities, or categories of funding. The first quarterly report shall be submitted not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 202. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to determine the final point of discharge for the interceptor drain for the San Luis Unit until development by the Secretary of the Interior and the State of California of a plan, which shall conform to the water quality standards of the State of California as approved by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, to minimize any detrimental effect of the San Luis drainage waters.

(b) The costs of the Kesterson Reservoir Cleanup Program and the costs of the San Joaquin Valley Drainage Program shall be classified by the Secretary of the Interior as reimbursable or nonreimbursable and collected until fully repaid pursuant to the ''Cleanup Program-Alternative Repayment Plan'' and the ''SJVDP-Alternative Repayment Plan'' described in the report entitled ''Repayment Report, Kesterson Reservoir Cleanup Program and San Joaquin Valley Drainage Program, February 1995'', prepared by the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation. Any future obligations of funds by the United States relating to, or providing for, drainage service or drainage studies for the San Luis Unit shall be fully reimbursable by San Luis Unit beneficiaries of such service or studies pursuant to Federal reclamation law.

TITLE III—DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

ENERGY PROGRAMS

ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For Department of Energy expenses including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment, and other expenses necessary for energy efficiency and renewable energy activities in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, $1,450,960,000 to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of such amount, $115,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2014, for program direction: *Provided further*, That for the purposes of allocating weatherization assistance funds to States and tribes during fiscal year 2013, the Secretary of Energy may waive the allocation formula established pursuant to section 414(a) of the Energy Conservation and Production Act (42 U.S.C. 6864(a)): *Provided further*, That of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations available under this heading, $69,667,000 is hereby permanently rescinded: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. KAPTUR

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 20, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $10,000,000)''.

Page 28, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $10,000,000)''.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Ohio is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. I rise today to offer an amendment that takes another step toward restoring energy independence for America and new jobs for Americans. My amendment shifts an additional $10 million for energy efficiency and renewable energy development from departmental administrative accounts. My goal is to better support a diversified energy portfolio and restore continental energy security.

American security and competitiveness hinge on affordable energy for our businesses and families, and our energy future depends on innovation. Fossil fuels continue to provide the bulk of our energy needs, and those accounts are left intact in this bill. But we all should know that a diversified energy portfolio protects America from the instability of a single source of energy dependence.

Our future security depends on diversified energy research and development that provides significant return on investment both financially and in technological advancement and the jobs that go with it. We must ensure that American innovators are on a level playing field with competitors across the globe, including China, and even Russia, and other nations looking for a competitive edge.

For years, the United States has been the global leader in these technologies, but we now are losing edge. Investment in energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies are absolutely essential in securing America's future.

Now, I understand the difficulty in drafting this bill, given the 302(b) allocation and the cuts for energy and water that the subcommittee endured. And I appreciate Chairman FRELINGHUYSEN and Ranking Member VISCLOSKY's dedication to making difficult choices in a tight budget climate. Yet for fiscal 2013, critical energy research accounts have been drastically reduced to $1.38 billion that actually exacted a $428 million cut below fiscal year 2012.

Compared to last year, for example, solar energy was cut nearly in half—to $155 million—and wind energy, the fastest energy sector growing globally, was cut by one-quarter, to $70 million for R&D. Other programs like geothermal, water power, and building energy technologies received similar large cuts.

Last year, this body came together in a bipartisan fashion to support a modest increase in energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies; and faced with further cuts this year, I ask my colleagues to reaffirm that commitment to a diversified energy policy and lead our country, and indeed the world, toward a new energy age. In fact, this amendment increases funds for the renewable portion of our energy portfolio while maintaining the proposed increases for fossil fuel development. And from a budgetary and accounting standpoint, my amendment actually decreases outlays for fiscal year 2013.

Let me add, this $10 million transfer we are proposing represents less than 1/20th of the $230 million administrative budget of the Department of Energy. This is a prudent adjustment to our energy policy strategy. It is forward looking. It makes sense from a budgetary standpoint. It will spur new job creation. And I urge my colleagues' support.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from New Jersey is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. I rise to oppose the gentlewoman's amendment. I appreciate my colleague's passion for solar energy. She has been a tireless supporter of American innovation in this energy and technological area. I also have the pleasure of serving with her on the Defense Appropriations Committee, and she's been an innovator and promoter of responsible energy policy with the Department of Defense as well.

But within tight budgets, we need to focus funding on our highest priorities, which is what we've done in our Energy and Water bill. To make room for our national security and infrastructure responsibility, our bill cuts energy efficiency and renewable energy by $428 million and reprioritizes funds within the program to support American manufacturing and address rising gas prices. The focus is on jobs, the economy, and American manufacturing.

Our bill also preserves $155 million for solar energy research that continues to advance American manufacturing and helps our companies compete globally. While I support activities that help American manufacturers compete, we cannot afford to add unnecessary funds to solar energy by cutting other important priorities.

Indeed, the amendment would cut departmental administration, a cut that we all know simply cannot be sustained in the final appropriation without jeopardizing the Department of Energy's ability to run and oversee their operation. They have enough management problems now. Reducing that management amount would make it difficult for them to run and oversee the problems that they really need to oversee.

So this amendment uses money we simply do not have. It has perhaps the

effect of crippling management by the Department. We need to live within our means. And I, regretfully, oppose the gentlewoman's amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Indiana is recognized for 5 minutes.

□ 1050

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of the gentlewoman's amendment. There is $10 million contained in her amendment. That is a significant sum of money. When compared, however, to current year level spending for the renewable accounts of $1.825 billion, and as the chairman rightfully pointed out, a reduction of $428 million from that account, the gentlewoman's amendment is as much a statement of Congress as it is a monetary initiative. That is, we need to make an investment in our energy future as well as our economic future.

Renewable energy must be a part of that future, and the vast majority of industries in our country throughout our history have received substantial support from the government to become established and to be part of this great Nation.

This amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Ohio takes a very small, but very positive, step towards making that investment, and I do urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the amendment; and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Ohio will be postponed.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. HULTGREN

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 20, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $30,000,000)''.

Page 26, line 2, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $15,000,000)''.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Chairman, my amendment would transfer $15 million from the Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy research program to the Office of Science. It would also reduce the EERE account by an additional $15 million, which could be put towards deficit reduction.

The Obama administration has consistently prioritized industrial policy, under the guise of applied science, at the cost of reduced support for our Nation's critical basic science research and our national labs.

EERE's Advanced Manufacturing Office is $35 million above current fiscal year 2012 levels. EERE's water technologies program is $25 million above the President's budget request. EERE's vehicle technologies program is $42 million above where it was just last year. EERE's solar technology program receives $155 million, despite billions of dollars of recent loan guarantees to solar companies and several high-profile industry failures.

This amendment would remove $15 million from the EERE account, which is spent on subsidizing solar power and wind energy, and move it back to the Office of Science, where I would hope report language could specifically target it for the high-energy physics program which is critical to our long-term economic success and scientific leadership.

At this time, I yield to the gentlewoman from South Dakota (Mrs. NOEM).

Mrs. NOEM. Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank the gentleman from Illinois for yielding to me, and I appreciate working with him on this important amendment.

This amendment would increase funding for the Office of Science by $15 million while cutting an additional $15 million from the underlying bill.

Mr. Chair, the field of high-energy physics is becoming increasingly competitive; and without critical deep underground research spaces, we will continue to put our historic leadership in this area at risk, while continuing to send our best and brightest overseas to conduct their research.

But we can compete. Just this week in my State of South Dakota, the Sanford Underground Research Facility dedicated the Davis campus—4,850 feet underground. Later this year, this campus is scheduled to hold a dark matter detector that after only 4 days of operation stands to add more to our knowledge than all previous dark matter research experiments. We're not talking about subsidies and giveaways for ideas that are years or decades down the road. This is cutting-edge science that's within our grasp.

We need to make tough choices in our current budget situation, but we also need to recognize the role that U.S. research plays in our ability to compete and to innovate. So I urge my colleagues to support our ability to lead the world in underground science in a fiscally responsible way, and I urge support of this amendment.

Mr. HULTGREN. Just briefly, Mr. Chairman, I urge adoption of this amendment. It does make sense. It's a commitment to basic scientific research and fiscal accountability, and I urge support of the amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from New Jersey is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Chairman, I rise very reluctantly to oppose the amendment. I do recognize the passion of the Members of Congress from Illinois and South Dakota who have spoken, and I may say repeatedly spoken and advocated to me over the last couple of months on behalf of the high-energy physics program and national laboratories in their congressional districts and, in fact, all relevant national laboratories that play a critical role in maintaining our Nation's scientific leadership and competitiveness. So I recognize their advocacy, I appreciate it, and I certainly will be working with them to do whatever we can to be of assistance.

We tried our very best in our bill to help those and all of the Department's remarkable national laboratories, but our constraints did not afford us the luxury of bringing more money to the table in many cases. Many labs wanted money, and these are remarkable labs, and they are deserving as well.

We did what we could for high-energy physics by shifting $16 million into project engineering and design for the Long Baseline neutrino experiment. This allows the Department to move quickly in choosing a path forward for the program.

We also ensured that the Homestake mine, which is a remarkable mine and a remarkable structure and a national asset, has sufficient minimal funding to operate while that path forward is yet to be determined.

If more funding were available, we certainly would have brought more resources to bear. Unfortunately, the amendment finds resources by cutting a program—and we discussed this earlier—that has already been reduced by $428 million. That's a 24 percent reduction from fiscal year 2012 and a 40 percent reduction below 2010.

I recognize—the committee recognizes—the importance of these programs, and I promise we'll work with our colleagues as we move forward in the appropriations process to be supportive and helpful, but I must reluctantly oppose the amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Indiana is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Chairman, I also would rise in reluctant opposition to the gentleman's amendment. As a resident of the neighboring State, I realize all of the great scientific research that is done in the State of Illinois alone at some of our wonderful Federal facilities. There is no question that we need to invest in the science account, as evidenced by the fact it is in this bill. Again, we had a very difficult allocation. Science is cut by $72,203,000.

But, unfortunately, I do think the gentleman's amendment is counterproductive in that he, because of the

budget rules, needs a $30 million cut from renewable research to gain a $15 million add for scientific research. Given the constraints we face, I think that's a bad bargain and we ought to leave the $30 million right where it is and have that aptly applied.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HULTGREN).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Illinois will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 6 OFFERED BY MR. MCCLINTOCK

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 20, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $1,450,960,000)''.

Page 20, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $115,000,000)''.

Page 56, line 24, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $1,450,960,000)''.

□ 1100

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Chairman, this amendment saves nearly $1.5 billion by ending the failed Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy program.

If we're serious about an all-of-the-above energy policy, we have got to stop using taxpayer money to pick winners and losers based on political connections. Instead, we need to require every energy company to compete on its own merit as decided by the customers it attracts by offering better products at lower cost.

For too long we have suffered from the conceit that politicians can make better energy investments with taxpayer money than investors can make with their own money. It is this conceit that has produced the continuing spectacle of collapsing energy scandals epitomized by the Solyndra fiasco. At least Solyndra was funded from a loan program in which the public has a chance to get some of its money back when these dubious schemes go bankrupt. This program is direct spending that funds commercialization projects for ideologically pleasing technologies and the politically favored firms that make them, money that taxpayers have no chance of recovering after it's spent.

This amendment and the two that I will offer soon protect taxpayers from being forced into being venture capitalists by incompetent politicians. It gets government out of the energy business and requires all energy companies and all energy technologies to compete equally and on their own merits.

Most of the money in this program goes to wind, solar, and car research development subsidies. We're told that's necessary to nurture these new and promising technologies. Well, these technologies are not new and they are not promising. Photovoltaic cells, for example, were invented by French physicist Edmund Becquerel in 1839, and in more than 170 years of technological research and innovation and billions of dollars of taxpayer subsidies we have not yet invented a more expensive way to produce electricity. So we hide its true costs to consumers through subsidies taken from their taxes.

Nor is there any earthly reason why taxpayers should be forced to serve as the research and development department for General Motors or for any other company or technology. We're told that, well, someday this research might pay us back many times over. We've been told that for 40 years. Now, I hope someday that these empty promises will be redeemed, but that's still not a reason for taxpayers to foot the bill. It's a reason for the actual research and development to be paid for by the companies that will profit from this long-promised breakthrough. And if they're not willing to finance it with their own money, we have no business forcing our constituents to finance it with theirs.

All we've accomplished with these programs is to take dollars that would have naturally flowed into the most effective and promising technologies and divert them instead to those that are politically favored. This misallocation of resources not only destroys jobs and productive ventures, it ends up minimizing our energy potential instead of maximizing it and destroying our wealth instead of creating it.

Madam Chairman, voters entrusted Republicans with the House majority with the very specific mandate to stop wasting money. Moreover, the House is where spending bills must originate. The government doesn't spend a dollar unless the House says that it will spend a dollar.

A day doesn't go by that we don't hear an indictment of Solyndra and its multiplying scandals, and yet here we have the Republican Energy appropriations bill that continues to shovel billions of dollars on the very same folly that produced Solyndra.

Politicians love to appear at ribbon cuttings and issue self-congratulatory press releases at government-supported ''alternative energy'' businesses, but they fall strangely silent when asked to actually account for the billions of our dollars that they've wasted. Well, that day of reckoning has arrived. These policies are impoverishing our country. Our taxpayers are exhausted. Our treasury is empty. It is past time that this House majority proved worthy of the trust the American people gave it more than a year and a half ago.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR (Mrs. CAPITO). The gentleman from New Jersey is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Chairman, I rise to oppose this amendment, which would eliminate the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy at the Department of Energy.

This year, the committee continued fulfilling its responsibility to reduce government spending by eliminating ineffective and wasteful programs. Our bill cuts EERE by $428 million. That's a 24 percent cut below fiscal year 2012, nearly 40 percent below 2010, and well below the 2000 level. Our bill slashes programs that are ineffective and cuts activities that improperly intervene in private markets.

The committee will continue its work to reduce spending and to keep the government out of private enterprise where private enterprise could make those substantial investments themselves.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Indiana is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. I appreciate the recommendation and also rise in opposition to the gentleman's amendment, and will simply state that my objection is based on national security concerns.

The fact is, as the senior Senator from Indiana, Senator LUGAR has characterized our energy crisis for years, and I absolutely agree with him. The fact is the importation of petroleum products in our use of carbon, because of where we buy them, has created a significant national security issue for the United States of America.

One of the accounts in the renewable accounts that will be eliminated under the gentleman's amendment is vehicle technology. There is no question American citizens are suffering today because of high gas prices. I myself—and I only speak for myself—can't do anything about that particular price at the pump today. But if through the vehicle technology program and the wise investment of the Federal taxpayers dollars we can get every American another mile per gallon, we have removed some of their economic discomfort and burden. We have also helped to begin to ensure our national security by reducing our dependency on foreign oil. Therefore, I do strongly oppose the gentleman's amendment and yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Madam Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California will be postponed.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. TONKO

Mr. TONKO. Madam Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 20, line 15, after the dollar amount insert ''(increased by $180,440,000)''.

Page 30, line 5, after the dollar amount insert ''(reduced by $180,440,000)''.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. TONKO. Madam Chair, first I want to thank my colleagues, Representative BISHOP, Representative HIRONO, and Representative WELCH, for offering this amendment with me.

Madam Chair, the Tonko-Bishop-Hirono-Welch amendment is simple and straightforward. It increases funding for two important State energy efficiency programs in the Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy accounts at the Department of Energy.

The amendment would increase spending for the Weatherization Assistance Program. Weatherization is the largest residential efficiency program in our Nation. Weatherization reduces energy costs for low-income families and the elderly and disabled. It creates jobs, invests in local businesses, and advances technology—state-of-the-art technology. Weatherizing homes under this program saves $437 in annual utility bills for the average homeowner. These energy savings insulate families from rising energy costs by permanently lowering household energy demand for both heating and cooling.

Our amendment also restores funding to the State Energy Program, or SEP. SEP is the only cost-shared program administered by the United States Department of Energy that provides resources directly to the States to support their efforts in energy efficiency. This includes 56 State and territory energy offices. And, according to a study by the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, for every dollar in Federal SEP funds we have 1.03 million source Btus, along with the cost savings of $7.22, and a leveraging of $10.71 on that same very dollar.

Madam Chair, these programs traditionally have received strong bipartisan support. Saving money by saving energy is good—good for everyone.

The bill's deep cuts in weatherization programs from recent years' allocations is so-called ''justified'' in the report by the claim that there are large amounts of unspent funds from previous appropriations, including those from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, ARRA.

□ 1110

Well, the majority of these funds have, in fact, been allocated, and I understand they will be completely spent by April 1 of next year, the beginning of the Weatherization Program year for States. So that means there will be little to nothing available by the time that FY13 funds get to these States.

The ARRA money and the money from fiscal year 2011 has been obligated in contracts to subgrantees. In addition to the cuts in weatherization in this bill, the other source of Federal funds for this program, 10 percent of LIHEAP funds, is also reduced due to the reductions in funding for that program.

We're going in the wrong direction. If someone can make the case that we have fully exploited all of our opportunities in weatherization or can demonstrate that we have done all that we can to make citizens' homes and businesses energy efficient, then winding down the program would perhaps be reasonable. But we are a long way from achieving that goal.

Energy we do not have to use is, in fact, the cheapest energy available to us. We need to be doing much more in efficiency, not less. Efficiency should be our fuel of choice.

This bill is skewed to reinforce our existing energy use patterns. It continues outsized investments in the established energy industries that have received generous Federal support for nearly a century while renewable energy technologies are shortchanged.

We should be lending Federal assistance where it is most needed: to individual citizens and to developing industries that are struggling to bring new energy technologies forward, such as solar, wind, and geothermal. The petroleum industry has the means to support its own research.

Madam Chair, we are likely to be reliant on fossil fuels for quite some time, and we should use these fuels wisely. An all-of-the-above strategy must include energy efficiency, and we should support States' efforts to encourage the adoption of new energy technologies and increase energy efficiency.

Let's continue our history of bipartisan support for programs that save money, create jobs, and improve our energy security. Weatherization and SEP are such programs worthy of our support. I urge adoption of this amendment.

With that, Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Chair, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from New Jersey is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. I rise to strongly oppose the gentleman's amendment. His amendment would put at risk our nuclear security activities, the things we're doing to modernize our nuclear stockpile, the type of investments we're making there that help protect our country. And we would be adding money to programs that, quite honestly, don't need the money. He referenced some of those programs.

The Weatherization Program has hundreds of millions of dollars in unspent money. Some of it's been obligated; some of it has not been obligated. But sitting in that program and in the State programs he referred to is a lot of Federal money from the stimulus and other prior appropriations that remains unspent. So it's not a question of not having enough money. They just haven't spent it down.

Our bill provides enough funding, new funding, that when combined with the unspent funds, our bill will fully fund each State at the fiscal year 2010 level. That's enough money for the States. More funding is unnecessary.

This amendment has unnecessary funding, adds unnecessary funding, and it cuts our security, our national security, things we need to do for our nuclear stockpile, and I strongly oppose it.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Chair, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Chair, I rise to support the Tonko-Bishop-Hirono-Welch amendment, and I commend my good friend and fellow New Yorker on his steadfast commitment and long-standing leadership on this issue.

The increase to weatherization funding provided in this amendment brings the Weatherization Assistance Program funding close to its pre-Recovery Act levels, which helped States retrofit close to 100,000 homes a year. In addition, nearly 92 percent of the Recovery Act funds appropriated to the Weatherization Program have been spent, meaning that the recommended funding level in this bill will result in a majority of States receiving reduced Federal funding for weatherization. Arguments to the contrary with respect to available funds are simply not accurate.

New York has spent the entirety of its Recovery Act funds on time and under budget, weatherizing nearly 70,000 units, 20 percent, over its initial goal. On Long Island, the Community Development Corporation of Long Island weatherized 3,000 units, thanks to the Recovery Act, and has continued to spend down the regularly appropriated funds it receives to retrofit qualified homes.

Weatherization Assistance continues to be a successful program, and we must build on its success. Even after the Recovery Act and regular appropriations, the CDC of Long Island has a wait list of 8,000 qualified homes that could be retrofitted for energy efficiency. The demand is there. And this is just Long Island.

Adequately funding the Weatherization Assistance Program to meet this demand will have several positive effects on communities and the economy. It will reduce energy costs for homeowners, which is absolutely critical as these costs continue to climb. Perhaps

most important, it will put local contractors back to work retrofitting homes to be more energy efficient. This means job creation in local communities.

Most recognize that this is the time when Washington must balance spending reduction with wise investment. If we all agree that this Congress must do more to foster an environment of job creation, then I urge all of my colleagues to support this amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Chair, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Hawaii is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Chair, I rise to support the Tonko-Bishop-Hirono-Welch amendment. This amendment would increase the funding for the State Energy Program and the Weatherization Assistance Program.

The bill before us slices the State Energy Program in half, from $50 million to $25 million. I'm not sure what the justification for this is. This program is effective and we should continue to support it. In fact, each dollar invested through the State Energy Program translates into $7.23 of savings on energy costs. It also helps to leverage State and local funds for bigger impacts.

Hawaii has utilized this funding for a variety of beneficial activities. It has been used to support expanded clean vehicle infrastructure, more energy-efficient buildings, and other purposes.

This amendment also invests in the Weatherization Assistance Program. This program helps the elderly, disabled, and low-income families benefit from energy efficiency upgrades.

Most folks think of helping weatherize homes against cold weather, and certainly that's one of the key benefits of this program. In warm Hawaii, which has the highest energy costs in the country, we also use in program. We help our families weatherize by installing money-saving things like energy-efficient water heaters or insulating existing water heaters. Since 2009, at least 800 homes in Hawaii have been able to improve energy efficiency through this program. A modest beginning, but more, of course, needs to be done. This has helped to create jobs and give families the benefit of increased energy efficiency.

I recognize the hard decisions that are made in this bill, but these programs that we just talked about may seem small but represent big savings for families all across our country, and, in fact, it will save our country money over the long term.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. TONKO. Madam Chair, I ask for a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York will be postponed.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. CHAFFETZ

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 20, line 15, after the dollar amount insert ''(reduced by $74,000,000)''.

Page 56, line 24, after the dollar amount insert ''(increased by $74,000,000)''.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Utah is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Chair, I have a simple amendment that takes a line item within the Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy program back to the fiscal year 2011 level. Now, I think that's probably a pretty reasonable approach to it. It's not too long ago. If left to my own devices, I'd probably zero it out.

But if you go back and look within energy efficiency and renewable energy and then go back down and look at advanced manufacturing, which is the line item that I'm talking about, what this amendment suggests is that we would reduce spending on this, what is proposed, by $74 million, taking it back to the fiscal year 2011 level, which would be $76 million.

□ 1120

Now, that was not just some random number. There was real justification for this, and I hope my colleagues on both sides of the aisle will find this reasonable. I'm going back, and I'm looking at the committee report for Energy and Water appropriations, and there are three things that I want to highlight within that committee report, so I will read from that.

The first one I want to highlight reads:

For example, the Advanced Manufacturing Program within Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy currently funds more than 40 centers in a variety of sizes, ages and effectiveness levels, only a portion of which are mentioned in the budget request. These centers vary in how well they support the program's new manufacturing mission.

Now, I don't think it's appropriate to literally double—double—from 2011 levels the spending that we are going to have on these programs when we can't basically answer the questions about the effectiveness levels.

In fact, I would go further into the committee's report where it reads:

Addressing this problem requires a higher degree of transparency, evaluation and prioritization to ensure that only highly effective centers closely aligned to program missions are funded.

I would agree with that. Until we can as a body answer that question, it's hardly a time to double the funding for this particular program.

The report further reads:

The Department is directed to submit to the committee no later than February 10, 2013, a comprehensive list of all centers funded through fiscal year 2013, including the date of establishment, the funding level in fiscal year 2013, the total funding received to date, purpose, milestones, and expectation of termination date.

Those are all reasonable things to look at in making this determination, but until we can answer that question, I don't think it's appropriate to double the spending.

The third point I'd like to make from the committee report on this particular line item reads:

The committee is concerned that, historically, technology innovations developed through the EERE research and development programs ultimately lead to the manufacturing of new or cheaper products overseas.

So, if the conclusion of the committee is that the money we spend ultimately leads to the development of products overseas, maybe it's not time to double the spending there.

This amendment, Madam Chair, simply reduces the spending on this back to 2011 levels. It's a reasonable thing. We can live within that. Again, if it were up to me, I would zero it out, but I am trying to be reasonable here. Let's save the $76 million, answer these questions, and reevaluate the program. That's why I urge the adoption of this amendment.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Chair, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from New Jersey is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. I rise to oppose the gentleman from Utah's amendment.

Our bill works hard to cut Federal spending. We're on his side. We want to reduce spending. Our committee has gone through the budget for the Department of Energy. We've taken a look at it, and we've prioritized. In fact, we've already said in other debates on other amendments that we've cut this EERE, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, by $428 million. That's 40 percent below the fiscal year 2011 level. With the remaining funds, we re-prioritize to invest in our Nation's most pressing needs, one of which is in doing more research to help American manufacturers compete and survive.

Let me restate: We do not increase this account. We re-prioritize to address our Nation's most pressing needs. In this case, the challenge is to keep our American manufacturers competitive and to keep jobs here. Our bill does that. Therefore, I must oppose the gentleman's amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Indiana is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. I would join the chair in opposition to the amendment.

I would point out one of the fallacies of the gentleman's argument that he

used on the floor in his language of the committee's report, that being our very serious concern that in the past we have applied moneys to research that has essentially been siphoned off overseas.

During general debate yesterday on this floor, in my opening remarks, I commended the members of the subcommittee and particularly Chairman FRELINGHUYSEN for making sure we don't do that in this bill this year, and that there is throughout this bill and that report language directives to the Department of Energy to be focused on using this money wisely so that we maintain and begin to grow our industrial base and our manufacturing base and keep these jobs here.

This would be a mistake, and I am opposed to the gentleman's amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CHAFFETZ).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Utah will be postponed.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. HAHN

Ms. HAHN. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 20, line 15, after the dollar amount insert ''(increased by $50,000,000)''.

Page 22, line 23, after the dollar amount insert ''(reduced by $100,000,000)''.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. HAHN. I think it is time that we begin to allow Americans to ease off their dependence of oil and give them a real alternative. Every day, we see the damage done by our dependence on oil. We see high gas prices threatening our economic recovery and burdening families already struggling to make ends meet. We see higher respiratory disease rates. And we see any number of distant regimes holding our foreign policy hostage, weakening our ability to stand by our principles and our friends.

I think it's time for us to throw off these burdens and step into the future, not double down on the dependencies of the past. Yet somehow this bill allocates almost five times more funding to deepening and extending our relationship with fossil energy than it does on advancing energy efficiency and clean, renewable energy technologies.

One of the most promising and necessary things we can do to give Americans an alternative to oil is to speed our transition to electric vehicles. Passenger cars alone use more than 40 percent of the oil consumed in this country. By 2020, the Natural Resources Defense Council estimates Americans will spend $260 billion a year on gas.

Just think of what we stand to gain from helping Americans switch to electric vehicles. The technology is here, and all we need to do is implement it. My amendment would help us begin to make the kind of investments the scale of the opportunity before us requires, giving $50 million to the Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy section.

I drive an electric vehicle back in Los Angeles, and I haven't been to a gas station since last September. Unfortunately, I don't get to drive as far as I want to because we haven't yet built the electric vehicle charging infrastructure that would help electric vehicle owners continue to drive as far as they want. The ''range anxiety'' of not being able to find a charging station when the battery goes low means that many EV drivers don't drive as far as they can and that many prospective electric vehicle owners are scared off. That's why we need to get serious about addressing the barriers to the adoption of electric vehicles.

Later this year, Nissan will be making the LEAF, their electric vehicle, right here in America, in Tennessee. Just last month, the Department of Energy announced they were offering $5 million to spur electric vehicle adoption, seeking proposals that address barriers to the adoption of these vehicles and that drive market development and transformation to make Alternative Fuel Vehicles and fueling infrastructure widely available.

We need to be bolder. We ought to have 100 times that much here, but I know my friends on the other side are a little timid about electric vehicles, so I am only proposing 10 times as much. I've even reduced the budgetary authority of this bill by $50 million because I know how much my Republican friends like to cut spending. With the right investments and electric vehicle infrastructure, we can clean our skies, free our foreign policy, strengthen our hand with regimes like Iran, and put money lost at the pump back into the pockets of American consumers.

Madam Chair, I hope my colleagues on the other side will meet me halfway on this, will meet Americans halfway. I hope you will support this amendment. This is about jobs in America. This is about giving our American consumers an alternative to their sole dependence on oil.

I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1130

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from New Jersey is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Chair, I rise to oppose the amendment.

The amendment will reduce fossil fuel energy by $50 million. And let's start by noting that fossil fuels produce most of our Nation's energy, nearly 70 percent of our electricity and nearly all of our transportation fuels.

But I do appreciate the gentlewoman's passion for electric vehicles. In fact, our bill already funds research in that area at above the fiscal year 2012 level as part of our focus on programs that address future gas prices. Therefore, I do oppose her amendment. I understand her views and her passion, but I strongly oppose it.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Chairwoman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Indiana is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Chairwoman, I rise in reluctant opposition to the gentlewoman's amendment for the very reasons that I mentioned earlier in debate when the gentleman from Illinois had an amendment to cut EERE—the renewable accounts—to add $15 million to science. Again, in this case, I don't think it is wise for us to make a choice of cutting fossil energy research by $100 million to increase the energy efficiency account by one-half that amount, $50 million.

The fact is I understand that some people have a significant concern about the use of fossil fuels. I certainly do myself. But the fact remains that 83 percent of all energy consumption in the United States today is generated by fossil fuel, and we need to apply ourselves to the wise and efficient use of that fuel as well.

Again, I would reluctantly be opposed to the gentlewoman's amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. HAHN).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Ms. HAHN. Madam Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from California will be postponed.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. BROUN OF GEORGIA

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Madam Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 20, line 15, after the dollar amount insert ''(reduced by $335,000,000)''.

Page 56, line 24, after the dollar amount insert ''(increased by $335,000,000)''.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Madam Chairman, my amendment would reduce funding for the Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy account by $355 million, with the intention of removing all funding for vehicle technologies.

This reduction would be transferred to the spending reduction account.

Madam Chairman, I'm 100 percent supportive of the automobile industry producing more fuel-efficient automobiles if they choose to do so; however, there is simply no good reason that the Federal Government should be subsidizing billion-dollar companies at a time when our Nation is broke.

Over the past few years, we have seen the automobile industry receive an unprecedented amount of government assistance. We've seen an industry bailout, the market-distorting Cash for Clunkers, and many more subsidies all done with little regard for taxpayer money. It's time we begin to reverse this disturbing trend and let the automobile industry succeed or fail on its own merits.

I urge support of my amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Chair, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from New Jersey is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Chair, briefly I rise to oppose the amendment.

I share my colleague's concerns that we should not be funding activities that the private sector should do on its own. That's why our bill cuts 24 percent out of this account, only preserving appropriate Federal activities that are too risky for the private sector to take on alone. The amendment goes too far, undercuts our ability to address gas prices, and therefore I must oppose it.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Chair, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Indiana is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. I simply would add my agreement to the chairman's opposition to the amendment.

I had already remarked earlier in the day relative to my support for vehicle technology and am opposed to the gentleman's amendment.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BROUN).

The amendment was rejected.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

ELECTRICITY DELIVERY AND ENERGY RELIABILITY

For Department of Energy expenses including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment, and other expenses necessary for electricity delivery and energy reliability activities in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, $123,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of such amount, $27,600,000 shall be available until September 30, 2014, for program direction.

NUCLEAR ENERGY

For Department of Energy expenses including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment, and other expenses necessary for nuclear energy activities in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, and the purchase of not more than 10 buses and 2 ambulances, all for replacement only, $765,391,000, to remain available until expended, of which $10,000,000 shall be derived from the Nuclear Waste Fund established in section 302(c) of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 (42 U.S.C. 10222(c)), to be made available only to support the high-level waste geologic repository at Yucca Mountain: *Provided*, That, of the amount made available under this heading, $90,015,000 shall be available until September 30, 2014, for program direction.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule 18, proceedings will now resume on those amendments on which further proceedings were postponed in the following order:

An amendment by Mr. SCALISE of Louisiana.

An amendment by Mr. KING of Iowa.

An amendment by Mr. MORAN of Virginia.

An amendment by Mr. HULTGREN of Illinois.

An amendment by Mr. CHAFFETZ of Utah.

Amendment No. 6 by Mr. MCCLINTOCK of California.

An amendment by Ms. KAPTUR of Ohio.

An amendment by Mr. TONKO of New York.

An amendment by Ms. HAHN of California.

The Chair will reduce to 2 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first vote in this series.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. SCALISE

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. SCALISE) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 216, noes 177, not voting 38, as follows:

[Roll No. 306]

AYES—216

Adams
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Amash
Amodei
Bachmann
Barletta
Barrow
Barton (TX)
Bass (CA)
Becerra
Benishek
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (UT)
Boren
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brown (FL)
Buchanan
Buerkle
Burgess
Butterfield
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Carney
Carson (IN)
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Cole
Conaway
Conyers
Courtney
Cravaack
Crawford
Critz
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
Denham
Deutch
Dingell
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellmers
Farenthold
Fitzpatrick
Flake
Fleming
Forbes
Franks (AZ)
Fudge
Gardner
Garrett
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Hall
Hanabusa
Hanna
Harper
Hastings (FL)
Hayworth
Heck
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hinojosa
Hochul
Holden
Huelskamp
Hultgren
Hurt
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Jenkins
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Keating
Kelly
Kildee
King (IA)
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kline
Kucinich
Lamborn
Landry
Langevin
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Manzullo
Marchant
Markey
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McMorris Rodgers
Meehan
Meeks
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Mulvaney
Nugent
Nunnelee
Olson
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Pearce
Pelosi
Pence
Peters
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Platts
Polis
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Rahall
Rangel
Reed
Renacci
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Rigell
Roe (TN)
Rogers (MI)
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross (FL)
Royce
Runyan
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schmidt
Schock
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Shimkus
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Southerland
Stearns
Sullivan
Sutton
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Tipton
Tonko
Towns
Turner (NY)
Upton
Walberg
Wasserman Schultz
Watt
Welch
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Woodall
Yarmuth
Young (AK)

NOES—177

Ackerman
Aderholt
Andrews
Austria
Bachus
Baldwin
Bartlett
Bass (NH)
Berg
Berkley
Berman
Biggert
Bishop (NY)
Black
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boswell
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Bucshon
Camp
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carter
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Chu
Connolly (VA)
Cooper
Costello
Crenshaw
Crowley
Davis (CA)
Davis (KY)
DeLauro
Dent
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Doggett
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Dreier
Duffy
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Fincher
Fleischmann
Flores
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Garamendi
Gerlach
Granger
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Guthrie
Gutierrez
Hahn
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hirono
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Huizenga (MI)
Hunter
Issa
Johnson (GA)
Kaptur
King (NY)
Kingston
Labrador
Lance
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Latham
Latta
Levin
Lipinski

LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Long
Lynch
Maloney
Marino
Matheson
Matsui
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McKinley
McNerney
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Neugebauer
Noem
Nunes
Olver
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Perlmutter
Peterson
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rehberg
Reichert
Ribble
Rivera
Roby
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Roskam
Ross (AR)
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Speier
Stark
Stivers
Stutzman
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (PA)
Tiberi
Tierney
Turner (OH)
Van Hollen
Visclosky
Walden
Waxman
Webster
Wolf
Womack
Woolsey
Yoder
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—38

Baca
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Cardoza
Clay
Clyburn
Coble
Costa
Doyle
Ellison
Fortenberry
Gallegly
Guinta
Heinrich
Herger
Kind
LaTourette
Lewis (CA)
Mack
McCarthy (CA)
McCollum
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Moore
Neal
Pascrell
Paul
Rothman (NJ)
Schilling
Scott, David
Shuler
Slaughter
Tsongas
Velázquez
Walsh (IL)
Walz (MN)
Waters
Young (FL)

□ 1209

Mr. WALDEN, Mrs. ROBY, Mr. MORAN, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Messrs. LATTA, KINGSTON, LABRADOR, BASS of New Hampshire, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Messrs. SIMPSON, FINCHER, SMITH of Nebraska, DESJARLAIS, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Messrs. RYAN of Ohio, HONDA, RUSH, and FRANK of Massachusetts changed their vote from ''aye'' to ''no.''

Messrs. JACKSON of Illinois, SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. LEE of California, Messrs. DAVIS of Illinois, THOMPSON of Mississippi, GRIFFITH of Virginia, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Messrs. REED, KINZINGER of Illinois, WESTMORELAND, CANTOR, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. WHITFIELD, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Messrs. AL GREEN of Texas, ISRAEL, AMODEI, Mrs. ELLMERS, Mr. CUELLAR, Mrs. LOWEY, Messrs. MEEKS, CLEAVER, FORBES, CONYERS, BECERRA, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Messrs. PASTOR of Arizona, CICILLINE, GRAVES of Missouri, LUJÁN, POLIS, NUGENT, GONZALEZ, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Messrs. LANGEVIN, DEUTCH, and HASTINGS of Florida changed their vote from ''no'' to ''aye.''

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. KING OF IOWA

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. KING) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 203, noes 185, not voting 43, as follows:

[Roll No. 307]

AYES—203

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Amash
Amodei
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Benishek
Berg
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chu
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Cravaack
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Denham
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dold
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Emerson
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffith (VA)
Guthrie
Hall
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hayworth
Heck
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Hinojosa
Hochul
Huelskamp
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Kelly
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Lankford
Latham
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McIntyre
McMorris Rodgers
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Mulvaney
Myrick
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Owens
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Peterson
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Rahall
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rigell
Rivera
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (FL)
Royce
Runyan
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schmidt
Schock
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sessions
Shimkus
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stearns
Stutzman
Sullivan
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Visclosky
Walberg
Webster
Westmoreland
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NOES—185

Ackerman
Altmire
Andrews
Baldwin
Barrow
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Biggert
Bilbray
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bono Mack
Boren
Brady (PA)
Brown (FL)
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Cohen
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costello
Courtney
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Dent
Deutch
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly (IN)
Edwards
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Fudge
Garamendi
Gardner
Gibson
Gonzalez
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Grijalva
Grimm
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hanna
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Himes
Hinchey
Hirono
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Kaptur
Keating
Kildee
Kucinich
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
LoBiondo
Lofgren, Zoe
Long
Lowey
Luján
Lynch
Maloney
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McKinley
McNerney
Meehan
Meeks
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Olver
Pallone
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Pingree (ME)
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rangel
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Ross (AR)
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stark
Stivers
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tiberi
Tierney
Tipton
Tonko
Towns
Upton
Walden
Wasserman Schultz
Watt
Waxman
Welch
West
Whitfield
Wilson (FL)
Womack
Woolsey
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—43

Alexander
Baca
Bass (CA)
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Cardoza
Clay
Clyburn
Coble
Costa
Doyle
Ellison
Fortenberry
Gallegly
Guinta
Heinrich
Herger
Huizenga (MI)
Kind
Landry
LaTourette
Lewis (CA)
Mack
McCarthy (CA)
McCollum
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Moore
Neal
Pascrell
Paul
Rothman (NJ)
Schilling
Scott, David
Shuler
Slaughter
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Walsh (IL)
Walz (MN)
Waters
Young (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1212

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. MORAN

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MORAN) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 152, noes 237, not voting 42, as follows:

[Roll No. 308]

AYES—152

Ackerman
Andrews
Baldwin
Bass (CA)
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Cohen
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Courtney
Crowley
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Deutch
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Dold
Edwards
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Fitzpatrick
Frank (MA)
Fudge
Gonzalez
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Hayworth
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kildee
Kucinich
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Luján
Lynch
Maloney
Markey
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McDermott
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Napolitano
Olver
Pallone
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Pingree (ME)
Platts
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rangel
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Sires
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stark
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Tonko
Towns
Van Hollen
Visclosky
Wasserman Schultz
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Wittman
Woolsey
Yarmuth

NOES—237

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Altmire
Amash
Amodei
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Benishek
Berg
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Castor (FL)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chandler
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Costello
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Cuellar
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donnelly (IN)
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Farenthold
Fincher
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Garamendi
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Heck
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hochul
Holden
Huelskamp
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Kelly
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Lankford
Latham
Latta
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
Matheson
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McIntyre
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meehan
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Owens
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Peterson
Petri
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Rahall
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rigell
Rivera
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (AR)
Ross (FL)
Royce
Runyan
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schmidt
Schock
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stearns
Stutzman
Sullivan
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Walberg
Walden
Webster
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—42

Alexander
Baca
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Cardoza
Clay
Clyburn
Coble
Costa
Doyle
Ellison
Emerson
Fortenberry
Gallegly
Guinta
Heinrich
Herger
Huizenga (MI)
Kind
LaTourette
Lewis (CA)
Mack
McCarthy (CA)
McCollum
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Moore
Neal
Pascrell
Paul
Rothman (NJ)
Schilling
Scott, David
Shuler
Slaughter
Stivers
Tsongas
Velázquez
Walsh (IL)
Walz (MN)
Waters
Young (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1216

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. HULTGREN

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HULTGREN) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 130, noes 256, not voting 45, as follows:

[Roll No. 309]

AYES—130

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Amash
Amodei
Bachmann
Bachus
Benishek
Berg
Biggert
Bilirakis
Black
Blackburn
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Buerkle
Burgess
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Cassidy
Chabot
Conaway
Costello
Cravaack
Dent
DesJarlais
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Farenthold
Fincher
Flake
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Franks (AZ)
Garrett
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Graves (MO)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Hall
Hartzler
Hensarling
Hinojosa
Hochul
Huelskamp
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Jenkins
Johnson (IL)
Jordan
Kelly
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Landry
Lofgren, Zoe
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Manzullo
Marchant
Matheson
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McKinley
Miller (FL)
Mulvaney
Myrick
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Olson
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Petri
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Ribble
Rigell
Roe (TN)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (FL)
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schmidt
Schock
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Smith (NE)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stearns
Stutzman
Thornberry
Turner (NY)
Walberg
Webster
Westmoreland
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Woodall
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NOES—256

Altmire
Andrews
Austria
Baldwin
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (CA)
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Bilbray
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Butterfield
Camp
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Castor (FL)
Chaffetz
Chandler
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Cole
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Courtney
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Denham
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Dreier
Edwards
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Garamendi
Gardner
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gonzalez
Granger
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Grijalva
Guthrie
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hirono
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Kaptur
Keating
Kildee
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kissell
Kucinich
Lance
Langevin
Lankford
Larsen (WA)

Larson (CT)
Latham
Latta
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Long
Lowey
Lucas
Luján
Lynch
Maloney
Marino
Markey
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meehan
Meeks
Mica
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olver
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Platts
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Rivera
Roby
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Ross (AR)
Roybal-Allard
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stark
Stivers
Sullivan
Sutton
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiberi
Tierney
Tipton
Tonko
Towns
Turner (OH)
Upton
Van Hollen
Visclosky
Walden
Wasserman Schultz
Watt
Waxman
Welch
West
Whitfield
Wilson (FL)
Wolf
Womack
Woolsey
Yarmuth
Yoder

NOT VOTING—45

Ackerman
Alexander
Baca
Bucshon
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Cardoza
Clay
Clyburn
Coble
Costa
Doyle
Ellison
Fortenberry
Gallegly
Graves (GA)
Guinta
Heinrich
Herger
Huizenga (MI)
Johnson, Sam
Kind
LaTourette
Lewis (CA)
Mack
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McCollum
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Moore
Neal
Pascrell
Paul
Rothman (NJ)
Schilling
Scott, David
Shuler
Slaughter
Tsongas
Velázquez
Walsh (IL)
Walz (MN)
Waters
Young (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1219

Mr. PALLONE changed his vote from ''aye'' to ''no.''

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. CHAFFETZ

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CHAFFETZ) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 140, noes 245, not voting 46, as follows:

[Roll No. 310]

AYES—140

Adams
Akin
Amash
Amodei
Bachmann
Bachus
Barton (TX)
Benishek
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bono Mack
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Conaway
Cravaack
DesJarlais
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Farenthold
Fincher
Flake
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Garrett
Gibbs
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Guthrie
Hall
Harris
Hayworth
Hensarling
Huelskamp
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Jones
Jordan
King (IA)
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Lankford
Latta
Long
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Manzullo
Marchant
Matheson
McCaul
McClintock
McMorris Rodgers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Mulvaney
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Petri
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Ribble
Rigell
Roe (TN)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ross (FL)
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schmidt
Schock
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Smith (NE)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stearns
Terry
Thornberry
Turner (NY)
Upton
Walberg
Walden
Webster
West
Westmoreland
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NOES—245

Aderholt
Altmire
Andrews
Austria
Baldwin
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Berg
Berkley
Berman
Biggert
Bilbray
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bonner
Boren
Boswell
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Butterfield
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Cole
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costello
Courtney
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Denham
Dent
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Dreier
Edwards
Ellmers
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Garamendi
Gardner
Gerlach
Gibson
Gonzalez
Granger
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grijalva
Grimm
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hanna
Harper
Hartzler
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Heck
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hochul
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly
Kildee
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kucinich
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Luján
Lynch
Maloney
Marino
Markey
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McKinley
McNerney
Meehan
Meeks
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moran
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Noem
Olver
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Platts
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Rivera
Roby
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (AR)
Roybal-Allard
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stark
Stivers
Sullivan
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiberi
Tierney
Tipton
Tonko
Towns
Turner (OH)
Van Hollen
Visclosky
Wasserman Schultz
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Whitfield
Wilson (FL)
Wittman
Womack
Woolsey
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—46

Ackerman
Alexander
Baca
Bass (CA)
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Cardoza
Clay
Clyburn
Coble
Costa
Crowley
Doyle
Ellison
Fortenberry
Gallegly
Guinta
Heinrich
Herger
Huizenga (MI)
Johnson, Sam
Kind
LaTourette
Lewis (CA)
Mack
McCarthy (CA)
McCollum
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Moore
Murphy (CT)
Neal
Pascrell
Paul
Rothman (NJ)
Schilling
Scott, David
Shuler
Slaughter
Stutzman
Tsongas
Velázquez
Walsh (IL)
Walz (MN)
Waters
Young (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1223

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 6 OFFERED BY MR. MCCLINTOCK

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 113, noes 275, not voting 43, as follows:

[Roll No. 311]

AYES—113

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Amash
Amodei
Bachmann
Bachus
Benishek
Bilirakis

Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buerkle
Burgess
Campbell
Cantor
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Conaway
Culberson
DesJarlais
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Farenthold
Fincher
Flake
Fleming
Flores
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Garrett
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Harris
Hartzler
Hensarling
Huelskamp
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Jones
Jordan
Kline
Labrador
Landry
Long
Lummis
Manzullo
Marchant
McClintock
McHenry
McMorris Rodgers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Mulvaney
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Petri
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Ribble
Roe (TN)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ross (FL)
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schmidt
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Southerland
Stearns
Stutzman
Thornberry
Turner (NY)
Upton
Walberg
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NOES—275

Altmire
Andrews
Austria
Baldwin
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (CA)
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Berg
Berkley
Berman
Biggert
Bilbray
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Black
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Butterfield
Camp
Canseco
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Cole
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costello
Courtney
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Denham
Dent
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Dreier
Edwards
Ellmers
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Forbes
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Garamendi
Gardner
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gonzalez
Granger
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grijalva
Grimm
Guthrie
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hall
Hanabusa
Hanna
Harper
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hochul
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly
Kildee
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kucinich
Lance
Langevin
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
Latta
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Maloney
Marino
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McKinley
McNerney
Meehan
Meeks
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Noem
Olver
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Platts
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Rigell
Rivera
Roby
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (AR)
Roybal-Allard
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stark
Stivers
Sullivan
Sutton
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiberi
Tierney
Tipton
Tonko
Towns
Turner (OH)
Van Hollen
Visclosky
Walden
Wasserman Schultz
Watt
Waxman
Webster
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woolsey
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—43

Ackerman
Alexander
Baca
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Cardoza
Clay
Clyburn
Coble
Costa
Doyle
Ellison
Fortenberry
Gallegly
Guinta
Heinrich
Herger
Huizenga (MI)
Johnson, Sam
Kind
Lamborn
LaTourette
Lewis (CA)
Mack
McCarthy (CA)
McCollum
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Moore
Neal
Pascrell
Paul
Rothman (NJ)
Schilling
Scott, David
Shuler
Slaughter
Tsongas
Velázquez
Walsh (IL)
Walz (MN)
Waters
Young (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1227

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. KAPTUR

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 183, noes 200, not voting 48, as follows:

[Roll No. 312]

AYES—183

Andrews
Baldwin
Barrow
Bartlett
Bass (CA)
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Conyers
Cooper
Costello
Courtney
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeGette
DeLauro
Dent
Deutch
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Edwards
Engel
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Fitzpatrick
Frank (MA)
Fudge
Garamendi
Gardner
Gerlach
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith (VA)
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hochul
Holt
Honda
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Kaptur
Keating
Kildee
King (IA)
Kucinich
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lowey
Luján
Lynch
Maloney
Markey
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McNerney
Meeks
Mica
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Napolitano
Olver
Owens
Pallone
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Platts
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reichert
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Ross (AR)
Roybal-Allard
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Sires
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stark
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Tierney
Tipton
Tonko
Towns
Van Hollen
Visclosky
Wasserman Schultz
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Woolsey
Yarmuth

NOES—200

Adams
Aderholt
Altmire
Amash
Amodei
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Barton (TX)
Benishek
Berg
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Cassidy
Chabot
Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Denham
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Emerson
Farenthold
Fincher
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Garrett
Gibbs
Gohmert
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Grimm
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Holden
Hoyer
Huelskamp
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Jordan
Kelly
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Landry
Lankford
Latta
Lofgren, Zoe
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
Matheson
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meehan
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Moran
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Palazzo

Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Petri
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Reed
Rehberg
Renacci
Ribble
Rigell
Rivera
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (FL)
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schmidt
Schock
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Terry
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Walberg
Walden
Webster
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—48

Ackerman
Akin
Alexander
Baca
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Cardoza
Carter
Chaffetz
Clay
Clyburn
Coble
Costa
DeFazio
Doyle
Ellison
Eshoo
Fortenberry
Gallegly
Guinta
Heinrich
Herger
Huizenga (MI)
Johnson, Sam
Kind
LaTourette
Lewis (CA)
Mack
McCarthy (CA)
McCollum
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Moore
Neal
Pascrell
Paul
Rothman (NJ)
Schilling
Scott, David
Shuler
Slaughter
Tsongas
Velázquez
Walsh (IL)
Walz (MN)
Waters
Young (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1230

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. TONKO

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 148, noes 236, not voting 47, as follows:

[Roll No. 313]

AYES—148

Baldwin
Bass (CA)
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Boswell
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Castor (FL)
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Cohen
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costello
Courtney
Crowley
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Edwards
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Fitzpatrick
Frank (MA)
Fudge
Garamendi
Gibson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hanna
Hastings (FL)
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hochul
Holden
Holt
Hoyer
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Kaptur
Keating
Kildee
Kucinich
Langevin
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lowey
Lynch
Maloney
Markey
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McDermott
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Napolitano
Olver
Pallone
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Richardson
Richmond
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Sires
Speier
Stark
Sutton
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Tonko
Towns
Turner (NY)
Van Hollen
Wasserman Schultz
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Woolsey
Yarmuth

NOES—236

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Altmire
Amash
Amodei
Andrews
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Benishek
Berg
Berkley
Berman
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Cassidy
Chabot
Chandler
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Cuellar
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Emerson
Farenthold
Fincher
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guthrie
Hall
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Huelskamp
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Jordan
Kelly
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Latham
Latta
LoBiondo
Lofgren, Zoe
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
Matheson
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McIntyre
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meehan
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Owens
Palazzo
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Reyes
Ribble
Rigell
Rivera
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (AR)
Ross (FL)
Royce
Runyan
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schiff
Schmidt
Schock
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Southerland
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner (OH)
Upton
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden
Webster
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—47

Ackerman
Alexander
Baca
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Cardoza
Carter
Chaffetz
Clay
Clyburn
Coble
Costa
Doyle
Ellison
Fortenberry
Gallegly
Guinta
Heinrich
Herger
Honda
Huizenga (MI)
Johnson, Sam
Kind
LaTourette
Lewis (CA)
Mack
McCarthy (CA)
McCollum
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Moore
Neal
Pascrell
Paul
Rothman (NJ)
Schilling
Scott, David
Shuler
Slaughter
Stearns
Tsongas
Velázquez
Walsh (IL)
Walz (MN)
Waters
Young (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1233

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. STEARNS. Madam Chair, on rollcall No. 313 I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. HAHN

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. HAHN) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 139, noes 245, not voting 47, as follows:

[Roll No. 314]

AYES—139

Amash
Andrews
Baldwin
Bass (CA)
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Bilbray
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Boswell
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Castor (FL)
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Cohen
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Crowley
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
Deutch
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Edwards
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Frank (MA)
Garamendi
Gibson

Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hochul
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Kaptur
Keating
Kildee
Kissell
Kucinich
Langevin
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Luján
Lynch
Maloney
Markey
Matsui
McDermott
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moran
Nadler
Napolitano
Olver
Pallone
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Pingree (ME)
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rangel
Reyes
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sherman
Sires
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stark
Thompson (CA)
Tierney
Tonko
Van Hollen
Wasserman Schultz
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Woolsey
Yarmuth

NOES—245

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Altmire
Amodei
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Benishek
Berg
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Cassidy
Chabot
Chandler
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Costello
Courtney
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Cuellar
Culberson
Davis (KY)
DeLauro
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Ellmers
Emerson
Engel
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Holden
Huelskamp
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jackson Lee (TX)
Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Jordan
Kelly
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
Latta
LoBiondo
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
Matheson
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McIntyre
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meehan
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Mulvaney
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Owens
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Peterson
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Rahall
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Richardson
Richmond
Rigell
Rivera
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (AR)
Ross (FL)
Royce
Runyan
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schmidt
Schock
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Sewell
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Sutton
Terry
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Towns
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden
Webster
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—47

Ackerman
Alexander
Baca
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Cardoza
Carter
Chaffetz
Clay
Clyburn
Coble
Costa
Doyle
Duncan (TN)
Ellison
Fortenberry
Gallegly
Granger
Guinta
Heinrich
Herger
Huizenga (MI)
Johnson, Sam
Kind
LaTourette
Lewis (CA)
Mack
McCarthy (CA)
McCollum
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Moore
Neal
Pascrell
Paul
Rothman (NJ)
Schilling
Scott, David
Shuler
Slaughter
Tsongas
Velázquez
Walsh (IL)
Walz (MN)
Waters
Young (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1237

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Chair, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote Nos. 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313 and 314. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote Nos. 308, 312, and 313. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote Nos. 306, 307, 309, 310, 311 and 314.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Chair, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. TURNER of New York) having assumed the chair, Mrs. CAPITO, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5325) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

□ 1240

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Virginia, the majority leader, for the purposes of inquiring about the schedule for the week to come.

Mr. CANTOR. I thank the gentleman from Maryland, the Democratic whip, for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, on Monday the House is not in session. On Tuesday the House will meet at noon for morning-hour and 2 p.m. for legislative business. Votes will be postponed until 6:30 p.m. On Wednesday and Thursday, the House will meet at 10 a.m. for morning-hour and noon for legislative business. On Friday, the House will meet at 9 a.m. for legislative business. The last votes of the week are expected no later than 3 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, the House will consider a number of bills under suspension of the rules, a complete list of which will be announced by the close of business today. I expect the majority of these bills to come from the Natural Resources Committee, and I want to thank Chairman DOC HASTINGS and his staff for their tireless work in assisting Members on both sides of the aisle with their bills to responsibly remove Federal red tape that stands in the way of local economic development.

Members are also advised that the House will resume consideration of H.R. 5325, the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, on Tuesday, our first day back next week. Those wishing to offer amendments to the bill should be prepared to do so as soon as they return to Washington.

The House may also consider two additional appropriations bills next week: H.R. 5855, the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, sponsored by Representative ROBERT ADERHOLT; and H.R. 5882, the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, sponsored by Representative ANDER CRENSHAW. Chairman HAL ROGERS and the entire Appropriations Committee on both sides of the aisle should be congratulated for helping to restore the open process of allocating and prioritizing the Nation's spending.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, the House will consider H.R. 436, the Protect Medical Innovation Act, a very important bill for jobs and innovation in the medical device industry, that Representative ERIK PAULSEN is sponsoring. The Paulsen bill will be combined with H.R. 5842, the Restoring Access to Medication Act, sponsored by Representative LYNN JENKINS, and H.R. 1004, the Medical FSA Improvement Act, sponsored by Representative CHARLES BOUSTANY.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for that information, and I want to make the comment that the gentleman correctly congratulated the appropriations leadership on his side of the aisle.

I also want to observe that on our side of the aisle there has been cooperation, and there's not been an effort to either delay or dissemble. That is why this process works. That's the way it should work. It hasn't always been that way, as the gentleman knows, but I'm pleased that it is working. I think that's best for our institution, and I think it's best for the country. So I'm pleased at that, as well.

I tell my friend—and he knows this—according to the schedule I have, the House is scheduled to be in session a total of 28 days until the August break and 41 days from now until November.

Of the 41 days available, 10 are 6:30 days in which we come in for an abbreviated evening session which usually takes a half hour to an hour to conclude after afternoon debate on suspension bills.

With the limited time we have available, Mr. Leader, I am very concerned, as the gentleman knows, of the extraordinarily large number of very big fiscal questions that will be coming to roost at the end of this year. My view is that we need to address those. Hopefully, we will address them in a bipartisan way. If we do not address them, we will put the economy at continuing risk.

The Bush tax cuts, as you know, expire as of December 31. The payroll tax cut expires December 31. The sustainable growth rate—which we affectionately refer to as the doc fix—the alternative minimum tax, and the debt limit all come to bear at the end of the year.

In addition to that, the sequester—which I think all of us believe is not the appropriate way to go, but is the way we set up to force us to take action on a comprehensive, big, bold, balanced plan. Unfortunately, the supercommittee was unable to reach agreement on that.

I wanted to say to my friend, the majority leader, I would hope that you would be urging all of us and I would join with you in that effort in urging all of us to be ready to make some tough decisions, but decisions which need to be made in order to stabilize our economy and stabilize the fiscal posture of the United States. I am hopeful that we can reach a credible and sustainable fiscal path for our country.

□ 1250

The only way we are going to do that is if we work together in a bipartisan fashion. The gentleman and I were very successful in working on the Export-Import Bank legislation in a bipartisan fashion in which we got over 300 votes for on the House floor. The gentleman was unable to make the signing but it was signed this week, I think a very positive step forward. I appreciated the gentleman's work on that piece of legislation.

I would like to urge the gentleman that because of the extraordinarily short number of days that we have left to meet, to focus on what I think is going to be what some people call a fiscal train wreck, some people call it a fiscal perfect storm, some people call it a fiscal perfect cliff. Whatever you call it, it clearly will have a great impact on not only the confidence that Americans have in this body and the Senate to work and to make effective plans for meeting that challenge, but also for getting our country on a fiscally sustainable path. I don't know whether the gentleman has any comments on that.

I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. CANTOR. I thank the gentleman.

I agree with him that all of us should be very focused on the months ahead as we approach the date at which this country will, by operation of law, experience the largest tax increase in its history, that sequester will be imposed, that we perhaps will face another debt ceiling vote as well as many of the items the gentleman mentioned. I think all of us understand the gravity of those issues.

Mr. Speaker, I think we have also seen in operation around here, together with the White House, the difficulties that the two sides have had coming together on two very important issues that run throughout all of the matters that the gentleman mentioned, and those two issues are health care and taxes.

As the gentleman knows, we have put forward a solution to the health care entitlement issue, which is the disproportionate cause of the unfunded liabilities of the Federal budget. The gentleman, the President, and his party have rejected our solution that has been validated by the Congressional Budget Office as an actual fix to the deficit.

To date we have not seen any counterproposal with the gentleman, his party, or the President coming to the table saying here's how we would fix it. All we continue to hear, Mr. Speaker, is we need to raise taxes, and we need to raise more taxes on people who have been successful.

The gentleman knows that those are the two issues, the taxes and the health care fix, that we've just had real difficulty in trying to come together. I would say to the gentleman we remain ready to work with him and his colleagues on that other side of the aisle to try and produce a result for the American people so we can re-inject some certainty back into the minds of the American people that the economy is going to get better.

Again, we tried to focus on issues having to do with growth in the private sector. How do we speak to that small businessman or -woman who's having difficulty now assessing what his or her taxes are going to be? How do we speak to that working mother there when she questions whether her health care will still be available given the uncertainty around the Obama health care bill?

These are the kinds of things we are trying to work together on. So many other things elude us because the gulf is so wide philosophically in dealing with taxes and health care.

Mr. Speaker, we remain ready to work with the gentleman. We share the concern about what lies ahead.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman. I was not trying to make political points or rhetoric in raising the issues that I did. I frankly think that it doesn't get us very far, I would suggest to the majority leader, and we need to get someplace. America expects us to get someplace.

Many of your members have indicated that revenues need to be on the table. The gentleman knows that every bipartisan commission that has dealt with this says revenues need to be on the table. The same entitlements need to be on the table. Neither are easy to deal with, but they must be dealt with if we're going to be responsible stewards of this Nation's finances and this Nation's future.

Political rhetoric is not going to get us there. We all want to help small business, and we believe we have helped small business very substantially. Frankly, if you get into the analysis, small businesses did very well during the Clinton administration under policies that were in place at that point in time.

That aside, we need to deal with this, and I think a number of members on your side have, in fact, indicated that they understand that everything needs to be on the table, and that is what I think as well. I think both sides have things that they don't want to deal with, but Americans expect us to deal with tough things and make tough decisions on behalf of them, on behalf of their children and on behalf of their families.

On small business and economic growth, this leads me to the highway bill. We continue to be very concerned, Mr. Majority Leader, that we have not reached agreement on the highway bill. The Senate was able to reach an overwhelmingly bipartisan agreement on the highway bill, which is a jobs bill.

I was disappointed, and I hope the gentleman was disappointed at the jobs numbers that came out today: 82,000 in the private sector, lost 13,000 in the public sector, net: 69,000 jobs. That does not get us to where we want to be after losing millions and millions of jobs in the previous administration and losing a substantial number of jobs in the administration before. Over the last 26 months, we have grown 4 million jobs, but the hole was very deep, and we're not out of it. If you don't have a job, you know we're not out of it. I would hope that we could at least, with certainly our side believing, that the highway bill is a jobs bill.

Ray LaHood, as I pointed out in the past, a former leader in your party and chairman of a subcommittee in the Appropriations Committee, says that it's a jobs bill but unfortunately concludes that bill is not passing, he believes, for largely political reasons. I hope that's not the case and don't assert it to be the case.

Do you have any idea what kind of progress we're making on the highway bill so that bill can come to the floor before the June 30 expiration of the highway authorization?

I yield to my friend.

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I would say to the gentleman, as he knows, the House has passed its bill, the Senate has passed theirs, conferees have been appointed, and obviously we're very mindful, as you see, of the expiration of the current authorizing language and law. We are prepared to make sure that there is no stoppage of transportation programming and funding, all

the while desiring a much longer term solution to the problem.

I think the problem remains, as the gentleman knows, just not enough money to address all the things that the country is experiencing in terms of the needs for roads and infrastructure repair, as well as the needed expansion. As the gentleman knows, we all are mindful of the limited resources that are available to address these needs.

Just trying to prioritize, I am hopeful that the conference committee can come to a solution prior to the expiration of the authorizing language in place right now. Again, we are very mindful. We don't want to allow for shutdown of any program at the end of this month.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman.

I appreciate his observation. Clearly we don't want to have the authority for the highway bill to expire without action, but I will reiterate my offer to my friend, the majority leader, and say that given the bipartisan, the overwhelming bipartisan, support of the bill that came from the other party, that if we brought that bill to the floor, I would tell the gentleman that we will have the overwhelming, perhaps unanimous support, which would be 190 votes on our side of the aisle for that bill because we believe it is a jobs bill. We believe it will grow the economy, it will put people back to work.

It will give confidence to the American people, as we did with the Export-Import Bank in my view, give confidence to the American people that we can come together and move forward through reaching agreement.

□ 1300

Obviously, the Senate was able to do that. And they did it overwhelmingly, with over half of the Republican caucus voting for it in the Senate and three-quarters of the Senate voting for it.

I would say to my friend, I think that would be a real shot in the arm for the economy. And I agree with the gentleman, certainty is important. Confidence building is important. And if we did that, in my view, and if you could bring half of your caucus to that vote, we would pass that bill overwhelmingly. And I think it would be a very positive step for the economy, very positive step for the confidence of the American people and our economy and put people back to work.

I don't know whether the gentleman wants to comment on that further, but if he does, I will yield to him.

Mr. CANTOR. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker, I say to the gentleman I have no further comment.

Mr. HOYER. Lastly, if I might, the student loan interest rate, as you know, will go up at the end of this month from 3.4 to 6.8 percent. That will add substantially additional cost to literally millions of students, some thousand dollars of additional cost to most students at a time when we want to make higher education, so necessary for success in our country, available to as many people as we possibly can so we can be competitive worldwide and, from our perspective further, a Make it in America agenda of growing our economy and getting jobs for our people.

I know that there was opposition to that reduction when it was originally on the floor in 2007. I know there was some opposition to it earlier this year. But I also know that I think both you and the Speaker have indicated now that they support that. We passed legislation on this floor which brought that down when there was, obviously, very substantial disagreement and controversy with reference to the funding source, given the preventive health fund that was used to fund the student aid.

Can the gentleman tell me whether or not he believes there's a possibility for us to reach agreement on how to do this? I know the Speaker said this was a ''phony'' fight, but it is a real fight and it will have real consequences if we don't resolve our differences. Can the gentleman comment on what he believes to be the possibility of reaching agreement with the Senate on the student loan bill?

Mr. CANTOR. I would say to the gentleman that the Speaker and I, together with the Republican leader and whip in the Senate, have sent a letter to the President—perhaps the gentleman has seen it—suggesting a way forward on the issue of student loans so that there will not be an expiration of the subsidy provided to students.

We suggested two options to allow for the continuation of the lower rates for students to be paid for by provisions which the President has suggested that he would agree to. The two options are to limit the length of in-school interest subsidy and the other is to revise the Medicaid provider tax threshold and to phase it down so that we can actually achieve some savings so that we can allow for the continuation of the subsidized rates for students who are struggling on their tuition bills.

These are two options that we suggest. They are bipartisan in nature. There shouldn't be any reason why we couldn't get this done prior to the expiration of the current law.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman.

Just for his information, I would be a very strong opponent of your first option, which continues to want to reduce the take-home pay of Federal employees. Federal employees, under the plans that you have passed through this House, will have already been asked to pay $105 billion in reduction in pay and benefits over 10 years. That's $10 billion per year you're suggesting that our employees have their net take-home pay reduced.

In addition, the additional proposal in your reconciliation bill would add another $78 billion to that, $183 billion in total, or $18.3 billion per year reduction in pay and benefits for Federal employees. The gentleman, in his State, has a lot of those Federal employees. They happen to be civilian employees.

I know the gentleman supported the pay raise for the military personnel, which I supported as well. The gentleman is aware that largely, through my tenure in the Congress, we've treated our civilian employees and our military employees with parity. I would hope that the gentleman would not think of continuing to go to the Federal employee, as we go to no other employees, and the gentleman is not interested in asking anybody else to participate more in paying for this in terms of revenues. But your side has been continuing to propose reducing the pay and benefits of the Federal employees.

My view is, and I have said this publicly, that if we can reach a big, bold, balanced deal and it's balanced—but just going to one pocket, one group of people, who studies show, depending upon the level you're working at, many are not paid comparably to their private sector, some others are, is not a fair, balanced way to proceed. I would hope that that option would be not on the table. I know the administration put it on the table for a larger deal, but I'm going to urge that that not be an option.

I know that I have talked to some of your side from your State who believe that's not an option that ought to be pursued. As a matter of fact, one of them voted against the MilCon bill yesterday because of a provision dealing with further reducing the net take-home pay for Federal employees.

So I would hope that would not be an option, and I would hope that we can reach an option so we can contain the cost of college for young people, because that's not only good for them, it's good for the competitive stature of the United States of America.

With respect to the reconciliation bill that you mentioned, you mentioned the fact that you were dealing with the deficit. In fact, as the gentleman knows, in terms of your health care provisions, they do not, within the next 20 years, get the Federal budget to balance in the Ryan budget. So although you deal with that in some respects, it doesn't get us to balance and therefore does not, in my opinion, give the confidence and certainty that the American economy needs and that American citizens need.

I want to ask the gentleman, lastly, if he expects all 12 appropriations bills—I know we're going to do Energy and Water; we've now already done two of our bills—whether or not he expects all 12 appropriations bills to be on the floor, considered, and completed prior to the August break.

Mr. CANTOR. If I could, Mr. Speaker, just point the gentleman's attention back to the student loan issue.

I specifically did not offer up the option of the Federal employee pay-for because I do know that we have a difference on that. So the gentleman explained the differences. We understand

that. That's why we're trying to avoid differences and come together where we can agree, which is why I discussed the two other provisions which are bipartisan in nature and that the President has said he supports, which could, in a responsible fashion, allow us to continue the lower rates.

Mr. HOYER. I don't want to interrupt, other than to clarify.

As I understand the two options, one was the option of making additional—in the letter I read. Maybe I'm incorrect. If you can correct me.

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, there were two options: One was the Federal employee pay-for in and of itself, the reductions in the size of the Federal Government, would have taken care of the pay-for, if you will, for the student loan issue. The other option was composed of two different provisions, both of which are bipartisan in nature and the President says he supports. One of those is to limit the length of in-school interest subsidies; the other was to revise the Medicaid provider tax threshold. It was those two components that comprise option two. That is my point.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for his clarification.

Mr. CANTOR. I'm not quite sure about the note he made about our budget not balancing within the budget window. I would say to the gentleman, we understand that, but it is a plan that we could adopt that would provide a blueprint for getting us back on track as far as managing down the debt and deficit. And my point originally was, Mr. Speaker, there's been no such plan, there's been no such proffer from the President or the gentleman's side of the aisle.

□ 1310

So in order for us to move forward, we need participation from both sides. We can't just have one side providing a solution without the ability to get that solution put into place because the gentleman's party is in control in the other body and in the White House. So how do we go about trying to find commonality if there is no proffer of solution? That was my point, Mr. Speaker. And there has been no solution, balanced or not, provided by the other side.

And I would say lastly to the gentleman's inquiry about the appropriations process, we certainly maintain the position we'd like to see all of our bills brought to the floor through regular order, consistent with the Speaker's policy of an open debate that we have seen thus far in the appropriations bills. We had a successful completion yesterday, and we are continuing in the Energy and Water appropriations measure today and as we come back next week.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for that information, and I want to say to the gentleman that I disagree that there is no plan. Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the ranking member of the Budget Committee, did in fact have a plan, presented that plan, and it was voted on on the floor of the House. It did not prevail, but that is a plan which, frankly, was a more balanced plan from our perspective. Obviously, the House did not agree with that. But it is a more balanced plan that would have reached balance in fact more quickly, I believe, than the Ryan plan.

So we do have a plan. We presented that plan. We offered it on the House floor. I voted for that plan. The overwhelming majority of the party on this side of the aisle voted for that plan. So there is a plan, so I think the gentleman is not correct in saying that we haven't offered a plan. We have; the plan has not passed, the gentleman is absolutely correct on that. The Senate and the House have not agreed on a plan. I'm not sure that they will be able to agree on a plan. I think that's unfortunate, but perhaps we can agree on the appropriations bills.

We are hopeful that the appropriations bills will be agreed upon consistent with the agreement that we thought we had at the funding levels of $1.047 trillion for discretionary spending. The bills that have been offered are closer to that number than I think we will find as later bills come, we don't know that, but that is the speculation. The Senate has agreed that we ought to mark up to that figure, but we haven't marked up to that figure in the appropriations bills. But if we complete the appropriations bills, as the gentleman says he wants to do, I think it would be good to do.

Is it the gentleman's perspective that we will mark to $1.047 trillion or $1.028 trillion? That's a $19 billion difference, a substantial difference, we understand that. In the Senate, the Republicans and Democrats have agreed to mark to the higher number. Can the gentleman comment on whether or not at the end of the day we'll be able to get agreement on the agreement that we thought we had in the Budget Control Act?

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I would just say to the gentleman, he and I have discussed this before in these colloquies, and I would suggest turning attention to a Senate that hasn't even begun considering its appropriations bills, to suggest that we would come to an agreement with the Senate, I think, you know, the Senate has got to really start to do its work as far as the appropriations process is concerned.

I yield back.

Mr. HOYER. I don't have a rebuttal to that, so I will yield back my time.

ADJOURNMENT TO TUESDAY, JUNE 5, 2012

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at noon on Tuesday next for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

HONORING KANSAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE BOB BETHELL

(Mr. YODER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of a true public servant from the great State of Kansas. Kansas State Representative Bob Bethell represented the 113th District in the State House and hailed from Alden, Kansas, not too far from the farm where I grew up. Representative Bethell served the people of Kansas in the State House for 14 years and was a staunch advocate for education, health, and long-term care. His distinguished career includes serving as mayor of Alden, as a pastor in his community, a school principal, and a director of college admissions. Additionally, Bob was a private business owner, operating long-term health care facilities.

I was saddened to learn of the tragic car accident State Representative Bob Bethell suffered while driving home from the Kansas legislature recently on Sunday, May 20. I served with Bob for 8 years in the Kansas House, and I always remembered him as a kind and caring man who never took himself too seriously—always wearing his trademark Mickey Mouse ties.

A true public servant. Bob, we're going to miss you.

BRINGING FOCUS TO TICK-BORNE DISEASES

(Mr. GIBSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, over the last district work period, my colleague PAUL TONKO and I hosted a conference to bring focus to better prevention, testing, treatment, and insurance coverage for victims of Lyme and associated tick-borne diseases.

This conference was constituent-driven. Over the past couple of years, I've heard from hundreds of constituents who were suffering from Lyme or who had family members of close friends suffering from this disease. Two of these constituents took the lead and organized this conference, Christina Fisk and Holly Ahern. They did a terrific job.

We had a dynamic keynote speaker, experts on the scope and the economic burden of Lyme, and a very encouraging presentation by Dr. Horowitz on a new approach for the diagnosis and treatment that identifies co-infections and other environmental hazards as the cause for chronic Lyme symptoms.

This approach could potentially unite the medical community, presently divided over whether chronic Lyme exists. We also received briefings on supporting doctors who treat chronic Lyme patients, protecting the blood

supply, new approaches to testing, and a dynamic summary by Dr. Leigner, which provides a comprehensive roadmap for the way ahead.

Last year, I was proud to support an $8.75 million increase for the better testing and reporting of Lyme, but much more needs to be done. I am submitting for the RECORD our conference materials, and I look forward to working with my colleagues on this vital public health issue.

A FORUM ON TICK-BORNE DISEASES—WHAT'S NEXT?

(at Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY, May 21, 2012)

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 21, 2012.

DEAR FRIENDS: Welcome to the Forum on Tick-Borne Diseases—What's Next here at Skidmore College. I am pleased that you took the time to attend what I believe will be an informative and thought provoking exchange of ideas from a variety of perspectives.

As a Member of Congress representing communities in the eastern part of New York State, I have received a number of requests over the past year asking me to look into the subject of Lyme and other tick-borne diseases. Lyme disease and its co-infections are prevalent throughout the country, with the northeast section of the US suffering especially high incidence rates. My studies of the subject have revealed not only the unpleasant realities of the diseases and their impact on victims, but also the confusion and divergence of opinions surrounding the identification, understanding, and treatments of the diseases that are appearing with ever increasing frequency in all our communities.

New studies, including an important one conducted at SUNY Adirondack (State University of New York), indicate that Lyme disease may be far more prevalent than we had originally suspected. Additionally, other studies place the financial burden of the disease at levels much higher than we'd previously understood. It vs my feeling, and that of a number of my colleagues, that closer examination of the situation is not only warranted, but is absolutely necessary to understand the state of the science, the needs of the victims, and the opportunities for new initiatives. The goal is to create the forward momentum necessary to put efforts to fix these problems on a fast track and get some help for the victims of these debilitating diseases.

Based on input from this Forum and other sources, I intend to make sure that the Federal Government is doing all it can be reasonably expected to do to move forward on all aspects of this situation. I know there are a growing number of my colleagues in Congress who are committed to this as well. Together we will do all we can to achieve this goal. Thank you and God bless you for your personal commitment to this cause.

Very sincerely,

CHRIS GIBSON,
Congressman,
20th District, New York.

WELCOME

On behalf of the organizing committee, we would like to welcome you to the Helen Filene Ladd Concert Hall in the Arthur Zankel Music Center at Skidmore College, for the LymeNEXT forum. Thank you for your participation.

We wish to extend our gratitude to Congressman Chris Gibson, who has recognized the impact that undiagnosed and untreated Lyme disease and the associated tick-borne infections have had not only in his district, but also across the state and country. Congressman Gibson has taken a leadership role in encouraging forward thinking, collaborative problem solving, and the search for new ideas, to improve the lives of patients and families affected by Lyme and other TBDs. We all hope that this forum will inspire new initiatives in both the public and private sectors to advance these critical issues.

We are hopeful that LymeNEXT will be only the first of many such events that will lead to greater public awareness, better diagnostics, and effective treatments for these multifactorial, protean, and debilitating diseases.

Sincerely,

CHRISTINA T. FISK,
Co-Chair.
HOLLY AHERN,
Co-Chair.

Organizing Committee: Steve Bulger, District Director for Congressman Gibson; Steve Borgos, Logistics; JoAnn Borgos, Volunteers; Mary Beth Bulger, Social Media.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

(By Pamela Weintraub, Executive Editor, Discover Magazine)

Into the Woods: The Patient Journey through Lyme Disease

Inspired by her own family's personal nightmares with Lyme disease, Pamela Weintraub called upon her professional skills as an investigative journalist and science writer to undertake a meticulous and detailed investigation of the elaborate and complex issues that constitute the medical, political, cultural, and economic components of Lyme disease. Her findings are chronicled in her powerful book, Cure Unknown, which won the American Medical Writers Association book competition in 2009. Her work has served to define the varied and contentious elements that are part of all conversations concerning Lyme disease, and her investigatory skill and literary precision helped to uncover the real story behind the multi-faceted Lyme ''issue''. Ms. Weintraub is currently the Executive Editor at Discover. She has traveled extensively around the country educating people about Lyme disease, among other subjects, and has won numerous awards and has been featured on dozens of major radio shows including Leonard Lopate and Diane Rehm, to discuss biomedicine, science, and the future. Pam's work in this arena has earned her the respect and gratitude of thousands of Lyme victims who feel that they have a voice through her work.

SPEAKERS

Holly Ahern, MS is an award winning professor of microbiology and a science writer who has authored textbooks on laboratory science and published numerous articles in scientific and trade journals. Ahern has a B.S. degree and national board certification (American Society of Clinical Pathologists—ASCP) in medical technology, and an M.S. degree in Molecular Biology from the University at Albany. Named an NSF/ASM Biology Scholar in 2008, Ahern has become an outspoken advocate for truth in science and medicine particularly as it relates to Lyme disease. As head of a groundbreaking undergraduate research program at SUNY Adirondack in Queensbury NY, Ahern and her group are currently researching the complex biology of the Lyme disease spirochete, the incidence of bacterial and protozoal pathogens in the Ixodes tick, and investigating enhanced ways to destroy the disease-causing organisms.

Lorraine Johnson, JD, MBA is an attorney advocate on issues related to the medico-legal and ethical aspects of Lyme disease and has published over 30 peer-reviewed articles on this topic. She earned her JD from Loyola University and an MBA from USC. She is the Chief Executive Officer of the LymeDisease.org and is a director and an officer of the International Lyme and Associated Diseases Society. She sits on the steering committee of Consumers United for Evidence-Based Healthcare, a nationwide coalition of consumer groups associated with the Cochrane Collaboration. She is also a member of the international Cochrane Consumer Network and serves as a consumer peer reviewer for Cochrane Collaboration evidence-based protocols and reviews. She has spoken before state legislatures, the CDC, at the Canadian government consensus hearings on Lyme disease, and at the IDSA review panel hearing and before the Cochrane Consumer Network.

Richard I. Horowitz, MD is a Board Certified Internist and Director of the Hudson Valley Healing Arts Center, in Hyde Park, New York, USA. He is a founding member of ILADS, and is President of the International Lyme and Associated Disease Educational Foundation (ILADEF), an organization dedicated to the education of health professionals in the diagnosis and treatment of tick-borne disorders. Dr. Horowitz has treated over 12,000 chronic Lyme disease patients in the last 25 years, and has researched and published extensively on the role of co-infections in patients with persistent symptoms. He was awarded the Humanitarian of the Year award by the Turn the Corner Foundation in 2007, for his ongoing work with chronic Lyme disease. Dr. Horowitz has presented his work to institutions, organizations, and government agencies around the world, including ILADS conferences around the globe; UNESCO in Paris and JNI—National Infectious Disease conference France. Dr. Horowitz was recently invited to consult with the top officials within the government of China (CDC/Ministry of Health) on the difficulties of diagnosing and treating Lyme disease and co-infections, and the efficacy of an integrative approach to these diseases.

Daniel Cameron, MD, MPH graduated from the University of Minnesota followed by residencies at Beth Israel Medical Center and Mt. Sinai School of Medicine in New York. Dr. Cameron is widely recognized for conducting epidemiologic research while practicing medicine. He has been viewed as a pioneer in Lyme disease as an author of practice guidelines, analytic reviews, and clinical trials. He has published 9 peer reviewed articles based on his research in the past 5 years. Dr. Cameron led ILADS, the International Lyme and Associated Diseases Society, to new heights as its president from 2007 to 2009. He has testified as an expert on Lyme disease for legislation in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania for physicians' rights to diagnose Lyme disease using clinical judgment without state interference. He has been interviewed as an expert on the NBC today show, Good Morning America, Fox News, Sirius radio and in newspapers. Dr. Cameron currently sees patients in his private practice in Mt. Kisco, New York while continuing his research and writing. He maintains the website www.LymeProject.com.

David A. Leiby, PhD received a B.S. in Biology from Lafayette College, Easton, Pennsylvania, an M.S. in Biology from Rutgers University, Camden, New Jersey, and an M.S. and Ph.D. in Zoology from the Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio. He was a National Research Council, Postdoctoral Resident Research Associate in the Cellular Immunology Department at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, Washington, D.C. For the past 19 years, Dr. Leiby has

been affiliated with the American Red Cross, where he is the Head of the Transmissible Diseases Department at the Jerome H. Holland Laboratory for the Biomedical Sciences in Rockville, Maryland. He is the principal investigator for comprehensive, multi-center epidemiologic studies of Chagas' disease, tick-borne pathogens and malaria in blood donors. Dr. Leiby has published over 75 refereed papers and book chapters and is frequently invited both nationally and internationally to speak at meetings and institutions. Dr. Leiby also is an associate professor of Microbiology and Tropical Medicine at the George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

Ahmed Kilani, PhD is the President and Laboratory Director of Clongen Laboratory. The company, founded in 1999 in Mountain View, California, is now located in Germantown, MD. Dr. Kilani holds a Bachelor's degree in Medical Technology, a Master's in Clinical Science (San Francisco State University) and a Ph.D. in Infectious Diseases and Immunity (University of California at Berkeley, 1999). He is also board certified nationally (American Society of Clinical Pathologists—ASCP) and in California (Clinical Laboratory Scientist—CLS/MT). Dr. Kilani has extensive experience in Microbiology, Virology, Molecular and Cell Biology. The laboratory facility in Germantown, MD was established in 2004. The company consists of two main divisions: Clinical Diagnostics for Infectious Diseases and Contract Research. Clongen Laboratory holds state and national licenses in laboratory medicine (CLIA-Certified).

Kenneth Liegner, MD is a board certified Internist with additional training in Pathology and Critical Care Medicine, practicing in Pawling, New York. He has been actively involved in diagnosis and treatment of Lyme disease and related disorders since 1988. He has published articles on Lyme disease in peer-reviewed scientific journals and has presented poster abstracts and talks at national and international conferences on Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases. He has cared for many persons seriously ill with chronic and neurologic Lyme disease. His work has focused on the serious morbidity and (occasional) mortality that can eventuate from this aspect of the illness. He has emphasized the urgent need for widespread clinical availability of improved methods of diagnostic testing and for development of improved methods of treatment for Lyme disease in all its stages. He holds the first United States patent issued proposing application of ascaricide to deer for area-wide control of deer-tick populations as a means of reducing the incidence of Lyme disease.

DOES OBAMA ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT ISRAEL?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, it's always an honor to speak here on the House floor, and there's been a lot of interesting attention that's been given to an issue of whether or not the Obama administration supports Israel, doesn't support Israel, is more supportive of its enemies, and apparently, according to an article in the Weekly Standard this week, May 30, 2012, by Daniel Halper, and I'm quoting from the article here, it says:

''Obama stressed he probably knows about Judaism more than any other President because he read about it,'' Haaretz reports. ''He wondered how come no one asks Speaker of the House of Representatives John Boehner or Senate minority leader Mitch McConnell about their support to Israel.''

Similarly, he said to the group, ''I am not going to tell you again how I even feel about Israel, but why are we still talking about it?''

He then suggested that he should not be questioned about his commitment to the Jewish state because ''all his friends in Chicago were Jewish.''

I think there's a lot to be learned when we read people's comments or learn of people's comments that were not scripted, that were said just off the top of the head. Nobody put it in the teleprompter. It's not somebody else's words; it's words directly from the individual in question. So I've got to say, you know, the President says all his friends in Chicago were Jewish. I learned a lot from that. I didn't know that Jeremiah Wright was Jewish. I mean, I meet people all the time and it never crosses my mind, you know, what descent is this person.

So it's fascinating for me to find out from the President that apparently Jeremiah Wright was Jewish; Tony Rezko that got the lot right next to the President and got them a sweetheart deal of some kind, that real estate deal, even though Rezko's gone to prison, I didn't know Tony Rezko was Jewish. And Bill Ayers who unashamedly blew up a bomb hoping that he would kill people back in the seventies, the man that gave Barack Obama his first fund-raiser at his home, I didn't know what lineage Bill Ayers was, but according to the President's comment, all his friends in Chicago were Jewish. Apparently Bill Ayers must have been Jewish as well.

So it's interesting to find out about people's friends and who they are and what their background really is.

□ 1320

My background, having been at one time early on a prosecutor—I've been a judge, I've been a chief justice. It helps me, some of us that are a little slower, to work through and plod through material methodically. It helps me to make a chart.

I know, having collected the notes of jurors after they had heard long cases—I guess the longest case I tried was about 10 weeks long, a murder case, as a judge. But it was always interesting to read notes that jurors had left. So, often they would take evidence and they would make notes of evidence and try to decide what category that evidence fit into—did it support what the prosecution was saying, since they had the burden of proof, or did it support a defense contention or an affirmative defense, that kind of thing?

So I found this week, since I read that article about the President's defensiveness, that it would be interesting to take and just run through some evidence so that we could try to decide, since the President says he's not even going to comment how he feels about Israel anymore, I think it would be helpful to go through and look at the evidence and decide whether it supports the notion that the President is very pro-Israel or that he's not.

When the President said that he wondered why no one asked Speaker of the House of Representatives JOHN BOEHNER about his support for Israel, well, I know that Speaker BOEHNER and I have had some rather profound disagreements—and that, I'm sure, will continue—but when it came to the issue of Israel, I couldn't come up with anything that indicated any lack of complete support for the Nation of Israel. In fact, 2 years ago, I started pushing to get Prime Minister Netanyahu invited to address a joint session of Congress here in this very Hall. I know when I approached Speaker PELOSI about it—this was June of 2010—she thought it was a nice idea but there just wasn't going to be time to get that done before the end of the year, we just had so much on our plate. And I think we did have a lot of courthouses we hadn't named yet, so we got those done.

Then, when the Republicans took the majority in 2011, I redid a letter and got lots of Republicans to sign on. The Speaker asked Prime Minister Netanyahu to come and address the House here, and as best I understand it, got the majority leader down the hall, HARRY REID, to go in on it so that it would be a joint session. So all the evidence indicates complete support by Speaker BOEHNER for Israel. I really haven't been able to find anything to the contrary.

But, again, since the President says he's not going to comment anymore about how he feels about Israel, I thought it would be good—and it sure helps me—to go through and just chart out evidence and which notion it supports. So I went through, and we took points from stories—whether on television, in the news media, on the Internet—that appeared to have a good basis for being factual and just decided to chart out: Is this evidence that President Obama is for or against Israel? Does he love Israel or does he love Israel not?

We know that back in 2011, most of us heard the comments—apparently they didn't know that microphone was live—when Prime Minister Netanyahu came up in the comments by President Sarkozy of France, when he made a comment something about what a problem Netanyahu was, and President Obama made comments to the effect that, Oh, yeah, well, I have to deal with him every day. It was clearly belittling of Prime Minister Netanyahu. I know people that heard the comment thought, Ooh, if you're Prime Minister Netanyahu, that's got to hurt to hear the guy that you may talk to quite a bit agreeing with another leader that Netanyahu is just a real pain to deal

with. So it really doesn't show a love for Israel really. That was more of a loves Israel not.

Then, the comments in 2011, when Prime Minister Netanyahu last year was on his way, coming to the United States—he was going to speak to an AIPAC convention here—and it seemed to be rather short notice. The President hurriedly consulted with people that he trusted. Imam Magid, who is president of the Islamic Society of North America. Of course, they are a named coconspirator in the Holy Land Foundation prosecution for supporting terrorism. ISNA, Islamic Society of North America, he's the president of that organization. And we heard on the news that Imam Magid had been consulted. In fact, Imam Magid, the president of this coconspirator supporting terrorism, was even invited to the inner sanctum of the State Department to hear the speech that he had apparently, according to sources, had helped give advice to President Obama on.

So, during his comments, President Obama says that Israel should return to its 1967 borders. And people that are familiar with Israel and know the history of that area, including going back to 1000 or so B.C. when King David was the ruler in that land—1,500, 1,600 years or so before a man named Muhammad came to Earth. Anyway, he's suggesting that Israel, in those comments, should return to those borders, which military people indicate make Israel indefensible. That's why they were so subject to attack in 1967. So that really was not a comment suggestive of a love for Israel. That's really more of a loves Israel not.

Then the Obama administration, they have wholly failed to condemn any of the Palestinians' building of illegal settlements. Here the Palestinians keep building and building in areas they're not authorized, that are illegal settlements being built, and we hear not one single word from the Obama administration about the illegal settlements being constructed by Palestinians. That also included his criticism of Israeli housing plans for East Jerusalem. So that's really a loves Israel not on that one as well.

You've got the Obama administration's decision to eradicate missile defense programs that would have helped Israel. There are articles and information about that. Obviously, since it didn't help Israel to have eradicated missile defense programs that would have helped Israel, despite some that would, that actually is an act that indicates loves Israel not.

Now, I think it was a wonderful thing that Prime Minister Netanyahu, in 2010, was invited to the White House. That was a great thing, very good of the President to invite him. But all of the reference to that visit seemed to make very clear that when the President intentionally snubbed the Prime Minister who had traveled all this way to meet with the President, and he was left waiting for an hour or so while the President went off with his family—they knew that Prime Minister Netanyahu was coming, he came by invitation, and yet the President created an intentional snub, unless his staff, of course, is so incompetent they didn't let him know that the leader of our dear ally Israel was waiting in the White House to visit. But anyway, he went and dined with his family. Also, it was considered by most who know about internal relations to be quite a snub that, although the President's been pictured with all kinds of folks in the Middle East that would just as soon Israel be eliminated from the map, to refuse to have a picture with him, which was the norm, really was an indication of loves Israel not.

□ 1330

Now, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton announced that the Obama administration planned to send $147 million to the West Bank and to the Hamas-run Gaza Strip.

Well, Congress had made very clear, since we have the purse strings under the Constitution, that there should not be money being sent to any organization that is supportive of terrorism. Hamas is a named organization that supports terrorism. And yet, this administration has decided to send a group who has made very clear they want to see Israel eliminated, wiped off the map—sending them $147 million is not really evidence of a love for Israel, so that would go in that category.

Over here, you also have President Obama stating that all his friends in Chicago were Jewish, and that he was sometimes accused of being a Jewish puppet. Well, for those people who accused the President, according to the President only, of being a Jewish puppet, and that always his friends in Chicago were Jewish, well, that is some indication of a love for the Jewish Nation of Israel.

The President's administration though, earlier this year, leaked to The Washington Post of the time window in which Israel would take out Iran's nuclear program. Well, any ally is supposed to know that if you go leaking information, putting it out there in public, that damages an effort of your close ally to defend itself, that's not a good thing. It's not a sign of love and affection for an ally when you leak information that would prevent or harm the efforts of that ally in defending itself. So that was not a good indication of a love for Israel; more of a ''Loves Israel Not.''

And then also, the Obama administration had a leak to the media that Israel was going to use the Azerbaijan airspace to take out Iran's nuclear program. Well, if that's the kind of thing you do for friends, America's not going to have a lot of friends for very long because our friends will know, wow, Israel is said to be one of America's closest allies, and yet they're leaking information about private deals that their so-called ally has made to try to defend themselves. That surely would fall into the category of ''Loves Israel Not.''

And then also, you have the immense pressure that was placed by this administration on Israel not to defend itself without the United States' permission. Does a friend really do that? I thought we believed in the sovereignty of our friends, our nation friends, so they could make their own decisions about self-defense. I thought that's the case. And yet, we keep hearing reports, reading reports about pressure by this administration on Israel not to take action to defend itself. So that's really in that category as well, ''Loves Israel Not.''

Then also, the Obama administration has never rejected or condemned the racist, hateful teachings about Jewish people going on in the Palestinian schools in the Middle East, and in some Muslim schools here in the United States. No condemnation or rejection at all could be found anywhere. And yet, anyone that cares to see the kind of hateful, biased, nasty things that are being said about Jewish and Israeli people just need let our office know.

There are people in Israel, there are Web sites that can provide that information. They've gotten copies of textbooks. There are commercials that are run. There are great events that Palestinian areas, in fact—that are even named for Palestinian terrorists, Islamic jihadists that blew themselves up and killed a lot of Israelis. And yet, we have no condemnation from this administration of any of that type activity.

Israel, of course is repeatedly warned by this administration to be nicer to the Palestinians, and we can't find any evidence that this administration has ever warned the Palestinians, quit inciting hatred in your children for Jewish or Israeli people.

And the list goes on, helping us assess the evidence of whether President Obama is for or really against Israel. Since his comment this week, he's not going to tell us any more how he feels about Israel. We'll just look at the evidence.

Continuing, we remember not long after President Obama came into office he traveled to Turkey, to Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, apologized to them on behalf of the United States. Somebody uses really good word choices, a beautiful group of words about the United States being divisive and dismissive. Anyway, really nice words in what many dubbed as the apology tour. That really was not a strong sign of love and affection for Israel.

And then we have the fact that this President, although he went on an apology tour all around our so-called ally, Israel, he never actually went to Israel. I don't know, you can't blame him. Maybe he'd be concerned that Prime Minister Netanyahu would leave him sitting around twiddling his thumbs while Prime Minister Netanyahu went and had dinner with his family.

But I've met with Prime Minister Netanyahu. I'm not anybody, and yet he took time and was very punctual in his meeting, so I really don't think the President should have to worry that Prime Minister Netanyahu might try to snub him the same way. I think President Obama would find Prime Minister Netanyahu to be very congenial, as he normally is. Although again, we go back to the President's comments when he didn't know the mic was open indicating he didn't have a lot of love for having to deal with Prime Minister Netanyahu every day.

So as for now, until we actually have a visit from President Obama to Israel, that really has to go into the ''Loves Israel Not'' category.

And then of course, we have the Obama administration's support for the Muslim Brotherhood's rise to power in Egypt. This administration was encouraging Mubarak to step down, get out of the way, and actually made quite interesting quotes about the radical Islamist protesters in Egypt.

But anyway, they supported the Muslim Brotherhood's rise to power in Egypt and have reached out in numerous ways to the Muslim Brotherhood, thinking that this may really be a good thing, indicating a great thing for the Middle East. Well, it may be a good thing for the Muslim Brotherhood, but we have the documentation, the quotes are easily accessible, about what the Muslim Brotherhood truly stands for, and they want to see Israel gone.

So some would say, well, it's a good thing when any administration reaches out to a people. But if that people, if the leaders of a group are demanding that a dear, close, friendly ally be wiped off of the map and have to live under a caliphate, not Judaism, which the President says he knows more about than any other President, apparently—but live under a caliphate, which, of course, as Ahmadinejad believes, the 12th imam, the Mahdi, will be coming back.

□ 1340

Anyway, that really wasn't showing a lot of love for Israel. Of course, Israel expressed a great deal of concern. They had concerns about what was going on in Egypt. Mubarak was a problematic man, a problematic leader, but at least he was trying to keep up the agreement, the treaty with Israel. He at least made some pretense that he was trying to protect the Egyptian-Israeli border.

Now we have the Muslim Brotherhood, who has no such intention, and it didn't take an intelligence department to advise this administration of that. It certainly should have been clear. Yet, in 2011, President Obama was calling the radical Islamist protesters in Egypt ''an inspiration to people around the world,'' and he stated he supported a new regime in Egypt. Well, you had radical Islamists; you had the Muslim Brotherhood; and as we see in these elections as they go forward, the Muslim Brotherhood is taking charge, and they have no interest in agreeing to the treaties that have long since been made with Israel. Although they have come back and said, Well, we might put it up to a vote, the same people who are voting the Muslim Brotherhood into power, because they know the Muslim Brotherhood wants to see Israel gone, will obviously not be supporting a treaty.

So those kinds of comments that put Israel at such extreme risk on their border just cannot be deemed to be an indication of a loves Israel. It's more a loves Israel not.

Then we have the fact that, though Syrian leader Assad has been ruthless in killing and abusing his people and has not been helpful to Israel to the extent Egyptian leader Mubarak was, this administration, the Obama administration, has failed to support the Syrian rebels the way it did the Egyptian rebels. That has really been interesting to see how that developed.

For example, in Libya, gosh, the President says he didn't need support from Congress because there were people like NATO and the Muslim Brotherhood. There were folks who wanted us to help get rid of Qadhafi. Well, Qadhafi was sure no angel, and he certainly had blood on his hands, but Qadhafi was not a threat to Israel, and this administration militarily—militarily—supported the people who are a threat to Israel, unapologetically. Now, there were some games, some wordsmanship games—wordsmithing went on by this administration—saying, Look, look, this is really a NATO action. Guess who makes up 60 percent or more of the NATO military. Guess who gives more to NATO than anybody else. It's the United States. So it was a little bit of sleight of hand to say, You know, Libya really is more of a NATO action. It's not really us.

It is very clear. This administration has not demanded the ouster of a leader with blood on his hands, who continues to abuse and kill Syrians who want some freedom. This administration hasn't supported those rebels the way they did in Libya and the way the administration called for Mubarak to be gone—forcefully. So that's also a loves Israel not.

Then you've got to note that the Obama administration's support for giving Israel's enemies money and weapons has been at the same time Israel has been given assistance. That's not showing a lot of love for Israel, but the Obama administration has supported providing Israel financial aid that they can use to buy U.S. weapons for Israel's defense. Well, now, there's a good one to show some love for Israel. So this administration has shown some love for Israel by pushing to provide them with financial aid to buy U.S. weapons for their own defense. Unfortunately, that comes at the same time the administration keeps supporting Israel's enemies—giving them money, pushing to give them money and weapons—at the same time Israel is getting that same assistance.

Then there is one other thing that I think is worthy of note. I believe it was 2 years ago—in May 2 years ago, I believe—that the Obama administration voted with Israel's enemies to require Israel to disclose any and all nuclear capabilities or weapons. Israel is a tiny country in the middle of a number of countries and of hostile peoples that want to see Israel gone, and nobody has made that more clear than Ahmadinejad. It is certainly worthy of note that it was right after this administration parted from decades of tradition of support for Israel—and their very tenuous situation there in the Middle East—that it sided with all of Israel's enemies and voted to require them to disclose all they really had that could protect them.

It brought to mind that story from the Old Testament about King Hezekiah and how King Hezekiah was confronted by Isaiah. Those of us who believe what's printed there believe that God sent the prophet to confront Hezekiah, and he basically said, What have you done with these people from Babylon, with these leaders that came over from Babylon?

This is a Texas paraphrase, but basically, King Hezekiah said, Oh, I took these Babylonian leaders around, and I showed them all our treasure, and I showed them all the defenses we have in the armory.

In essence, Hezekiah was told by Isaiah, You fool. Because you have done this, you're going to lose your country. And he did. Actually, he begged the Lord to let it not be on his watch, and it ends up being under his son's, but that's another story.

The point here that came to mind, though, is we were demanding that Israel do what Hezekiah similarly did, which made their country vulnerable and caused them to lose their country—and we voted with Israel's enemies to demand that. This administration did. Congress would never have voted in the majority to do such a thing, but this Obama administration did.

It's a dangerous time in the world, and it's time for America not to be stupid. Some have referred to Israel as being the free world's miner's canary, because as people know, in the old days, before sensitive electronic equipment, canaries were taken into mines so that if noxious, poisonous gas began to fill the air, the canary would die before the miners would, and if the canary keeled over dead, the miners would know they've got to get out or they could be next.

Our assistance to Israel is as a democracy in the middle of a hostile world, a hostile area, with people who want to see our type of freedom and liberty gone, whose very definition of the word ''freedom'' means freedom to worship under a joint caliphate under shari'a law. But Israel's definition of

''freedom'' is like ours. We should be supporting Israel. We should not be supporting Israel's enemies.

□ 1350

Those who have studied history, you know that when a nation's enemies see that nation's strongest ally pulling away from him, that's when their enemies move against them. So was it any surprise that after the Obama administration voted with Israel's enemies to make Israel more vulnerable, that all of a sudden here came a flotilla to challenge the lawful blockade of the Gaza Strip that Israel had to at least try to ensure their own protection?

Of course, that was a disastrous and embarrassing time for Israel, but I can't help but believe it goes back to this administration telling Israel's enemies we're standing with you and not with Israel. Yes, this administration has gone back and issued statements to the contrary. But when you look at the evidence, look at the unguarded evidence, look at the leaks, look at the support for whom, it still keeps coming back that even though this President says, I'm not going to answer any more questions about whether or not I support Israel, the evidence is clear.

I hope in the ensuing months between now and the next inauguration, that this administration will go out of its way to assure Israel's enemies that despite the overwhelming evidence that Israel is not loved by this administration from past actions and comments, that it will take action if for no other reason than to try to help this administration win some votes that it's been losing. I don't really care what the reason is. I care about supporting our allies, supporting those who stand for liberty, who will allow freedom of worship by Muslims, freedom of worship by Christians, freedom of worship by other groups in Israel that Jews and Christians are not afforded in other countries that this administration keeps sucking up to.

The evidence seems pretty clear. It keeps coming back—despite some minor indications to the contrary—that this administration loves Israel not.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

STAFFORD STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. COURTNEY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I assure you that I will not use the full 60 minutes, but there is an issue that I wanted to spend a few minutes discussing today because it is extremely time sensitive.

As the chart next to me indicates, we are today on June 1, twenty-nine days away from the increase in interest rates for the subsidized Stafford Student Loan Program, a program which today presently offers middle class college students loans at a rate of 3.4 percent, and on July 1, by law, that number will double to 6.8 percent unless Congress acts.

The situation right now is the result of a measure that was passed in 2007, the College Cost Reduction and Access Act, which at that time—again, the statute under the Stafford program required a 6.8 percent interest rate. I was part of a group that passed the College Cost Reduction and Access Act that cut that rate down to 3.4 percent. For an average student using the Stafford Student Loan Program, which carries a loan limit up to $23,000 a year for a student, that cut in interest rate saved the average student who uses this program about $5,000 to $10,000 in added interest cost, obviously a huge number for young people in this country who are struggling to try to deal with the costs of higher education.

Again, it was a 5-year bill, and it has a sunset date of July 1. That is not uncommon in terms of the way legislation is designed in Washington. But in January, President Obama, while he was standing at that podium right behind me, reminded the Congress during the State of the Union address that this doubling of rates was a few months away. Up to this point, we still have not dealt with this issue. And for young people who are trying to budget in terms of the upcoming school year, young seniors who got their acceptance letters to go to college, the failure of this Congress to address this issue and get it done is, frankly, completely unacceptable. And the schedule that we've been following in this House—for example, this week we had only one full session day. At a time when so many issues like this are piling up and crying out for action, that is really just unacceptable.

The good news is that there has been some movement. Since the President made his call in January, I introduced legislation to lock in the lower rate the following day. We have 152 cosponsors to lock in the lower rate at 3.4 percent. About 3 weeks ago, the Republican majority did move a bill forward. It was paid for, I think, completely inappropriately by dipping into a fund to pay for preventive health care. In other words, it took money out of a fund to pay for cervical cancer screening, diabetes treatment, all the measures that are preventible illnesses in this country. Again, many uninsured individuals need that fund to operate to get those tests done and avoid higher health care costs.

Yesterday, there was again additional movement where the Republican leadership in the House and the Senate acknowledged that that's not going to work in terms of a way to pay for it, and two additional ideas have been put forward on the table to deal with the way to offset the cost of cutting that rate from 6.8 percent to 3.4 percent. We'll see. Next week, the Senate is back, and that really is the Chamber where we may see some movement forward in terms of this issue.

I think it's important to note that this is only a 1-year fix that is being proposed right now. For families out there dealing with the cost of college, saying that we're going to only provide relief for 1 year for interest rates is not a good enough answer.

We know that because the Federal Reserve—which tracks the amount of consumer debt that families are accumulating in this country—just yesterday reminded us that student loan debt now exceeds all other forms of consumer debt. It exceeds credit card debt. It exceeds car debt.

This is a trajectory which is just going up and up and up. And adding to that debt level by allowing interest rates to be at a ridiculous level in the economy that we're in right now—you can go out and get a 30-year fixed rate mortgage on a house for about 3 percent or 4 percent right now. Certainly in Connecticut those kinds of loans are being offered. There are 10-year Treasury notes being sold at record lows. Yesterday, it was reported that 1.45 percent was the yield rate that Treasury was selling 10-year notes.

To have 6.8 percent, with this picture in our economy here today, is just unacceptable. The impact it's having in terms of the higher education system is tragic for our country. In the 1980s, we were number one in the world in terms of graduating people with either 2-year or 4-year degrees. Today we are 12th. Think about that. The United States of America now is 12th in terms of graduating people with 2-year and 4-year degrees, and cost is the biggest driving factor that is preventing people from going to college and getting degrees.

□ 1400

When we look at the workforce needs in this country in terms of medical professions, in terms of research, in terms of engineering and science, the fact of the matter is this country is in an almost crisis situation right now in terms of being able to refresh and replenish the workforce needs of this country.

Now, how did we get here? The Stafford student loan program, which was created in 1965, was an attempt to try and reach out to families and give them more affordable interest rates so that they could pay for colleges. From the 1960s to the 1990s it was a variable rate interest program that went up and down with interest rates in the economy. In 2002 the Congress passed a budget law which locked in a fixed rate at 6.8 percent.

Why did they do that? Well, that interest revenue, when people pay back their loans, actually goes into the Treasury. It goes into the coffers of this country. It's almost like a tax, essentially. To cut that rate to a lower level requires other places in the government to sort of offset the reduction

of 6.8 percent to a lower rate. The measure that we passed in 2007 accomplished that with a pay-for because it eliminated a lot of wasteful bank subsidies and fees to make sure that that cut from 6.8 percent to 3.4 percent was actually going to take place.

We are here today in a situation where student loan debt now is the largest challenge that faces middle class families who are trying to just do the right thing and give their children the opportunity to get the skills that they are going to need to compete in their lives and help our economy, by the way, perform in a very competitive global environment.

Yet we have still not come up with a sustainable, long-term path in terms of trying to make college affordable. We need to address this.

My bill, H.R. 3826, locks in the lower rate at 3.4 percent, not just for 1 year, but permanently. We also need to look at the issue of college costs. We need to start putting incentives out there in terms of Federal programs to make sure that colleges are not running wild with tuition increases. I think it's important to note that President Obama, when he gave the State of the Union address and challenged Congress to protect this lower interest rate, he coupled it with a number of reforms to the title 4 programs that pay for higher education from the Federal Government.

That basically tells universities and colleges if your tuition rates go up at an unacceptable level, you're going to be basically disqualified from participating in these programs. That is the first time that has ever been cited or suggested as a way of trying to put some carrots and sticks into the system right now. Because college costs are driving, again, that affordability challenge.

To some degree they are driving that high loan level, those high debt levels that families are almost forced to take on to pay for college. It's almost like buying a house now, if you are going to a 4-year private college, in terms of paying the bills.

We need to again not just look at this issue in terms of protecting lower interest rates, which again it looks like we may have a glimmer of hope of a 1-year fix coming up in the Senate next week, but we also need to frankly have a longer-term strategy for providing lower interest rates on a longer term basis for middle class families, and we need to be looking at what's the driving factor in terms of college costs. We need to start creating incentives within the financing system to make sure that colleges are doing a better job of managing their overhead so that they again aren't just shifting that cost on students and their families.

Again, the stakes could not be higher in terms of success of this country. We must as a Nation make sure that we continue to invest in our education system, in our higher education system.

I would close by just citing another benchmark that's coming up in a short period of time. Again, as my chart indicates, on July 1, we are going to hit the doubling of the interest rates unless Congress acts.

What's also going to happen, though, on July 2 is that we are actually going to observe an anniversary in this country. It will be the 150th anniversary of when Abraham Lincoln signed the Morrill Act. The Morrill Act was a law that was passed during the darkest days of the Civil War, again a time when we were literally going through an existential crisis in this country about whether or not we were going to survive as a republic.

Despite all that challenge, President Lincoln was able to look above and beyond the immediate and look in the long term and sign into law this measure which created the land grant college program. That is the program which basically said that each State must establish an institution of higher education for the purposes of propagating agricultural sciences and engineering.

What an amazing act for someone, again, whose Nation was fighting for its life to see that long term we must continue to look forward, and we must invest in our future. Over time, since the Morrill Act was signed, we, on a bipartisan basis, have passed the Stafford Act, the Stafford student loan program, which I mentioned here. It was sponsored by a Republican Senator, Robert Stafford, from Vermont.

We passed the Pell grant program, named after Claiborne Pell, a Democratic Senator from Rhode Island. We passed the Perkins Loan Program, which is named after Carl Perkins, a Democrat from Kentucky.

But over time and even the darkest, most challenging, critical days of our Nation's history, we have had leadership in Washington which understood that we must keep our eye on the real crown jewels of our country, which is our people. We are a Nation that is blessed with great material wealth. We are a Nation that is blessed with the greatest military fighting force in the world. We are blessed with great financial institutions.

What really makes this country tick is our people, is investing in future generations. That is, at the end of the day, what's at stake with this issue, which has 29 days for Congress to act and fix.

I'm an optimist. I think we can do this. I think we have seen some movement—took a little external pressure on the political system here, with the President's visits to college campuses in Iowa, North Carolina and Colorado, and the ticking clock that I have been putting on this floor day in and day out, and the 130,000 petition signatures from colleges all across the country. We brought those to the Speaker's office on day 110. That external pressure has finally gotten some movement on this issue. Hopefully next week we are really going to see the glimmers of a real solution to making sure that families are not going to see their rates double to 6.8 percent.

Again, our work is not done if we get that measure passed. We must deal with long-term sustainable solutions to the issue of higher education costs if we as a Nation are going to have any viable future and success. We can do this, but it's going to take a lot of bipartisan concerted effort to come together and solve this critical problem.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

COUNTRY ENVISIONED BY FOUNDING FATHERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WALBERG). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. KING) for 30 minutes.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, as always it's my privilege and honor to address you here on the floor of the United States House of Representatives and take up a series of issues that I think you should be considering, and I would recommend that be the case as long as the broader part of the body of this Congress and the public is listening in to this conversation that we are having, Mr. Speaker.

I would make a series of points on where our Nation needs to focus our energy, where this Congress needs to focus its energy, and how we turn this country back into the country that was envisioned by our Founding Fathers. I would make the point, Mr. Speaker, that we have now, coming on almost 4 years ago, elected a President who rode into office with a large majority in his party, in both the House of Representatives and the Senate.

I warned then, going into the 2008 election, that if America elected—and I quote it this way—the ruling troika, the troika of President Obama, the majority leader of the United States Senate, HARRY REID, and Speaker of the House NANCY PELOSI, that the three of them could go into a phone booth and thereafter make a decision on what they decided to do to America without accountability that could check them in their very active endeavor to shape America in a way that wasn't envisioned by the Founding Fathers.

Lo and behold, Mr. Speaker, that is what happened. The voters in 2008 made that decision. They expanded the Democrat majority here in the House of Representatives. They also elected Barack Obama to the Presidency, the most liberal President America has ever seen and, of course, maintained a majority of Democrats in the United States Senate.

What unfolded was an effort here in the House that passed cap-and-trade, and we stood here on the floor, Mr. Speaker, over and over again and did battle with cap-and-trade. We called it cap-and-tax. Cap-and-tax was the right way to describe the bill that would tax

people who were burning hydrocarbons and, doing so, create a disadvantage for American industry and an advantage for the industries in places like India and China, where they care less about what goes into the atmosphere than we do here in this country.

That legislation, which I will always believe we had the ability to kill—even in the House Republican minority at the time—if we had turned up all of our efforts, we had the ability to kill it, Mr. Speaker. We didn't get that done.

□ 1410

We came close. We didn't get that done. And the cap-and-tax legislation passed over to the United States Senate, where it was subsequently killed in the Senate. But the sentiment of the President of the United States; the Speaker of the House, then NANCY PELOSI; and the majority leader of the United States Senate was to impose cap-and-trade or cap-and-tax on us. And they tried. They tried mightily. And President Obama has since said that if he can't get cap-and-tax passed—he would say cap-and-trade, Mr. Speaker—that he would implement it by rule and implement it by regulation if the Congress will not comply with his directive.

Now, we haven't heard very much about that effort in the media—not very much from the President, not very much from Democrats in this Congress or Democrats in the United States Senate. But it remains that this executive branch is implementing rules and regulations to carry out the initiative of cap-and-tax, cap-and-trade, which has been so rejected by the American people and exposed to be at least perpetuated by a fraud of dated information that went back and forth between the United Kingdom and the United States.

So that's one piece that has been coming at us. It's a result of that decision made by the voters in 2008. And as they pushed on cap-and-tax from that election, we saw then also that supermajority of the House Democrats, Senate Democrats, and the most liberal President America has ever seen. By the way, Mr. Speaker, I'm not making that number up. That is the data that shows that when they measured the votes of the United States Senators during the entire tenure of Barack Obama as a United States Senator, which I recognize wasn't long, he voted to the left of every Senator in the United States Senate, including BERNIE SANDERS, the Independent Senator from Vermont, who I served with in the House of Representatives. I personally like the gentleman. He's a self-professed socialist. Yet Barack Obama voted to the left of the self-professed socialist Senator, BERNIE SANDERS, and the left of every United States Senator.

While he was a Senator advancing cap-and-tax, cap-and-trade, he said that under his proposal of cap-and-tax, cap-and-trade, that the costs of electricity generated by coal would ''necessarily skyrocket.'' Well, that's happening. They have written regulations through the EPA and other means of the executive branch of government to the point now where it's been I think clearly established that from a regulatory perspective it is not just virtually, Mr. Speaker, but literally impossible for a new coal-fired generating plant, no matter how clean burning that coal might be, to be constructed in the United States.

We tried that in Iowa a year and a half or so ago, to build a coal-fired plant in Marshalltown. It had the best combination of entities that you could bring together that could utilize this and the longest-term, best vision you could put together with the engineering and the business model. And they finally had to, as we say on the chess board, tip over their king and concede that they couldn't build a new coal-fired plant.

Now it's become ever increasingly clear that expanding coal-fired generation also is regulatorily virtually impossible, perhaps literally impossible as well.

So the costs of our electricity go up and the leverage that comes in on creating subsidized forms of energy that fit within the political wishes of the President seems to be pushed well out of the White House. In any case, Mr. Speaker, that was one of the fights that went on here in this Congress back in those years between 2008 and the election in 2010.

Of course, another one was the passage of ObamaCare. ObamaCare sometimes is described as the pejorative way that it should define the health care plan that the President advanced and that had the full support of then-Speaker PELOSI. I would remind people of that—then-Speaker PELOSI.

That legislation first came to this floor as H.R. 3200. That was the precursor to the final package of ObamaCare. In the end, the bill that they define it as—two different bills, by the way. One, a reconciliation package that was slid around the filibuster in the Senate. That's a component of ObamaCare. The other one was legislation that passed out of the House and Senate with a supermajority in the Senate—a temporary supermajority in the Senate, I might add—and that was only passed because there was a promise made here that the President would sign an executive order that in effect amended legislation that the House was about to pass.

Now, Mr. Speaker, if there are any civics students listening to this discussion, I imagine that I have just heard their jaws drop across America, to think that the President of the United States, who taught constitutional law at the University of Chicago as an adjunct professor, would think that he, now as President of the United States, could sign an executive order that could amend legislation under the promise that it would amend legislation that was about to be passed on that condition in the House of Representatives.

That took place right here, Mr. Speaker. That's what's happened to this country. That's what's happened to the constitutional constructs of this country when you have leftist activists in charge of this government and they took the bit in their teeth and they ran off the cliff into the left and we ended up with ObamaCare, which they call the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. You can walk up and down the streets of America, and with the exception of right around the Capitol here in Washington, D.C., I would suggest that you wouldn't find two people in 100 that would know what that means.

We know what ObamaCare means. That's the President's advance of the health care policy that takes away our constitutional right to manage our own health care. And I tell people often that ObamaCare needs to be repealed for a lot of reasons. It's unaffordable, it's unsustainable, and it does set up rationing. Sarah Palin was right: it reduces research and development. It means that America will no longer be the lead in the innovation and health care systems in the world.

All of those things are bad and wrong and unsustainable about it, but the worst thing is that ObamaCare is unconstitutional. It's a direct assault on Americans, on our sovereign right. Mr. Speaker, the most sovereign thing that any of us has in the United States or anyplace in the world is our own soul. We protect that. We decide. That's freedom of religion that's in the First Amendment in the United States Constitution, take care of your soul. That's sovereign.

The second most sovereign thing we have is our health: our bodies, our skin, and everything inside it. And what is ObamaCare? They went in and nationalized Chrysler. They nationalized General Motors. For a time, they nationalized three large investment banks, AIG, Fannie Mae-Freddie Mac. The entire flood insurance program in the United States and the student loan program in the United States, all of that taken over by the Federal Government in the last few years.

And then ObamaCare came along. And that is, Mr. Speaker, the nationalization of your skin and everything inside it and a 10 percent tax on the outside if you go to the tanning salon, just to add a little extra insult to injury.

That's what ObamaCare has done. It has tapped into this vigorous American people, the most vigorous people the world has ever seen. We've skimmed the cream of the crop off of every donor civilization on the planet and gotten the best that any civilization had to offer because they were inspired by the American Dream, inspired by those visions that are embodied within the Statue of Liberty. Those visions altogether attracted people to come here to this country so they could live free, be

free, breathe free, and do as they will in a free enterprise system that has a rule of law, freedom of speech, religion, and the press and assembly, and no double jeopardy and tried by a jury of your peers and states' rights that flow down to the States or the people respectively.

All of that is the promise of America. And when you come to America and you embrace that promise, then you can work to achieve the American Dream. But the Federal Government taking over the nationalization of our bodies takes that away from us. And the 1,300 health insurance companies that we had 2½ years ago when the ruling troika imposed ObamaCare on this country are fewer now. The 100,000 possible health insurance policies that were out there on the marketplace that one could choose from are fewer now. And the government stepped in and reached more.

And just yesterday, I got the news that Nemschoff Company, which is a subsidiary of Herman Miller, Inc., and provides 111 jobs up in Sioux Center, Iowa—111 jobs making furniture and other equipment, a lot of it that goes into medical clinics and hospitals, a specialized type of a production facility, 111 jobs, will close its doors, and they cited, Mr. Speaker, ObamaCare. The uncertainty and the cost and the burden of the imposition of ObamaCare upon a company that's building products for health care causes them to shut their doors down. They didn't give any other reason. I didn't talk with them. I didn't solicit this. That was what came out in their press release. And I learned it when I read the paper.

□ 1420

ObamaCare forces them into a situation where they are shutting down a company that has been there for years, and it has 1,100 jobs. Well, the profit has been taken out of it for them. That's why the plant has to be closed.

We need to remember that this economy doesn't function to produce jobs. This economy and this free enterprise system we have functions to give a return on capital. When capital is invested, it needs to be invested with an anticipation that there will be profits. And that anticipation for profit is what brings about jobs. And keeping those jobs competitive is what is an incentive to produce the expanses in technology so that America can be the innovators for the world and the most competitive economy in the world.

But this administration seems to believe that you can't have a business model unless you can have the government at the table. And the government will decide what kind of health insurance policy you can buy and that you shall buy it, and that there is an individual mandate in ObamaCare that takes away our constitutional rights, and that's the unconstitutional taking of the second most sovereign thing we have, which is our skin and everything inside it.

And if the Supreme Court—and I believe, Mr. Speaker, they will make a prudent constitutional decision, and I anticipate that decision very early—well, I will say next month sometime I anticipate that decision. They will be deliberate on this, that the Constitution defines a limited government, the principle of federalism.

The principle of federalism isn't to grow the Federal Government, it is to limit the size of the Federal Government and for those powers to be devolved down as close to the people as possible. The Federal Government should be the last resort, not the first option. If you can take care of things at the family level, take care of it at the family level. If you can't do that, take care of it at the friend level. If you can't do that, do so in your church. Do so in your neighborhood. Do so in your school. Do so in your community. Do so in your county. And if you can't do that, do so in your State. But as a last desperate resort, the Federal Government then maybe can step in if the cause is high enough and there is a constitutionally enumerated power to do so.

But this enumerated power of the Commerce Clause is where the proponents of ObamaCare pointed to argue that they have the constitutional authority to require every American that fits within their defined category to a buy health insurance policy that's approved by Barack Obama with the mandates on it that are approved by Barack Obama which, by way, include by Presidential edict—legislation by not Executive order; not legislation from the bench as we sometimes complain about with an activist judicial branch. The President of the United States legislated by press conference when he directed Kathleen Sebelius to issue the order that even our faith-based organizations, and especially our Catholic health care providers, but it also includes many of the Protestant organizations, that they shall provide contraceptives, sterilizations, and abortifacients, and they shall do so free of charge, that it should be part of every health insurance policy.

So, Mr. Speaker, can you imagine if you were someone who had committed your life to Christ, for example, a celibate priest, a celibate nun, you're required to provide contraceptives for those who are not, and if it violates your religious convictions, whether or not you wear a collar? We can't discriminate in favor of someone who happens to be a professional reverend or pastor or a bishop or a cardinal. And a layperson on the street whose convictions may be as deep needs to have the same conscience protections from a religious perspective. And so for the Federal Government to step in and declare, You're going to provide health care services; you're going to buy this health insurance policy, and you will guarantee that it'll cover contraceptives, sterilizations, and abortifacients, abortion-causing drugs for every one of your employees even if you're in the business to oppose the idea of abortion-causing drugs.

The President got the political pushback on that, Mr. Speaker, and over a couple-weeks period of time of taking the crossfire that came from across this country directed at the White House for the audacity to make that declaration, the President held a press conference and said—it was at noon on a Friday several weeks ago now, and he said this: I'm going to make an accommodation to the religious organizations, and, therefore, rather than requiring Catholic Hill Services, for example, to provide abortion-causing drugs and sterilization and Cadillac contraceptives, I'm going to instead make that accommodation and require the insurance companies to do that for free.

Now, you heard me say a little bit ago ''legislation by press conference,'' Mr. Speaker, and I say that because of this: The rule that was issued by Health and Human Services' Kathleen Sebelius that imposed this thing on religious health care providers especially, that rule was never changed. The language is identical to what it was. There is not an ''i'' dotted differently or a ''t'' crossed differently. The rule is the same. So the only thing that changed was the President did a press conference and said: Okay, I'm going to cut you some slack, religious organizations. I'm going to make an accommodation to you, and I'm now going to require the insurance companies provide it for free. He repeated himself: For free.

The audacity. King George would not have the audacity to step up and do a press conference 230 years ago and say to America: Well, regardless of what the Parliament thinks, I'm just going to go ahead and require you to, let's say, buy tea at the rate that the British would like us to buy. No, there would be a tea party in Boston Harbor if that happened.

Well, there's going to be a tea party in this country, too, only it's going to take place in November, and the American people will reflect on what has happened over these 3-plus, going now on 4 years, the imposition of ObamaCare on all of America without regard to the Constitution and the restraint, requiring people to buy a health insurance policy that's approved by the Federal Government that has mandates that are stuck into it by what? Not by legislative action. Not by a rule approved by the United States Congress. By an executive branch that's directed out of the White House to write up the rules however they see fit and a President that has the audacity—and that's one of his favorite words, by the way, Mr. Speaker—the audacity to seek to legislate by press conference. Edicts by press conference. It is breathtaking the extra-constitutional reach that's been taken by this President and this administration, and this country needs to rise up and get

back to our constitutional underpinnings. We need to reject ObamaCare.

I want to see this House vote again this summer after the Supreme Court decision, no matter what the Supreme Court decision is, and I'm optimistic about getting a constitutional decision from the Supreme Court. But I want to see this Congress vote again for a 100 percent repeal of ObamaCare so everybody's on record, everybody understands that it must all go. It must all be pulled out by the roots. There can be no vestige of ObamaCare left behind. It's an unconstitutional taking of American liberty. In a vigorous Nation, Mr. Speaker, we cannot reach our destiny if we are tied to the anchor of ObamaCare that directs and rules our lives and consumes about 17 or more percent of our gross domestic product.

And so the difference is this: The troika of HARRY REID, NANCY PELOSI, and Barack Obama has been broken. It was broken in the election of 2010 when they saw the extra-constitutional reach of ObamaCare. They saw the effort on cap-and-trade. They saw Dodd-Frank pass through the House and the Senate and become law, an overreach. You had the people involved in the solution for the economic downward spiral that were contributing to the problem.

There are a whole series of things that we need to put this aright, Mr. Speaker. One of them is to scrub out the regulations that have been put in place in an effort to try to implement cap-and-trade around the resistance of this United States Congress, the separation of powers that's clear in the Constitution itself between the legislative and the executive and the judicial branches of government. I'm just very confident that Barack Obama taught those separations of powers, that the article I component of this that says, Here, this is how we set up the legislature. They set the laws. They set the policy, and the establishment of the executive branch of government whose job it is to carry out the laws and take care that the laws are faithfully executed.

□ 1430

We have a President who apparently encourages someone like Eric Holder to disregard especially immigration laws and only enforce those laws that, let me say, do not make them politically vulnerable. They decided they had 300,000 people that were in this country illegally that had been already adjudicated for deportation, and they said we don't have the resources to enforce the law against everybody that's here illegally, and so they committed their resources to going back through the files, looking through 300,000 forms of people that had been adjudicated for deportation and coming up with a reason or an excuse to try to let them stay in America, to try to turn another blind eye. Those resources had already been used to enforce the law; all they had to do was follow through with the directive of Congress.

The administration created this new argument that has never been heard before, I think, in the history of jurisprudence that Congress had directed the executive branch—this is in their assertion in the Arizona immigration case—to establish and maintain a ''careful balance'' between the various immigration laws because it affects the different interests of the executive branch.

Enforcing immigration affects our foreign relations, so the State Department has an interest. It affects our homeland security, so Janet Napolitano has an interest. It affects, perhaps, the educational system, and so you have the Secretary of Education with an interest. And it goes on and on and on. These are not competing interests. Congress has directed that all of these laws be faithfully enforced, and the administration has refused. That's a new approach to, let me say, prosecutorial discretion, Mr. Speaker. It goes on and on.

We have to repeal ObamaCare, repeal Dodd-Frank, pass a balanced-budget amendment to the United States Constitution. It's clear this Congress doesn't have the will to balance the budget. Maybe a simple majority in the House could be convinced to do so; it would be very tough. You can't get it done in the United States Senate. Even if we could balance the budget, we can't keep that happening year after year and pay down and then off this national debt. We need a balanced-budget amendment to the United States Constitution.

My advice, Mr. Speaker, to the next President of the United States would clearly be: refuse to sign a debt ceiling increase as President unless and until the House of Representatives and the Senate of the United States pass an acceptable balanced-budget amendment out of each Chamber that's identical in message to the States for ratification. If we can get that done, then there is a justification to give a short-term extension to our debt ceiling here in this Congress. If not, we need to hold the line until such time as the will is brought into this Congress to bring forth a balanced budget and to pay down and then off our national debt.

My youngest little granddaughter, Reagan Ann King, was born about 19—or maybe now 20 months—ago. Into the world she came with her share of the national debt at $44,000. I looked at that little girl and I thought, you know, a typical student loan might be $24,000, might be $30,000, but she's got a $44,000 loan and a mortgage on her head with interest accumulating every day, and she has just drawn her first breath. By the time she turned 1 year old, her share of the national debt was $48,000. And this little blonde-haired, brightest blue-eyed little girl with a beautiful giggle and smile doesn't know what kind of responsibility has been stuck on her by people that are living today at her expense and the expense of all of those babies that have been born and those yet to be born that will be taxpayers—and only about half of them fit that category today.

So, Mr. Speaker, that little girl turned 1½ years old, and now her $44,000 debt that was $48,000 on her first birthday, it became $51,000 when she's 1½ years old. She's going to be a taxpayer and a producer, and so you have to take that times two because only half the people have a Federal income tax liability.

So, $102,000 on the head of every American, young and old, that's our national debt. And we've watched trillion-dollar deficits roll up over the last 3½ years. The President's budget came to this floor at $1.33 trillion in deficit—$1.33 trillion, Mr. Speaker—and now we're approaching $16 trillion in national debt and it's got to stop.

We have to turn this country around. The American voters spoke in 2010. They sent 87 freshmen here into this House of Representatives who are constitutional conservatives, and every one of them voted to repeal ObamaCare. They want a balanced budget; they want a balanced-budget amendment. They are God's gift to America.

We need another one in November 2012, and more fresh faces and more vigorous people here that will adhere to repeal of ObamaCare, a balanced-budget amendment, an all-of-the-above energy plan. We need more of the same kind of people in the United States Senate and a President that will sign that legislation into law. I look forward to the privilege to work with those new faces as they arrive here and work to make the case before the American people every day from now until November, and thereafter.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate your attention, and I yield back the balance of my time.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. SCHILLING (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today on account of attending a family funeral.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today on account of a death in the family.

Mr. CLYBURN (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of family function.

Ms. MCCOLLUM (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of official business in district.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 35 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Tuesday, June 5, 2012, at noon for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

6250. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act, United States Special Operations Command case number 09-02; to the Committee on Appropriations.

6251. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Accreditation Report for the Armed Force Retirement Home (AFRHS) for Fiscal Year 2011; to the Committee on Armed Services.

6252. A letter from the Surgeon General, Army, Department of Defense, transmitting a report on incentives for recruitment and retention of Army healthcare professionals; to the Committee on Armed Services.

6253. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a report entitled, ''Future Capability of DoD Maintenance Depots''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

6254. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: New Free Trade Agreement with Columbia (DFARS Case 2012-D032) (RIN: 0750-AH72) received May 10, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

6255. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Contingency Contract Closeout (DFARS Case 2012-D014) (RIN: 0750-AH71) received May 10, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

6256. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Utilization of Domestic Photovoltaic Devices (DFARS Case 2011-D046) (RIN: 0750-AH43) received May 10, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

6257. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's report entitled, ''Report to Congress on Head Start Monitoring for Fiscal Year 2009''; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

6258. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Enhancement of Electricity Market Surveillance and Analysis through Ongoing Electronic Delivery of Data from Regional Transmission Organizations and Independent System Operators [Docket No.: RM11-17-000; Order No. 760] received May 14, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6259. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting Transmittal No. 12-15, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

6260. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting Transmittal No. 12-16, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

6261. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Commerce, transmitting Periodic Report on the National Emergency Caused by the Lapse of the Export Administration Act of 1979 for August 26, 2011 — February 25, 2012; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

6262. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment to the International Traffic in Arms Regulations: International Import Certificate BIS-645P/ATF-4522/DSP-53 and Administrative Changes (RIN: 1400-AC85) received May 9, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

6263. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment to the International Traffic in Arms Regulations: Exemption for Temporary Export of Chemical Agent Protective Gear (RIN: 1400-AC71) received May 11, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

6264. A letter from the Deputy Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting as required by section 401(c) of the National Emergency Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and pursuant to Executive Order 13313 of July 31, 2003, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the situation in or in relation to the Democratic Republic of the Congo that was declared in Executive Order 13413 of October 27, 2006; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

6265. A letter from the Deputy Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting as required by section 401(c) of the National Emergency Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and pursuant to Executive Order 13313 of July 31, 2003, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Sudan that was declared in Executive Order 13067 of November 3, 1997; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

6266. A letter from the Special Inspector General For Iraq Reconstruction, transmitting seventh lessons learned report entitled ''Iraq Reconstruction: Lessons in Criminal Investigations of U.S.-funded Stabilization and Reconstruction Projects''; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

6267. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's fiscal year 2011 annual report prepared in accordance with Section 203 of the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Public Law 107-174; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6268. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6269. A letter from the Secretary, Smithsonian Institution, transmitting a copy of the Institution's audited financial statement for fiscal year 2011, pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 57; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6270. A letter from the Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's decision not to appeal the decision of the district court in the case of the United States v. Zhen Zhou Wu, et al., No. 08:10386-PBS, 2011 West Law 31345 (D. Mass. Jan 4, 2011); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

6271. A letter from the Clerk of the Court, United States Court of Appeals, transmitting an opinion of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit United States of America v. Sergey Aleynikov, docket no. 11-1126-cr; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

6272. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Regulated Navigation Area; Pacific Sound Resources and Lockheed Shipyard EPA Superfund Cleanup Sites, Elliott Bay, Seattle, WA [Docket No.: USCG-2010-1145] (RIN: 1625-AA11) received May 14, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6273. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — MARPOL Annex V Special Areas: Wider Caribbean Region [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0187] (RIN: 1625-AB76) received May 14, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6274. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zones; Annual events requiring safety zones in the Captain of the Port Lake Michigan zone [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0045] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received May 14, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6275. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Volvo Ocean Racing Youth Regatta, Biscayne Bay, Miami, FL [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0178] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received May 14, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6276. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; East River, Brooklyn Bridge Scaffolding Repair, Brooklyn, NY [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0263] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received May 14, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6277. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Sunken Vessel, Puget Sound, Everett, WA [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0282] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received May 14, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6278. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Saginaw River, Bay City, MI [Docket No.: USCG-2011-1013] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received May 14, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6279. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Security Zones; North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Summit, Chicago, Illinois [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0052] (RIN: 1625-AA87) received May 14, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6280. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Anchorage Regulations: Subpart A — Special Anchorage Regulations, Newport Bay Harbor, CA [Docket No.: USCG-2010-0929] (RIN: 1625-AA01) received May 14, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk

for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. CRENSHAW: Committee on Appropriations. H.R. 5882. A bill making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes (Rept. 112–511). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee Natural Resources. H.R. 2512. A bill to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal land in Clark County, Nevada, for the environmental remediation and reclamation of the Three Kids Mine Project Site, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 112–512). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. ISSA: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 4607. A bill to ensure economy and efficiency of Federal Government operations by establishing a moratorium on midnight rules during a President's final days in office, and for other purposes (Rept. 112–513 Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on the Judiciary discharged from further consideration. H.R. 4607 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, and ordered to be printed.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. COLE:

H.R. 5883. A bill to make a technical correction in Public Law 112-108; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Ms. BASS of California (for herself, Mr. DOLD, and Mr. GUTIERREZ):

H.R. 5884. A bill to establish a 1-year pilot program to reduce up-front premiums on FHA mortgage insurance for first-time homebuyers who complete a homeownership counseling program and thereby help to reduce default rates on residential mortgages; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. BISHOP of New York (for himself and Mr. ISRAEL):

H.R. 5885. A bill to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to add New York to the New England Fishery Management Council, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. ISRAEL (for himself and Mr. RYAN of Ohio):

H.R. 5886. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve the dependent care credit by repealing the phasedown of the credit percentage and making permanent the increased dollar limitations; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LOBIONDO (for himself and Mr. LARSEN of Washington):

H.R. 5887. A bill to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal years 2013 through 2015, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. SARBANES:

H.R. 5888. A bill to establish a demonstration program to facilitate physician reentry into clinical practice to provide required primary health services; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BARROW:

H. Res. 673. A resolution expressing support for designation of May 2012 as ''National Mobility Awareness Month''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. CRENSHAW:

H.R. 5882.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The principal constitutional authority for this legislation is clause 7 of section 9 of article I of the Constitution of the United States (the appropriation power), which states: ''No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law . . . .'' In addition, clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution (the spending power) provides: ''The Congress shall have the Power . . . to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States . . . .'' Together, these specific constitutional provisions establish the congressional power of the purse, granting Congress the authority to appropriate funds, to determine their purpose, amount, and period of availability, and to set forth terms and conditions governing their use.

By Mr. COLE:

H.R. 5883.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to Article I, Section 8, Clause 7 which grants Congress the power to establish Post Offices and post roads.

By Ms. BASS of California:

H.R. 5884.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article 1, Section 1.

Article I.

Section 8.

All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

By Mr. BISHOP of New York:

H.R. 5885.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. ISRAEL:

H.R. 5886.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1.

By Mr. LOBIONDO:

H.R. 5887.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. SARBANES:

H.R. 5888.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 23: Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. COHEN and Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 100: Mr. QUAYLE.
H.R. 140: Mr. QUAYLE.
H.R. 273: Mr. HERGER, Mr. SCHOCK, and Mr. CRAWFORD.
H.R. 458: Mr. CROWLEY.
H.R. 692: Mr. QUAYLE.
H.R. 718: Ms. BERKLEY.
H.R. 904: Mr. TERRY.
H.R. 1066: Mr. CLARKE of Michigan.
H.R. 1112: Mr. MATHESON and Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas.
H.R. 1116: Ms. WILSON of Florida and Mr. DINGELL.
H.R. 1206: Mr. CLAY.
H.R. 1317: Ms. DELAURO.
H.R. 1327: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 1375: Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. COURTNEY, and Mr. CAPUANO.
H.R. 1381: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 1519: Mr. SHULER, Mr. ROSS of Arkansas, and Mr. LARSEN of Washington.
H.R. 1562: Mr. RAHALL, Ms. MOORE, Mr. PETERSON, and Mr. BOREN.
H.R. 1596: Mr. PASCRELL.
H.R. 1639: Mr. PEARCE, Mr. HALL, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mrs. SCHMIDT, and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
H.R. 1672: Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 1821: Mrs. CHRISTENSEN.
H.R. 1867: Mrs. LOWEY and Mr. MILLER of North Carolina.
H.R. 1956: Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. BILIRAKIS, and Mr. WALBERG.
H.R. 1960: Mr. CONYERS and Mr. MICHAUD.
H.R. 2000: Mr. HUNTER.
H.R. 2012: Mr. ANDREWS.
H.R. 2057: Mr. NUGENT.
H.R. 2077: Mr. PAULSEN.
H.R. 2086: Mr. WELCH.
H.R. 2139: Mr. LANKFORD.
H.R. 2140: Mr. PLATTS.
H.R. 2267: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. PETRI, Ms. MOORE, and Mr. CARNEY.
H.R. 2494: Mr. CAPUANO.
H.R. 2528: Mr. LONG.
H.R. 2529: Mr. BRADY of Texas.
H.R. 2569: Mr. GIBSON.
H.R. 2678: Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas and Mr. HINOJOSA.
H.R. 2962: Mr. CRENSHAW and Mr. BROUN of Georgia.
H.R. 2969: Mr. LOEBSACK.
H.R. 3042: Ms. CHU and Ms. HAHN.
H.R. 3067: Mr. POSEY, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. AUSTRIA, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mrs. CAPPS, and Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.
H.R. 3086: Mr. CUMMINGS and Mr. MCDERMOTT.
H.R. 3158: Mrs. MILLER of Michigan.
H.R. 3173: Mr. MCDERMOTT.
H.R. 3269: Mr. OLVER, Mr. SCHIFF, and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.
H.R. 3341: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 3352: Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York and Ms. CLARKE of New York.
H.R. 3395: Mr. KELLY and Mr. CLAY.
H.R. 3399: Mr. RANGEL.
H.R. 3423: Ms. BALDWIN.
H.R. 3482: Mr. HINCHEY.
H.R. 3511: Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. FLEMING, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, and Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan.
H.R. 3612: Mr. CALVERT.
H.R. 3668: Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
H.R. 3720: Mr. CULBERSON.
H.R. 3762: Ms. MCCOLLUM.
H.R. 3803: Mr. TURNER of New York.
H.R. 4066: Mr. BURGESS.
H.R. 4091: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.
H.R. 4096: Mr. KING of New York.
H.R. 4134: Mr. RIGELL.
H.R. 4164: Mr. BASS of New Hampshire.
H.R. 4259: Mrs. BACHMANN.

H.R. 4269: Mr. LONG.
H.R. 4282: Mr. NEAL.
H.R. 4323: Mr. CAMPBELL and Mr. PETERS.
H.R. 4336: Mr. DUFFY and Mr. GIBSON.
H.R. 4367: Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. LONG, Ms. MOORE, and Mr. BOREN.
H.R. 4403: Mr. SCHWEIKERT and Mr. CRAWFORD.
H.R. 4405: Mr. MARINO.
H.R. 4406: Mr. PETERS and Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan.
H.R. 4454: Mr. NUNNELEE.
H.R. 4470: Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. MOORE, Mr. NADLER, and Mr. ACKERMAN.
H.R. 5188: Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York and Ms. CHU.
H.R. 5195: Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. DEUTCH, and Mr. BURTON of Indiana.
H.R. 5646: Mr. KELLY.
H.R. 5705: Mr. KIND, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Ms. MOORE.
H.R. 5714: Mr. CAPUANO and Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 5736: Mr. ROHRABACHER.
H.R. 5745: Ms. LEE of California and Mr. CONYERS.
H.R. 5796: Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. NADLER, Mr. YOUNG of Indiana, Mr. TURNER of New York, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois, and Mr. MICHAUD.
H.R. 5823: Mr. SCHIFF.
H.R. 5842: Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. ROSS of Florida, Mr. BENISHEK, Mr. HECK, Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. BERG, Mr. POMPEO, Mrs. ELLMERS, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. GOSAR, and Mr. POSEY.
H.R. 5846: Mr. AKIN, Mr. CONAWAY, and Mr. BROOKS.
H.R. 5848: Mrs. DAVIS of California.
H.R. 5864: Mr. DINGELL.
H.R. 5873: Mr. WALDEN and Mr. GIBBS.
H. Res. 187: Ms. SLAUGHTER and Mr. SABLAN.
H. Res. 397: Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee and Mr. YOUNG of Alaska.
H. Res. 484: Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BACA, Mr. HONDA, Mr. SCHIFF, and Ms. CHU.
H. Res. 490: Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee.
H. Res. 506: Mr. SHERMAN.
H. Res. 616: Mrs. HARTZLER.
H. Res. 618: Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. BROWN of Florida, and Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California.
H. Res. 624: Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas.
H. Res. 646: Mr. KELLY and Mr. PALAZZO.

AMENDMENTS

Under clause 8 or rule XVIII, proposed amendments were submitted as follows:

H.R. 5325

OFFERED BY: MR. BURGESS

AMENDMENT NO. 9: Page 30, line 25, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $100,000,000)''.

Page 56, line 24, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $100,000,000)''.

H.R. 5325

OFFERED BY: MR. BURGESS

AMENDMENT NO. 10: At the end of the bill, before the short title, insert the following new section:

SEC. __. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used—

(1) to implement or enforce section 430.32(x) of title 10, Code of Federal Regulation; or

(2) to implement or enforce the standards established by the tables contained in section 325(i)(1)(B) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(i)(1)(B)) with respect to BPAR incandescent reflector lamps, BR incandescent reflector lamps, and ER incandescent reflector lamps.

H.R. 5325

OFFERED BY: MR. GOHMERT

AMENDMENT NO. 11: At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. ____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Department of Energy for the new construction, purchase, or lease of any facility, land, or space in the District of Columbia except where a contract for the construction, purchase, or lease was entered into before the date of the enactment of this Act.

H.R. 5325

OFFERED BY: MR. TIPTON

AMENDMENT NO. 12: At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. ____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to conduct a survey in which money is included or provided for the benefit of the responder.

H.R. 5325

OFFERED BY: MR. BROUN OF GEORGIA

AMENDMENT NO. 13: Page 20, lines 17 through 23, strike ''*Provided further*'' and all that follows through ''6864(a)):''.

H.R. 5325

OFFERED BY: MR. BROUN OF GEORGIA

AMENDMENT NO. 14: At the end of the bill (before the short title) insert the following:

SEC. ____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Department of Energy Advanced Research Projects Agency—Energy to provide awards to projects with expected Technology Readiness Levels (TRL) of TRL–7, TRL–8, or TRL–9 at the end of the project, as described by the ARPA–E eXCHANGE User Guide (updated March 1, 2012).

H.R. 5325

OFFERED BY: MR. BROUN OF GEORGIA

AMENDMENT NO. 15: At the end of the bill (before the short title) insert the following:

SEC. ____. None of the funds made available under this Act for the Advanced Research Projects Agency—Energy may be used for unallowable expenditures related to advertising, promoting the sale of products or services, and raising capital in contravention of the requirements of sections 31.205–1 and 31.205–27 of title 48 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

H.R. 5325

OFFERED BY: MR. BROUN OF GEORGIA

AMENDMENT NO. 16: At the end of the bill (before the short title) insert the following:

SEC. ____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Department of Energy to subordinate any loan obligation to other financing in violation of section 1702 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16512) or to subordinate any Guaranteed Obligation to any loan or other debt obligations in violation of section 609.10 of title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

H.R. 5325

OFFERED BY: MR. CRAVAACK

AMENDMENT NO. 17: At the end of the bill (before the short title) insert the following:

SEC. ____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Department of Energy to require grant recipients to replace any lighting that does not meet or exceed the energy efficiency standard set forth in section 325 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295).

H.R. 5325

OFFERED BY: MR. HARRIS

AMENDMENT NO. 18: At the end of the bill (before the short title) insert the following:

SEC. ____. None of the funds made available under this Act may be used to fund any portion of the International program activities at the Office of the Department of Energy with the exception of the activities authorized in section 917 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17337).

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE NORTHERN HIGH SCHOOL PATRIOTS

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate an extraordinary team of young women from Maryland's fifth congressional district. The Northern High School Patriots won the 3A Maryland ''state softball finals on May 26, 2012. This is their fifth consecutive softball state championship and ninth softball championship overall. This incredible achievement was made all the more significant given the caliber of their competition.

After an undefeated season, the Patriots emerged victorious over Thomas Stone High School, Chopticon High School, Huntingtown High School, and Reservoir High School to ultimately meet Linganore High School in the state championship game at Robert E. Taylor Stadium at the University of Maryland. The Patriots prevailed, overcoming the Linganore Lancers with a final score of 10–0.

This victory demonstrates that with determination, willpower, and discipline we can work to overcome any obstacle in the path of achieving success. The Northern High School Softball team has gone above and beyond expectations. The Patriots end their 2012 season not only with a state championship, but also a perfect record of 25–0. Additionally, Northern High School has become the first softball program in state history to win five consecutive state titles.

Eighteen student-athletes contributed to this triumphant season, remaining focused and determined to continue the streak of Northern High School softball state championships.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my heartiest congratulations to the members of the championship team—Jessie Clemons, Kierstie Schaefer, Jess Cummings, Sarah Bennett, Sam Gatton, Caroline Clarry, Marleigh Smith, Lindsey Schmeiser, Madison Marinaccio, Baylee Hutchinson, Erin Adams, Julie Keleti, Carleigh Ruleman, Kristina Lozupone, Kailin Case, Allison Garzone, Kayla Grantham, and Sabrina Beil—on their victory. And, I also want to applaud Head Coach Robert Earl Radford and his coaching staff—Devin Hall, Beth Radford, and Qyntia Parks-Lewis—for their dedication and commitment while guiding these talented student-athletes.

Like all Southern Marylanders, I am very proud of these young women and I congratulate all of those involved in bringing home a state title. I ask that my colleagues join me in applauding this great accomplishment.

PRENATAL NONDISCRIMINATION ACT (PRENDA) OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the Prenatal Nondiscrimination Act, PRENDA, of 2012 (H.R. 3541).

Every Member of the House opposes the abhorrent practice of gender selection, including me. In Minnesota, prohibiting sex-selective abortions has passed on a bipartisan basis in the State House of Representatives in 2007 and 2010. Unfortunately, the bill before us is not about protecting girls. It is about politics. H.R. 3541 is an attempt by House Republicans to restrict women's access to legal reproductive health care services by threatening medical professionals with legal action.

Under this bill, health care providers could face civil penalties or even criminal prosecution for failing to report confidential conversations they have with woman about terminating a pregnancy. Ten leading medical associations oppose this bill, arguing that ''H.R. 3541 would require that medical and mental health professionals violate doctor-patient confidentiality and report known or suspected violations.'' Physicians take an oath to be trusted counselors for their patients, not secret informers for the government. Many recite the modem version of the Hippocratic Oath, which states: ''I will respect the privacy of my patients, for their problems are not disclosed to me that the world may know.'' It is wrong for Congress to empower politicians to interfere in the very personal and private relationship between a woman and her health care provider.

Women must have control over their own health care decisions and be able to trust their doctors to provide confidential medical guidance free from ideologically-driven misinformation or government interference. H.R. 3541 threatens these basic principles.

Congress can and should do more to fight gender discrimination and improve the lives of women and girls. I urge my Republican colleagues to join House Democrats in our efforts to increase women's access to affordable, comprehensive health care, achieve pay equity and ensure all girls can obtain a quality education. Bipartisan support for such policies would be the strongest statement about America's commitment to gender equality.

I urge all my colleagues to oppose H.R. 3541.

IN RECOGNITION OF EVAN R. CORNS UPON RECEIVING THE HERMAN ''RUSTY'' SHIPPS LEADERSHIP AWARD

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of Evan R. Corns upon him receiving the Herman ''Rusty'' Shipps leadership award. This prestigious award is named in honor of Rusty Shipps, Class of 1913. The Award, bestowed by the Ohio Wesleyan Alumni Board of Directors, recognizes exemplary leadership, stewardship, dedication, and commitment to the advancement of the university.

Mr. Corns' support of his alma mater is legendary at Ohio Wesleyan University, as is his commitment to private liberal arts education as reflected in his 2010 induction into the Ohio Foundation of Independent Colleges Hall of Excellence.

Throughout a tremendously successful business career, Evan R. Corns has made his mark both at Ohio Wesleyan and around the State of Ohio. An active member of the university's Board of Trustees for more than 20 years and a supporter of many Ohio Wesleyan initiatives, Mr. Corns has never ceased to find new ways to enhance the campus and mission of his beloved school. For example, in an effort to make college available to others he graciously provided financial support for a number of campus scholarship programs, including the Woltemade Center's Corns Business and Entrepreneurial Scholars program, all in an effort to support the students, faculty, and staff at Ohio Wesleyan University. Alumni like Evan R. Corns represent the finest aspects of Ohio Wesleyan University and symbolize the finest traditions of citizenship.

TRIBUTE TO BARBARA HUNDLEY, JACKSON CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Barbara Hundley, who has enhanced life in Jackson, Alabama through her civil service, dedication to her church and talent with gardening, earning her Jackson's Citizen of the Year award.

Mrs. Hundley has served a variety of roles in the Jackson area, working for the city planning commission on projects like a new complex for the Jackson Police Department, remodeling the White Smith Memorial Library, the construction of the Jackson Senior Citizen Center and also a new fire station for the downtown Jackson area.

In addition to this, Mrs. Hundley volunteered at the library, helped bring the Regional Child

Advocacy Center to Grove Hill, prevented voter fraud as a poll worker at Jackson City Hall and was a member of the Jackson Area Chamber of Commerce, helping to revitalize the downtown Jackson Area. Mrs. Hundley also has been a 35-year member and a past president of the Jackson Woman's Club, and taught drug awareness and other classes at Jackson High School.

Even while doing all of the aforementioned activities, Mrs. Hundley has taught Sunday school at the Jackson First United Methodist Church, provided lunch for senior citizens and those with bereaved families, sang in the choir and researched and authored a history of the church.

However, Mrs. Hundley's greatest passion might be gardening, which has developed such a reputation that groups will take tours of the gardens at her home on Golfview Drive. As is her nature, Mrs. Hundley also teaches gardening, landscaping and classes on birds and butterflies for the communities of Jackson, Grove Hill and Monroeville.

On behalf of the people of Alabama, I want to congratulate Barbara Hundley on her recent recognition and thank her for her service and example to her fellow citizens in Jackson and the surrounding communities. We wish her and her family continued success in the years to come.

43 CATHOLIC ORGANIZATIONS FORCED TO SUE TO PROTECT THEIR BASIC RIGHTS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, ". . . I have sworn upon the altar of God eternal hostility against every form of tyranny over the mind of man."

Thomas Jefferson's words reflect the basis for religious liberty in our country.

A freedom which is guaranteed in the first amendment.

The provisions in the first amendment are listed first because they are the most important.

Yet this essential freedom is being trampled on by the administration under the guise of providing essential health care.

The administration has demanded religious groups violate their religious convictions.

Last week the 43rd Catholic organization joined in lawsuits against the administration based on the Government's blatant disregard for religious freedom.

Organizations throughout the country have joined in these suits.

They are:

Archdiocese of Washington, D.C.
Consortium of Catholic Academies
Archbishop Carroll High School
Catholic Charities of D.C.
The Catholic University of America
University of St. Francis, Joliet, IL
Diocese of Joliet, IL
Catholic Charities of Joliet, IL
Diocese of Springfield, IL
Catholic Charities of Springfield, IL
The University of Notre Dame
Diocese of Fort-Wayne-South Bend, IN
Catholic Charities of Fort Wayne-South Bend, IN
St. Anne Home, Indiana
Franciscan Alliance
Our Sunday Visitor
Michigan Catholic Conference
Archdiocese of St. Louis, MO
Catholic Charities of St. Louis, MO
Diocese of Jackson, MS
Catholic Charities of Jackson, MS
Vicksburg Catholic School
St. Joseph's Catholic School
Diocese of Biloxi, MS
De l'Epee Deaf Center, Inc., Biloxi, MS
Catholic Social and Community Services, Inc., Biloxi, MS
Resurrection Catholic School, Pascagoula, MS
St. Dominic Health Services, Jackson, MS
Diocese of Rockville Centre
Catholic Health Services of Long Island
Catholic Charities of Rockville Centre
Archdiocese of New York
ArchCare
Franciscan University of Steubenville, OH
Diocese of Erie, PA
St. Martin Center, Erie, PA
Prince of Peace Center
Diocese of Pittsburgh, PA
Catholic Charities of Pittsburgh, PA
Catholic Cemeteries Association of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, PA
Diocese of Dallas, TX
Diocese of Fort Worth, TX

Religions should not and will not be bullied into violating their beliefs.

A government edict is not a substitute for religious doctrine.

It is a sad day in our country when groups have to sue the Government in order to protect a basic right guaranteed in our Constitution.

And that's just the way it is.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, May 8, 2012, I recorded an erroneous vote on the amendment offered by Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan to H.R. 5326. I intended to vote "no" on rollcall vote No. 215, on agreeing to the Huizenga amendment to H.R. 5326.

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE SMITH LINDSEY, ALABAMA-BORN ACTOR, PHILANTHROPIST

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to—and honor the life of—a great Alabamian and devoted philanthropist. It is with sadness that I acknowledge the loss of George Lindsey, one of the finest actors to call Alabama home, who passed away on May 6, 2012, at the age of 83.

Born in 1928, George Lindsey grew up in Jasper, Alabama, where he attended Walker County High School. It was there that, while also starring on the football field and playing basketball, he discovered his love of acting through school plays. He went on to attend Walker Junior College and then the Kemper Military School in Boonville, Missouri. In 1952, after earning a scholarship for his skills at quarterback, George received his Bachelor of Bioscience from the Florence State Teachers College, which is now the University of North Alabama.

After college, George enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and, while stationed in Puerto Rico, married Joyanne Herbert. Upon his discharge from the Air Force in 1955, he returned to Alabama and began a brief career in education at Hazel Green High School, teaching history and coaching baseball and basketball.

It was in 1956 that George Lindsey's acting career began with his acceptance to the American Wing Theater in New York City. After a stint on Broadway, he portrayed various characters on popular television shows such as The Rifleman, Gunsmoke, The Twilight Zone, and The Alfred Hitchcock Hour. Then, in 1964, George began his career-defining role as the lovable, kind-hearted Goober Pyle on The Andy Griffith Show. This character, known for his "Goober Dance" and Cary Grant impression, followed him through the shows Mayberry R.F.D and Hee Haw as well.

Above all his success on the screen, George was most passionate about giving back to his home state of Alabama. From 1973 to 1988, he raised over $1 million for the Alabama Special Olympics through the George Lindsey Celebrity Golf Weekend, which drew countless actors and athletes to Montgomery every year. He also raised $50,000 for the Alabama Association of Retarded Citizens through his participation with the Minnesota Special Olympics National Competition, and in 1998 he founded the George Lindsey UNA Film Festival at the University of North Alabama, which promotes the talents of local filmmakers.

Aside from providing wholesome laughter for three decades through his career as an actor, it goes without saying that George Lindsey's contributions to the state of Alabama are indeed vast and significant. A recipient of the Governor's Achievement Award and the Minnie Pearl Lifetime Achievement Award, George has left a legacy of passionate generosity that will certainly be missed.

Mr. Speaker, it is on behalf of the people of Alabama that I would like to extend my condolences to the family and many friends of George Lindsey during this time of loss. His sense of humor and passion for his home will never be forgotten.

PRENATAL NONDISCRIMINATION ACT (PRENDA) OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I voted against H.R. 3541, the Prenata Nondiscrimination Act. I am proud that as a body we rejected the measure, and relieved that we exposed the true intent of what would have been a disastrous law. The

title of the measure was a misnomer. The proposed law did not seek to fight sex-based discrimination in our society, but was rather designed to cut down the personal rights of women.

Let me be clear, I am opposed to sex-selection abortion based on gender. However, the legislation voted upon yesterday was overbroad and dangerous. It proposed harsh sentences for doctors and individuals that strive to provide support to a woman as she makes difficult decisions concerning her personal health. It threatened the sanctity of doctor-patient confidentiality, and would have created an environment that allowed hearsay to be used as a weapon to impose Federal regulation on a purely personal matter.

Let's see this bill for what it truly was. It was yet another attempt to undermine a woman's right to choose. It was an insidious attack on personal rights. We have fought hard for our rights as women, and I will never stand by idly as some in Congress try to destroy something women like me hold so dear! If this Congress was serious about taking up issues of discrimination it would have wasted its time on this bill. We should be using our precious time here to discuss is our unequal education system, our disproportionate access to capital, or the lack of basic medical care that 47 million Americans deal with daily. Apparently, some of us believe that discrimination only exists in the womb. This type of hypocrisy and two handed policy-making must stop, and I suggest proponents of the bill examine whether or not the measure goes along with the ideals of limited government that are supposed to drive their agenda.

I am glad that we defeated the Prenatal Nondiscrimination Act, and promise that I will fight to strike down any other measure of the same nature in the future.

MURFREESBORO ISLAMIC CENTER

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today saddened that yet another community in America is attempting to stop construction of an Islamic Center, this time in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

Unlike the controversy that surrounded the construction of the Islamic Center near the World Trade Center Memorial, the opponents here cannot mask their disdain for Muslim Americans by claiming to act on behalf of the families of the victims of 9/11. In fact, the opponents have not even tried, instead letting their prejudice and paranoia dictate their course.

It is ironic that these opponents contend, without any evidence, that Muslim Americans in Murfreesboro want to replace the Constitution, while they hypocritically ignore freedom of worship, a belief so central to our Nation it is enshrined in the 1st Amendment.

What makes America great is our people's unshakeable love of freedom and a monumental history that welcomes every viewpoint, faith, and background. As our Nation grows and its diversity widens, we must not forget the values on which we were founded.

We cannot, in one instance, celebrate freedom of expression, and in the next, silence those with whom our viewpoints differ. We cannot, in one breath, claim that all Americans are free to worship as they see fit, and in the next, oppose an effort to build the house of worship that makes exercising that freedom possible.

Anyone can embrace freedom of expression when their viewpoints go unchallenged. The American way means that those who vehemently disagree are able to speak their views side by side and that differing faiths can be practiced streets apart. We must all ask ourselves—will we abandon our Constitutional principles when they allow others to voice opinions that are contrary to our own or practice a faith different than our own? Or will we stand up for the freedom of all Americans to practice their own beliefs? That is the true test of what it means to be American.

The Murfreesboro Islamic Center has been facing down protests since 2010 and is once again making headlines after a judge ruled that the local officials did not provide sufficient public notice under local law before approving the project. I know that the Muslim American community would want this project completed in accordance with local ordinances, so I fully expect they will work with officials to ensure the appropriate process is followed.

Once these processes are completed, I hope that opponents will recognize that construction is protected by our Constitution. Additional vandalism and intimidation is counter to everything we stand for as Americans and everything that makes our country great.

We are better than this as a Nation. Our proud history and hard-fought principles demand more.

CONGRATULATING BETTY ESNAULT AS THE 2012 COMMUNITY SERVICE HONOREE FOR THE LAMBDA RHO ZETA CHAPTER OF ZETA PHI BETA SORORITY

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Betty Esnault of the Lambda Rho Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. as she is recognized by the chapter as the 2012 Community Service Honoree.

Whether in a professional setting or during her countless hours of community service, Mrs. Esnault has dedicated herself to the improvement of others' lives. Her commitment to the health and safety of her co-workers was evident from the beginning of her career at General Motors, where she worked to improve the conditions of the assembly processes through the introduction of ergonomics. Using her knowledge of ergonomics from her studies at the former General Motors Institute and the University of Michigan, Mrs. Esnault worked with industry designers to implement ergonomically-sound policies. Through Mrs. Esnault's efforts to acquire ergonomically designed tools and safer production practices, innovative assembly processes were developed to both improve working conditions and eliminate employees' risk of injury. Mrs. Esnault retired from General Motors after a successful 32 year career as a Technical Integration Engineer.

After retiring from GM, Mrs. Esnault shifted her focus to helping her neighbors and fellow Southeast Michigan residents. As a member of the St. Damien Catholic Parish and a graduate of the Sacred Heart Major Seminary with a diploma in Pastoral Ministry, Mrs. Esnault is active in planning worship services, serving as a substitute teacher for religious education, and singing in the choir. Mrs. Esnault also spends her time volunteering with various organizations, reaching out to help her community in a variety of ways. Mrs. Esnault volunteers at American House in Pontiac where she leads Communion services. She is also on the Board of Directors and volunteers at the Matchan Nutrition Center, an organization that serves nutritious lunches to residents of Oakland County in need. She also serves on the Board of Directors and volunteers at Fr. Pops' Clinic, a free clinic with volunteer doctors who provide health care services to those without insurance.

In addition to her service in the community, Mrs. Esnault is a loving wife and mother. She has also been recognized as a Life Member of the NAACP and a Gold Life Member of the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Betty Esnault has made it her mission to improve the lives of others. She has dedicated countless hours to this pursuit both professionally and philanthropically over many decades. Her zeal to serve others is both inspiring and moving, as there is no doubt that her work has been felt by so many across Southeast Michigan. I am pleased to honor Mrs. Esnault as she receives her award from Lambda Rho Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.

HONORING ROBIN GREGORIUS, ALABAMA SMALL BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Ms. Robin Gregorius, who was recently selected the 2012 Alabama Small Business Person of Year by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Ms. Gregorius' personal story is a testament to her determination to realize her dream of establishing an assisted living center that addresses the needs of her patients for the comforts and of home rather than a care facility.

The daughter of immigrant parents from the former nation of Czechoslovakia, Ms. Gregorius grew up on a farm in Robertsdale in Baldwin County, Alabama.

Her career as a registered nurse took her across the country, both near and far, including the cities of New Orleans and Los Angeles. Yet, she returned to the Mobile area to put her knowledge to work for local patients who would benefit from her new approach to assisted living care.

In a recent interview with the Mobile Press-Register, Ms. Gregorius noted that over her career she had observed that her older patients longed for ''homey'' surroundings in their care facilities with home cooking—important touches that were often lacking in assisting living quarters. And equally important, the staff in many care facilities seldom offered the

"family touch" that many older patients sought.

Ms. Gregorius knew there was a better way and she sought to implement a new approach of "assisted living with a heartbeat." While the journey to fulfilling her dream was a long one, involving two decades of saving money—often working double shifts to earn for a down payment—she eventually secured a $1 million bank loan. The results have been rewarding.

Today, she owns and operates the Country Gables Assisted Living Home in Grand Bay where she and her staff of 14 care for patients in a novel way. As she put it, her care facility "is pretty much run like a big bed-and-breakfast hotel, except it's breakfast, lunch and dinner with a 24-hour continuum of care."

Ms. Gregorius is joined by her mother, Lahoma, and her sister, Ramona, in running their small assisted living facility like a large family home. Their hard work has been rewarded with the satisfaction of their patients and the knowledge that County Gables is a special place.

Fittingly, in March, Robin Gregorius was named as Alabama's Small Business Person of the Year. On May 20, 2012, she officially received her award at a Small Business Administration conference honoring the nation's other Small Business awardees here in Washington, DC.

On behalf of the people of Alabama and my colleagues in the Alabama Delegation, I wish to extend personal congratulations to Ms. Gregorius and her family for not only receiving this wonderful honor, but also for their substantial contributions to the lives of many local seniors.

REPRESENTATIVE KIND FLOOR AMENDMENT 67 (RULES AMENDMENT 143) TO THE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT (H.R. 4310)

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the amendment to permit the National Guard and Federal agencies performing homeland defense activities to enter into a military cooperative agreement with facilities capable of providing emergency response training.

Providing our National Guard units and public service employees with increased opportunities to train at the state of the art homeland defense training facilities is just plain commonsense. It's a win for the military and service personnel who will be better prepared to safely work in the field and a win for the local communities, who will see local job creation.

My amendment does not call for any increase in funding. It is simply a legislative fix to allow the training facilities to competitively bid for training contracts with the National Guard and Federal agencies. This will allow for additional, comprehensive training for those who are on the front lines during a domestic emergency.

I encourage my colleagues to support this amendment to ensure that our National Guard and homeland disaster first responders have all of the training and tools necessary to carry out their mission.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 302 I was inadvertently recorded as voting "aye."

I oppose the Grimm amendment and my vote should be recorded as "nay."

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION REFORM ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of H.R. 5651, the Food and Drug Administration Reform Act of 2012, to reauthorize the Prescription Drug User Fee Act and the Medical Device User Fee Act. These critically important laws have improved patient access to important therapies and expedited the FDA's approval times while upholding the most rigorous standards for patient safety.

The Prescription Drug User Fee Act, PDUFA, was enacted in 1992 when drug review times were lagging and FDA simply couldn't keep up with the flood of new drug applications. Through user fees paid by applicants, PDUFA gave FDA the resources it needed to hire and support more staff. The program has been successful at reducing review-time backlogs and expediting safe and effective therapies to patients.

Along with faster drug approvals, Congress also recognized the need to study drugs in children. As the original author of the Best Pharmaceuticals for Children Act, BPCA, and the Pediatric Research Equity Act, PREA, I'm proud of how successful these programs have been in treating children, resulting in new dosing information, new indications of use, new safety information, and new data on effectiveness. Before BPCA and PREA, the vast majority of drugs (more than 80 percent) used in children were used off-label, without data for their safety and efficacy. Today, that number has been reduced to 50 percent.

We know that children are not just small adults—they have unique medical needs and drugs react differently in their bodies. That's why in this year's reauthorization, it was important for us to look at areas in need of improvement. The bipartisan legislation gives FDA the tools it needs to ensure companies are thinking about pediatric populations as early as possible in the drug development process, and that they're able to enforce timelines that are routinely missed. The language encourages further study into untested age groups, like neonates, and clarifies any confusion over what some see as "loopholes" to allow companies to access the market exclusivity incentive without completing additional studies.

The legislation ensures that companies routinely submit their pediatric plans earlier in the process by establishing a clear timeline and expectations. I will be closely monitoring the regulation that will implement the pediatric plan content, as it was my intention that the regulation closely mirror the 1998 Pediatric Rule.

I thank my colleagues, Rep. MIKE ROGERS and Rep. EDWARD MARKEY who worked tirelessly with me to improve these programs, and the American Academy of Pediatrics, along with 20 other pediatric advocacy groups who provided expert guidance and recommendations throughout the process. Together we've improved BPCA and PREA to benefit medical care for children for generations to come.

HONORING UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA GYMNASTICS COACH SARAH PATTERSON

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor University of Alabama gymnastics coach Sarah Patterson who led the Crimson Tide to its sixth national championship this spring. In addition to racking up an impressive record of victories over her 34 seasons in Tuscaloosa, Coach Patterson has helped establish Alabama as a dominate force in college gymnastics.

It is fitting that Coach Patterson was hired by then-Athletic Director Paul "Bear" Bryant, himself no stranger to bringing home national titles to Alabama. Since arriving in Tuscaloosa after graduating from Slippery Rock State College in Pennsylvania, Coach Patterson has proven time and again her ability to lead the Crimson Tide's gymnastics team and maintain its dominance in the college sport.

Coach Patterson vaulted the University to prominence as one of only four teams to capture the NCAA Women's Gymnastics championship since Women's Gymnastics was declared a championship sport in 1982. Her excellence in coaching also helped to earn the Crimson Tide gymnastics team spots in 29 consecutive NCAA championship competitions. Coach Patterson has also led the Tide to 27 years of a top six finish and 20 top three finishes.

Fittingly, Coach Patterson was named NCAA Women's Gymnastics Coach of the Year in 1986, 1988, 1991, and 2002; and Southeastern Conference Women's Gymnastics Coach of the Year in 1985, 1995, 2000 and 2010.

Coach Patterson's distinguished record includes: Six NCAA Women's Gymnastics championships—1988, 1991, 1996, 2002, 2011, and 2012; Seven Southeastern Conference Championships—1988, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2003, 2009, and 2011; 27 NCAA Regional Titles—1983, 1984, 1985, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012.

Coach Patterson is assisted by her husband, David, who helps with coaching the athletes. Their hard work, along with other volunteer coaches and assistant coaches, have led the Alabama gymnastics team to six national championships and the enviable position of being one of the best in the nation, year in and year out, as well as the many well-rounded athletes who have graduated to go on to great success in many fields.

Inducted in the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame in 2003, Coach Patterson has brought the gymnastics team to the forefront of intercollegiate athletics and she has kept them in the forefront. In a recent interview with The Huntsville Times, Coach Patterson noted that she felt ''fortunate'' to be a component of the ''history and tradition'' at the University of Alabama.

It's safe to say that Coach Patterson has certainly earned her position as a part of the University's proud athletic history.

On behalf of the people of Alabama and my colleagues in the Alabama Delegation, I wish to extend personal congratulations to Coach Sarah Patterson for her remarkable record of achievement at the University of Alabama and for her many contributions to the lives of all who have called her coach.

ART DIRECTORS GUILD 75TH BIRTHDAY

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor the Art Directors Guild, IATSE, Local 800, on the occasion of its 75th birthday on June 2nd of this year. Many of the movies and television shows we all enjoy would not exist without the hard work of the ADG and its members.

The Art Directors Guild is a trade union comprised of production designers, art directors, illustrators, storyboard artists, scenic, title and graphic artists, and set designers. Its members represent 2,000 creative crafts people who design motion pictures, television shows and commercials. These dedicated artists bring pleasure to millions across the globe.

In 1924, pioneers of art direction founded a fraternal order called the Cinemagundi Club, which, in 1937, became the Society of Motion Picture Art Directors. That assembly has become the Art Directors Guild we know today, a group that has served the industry proudly for 75 years. We are celebrating the Guild's journey this year, honoring their past and supporting and encouraging the many contributions they will make to the industry in the future.

The ADG also provides many cultural opportunities for members of the community to enjoy. The Guild runs an art gallery in North Hollywood that is open to the public. It provides panels, workshops and training for members as well as others interested in the field to foster a spirit of innovation in the entertainment industry. It also publishes ''Perspective,'' a monthly magazine that covers topics of importance to entertainment industry professionals.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, I ask you to join me in recognizing the Art Directors Guild and its members for their years of hard work and dedication to the entertainment industry.

IN MEMORY OF TOM GLANCY

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in memory of Tom Glancy, who passed away earlier this month after more than 12 years of exceptional service to the citizens as an appointed and elected official for the City of Thousand Oaks, California.

After serving 6 years on the city's Planning Commission, Tom was appointed to the Thousand Oaks City Council in 2005. He was elected to a full term in 2008 and served as mayor in 2009. He resigned on May 11 due to declining health.

A dentist who specialized in implants and reconstructive dentistry, Tom treated his time in public office as a second full-time job. He was known to bring Planning Commission and later City Council binders with him on vacations or weekend getaways so he could be prepared when sitting on the dais. He served on 23 separate committees and boards during his time on the council.

Those included turns as vice president, president, and immediate past president of the Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County; chair of the League of California Cities Community Services Policy Committee; and vice-chair and chair of the League of California Cities Transportation, Communication & Public Works Committee.

Tom's service was not limited to appointed and elected office however. After 30 years of active and reserve duty, Tom retired from the U.S. Navy as a captain. He was also an active Rotarian for 25 years and served as president of the Rotary Club of Thousand Oaks from 1992–1993. He served on the board of the Southeast Ventura County YMCA, was general chairman and executive chairman of the Conejo Valley Days Committee, and served as Conejo Valley Days Grand Marshal in 2011.

When not serving his community, Tom and his wife, Karen—who is an artist and served as his dental assistant—enjoyed local and international travel, hiking, fishing, sailing, and spending time with their four children and four grandchildren. Tom was also an accomplished cook and pilot.

His was a life well-lived.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in celebrating the life of Tom Glancy, in remembering his many accomplishments, in thanking him for his many years of service to his country and community, and in offering our condolences to Karen, their children and grandchildren, and all who were touched by Tom's friendship and dedication.

Godspeed, Tom.

CHIU MOON CHAN

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chiu Moon Chan, a fellow Texan. From a humble beginning, Mr. Chan founded Dynacq International, Inc., providing jobs and quality healthcare for thousands of people. Mr. Chan passed away on May 17th and the Houston Chronicle printed his obituary. In honor of Mr. Chan, I would like to submit the text into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Chiu Moon Chan, died on Thursday, the 17th of May 2012, in Houston, at the age of 59. His life made a lasting impact on his family, on the business community, and on the people who knew him. Mr. Chan will be remembered as extremely intelligent, highly energetic, and totally devoted to his family and to the company which he founded and presided over for two decades. He was a person who visualized and actualized the American dream.

Born in Hong Kong on the 30th of September 1952, Mr. Chan graduated from Wah Yan College in Hong Kong before moving to the United States in 1970 to attend college at the University of Houston. He worked through college, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Pharmacy, and became a registered pharmacist in 1978.

Mr. Chan was widely known as an entrepreneur and innovator in the healthcare field. He had been involved in that industry since 1971. During the period from May 1978 to July 1988 he was employed by various healthcare service organizations in Houston, Texas including Lifemark Corporation and M.D. Anderson Cancer Center.

He started his own home infusion therapy business in 1988. From this humble beginning, he went on in 1992 to found Dynacq International, Inc., now known as Dynacq Healthcare, Inc. Dynacq became a publicly traded company, and achieved national recognition as one of the 200 fastest growing small businesses in the United States from magazines such as Forbes and FSB. Mr. Chan served as President, CEO, and Chairman of the Board of Dynacq for 20 years. During those two decades, his efforts resulted in gainful employment for hundreds of families and quality healthcare for thousands of patients in Houston, Pasadena, and Dallas, Texas, and in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Dynacq's hospital facilities in Houston and Dallas were nationally recognized as centers of healthcare excellence.

Mr. Chan was a member of the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce, a supporter of the Rotary Club and the Neighborhood Centers, and an active member of the Wah Yan Alumni Chapter in Houston. He was an avid golfer and a member of Redstone Country Club and Bay Oaks Country Club. He truly enjoyed life and loved to travel, having traveled with his beloved wife to many places around the world. Mr. Chiu Moon Chan is survived by his wife Ella; sons, Dr. Eric K. Chan, and wife Michelle, and Bert K. Chan; three grandchildren; Kailee, Connor, and Emmy; brothers, sisters, and numerous nieces and nephews.

It is with great respect, I honor Chiu Moon Chan for lasting impact he had on his family and community, and his many wonderful accomplishments upon his death.

TRIBUTE TO BOB HOWELL, LONG-TIME WSFA TV NEWS ANCHOR

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the outstanding contributions of one of South Alabama's most distinguished and trusted broadcast journalists, Mr. Bob Howell.

As of today, June 1, 2012, Bob Howell officially retires from WSFA TV 12 in Montgomery where he anchored the evening news for more than three decades.

A native of Geneva, Alabama, Bob Howell first set foot on his lifelong career path in broadcasting while still a high school student. After taking the mic at WGEA radio in his hometown, he traveled east to Dothan, Alabama to deliver the news at WTVY TV 4 for five years. In 1976, Bob moved to Alabama's capital city to take the helm of the region's largest television news operation, WSFA TV, where he anchored the weekday 6 and 10 p.m. newscasts.

As WSFA's press release announcing Bob's retirement aptly observed, ''He has had the job of delivering the day's news to thousands of viewers with a calm, trusted, steady and caring approach through difficult, challenging and happy times.''

Over the years, he has anchored more than 10,000 live newscasts in addition to serving as the Managing Editor of WSFA's news department. His three decade career at WSFA witnessed his live reporting of gubernatorial inaugurations, most of the State's historic events of the last thirty years, as well as foreign assignments covering stories in Britain, France, Germany, and Kuwait.

In addition to his anchoring role, Bob also produced award-winning documentaries, hosted WSFA's ''Newsmakers'' program, ''Alabama Illustrated,'' ''Inside Alabama's Legislature,'' and co-hosted the Jerry Lewis MDA Telethon and the Children's Miracle Network fundraisers. He also hosted the regular news feature, ''Exploring Alabama with Bob Howell.''

Despite his busy schedule covering and delivering breaking news to thousands of South Alabama residents, including Clarke, Monroe and Escambia counties in my congressional district, Bob also returned his knowledge and expertise to college journalism students as an instructor at Troy University's Hall School of Journalism for more than 20 years.

As Bob officially begins his retirement from WSFA and broadcasting, he has made it clear that he will not be giving up work. He is already busy making plans for his next career for which he promises he still has a lot to offer.

On behalf of the people of South Alabama, and as someone who grew up watching Bob deliver the evening news, I thank Bob for his dedication and professionalism and wish him and his wife and family all the best in their future endeavors.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN BILL WAMPLER

HON. ROBERT HURT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. HURT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay respects to Congressman Bill Wampler, former representative of Virginia's ''Fighting 9th District,'' who will truly be missed.

Congressman Wampler served the people of Southwest Virginia for nearly two decades, and with his passing, the Commonwealth has lost a great leader and a great man.

Congressman Wampler took pride in working in his family's business in Bristol, he served our country with honor during World War II, and he worked tirelessly for the people of Southwest Virginia for nearly 20 years in the United States House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, though Congressman Wampler is in a better place now, he will surely be missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Wampler family and I know that my colleagues join me today as we remember our friend and honor his legacy to the Commonwealth of Virginia and to our nation.

CONGRESSIONAL PORTUGUESE CAUCUS MEMORIAL DAY STATEMENT

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, with respect and admiration I, along with my colleagues Mr. COSTA, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. KEATING, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. HONDA, and Mr. CICILLINE, gather today to both celebrate the freedoms we enjoy as Americans, and to honor all the brave service men and women who have fallen defending those freedoms.

To all the mothers, fathers, wives, husbands, and extended family members of those who have served, we offer our deepest gratitude. The sacrifice of your loved ones is a debt that can never be repaid.

As members and friends of the Congressional Portuguese American Caucus, we would also like to pay special tribute to our soldiers of Portuguese descent who have made the ultimate sacrifice to protect our country. Portuguese Americans have served with distinction in our military forces from the revolutionary war to current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, and I have no doubt they will continue to answer America's call into our future.

On this Memorial Day, Americans everywhere join in honoring those we have lost. It is a time to recognize the sacrifices made to defend our country, and remember the freedoms and liberties for which our service members fought for.

We honor you and all soldiers who have answered the call of duty and we send our profound appreciation to the families of our fallen heroes. As we reflect on the tragedy of those we have lost, we should realize our great fortune to live in a free country, and recognize the sacrifices required to defend it.

RECOGNIZING THE BEACON FOR ADULT LITERACY PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the BEACON for Adult Literacy Program Volunteers.

BEACON for Adult Literacy is an award-winning non-profit proudly serving the adult literacy needs of the Northern Virginia community for 20 years. In its first year BEACON served 30 learners; today BEACON serves over 400 adults a year. Over 3,500 low-income non-native Americans have gained English-language literacy skills over the past two decades.

It is my honor to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of volunteers for BEACON for Adult Literacy Program:

Brendan Baldwin, Sally Harrison, Richard Corbett, Carole O' Sullivan, Martisa Brown, Corinne DeGrazia, Sasha Haleblian, Donna McNeally, David Covin, Robert Lynch, Ed Walsh, Brian Bell, Erika Arellano, Gene Strausbaugh, Alex Kersis, Ruth Porter, Henry Hastings, James McPheeters, Star Muir, Ilana Naylor, Erica Seymour, James Gillespie, Skip Brown, James Porter, David House, Joyce Rozier, James Sowers, Suzanne Morgan, Tina Cox, Jane Arseneault, Satya Khadka, James Drummond Jr., Janet Radzimski, Jessica Higham, Jean Gentry, Pat Hodgdon, Jeanne Endrikat, Richard Flaherty, Anne Walsh, Jim Zech, Carmalla Coley, Yolanda Daniels, Joan Appleton Costanza, Venkat Viswanathan, Kelley Studholme, Armena Springs, Nancy Schalk, Lianetta Ruettgers, William McGuire, Liz Alcauska, David McDermott, Bob Schlipp, LTC Peter Stenner, Sue Kang, Vivek Koppikar, Martha Walsh, Jayne Hazen, Melissa MacIntyre, Nancy Nelson, Katherine DeSilva, Patrick McNeally, Caroline Zong, Jeanne Lynch, Rhonda Vanover, Clara Hipp, Robert Brown, Karen Shankles, John Manning, Robert Mechler, Ruth Passarge, Joyce Andrew, Robert Stinson, Jim Hipp, Roberta Knussmann, Justin Terry, Rosanne Schubring, Fabiana Parker, Rosie Jones, Aaron Burdick, Bob Sowers, Ruth Thomas, Doris Thomas, Sheri McGlothlin, Lyn Hildebrandt, Leslie Stagg, Sonya Jacob, Martha Muirhead, Tiffany Laseter, Walter Godlewski, William Cratty, and Sister Theresa Anderson.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the volunteers of the BEACON for Adult Literacy Program and in thanking them for their dedication to our community.

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION REFORM ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5651, The Bipartisan Food and Drug Administration Act of 2012, which modifies the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) policies and procedures to enhance Americans' access to effective healthcare. This bill improves the safety, development, and distribution of medications and medical devices to patients and medical providers.

This bill reauthorizes the FDA's user fee program for prescription drugs and medical devices through fiscal year 2017. Further, it introduces a new user fee program for generic medications. These fees, collected from drug and medical device companies, will give the FDA the funding it requires to grant patients rapid access to the treatments they need. This will improve the accessibility of vital medicines to patients throughout the U.S.

Mr. Speaker, this bill permanently reauthorizes two beneficial pediatric drug programs. The first, the Best Pharmaceuticals for Children Act, enhances the safety and availability

of prescription drugs for children. It does this by providing mechanisms through which drug companies can test their products for use in pediatrics, and offering a six month patent extension as an incentive to companies who do so.

The second pediatric drug program that is permanently reauthorized is the Pediatric Research Equity Act. This act increases the safety of prescription drugs for children by requiring pediatric testing of certain medications intended for adults in order to fully understand their effects. This will ensure that physicians have a clearer grasp of the effects these medications have before prescribing small dosages to children.

This bill also provides for a vital update of the FDA's global drug supply chain authority, requiring drug importers to register with the FDA, and disallowing the import of medicines from organizations that have limited or denied inspections.

Most importantly, the bill expands the jurisdiction of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. This allows for the FDA to prosecute foreign violators of the act, and thus discourages such violations in the future. These updates will improve the safety of the prescription drugs that are provided to American patients.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, this bill will implement new FDA requirements that will help to prevent drug shortages. The bill does this by updating the FDA's reporting policies for manufacturers, and ensuring that the agency maintains a drug shortage list that is made available to healthcare providers. Additionally, should a shortage still occur, this bill outlines steps to be taken to mitigate the problem. If enacted, these new policies will help protect the country's prescription drug supply, ensuring that Americans always have access to the medication they need.

Mr. Speaker, it is for these reasons that I support H.R. 5651.

CONGRATULATING FLINT'S CLARESSA SHIELDS AS SHE PREPARES FOR THE 2012 OLYMPIC GAMES AND THE FIRST WOMEN'S BOXING COMPETITION IN OLYMPIC HISTORY

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, on Jury 28 a skilled, savvy and courageous high school student from Flint, Michigan will make history as one of only 36 women in the world competing in the inaugural women's Olympic boxing competition in London, England. At the age of 17, this Northwestern High School junior's drive and determination has already earned her recognition as the world's top ranked women's fighter. At the Summer Olympics, Claressa will be punching her way toward the gold.

It was 19 years ago that another teenage girl named Dallas Malloy went to federal court and won the right for women to participate in amateur boxing. Years later, a father in Flint, hoping to set his daughter on a positive course, encouraged his 12-year-old to consider boxing, his own sport. Claressa, wanting to bond with her father and attracted to the idea of competing outside of team sports, was introduced to trainer Jason Crutchfield. Once Mr. Crutchfield overcame his disbelief that a girl was truly serious about taking up boxing, he provided the path for Claressa Shields' historic journey. Just a few days ago, Claressa learned she had earned her Olympic spot after competing in the AIBA women's world championships in Qinhuangdao, China.

Her success has ignited Flint and her extraordinary accomplishments at a young age in an incredibly demanding sport have made her a national star. Claressa's dedicated and talented trainer describes her as the complete fighter, equally talented on defense and offense. Her high school principal, Cheryl Adkins, praises her student's academic focus, positive image and dedication to her goals. Claressa has been featured in Time magazine and is fielding media interviews, all the while maintaining her academic focus and training daily for the Olympics. She advises others not to rush headlong toward success but to take everything in stride. Her life goals include winning 10 to 15 professional boxing titles in multiple weight classes.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Claressa Shields on her historic achievement representing the United States and Flint, Michigan in the first women's boxing competition at the Summer Olympics. She is an outstanding individual who is truly a world-class example for us all.

RECOGNIZING THE PRINCE WILLIAM DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS VOLUNTEERS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Prince William County Department of Public Works Volunteers.

Public Works staff works to ensure that effective, practical, and safe techniques are used in all employment operations. They provide much needed training and support for employees and hold all practices accountable. The staff offers guidance and understanding of how tasks are accomplished, helping employees provide services that are needed in the community.

It is my honor to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of volunteers for Prince William County Department of Public Works:

Stonewall Jackson HS Ecology Club, Jessica Hruska, Rich Smith, Prince William Trails and Streams Coalition, Friends of the Occoquan, Vulcan Materials—Manassas Quarry, Windy Knoll Farm, Eric VanNortwick, Ed Dandar, Adams Family, Aleman Family, Anwar Family, Babar Family, Bassett Family, Broadhurst-Bibbee Family, Butkus Family, Chiodo Family, Couture-Morales Family, Crespo-Galliver Family, Cronin Family, Darcy Family, Dinga Family, Donovan Family, Ehtasham Family, Glass Family, Goodwine Family, Gough Family, Gross Family, Hopkins Family, Huang Family, Hunter Family, Hylton Family, James Family, Jampole Family, Kaps Family, Kay Family, Kristy Family, Kromer Family, Kronthal Family, Kulakowski Family, Makoge Family, McGeehan Family, McKinnon Family, McPike Family, Melusen Family, Menon Family, Mockenhaupt Family, Morris Family, Mory Family, Moser Family, Nielsen Family, Nieves Family, Norman Family, Ogawa Family, Phillippi Family, Protacio Family, Reedy Family, Rodriguez Family, Rosario Family, Saul Family, Seagle Family, Simmons Family, Simons Family, Thompson Family, Thompson Family, Thompson Family, Tilden Family, Verosko Family, Walker Family, Yoon Family.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the Prince William County Department of Public Works Volunteers for their service and in thanking them for their dedication to our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF MR. AND MRS. JAMES H. BREWSTER

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize the 50th wedding anniversary of James and Mary Brewster.

James Harvey Brewster was born on January 6, 1939, in Ohatchee, Alabama. Mary Emma Smith was born on March 17, 1943 in Ohatchee, Alabama. On June 2nd in 1960, James and Mary were united in marriage in Calhoun County.

James worked for 21 years before retiring with Alagasco Gas Company in Anniston and Mary stayed at home raising their family. They had six children, three boys and three girls: Gregory Lynn Brewster, Paul Harvey Brewster, the late James Rossie, Janice Denise Tillman, Connie McKinzie Redwine and Sharron Redwine.

They are also blessed with 11 grandchildren and 16 great grand-children. James is an Auburn Tigers fan while Mary cheers for the Alabama Crimson Tide.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Brewster on this milestone and wish them many more happy years together.

RECOGNIZING THE CHOPTICON HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Chopticon High School Marching Band on earning the title of United States Scholastic Band Association Group IIIA Maryland State Champions. "The Showband of Southern Maryland" from Morganza, Maryland, has earned this title for the past three consecutive years.

This momentous victory was made all the more significant given the caliber of their competition. After competing previously at three regional competitions, the band took first place at the State Championship, hosted by Towson University on October 15, 2011 with their performance titled "The Heart of Madness." The

band went on to compete and place fourth at the National Championship in Allentown, Pennsylvania.

This victory demonstrates that with hard work, determination, and discipline, we can reach our goals. The band also received awards for best music, effect, visual, performance, and guard. Fifty-three musicians qualified for the performance, and they remained focused and determined to achieve their dream of victory at the statewide competition.

I want to applaud the band's staff—Todd Burroughs, Christina Burroughs, Bobby Jones, Mark Lortz, Megan Howell, Briscoe Thompson, and Kevin Burroughs for their dedication and commitment to training these superb musicians. I also send my hardiest congratulations to the members of the marching band on their victory—Carrie Barrett, Alexis Badovski, Samantha Lockard, Breanna Thorne, Brendan Utt, Bailie Anthony, Elizabeth Barnes, William Husk, Kacey Roberts, Jennifer Russnogle, Paula Wills, Robert Konen, Chris Mitchell, Marlena Krauth, Jennifer Thalman, Sam Prettyman, Dakota Sparks, Josh Wetherald, Geoffrey Westbrook, Joey Coleman, Kelsie Gill, Philip Hayden, Garret Ordille, Matt Ordille, Megan Mosier, Nick Nelson, Ryan Nelson, Kelly Purdy, Jacob Thorne, Kayla Bean, Kolleen Dare, Jake Flowers, Jennafer Harris, Rachel Kaper, Kayla Morris, Taylor McQueeney, Nicole Sadecki, Hunter Sparks, Madison Bateman, Rachel Escolopio, Amber Griffith, Sabrina Hill, Danielle Hilton, Carly Keating, Hannah Kozlowski, Emily McKoy, Rachel Nussberger, Darby Powell, Layne Thompson, Melanie Thompson, Kristen Wetzel, Mackenize Wood, Meredith Wood, and Gina Zanelotti.

I'm very proud of these young men and women, and I congratulate all those involved in bringing home the championship title. I ask that my colleagues join me in applauding this significant accomplishment.

RECOGNIZING THE GREATER PRINCE WILLIAM MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS VOLUNTEERS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the volunteers of The Greater Prince William Medical Reserve Corps.

The Greater Prince William Medical Reserve Corps (GPWMRC) is a cadre of volunteer health care professionals and community members trained to respond to emergencies and assist with public health events in Prince William County and the cities of Manassas and Manassas Park. This unit is one of approximately 800 units that are part of the national Medical Reserve Corps program under the direction of the Office of the U.S. Surgeon General and 1 of 31 in the Commonwealth of Virginia. GPWMRC volunteers frequently provide important services at events such as health fairs, vaccination clinics and large public gatherings. Volunteers also spend a lot of their time attending trainings and exercises so that they are prepared to help the community during an emergency.

It is my honor to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of volunteers for The Greater Prince William Medical Reserve Corps:

Vickie Andrews, Evelyn Ansah-Agyei, Heather Baldwin, Valerie Bampoe, Hassan Bangura, Harry Beaver, Charlotte Bediako, Diondra Blyden, Sarah Boughman, Susan Brewer, Josh Brown, Eileen Brown, Pamela Brown, David Bruce, Alisa Bruce, Kathryn Cantoni, Janice Chambers, Gabriella Chimenz, Kathy Cobb, Nancy Collins, Debbie Constable, Judy Corcoran, Sonia Coughlin, Marguerite Crozier, Lisa Cullom, Valerie Cyrus, Theresa Dailey, Estelle Daniels, Tele Dasilveira, Brian Davis, Annette Davis, Molly Davis, Monique Davis, Faduma Deghill, Patricia Demain, Mary Dessimoz, Joseph Dibisceglie, Kalima Drga Abreu, Douglas Dulaney, Blossom Ellicott, Gloria Ephraim, Bernadette Espy, Adrienne Foose, Sandra Francis, Victoria Gammon, Bianca Garcia, Fil Beth Gatmaitan, Miguel Granillo, Masako Griffith, Brenda Grimes, Margaret Hayes, Shenna Hess, Jenny Ho, Joan Howard, Miwa Hwang, Annie Johnson, Kimberly Johnson, Lucinda Jones, Jennifer Jones, Fatmata Kamara, Jane Keady, Katherine Ketchum, Stephanie Keyes, Elizabeth Koren, Hawa Kun, Cecilia Kusi, Janiece Lacy, Grace Langebeck, Blake Leggett, Brunette Lewis, Joyce Lund, Nghi Lu-Tran, Linda Manley, Iris Matos, Jessica Maybar, Kamil McClain, Pamela McGrath, Megan McHugh, Cary McMahon, John Meehan, Judy Merring, Ryan Metz, Heather Miranda, Emerita Mogrovejo, Esther Moniba, Monica Moore, Virginia Morales, Troy Morton, Chrystal Morton, Margaret Nee, Ralph Neeper, Nancy Neeper, Rachel Nissley, Lawrence Ofosuhene, Juanita Oliver, Jose Quinones, Renee Ray, Teresa Rice, Mark Rivera, Melissa Rivera, Donna Robinson, Julie Russell, JoAnn Saenz, Mary Simon, Shekhar Sharma, Anne Shaw, Carrie Slavens, Zondra Smith, Kathleen Smith Peters, Jane Stottlemyer, Kamar Sumrall, Raquel Upshur, Susana Vega, Karen Villar, Valecia Washington, Margaret Watkins, Shalanda Weems, Gail West, Mary Weybright, Collis Williams, Siewadaye Williams, Rhondra Willis, Kathryn Willis, Gladys Wise, Reeza Woode.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the volunteers of The Greater Prince William Medical Reserve Corps for their service and in thanking them for their dedication to our community.

SGT. WADE DANIEL WILSON, TEXAS WARRIOR

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of Texas' native sons who served his country honorably in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. I was deeply saddened to learn that Sergeant Wade Daniel Wilson of Leona, Texas was killed by enemy action in the Helmand Province of Afghanistan on May 11, 2012.

Wade Wilson was one man whose life made a difference at a very young age. He personified the core values of the United States Marine Corps: honor, courage, and commitment.

Wade grew up in Leona, a small city near Centerville, Texas. He was a graduate of Centerville High School, and he was known to have a heart of a champion; whether on the football field or in the classroom.

With his faith in God and country, at age 17, Wade enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. He served in the 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, California. On his second tour of duty, Wade understood that the nation was at war, yet he chose to charge headlong into battle for a second time. There are not many of us who would be willing to volunteer to leap into the lion's den of Afghanistan where the cowardly enemy hides in caves. It says something special about the quality of this American fighting man that he would boldly face those who kill in the name of religion.

On Friday, May 11, 2012, Sergeant Wade Wilson was killed while conducting a combat operation in Afghanistan. He was just 22 years of age. As a soldier in Afghanistan fighting the forces of the Taliban, Wade defended freedom. He defended it for his mother, Cindy Lee; his stepfather, Ward; his father, Rusty; his stepmother Tammy, his three brothers, his sister, his three step-sisters; and all of their families. He defended freedom for all of us. Sergeant Wade Wilson was a true soldier. We all owe a debt that can never be repaid to Sergeant Wilson's sacrifice, and today and tomorrow, we will mourn with his family and friends for the tragic loss of their son, brother, friend, citizen, soldier and hero.

My friend, Mayor Steve Stephens of Dayton, Texas, has a farmhouse in Leona, Texas. His long time neighbors are Ward and Cindy Lee Easterling, Sergeant Wade Wilson's step-father and mother. As a teen, Wade worked for Mayor Stephens on his farm. Mayor Stephens said on May 18, 2012, hundreds of residents lined the streets of Leona and Centerville, paying tribute to the family of this patriot. Many of those on the streets carried flags and yellow ribbons. Others held banners saying, ''Greater love hath no man than one who gives his life for a friend'' John 15:13. Patriotism is alive and well in Texas. And, Sergeant Wilson's commitment to his country is one reason why.

Wade's funeral on Saturday, May 19, 2012, happened to fall on Armed Services Day. Held in Centerville High School's auditorium, hundreds of supporters from Leon County came out to mourn the loss of America's son, Wade Wilson, and all those who came before him. We know that freedom is not free, and we thank this fearless Marine for dedicating his life to America.

Our young people who go to the valley of the gun and the desert of the sun are relentless, remarkable characters. They go where others fear to tread and where the faint-hearted are not found. These warriors represent the best of our nation. They are the sons of liberty and the daughters of democracy. These few, these noble few, are American warriors who take care of the rest of us.

Sergeant Wade Wilson, your tour of duty has been honorably concluded.

And that's just the way it is.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF PRAMILA JAYAPAL

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments of Pramila Jayapal, founder of the Hate Free Zone, now called OneAmerica. For more than a decade she has worked tirelessly to ensure that people from immigrant communities have a voice in America. Her efforts have made Washington State and our Nation a better place for all people who call it home.

In the days immediately following the attacks of September 11, 2001, Pramila began the Hate Free Zone Campaign of Washington as an entirely volunteer-run organization to combat discrimination against immigrants, especially from communities of color—primarily Muslim, Arab American, East African and South Asian—and to work against stereotypes in a post 9/11 world. At first, the mission was to advocate for the rights of those who were likely to be victims of hate crimes.

Soon after, Pramila began to shift the focus of the Hate Free Zone towards identifying and addressing violations of the rights and civil liberties of immigrants. Through these efforts, she began working with community leaders and elected officials to address these concerns on local, State, and Federal levels.

In 2008, the Hate Free Zone became OneAmerica: With Justice for All, reflecting the mission of advocating for the fundamental principles of democracy and justice by giving voices to all immigrant communities. Today, OneAmerica works with allies and community leaders to educate, engage and advocate, and has become an active and trusted immigrant advocacy organization in Washington State.

Pramila's dedication to the protection of civil rights and civil liberties is important to every single group of Americans, immigrants and non-immigrants alike. The promotion of civic education, voting rights and civil liberties benefits everyone who calls the United States home.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I honor Pramila Jayapal and all of her work at OneAmerica. Though she is moving on from OneAmerica, I have no doubt she will continue to advocate for those in need. Her dedication to improving the lives of all persons living in Washington State has been an inspiration to us all, and I look forward to her next endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE 2012 GREEN COMMUNITY AWARD WINNERS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the winners of the 2012 Green Community Awards.

Every year the Green Guiding Committee of Prince William County awards people or organizations for their work towards bettering the community and sustaining the environment. Each of this year's winners has tackled an issue in their immediate area that presents a larger environmental problem. The Green Awards are the highest honor given for environmental service in Prince William County, and this year's winners exemplify the qualities and work ethic that are required to keep our community green.

I extend my personal congratulations to:

Stonewall Jackson High School Ecology Club—for raising awareness about environmental issues, inspiring fellow students to get involved, hosting events for younger students and taking the lead on conservation projects in the field.

Prince William Trails and Streams Coalition—for their ongoing efforts, projects and programs to create, restore, clean and preserve trails and access to natural areas for the entire community.

Friends of the Occoquan—for their ongoing fall and spring projects to clean up the Occoquan River in Prince William County for the past 13 years.

Vulcan Materials—Manassas Quarry—for their corporate practices to conserve resources and reduce waste, plus their efforts to support schools and organization in their efforts to protect the environment.

The Taylor Family of Windy Knoll Farm—for their generous offer to allow local conservation groups to host programs and demonstrations on the farm, as well as their use of sound and environmentally wise management practices.

Eric VanNortwick—for his ongoing efforts to clean up, maintain and enhance trails along Neabsco Creek in Prince William County.

Ed Dandar—for his dedication in coordinating and overseeing logistics for the 26 mile clean up along the Occoquan River.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the winners of the 2012 Green Community Awards and in thanking them for their dedication to our community.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5325) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes:

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Chair, I am concerned about the Energy and Water Appropriations bill for several reasons. One of these reasons is that while this bill increases funding for the Army Corps of Engineers over the President's request, it is not enough. The Army Corps completes critical flood control projects and also, through dredging at our port, fuels a major economic engine in Harris County, Texas and has been underfunded for years.

Additionally, by cutting New Starts completely, this bill prevents funding for a vital project in Houston that will explore widening and deepening the shipping channel to the Turning Basin. This funding is critical to preparing our Port for the years ahead.

The Port of Houston is the largest foreign tonnage port and the largest petrochemical port in the country. In fact, it moves the second largest amount of cargo in the country, as 8.5 percent of our nation's cargo moves through the Port of Houston. The commerce that occurs at our port is critical to our Nation's energy and chemical sectors and to our country's ability to trade and move goods throughout our country. It is a port of national significance, but has not received the attention that is necessary to answer the challenges we face in the near future. Despite the national importance of our port, it is facing a dredging crisis.

In 1998, the Federal Government and the Port of Houston invested $700 million over the course of years, to deepen and widen the Ship Channel. An investment we have benefitted from tremendously.

As the years have passed silt has settled and reduced the draft in the channel significantly. Today, only .4 percent of the channel is dredged to its proper depth across the entire width of the channel. That is astounding. Our Nation's investment is rapidly deteriorating.

Currently, the Houston Ship Channel is dredged to a depth of 43 feet, but it should be 45 feet. The Panama Canal is expanding and when it is completed, the Port of Houston should be at a minimum of 45 feet and we could take advantage of additional depth.

In the most recent President's budget request, the Administration asked for $700,000 in new dredging money and new start funding of $100,000 toward study on the widening and deepening of the Houston Ship Channel to the Turning Basin. The new start funding is particularly important, once a project gets new start money it is more likely to be funded in the future. Unfortunately, in the bill we are considering today, the funding for the new start will be eliminated.

This increased funding level for dredging just over $24 million, which is maintained in the Energy and Water Appropriations bill, is welcome and I am pleased that Congress and the Administration are committing more resources to our maintenance dredging needs, particularly in a budget environment when most programs are cut. However, it's about a third of the total needed to bring our channel back to its authorized depth. The reduced draft costs our region money.

As we confront the dual challenges of adopting policies that create jobs and reduce the debt, funding for dredging projects is an item that, while costly, will have more of a positive impact on our economy than a negative impact on our deficit. The Texas Transportation Institute performed a study and determined that a direct economic impact of the loss of 1 foot of draft is $373 million. The majority of this impact is lost business opportunities due to light loading of non-containerized vessels. If the dredging crisis at the port continues to worsen, this cost will quickly increase.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANT ROLE THAT LOCAL BROADCASTERS PLAY IN ALERTING THE PUBLIC DURING WEATHER EMERGENCIES

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, in recent years, unpredictable and sometimes violent weather has struck our Nation. The months of May and June are the most likely times for tornadoes to strike the great Hoosier state. Getting to safety before a tornado strikes can be the difference between life and death. Success in that effort depends on access to timely information. For this reason, I want to thank local broadcasters in the 7th District of Indiana for providing critical information during weather emergencies.

Last year, a violent storm caused the sudden collapse of the concert stage at the Indiana State Fair. This tragic incident killed seven and severely injured dozens more. It could have been much worse. Timely alerts from local broadcasters enabled Fair officials to clear the Midway minutes before the storm struck, potentially saving the lives of hundreds.

Radio and television stations are our Nation's most reliable network for distributing emergency information. When electrical lines are knocked down and Internet and mobile networks become inoperable, broadcasters are the last line of defense—transmitting public safety information over the airwaves.

Local television and radio stations play a critical role in ensuring public safety. Now is the time to expand their ability to provide emergency notifications. Increasingly, the American people have access to mobile phones. By equipping these devices to receive FM radio signals, millions of Americans could depend on their mobile phones to provide critical information in advance of a weather emergency.

As a former official with the Department of Homeland Security, I know first-hand how cell phone networks can become overloaded and inoperable during an emergency. By adopting this technology, broadcasters can provide timely information to mobile phones—enabling the American people to take shelter in advance of a weather emergency. I call upon my colleagues in Congress, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Federal Communications Commission and the mobile phone industry to work together to expand the reach of local broadcasters in providing critical information during a weather emergency.

I want to once again thank local broadcasters in my district for their essential role in promoting public safety.

RECOGNIZING HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY VOLUNTEERS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Habitat for Humanity of Prince William County Volunteers.

Habitat for Humanity seeks to eliminate poverty housing and to make decent shelter a matter of conscience and action. Habitat invites people from all walks of life and faiths to work together in partnership to build and repair houses with families in need through our Neighborhood Revitalization Initiatives: New Construction, Home Rehabs, Home Repairs and the Habitat Restore. Home repairs consist of A Brush with Kindness, Weatherization, Critical Home Repairs and Critical Home Repairs for Veterans. None of their work is possible without the funding and time that their donors and volunteers give so generously. 490 volunteers donated more than 6,867 hours in 2011 and eleven of those volunteers individually donated more than 100 hours each.

It is my honor to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of volunteers of Habitat for Humanity of Prince William County:

Susan Jacobs, Karen Wilkinson, Rob Major, Chris Daffan, Theresa Accoo, Christine Rowe, Kisha Sogunro-Wilson, Anita Duecaster, Renee Wolfolk, John McBride, Brian Swanson, Marci Swanson, Dob McCubbin, Frank Jacquette, Sandi Stark, Mike Stark, George Braun, Matthew Watkins, Bob Gainer, Al Harris, Lynn Ashe, Razan Azzarkani, Betty Reichert, Lynn Eklund, Kristine Reyes, Justin Marohnic, Darren Fischer, Casey Brewster, Gary Wright, Elizabeth Hayde, Ashley Tyler, Cheryl Novogradac, Joseph Bolos, Scott DeGroat, Kim Morris, Teresa Blacksmith, Jennifer Miller, Rich Feickert, Chris Reilly, Timothy Grembowski, Andi Pollard, Kenneth Morilak, Jeffrey Beathard, Quinton Morris, Kudzaishe Mlambo, Pam Hart, Barbara Atwell, David Wurst, Mayumi Ferrin, Matthew Whalen, Rita Ayanga, Michael Renfro, Nathanael White, Kurt Wall, Shryl Madison, Rodney Owens, Richard Revaz, Denise A. Womack, Phyllis Hall, Polynice Paul, John Grennek, Carmen T. Courchene, Sharon Dangerfield, Isalee Jackson, Cortni Robinson, Lauren Hughes, Christina Frank, Marletha Dyer, Paul Whalen, Dara Dentham, Patrick Stolte, Maikao Yang, James Zhang, Ying Zhang, Connie Moser, Mark Luiggi, Jim Floyd, Al Ferguson.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the volunteers of Habitat for Humanity of Prince William County for their service and in thanking them for their dedication to our community.

THE OCCASION OF PHILLIP THOMPSON'S RETIREMENT AS EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF SEIU LOCAL 517M

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend, Phil Thompson, the Executive Vice President of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 517M on the occasion of his retirement. For over 30 years, Phil has been an important leader in the SEIU, working to ensure that the rights of workers are respected.

True to the form of a leader and advocate, Phil is passionate about fighting for the rights of those he represents, whether it was his constituents when he was Shiawassee County Commissioner or the Michigan public employees he works for every day in his current role. It is no surprise, given his spirit for serving and protecting others, that prior to his time with Local 517M, Phil had been planning to go to law school. Instead, as often happens to those with the drive to serve, Phil fulfilled his passion as a voice protecting the rights of others. Having arrived at Local 517M in April 1981 as a staff representative, Phil quickly ascended to become the branch's Executive Director in 1986.

What was originally supposed to be only a part-time job quickly became Phil's central work. As a leader for the SEIU in Michigan, Phil took it upon himself to represent the members of Local 517M at every collective bargaining session since he became Director in 1986. Phil strongly believes that communication between the unions and their members and unions and their communities is essential to ensuring that all workers have their rights protected. Phil has strived to keep his members connected to their local through strengthening member services.

Like so many who are thrust into positions of leadership by their peers, Phil has never forgotten his brothers and sisters who put him there. He strongly believes that it has been an honor to work with so many talented and dedicated union and staff members.

In recognition of his exceptional leadership skills and his effectiveness, Phil's peers have consistently given him increased responsibilities that extend beyond Local 517M. He has been elected to SEIU's International Executive Board three times between 2000 and 2008, where he is finishing up his current term as Vice President. Between 2002 and 2010 he served as President of Michigan's SEIU State Council and currently serves as its Treasurer. Phil is constantly sought to be a voice for professionals in State government, by news agencies and was recently awarded the 2012 Michigan Labor Press Award for his contributions which have supported the growth of the labor movement.

Mr. Speaker, Phil has spent his life working to strengthen the labor movement, which in Michigan and around the world has secured and protected important rights for all workers. His dedication and passion have benefited so many and I know that his colleagues and fellow SEIU members will surely miss him, his insights and his experience. I know that as a voice for fairness, even in retirement, he will continue to fight for the rights of workers and I wish him many happy and productive years to come.

REPRESENTATIVE KIND FLOOR AMENDMENT 78 (RULES AMENDMENT 145) TO THE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT (H.R. 4310)

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the amendment to waive the time limitation for awarding Lt. Alonzo Cushing the Medal of Honor.

A Wisconsin native, Lt. Cushing, on the third day of the Battle of Gettysburg, commanded

110 men and six cannons positioned on Cemetery Ridge, where they received the full force of Pickett's Charge. Despite the death of all of his officers and receiving multiple gunshot wounds, Lt. Cushing refused to withdraw from battle and was killed by Confederate fire. In February 2010, Secretary of the Army John McHugh recommended the approval of the nation's highest honor for Lt. Cushing.

Lt. Cushing's actions in the Battle of Gettysburg were so inspiring that a book detailing his life, Cushing of Gettysburg, was written in 1998.

I would like to give special thanks to Margaret Zerwekh and the city of Delafield for their tireless advocacy to ensure Lt. Cushing receives the honor he deserves. I encourage my colleagues to support this amendment and honor a true American hero.

HONORING THE CITY OF PRINCETON, INDIANA

HON. LARRY BUCSHON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the City of Princeton, Indiana, located within my district. Princeton was recently named, one of two, Stellar Communities by the Lt. Governor's office in Indiana. The Stellar Community award, created in 2011, is specific to city revitalization projects.

The program is a partnership between multiple state agencies to help fund community renovation projects, and is the latest example of a state balancing a budget, without raising a penny in taxes—all while reaping the benefits of a surplus.

The downtown Courthouse Square in Princeton will be upgraded with new sidewalks, curbs, landscaping, and signage. The housing market will receive a much needed shot in the arm too. New loft condominiums and senior housing cottages are included in the plan.

Tourism will improve as well with restoration to old historic Courthouse Square building facades, and groundbreaking construction of a Bicentennial Plaza will only increase the foot traffic in the downtown area.

We've seen government grants work for several other Main Street projects across the country, and for the second year in a row, I'm honored that a city in my district will receive the chance to improve the quality of life for local residents. Lastly, I want to congratulate the Mayor of Princeton, Bob Hurst, for his excellent work on promoting a friendly economic environment in Indiana's 8th Congressional District.

RECOGNIZING THE PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION VOLUNTEERS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Prince William County Historic Preservation Volunteers.

The dedicated Historic Preservation Volunteers are an essential part of the Historic Preservation Division. They are part of an endless effort to preserve and enhance the historical and natural resources of Prince William County. They bring these resources alive for citizens with special programs events and daily efforts to maintain and beautify our historic sites. They graciously sacrifice their personal time to volunteer as docents, garden volunteers, education volunteers, research and collection volunteers, restoration volunteers, and special event volunteers.

It is my honor to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of volunteers following Prince William County Historic Preservation Volunteers:

Morgan Breeden, Kay Breeden, Daniel Breeden, John F. Wolfe, Belinda Brummel, Jennifer Andreani, Wren Hubbell, Jill Hubbell, Ed Moore, Susan Moore, Tom Costa, Suzanne Costa, Carolyn Hartman, Comfort Uanserme, Chris McConnell, Bernie McConnell, John Nuzum, Avery A. Born, Rex D. Born, Sue Born, JoAnn Craft, Jim Craft, Wayne Hutzell, Paul Penrod, James D. Owens, Paige Gibbons, Emmanuel Dabney, Christine Jaworski, Lionel Raymond, Curtis Hoagland, Jay Greevy, Jim Pearson, John DePue, James Ivancic, Tom McGinlay, Mike Miller, Jacque Siegel, Kathryn Barrows, Brenda Caricofe, Nerine Clemenzi, Elaine Davis, George Erhart, Becky Hornyak, Kelly Hunsaker, Phyllis Ingram, Bryan Lewis, Belinda Lewis, Jeff Loeffler, Sandy Melson, Janice Overman, John Overman, Jacque Rowberry, Ginny Sanderson-Brown, Rosemary Schatz, Andy Schatz, Linda Walls, Lin Weeks.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the Prince William County Historic Preservation Volunteers for their service and in thanking them for their dedication to our community.

INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5743) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, I commend Chairman ROGERS and Ranking Member RUPPERSBERGER for continuing their tradition for the third straight year of reporting a bipartisan Intelligence Authorization bill. H.R. 5743, the Intelligence Authorization Act, comes to the floor today after having passed the Intelligence Committee by a unanimous 19–0 vote.

The bill allocates resources to critical national security programs including those that detect, prevent, and disrupt potential terrorist attacks against the American people. The bill enhances counter terrorism efforts against al Qaeda and its global affiliates; increases oversight of the spending at intelligence agencies and supports global initiatives to address emerging threats to our national security.

The measure provides funding to the Central Intelligence Agency, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, the National Security Agency and other agencies, for operations, personnel and equipment. Though much of the funding is classified, each dollar is intended to address the funding needs of this country's clandestine services.

The valiant American men and woman who toil anonymously in the shadows of the intelligence world deserve our full support for their dedicated service. The funding authorized by this bill will help ensure they have the resources they need to do their job.

HONORING VINCE GILL

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the courageous actions of Hilliard resident and 2011 graduate of Hilliard Davidson High School, Vince Gill. On May 27, 2012, Vince rescued a drowning man in New York's Genesee River.

I ask that all Members of Congress join me and the people of Ohio's 15th Congressional District in thanking Vince Gill for his brave actions. Despite the grave risk to his own life, he selflessly rose to the occasion when he dove into the river and swam almost a pool's length to save the life of 26-year-old Abdulma Alhari, of Rochester, NY. For his heroism, the New York State Park Police will nominate Vince for a well-deserved civilian lifesaving award.

I extend my sincere thanks to Vince Gill for his heroism. While to some he may be an ordinary young man, his extraordinary act is exactly what makes me so proud to represent the everyday heroes of the Central Ohio area.

HONORING THE CAREER OF MR. WILLIAM ''BILL'' SANDERSON

HON. JOHN CAMPBELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Bill Sanderson, a constituent of California's 48th Congressional District and a noble servant to our country. Mr. Sanderson will retire this month from Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County's Board of Directors, where he's dedicated nearly two decades of service to underprivileged youth in local communities. Mr. Sanderson has built a distinguished career in business, most recently serving as Chief Financial Officer at Golden State Foods, President of the Supply Chain Services Group at Golden State Foods, and Director of Financial Planning & Analysis at W.R. Grace Restaurant Group. In addition, he continues to be an influential and respected member of the Business Growth Alliance.

While his commitment to growing businesses and creating jobs in our community is worthy of praise, I am most proud of Mr. Sanderson's selflessness and eagerness to help others in need. As a board member at Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County, Mr. Sanderson led by example as he devoted

his time to mentor at risk youth. His actions encouraged countless others to volunteer and make a difference in the lives of thousands of young men and women. His leadership and limitless energy provided a new way forward for these young lives and offered an alternative to joining gangs, dropping out of school, and making avoidable mistakes that would adversely affect their future and the State of California.

Mr. Sanderson's commitment to education and his community blossomed as a student at San Diego State University and at the University of Southern California. He is a model citizen, dedicated husband to his wife, Diana, and committed father to his twin sons and young daughter. I salute Mr. Sanderson's work and believe it is worthy of high praise and national recognition from the U.S. House of Representatives.

MR. WILLIAM (BILL) SANDERSON'S BIOGRAPHY

William (Bill) D. Sanderson is Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer for Golden State Foods, a world-wide food processor and distributor to the quick service restaurant industry.

Mr. Sanderson began his career as a financial analyst with W.R. Grace and Company after earning his Masters in Business Administration from the University of Southern California. Mr. Sanderson later became the Director of Finance for Far West Services Restaurants, a wholly owned subsidiary of W. R. Grace where he was responsible for all financial planning, budgeting and acquisition analysis. Mr. Sanderson was instrumental in negotiating a license agreement with Kasumi Stores of Japan and was directly involved in the opening of the first 3 Coco's restaurants in Japan.

In 1982, Mr. Sanderson left Far West Services to start his own chain of retail popcorn and confectionary stores. Mr. Sanderson grew the company from a single store in 1982 to a chain of 20 stores in Southern California. He transformed his small business into a mail order gift company and licensed his concept in Japan and Korea.

In 1989 as chief executive officer of Cal Corn, Inc., Mr. Sanderson acquired the mall based Bob's Big Boy Restaurants from the Marriott Corporation. Mr. Sanderson and Bob's founder, Bob Wyan, worked together to develop a new restaurant concept called the Big Boy Diner.

In 1994, Mr. Sanderson negotiated a joint venture agreement with ConAgra to open retail popcorn stores throughout the United States. Mr. Sanderson served as managing director of Orville Redenbacher Retail Stores where he developed a retail concept and mail order gift division under the Orville Redenbacher brand.

From 1998 to 2000 Mr. Sanderson served as president of a middle market designer and manufacturer of arts and crafts products where he was brought in to turn around a struggling entrepreneurial company. During his tenure, he acquired a complimentary crafts products company, established a children's toy division which included licensed product such as ''Pokemon'', and focused the company on key account sales. The company regained profitability and grew its revenues by 95% in two years.

In 2002, Mr. Sanderson joined Golden State Foods where he was appointed president of Golden State Service Industries, a wholly owned subsidiary of Golden State Foods. Golden State Foods is a full line manufacturer and distributor of food products for the quick service restaurant industry serving McDonald's and other quick service restaurant chains worldwide. Mr. Sanderson was named senior vice president of finance and administration in 2009 and chief financial officer in 2011.

Mr. Sanderson is active in the Young Presidents' Organization, where he has held many leadership roles over the past 17 years. Mr. Sanderson has been involved in giving back through volunteer and fundraising efforts supporting Boys and Girls Club of Irvine, Muscular Dystrophy, the March of Dimes, and the All American Boys' Chorus. Mr. Sanderson also chairs the Golden State Foods Foundation committee in Irvine. In that role, Mr. Sanderson founded and has been instrumental in spearheading the ''Good News for Kids'' fundraising event which holds an annual fundraising event at the Grove in Anaheim. The proceeds raised from this event have benefited a variety of children's charities throughout Southern California. Mr. Sanderson has been a member of the board of directors of Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Orange County for more than 15 years and served as chairman of the board from 1997 through 2000.

Mr. Sanderson and his wife, Diana, live in Irvine with their twin 17 year old sons and their 10 year old daughter.

RECOGNIZING THE INDEPENDENCE EMPOWERMENT CENTER VOLUNTEERS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the volunteers for the Independence Empowerment Center.

Independence Empowerment Center is a community-based advocacy organization operated by and for people with disabilities in the state of Virginia. IEC promotes disability rights, equal access, and full community participation for persons with disabilities. They work with individuals with disabilities to maintain or take back charge of their own lives and make their own choices and decisions in order to be as self-sufficient as possible. Independence Empowerment Center is associated with a national movement of almost 500 Centers for Independent Living. These Centers are advocacy-based organizations governed and operated by persons with disabilities for persons with disabilities.

Volunteers for the Independence Empowerment Center perform essential tasks in and outside of the office. They assist the staff on daily functions and projects, as well as well as manage events that the IEC hosts. Additionally, IEC is staffed with volunteers constantly to help with their Annual Americans with Disabilities Act Fair in July.

It is my honor to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of volunteers for the Independence Empowerment Center:

Patricia Johnson
Judy Humphrey
Don Rhoades
Stephanie George
Marlene Orf
David Beverage
Alfredo Foz
Joshua Rammelsberg
Emilia Prokop
China McEachern

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the volunteers at the Independence Empowerment Center for their service and in thanking them for their dedication to our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT HURT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. HURT. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for rollcall vote No. 302 on agreeing to the Grimm of New York Amendment to H.R. 5854. Had I been present, I would have voted ''no.''

Mr. Speaker, I was not present for rollcall vote No. 303 on agreeing to the Franks of Arizona Amendment No. 8 to H.R. 5854. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yea.''

IN MEMORY OF PHYLLIS MARIE MUCCINI

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of a great citizen of my district who passed away earlier this month. Phyllis Marie Muccini of Corning, New York, was a dear friend and family member to many in the 29th District of New York.

Phyllis was employed by my hometown's Corning Incorporated for over 35 years. Outside of work, she spent her time volunteering at organizations that included the Girl and Boy Scouts of America, Cinderella Softball, the American Cancer Society, and the Corning Lioness Club. She received numerous awards for these activities, but that was never her goal or intention. Phyllis' activities allowed her to impact the lives of countless individuals over the years. She will forever be missed. However I, like many others, have been touched by her compassion and generosity that will provide a legacy of her life for many generations to come.

Thus, it is right and proper for Phyllis Muccini to forever be enshrined in the records of the United States Congress as a true American heroine for all of us to pause and pay tribute.

HURRICANE SEASON

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, as you know, June 1, marks the official start to the Atlantic hurricane season. Mother Nature decided to start a little earlier, unfortunately, and over the recent Memorial Day weekend my home state of Florida had an early scare with Tropical Storm Beryl. Thankfully, it turned out not to be as bad a storm as we initially feared.

It was a reminder that we all have to work together to make sure our families, neighbors and friends stock up on essential supplies and develop a plan of action in the event another storm appears headed our way.

You cannot wait until a storm is coming. Taking early precautions, as well as having a recovery plan, is very important to minimize damage to your own property.

If enough people take precautions, government agencies are free to help those who need it most: the elderly, children, the handicapped, and people in shelters.

So make sure you have a three day supply of non-perishable food and water;

Make sure that you have a change of batteries for your flashlights, radios, and other devices;

Fill up your car's gas tank; and keep all your important papers in a safe, dry place.

Please don't wait until the last minute to prepare. It's up to all of us to make sure we're safe.

I also want to thank President Obama and his entire administration for working with state and local authorities throughout the year to prepare for hurricane season and all types of disasters. I'd also like to thank the President and his Administration for including the State of Florida Emergency Manager Bryan Koon, Florida Adjutant General Major General Emmett Titshaw, and Florida Power & Light President Eric Silagy in his hurricane preparedness briefing at the White House yesterday.

Lastly, I'd like to salute the important role that our first responders and local television and radio broadcasters play in coordinating and providing critical information during hurricanes and times of disaster.

It takes a tremendous amount of planning and coordination, and we are grateful for the collaboration that the public and private sectors play in times of emergency.

Hopefully we'll have an uneventful hurricane season this year. But we must always be prepared so that we can weather the storm and come out safe and sound on the other end.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5854) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes:

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Chair, yesterday, the House of Representatives took a vote on H. AMDT. 1159 to H.R. 5854, the Military Construction/VA Appropriations Bill. I voted in support of this amendment because it strikes the anti-project labor agreement language within section 517 of this bill.

This amendment was pro-labor and will keep Project Labor Agreements from being eliminated within the bill. Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) have been essential and successful tools used by both governments and private sector companies for years. They help not only employees, but also employers. PLAs have been used since the 1930s in the U.S. and studies show they not only promote fair labor practices, but also are cost-effective.

For these reasons, I voted to protect PLAs because we, in Congress, need to stand strong in our fight for fair labor practices and in protecting policies that prove to be successful.

CELEBRATING CHEMICOMAYS LLC ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR THIRD CONSECUTIVE SELECTION AS GENERAL MOTORS SUPPLIER OF THE YEAR

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize ChemicoMays LLC and its CEO Leon Richardson as the company is honored for its third consecutive year as a General Motors Supplier of the Year. Each year, General Motors (GM) awards this distinction to less than one percent of its nearly 20,000 suppliers worldwide.

ChemicoMays, based in Southfield, Michigan, was formed as a joint venture between Chemico System and Mays Chemical in 2005. Since that time, it has used its more than 20 years of experience to deliver chemical management solutions for industry customers. With over 250 employees and a focus on providing high quality service to its many customers, the company's client base has grown to include great American companies like General Motors, Boeing and Eli Lilly.

Through its unique proprietary Web interface system, ChemicoMays has labored to provide its customers a user-friendly tool that enables them to easily access the more than 150 million pounds of chemicals it procures annually. ChemicoMays also provides to its clients a specialized array of inventory management tools that allow companies to efficiently identify and utilize previously wasted supplies. In concert with its policy to provide simple, transparent pricing, ChemicoMays has a proven track record that has resulted in not one of its clients having a work stoppage due to chemical availability.

ChemicoMays' commitment to excellence in production and service is a standard that emanates from its CEO Leon Richardson. Prior to the creation of ChemicoMays, Mr. Richardson established Chemico Systems, Inc. in 1989 and served as its president. Throughout his career, Mr. Richardson has strived to ensure that his clients receive the best and most comprehensive customer support. More importantly, Mr. Richardson brings out the best in his employees in fulfillment of the company's mission. With his tenacity and experience, he led Chemico Systems from a mere start-up company to one of the world's top suppliers of chemical products and chemical management services in the automotive, bio-tech and academic sectors.

Today, Mr. Richardson's effective leadership continues as CEO of ChemicoMays. His dedication and that of ChemicoMays' employees have earned the company numerous industry accolades including three consecutive Supplier of the Year Awards from GM, GM's 2007 Environmental Excellence Award and being named one of Michigan's top 50 companies to watch in 2006.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in congratulating ChemicoMays and Mr. Leon Richardson on earning the company's third consecutive Supplier of the Year Award from GM. ChemicoMays' commitment to excellence in production and service has greatly benefited its customers, employees and the communities it calls home.

REP. PETRI FLOOR AMENDMENT 25 (RULES AMENDMENT 46) TO THE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT (H.R. 4310)

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the amendment to compensate National Guard troops for miscalculated leave time.

This amendment corrects a government error to pay approximately 575 Army National Guard troops for leave time they earned but were unable to take after their last deployment. These soldiers have spent time overseas defending our great nation—some in multiple deployments—and have earned their leave benefits.

The Army agrees that these Guardsmen should have received PDMRA leave. However, the Army's only legal remedy is to allow them use their PDMRA leave after a future deployment. Since some of these soldiers will not deploy again and others have left the service entirely, this remedy has no value in many cases.

I would like to give special thanks to Congressman PETRI for working with me to ensure that this egregious bureaucratic error is rectified. I encourage my colleagues to support this amendment and properly support our service members who selflessly serve.

TRIBUTE TO ELLIOTT DUCHON

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of Jurupa Valley are exceptional. Our area has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent to make their communities a better place to live and work. Elliott Duchon is one of these individuals. On Saturday, May 19, 2012, Duchon was recognized as the Citizen of the Year by the Jurupa Valley Chamber of Commerce for his work as the Jurupa Unified School District Superintendent.

In 1974, Duchon graduated from the University of California, Riverside (UCR) with a Master's Degree in Education and Psychology. After graduation, he was an elementary teacher for the Jurupa Unified School District where he also served on school planning committees, including the school site council. After three years of teaching, Duchon was self employed and served as a consultant to the Riverside County Superintendent of Schools where he performed land use studies and demographic research and analysis to form a

Long Range Facility Plan for the 22 school districts in Riverside County. In 1981, Duchon became a Systems Planning Analyst for the Riverside County Office of Education (RCOE) where he performed planning and administrative duties related to the management of a fourteen building, $20 million facility construction program.

After two years as the Systems Planning Analyst, Duchon became the Instructional Computing Project Manager for the Inland Empire Teacher Education and Computer Center within RCOE. In this role, he was responsible for an array of services related to the instructional uses of education technology. The services were provided to the 58 school districts in Riverside and San Bernardino counties. In 1985, Duchon was promoted to Director of the Region 13 Teacher Education and Computer Center where he was responsible for the two-county staff development program in all areas of the curriculum. In 1991, he was promoted again to Director of Administrative Services for RCOE where he was responsible for administration and management for the Department of Administrative Services, which included the Geographic Information Center, internal and external support for school facilities development, school district elections, staff support to the County Committee on School District Organization and other management services. After ten years as the Director, Duchon was promoted to the Riverside County Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Administrative Support Services, Division of Information Technology/Governmental Relations. In 2001, Duchon became the Deputy Superintendent for the Jurupa Unified School District and after three years became the Superintendent of Schools for the District.

As Superintendent, Duchon was responsible for all aspects of operating a 20,000 student school district with over 2,000 employees and a $160 million budget. His major accomplishments include a District Academic Performance Index (API) that has risen 100 points during his tenure; the District has four Distinguished Schools and two Title I Achieving Schools; a 100% rating of Highly Qualified Teachers; the completion and opening of a new high school; the establishment of an Early College High School Academy with Riverside Community College; the District has received three Golden Bell awards; and the student achievement gap has narrowed. During his time, Duchon has been recognized by the Region XIX Association of California School Administrators as the 2007 Superintendent of the Year; recognized as the West Riverside School Administrators 2006 Superintendent of the Year; and recognized by the Riverside County, California School Bilingual Educators chapter as the 2006 Superintendent of the Year.

In light of all Elliott Duchon has done for the students, parents and community of Jurupa Valley it is only fitting that he be honored as the Superintendent of the Year. Elliott Duchon's tireless passion for education and public service has contributed immensely to the betterment of our community and I am proud to call him a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for his service and salute him as he receives this prestigious award.

THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MONTGOMERY GI BILL

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, today, June 1, 2012, marks the 25th anniversary of the first permanent Department of Veterans Affairs-administered Montgomery GI Bill. Enacted in 1987, the landmark New GI Bill Continuation Act offered a life changing incentive for veterans returning from active duty to the workforce. By offering veterans access to higher education, it both strengthened our national defense and helped revitalize our economy.

The GI Bill has proved over the years to be a boon for many of our veterans. Veterans are able to return home with a plan for their future. The education they receive helps many enter the workforce and provide for themselves and for their families in ways that were not previously possible.

This program has blessed our Nation and continues to do so by benefiting not only veterans, but many sectors of the economy by injecting highly qualified individuals to the workforce and the community. Veterans are able to combine the skill sets they learn both from their schooling and from their military training and often become excellent leaders and contributors to society. As I have said in the past—hiring former service members for patriotic reasons expresses appreciation and respect. Hiring them for business reasons gets results.

Our veterans fought to protect our freedoms and way of life, and as they serve our Nation in this time of need, we must remember them in their time of need. Veterans have made tremendous sacrifices to preserve our way of life, and the American people are indebted to the men and women who served our Nation. I am proud of the work Congress has done to improve veterans' benefits. It is important that we continue to honor our commitments to our Nation's veterans through legislation that benefits them, like the Montgomery GI Bill.

So as the former Chairman of the House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Benefits, and as a grateful American, I want to pay tribute to the thousands of veterans in Idaho and the United States who have given us so much.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5854) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes:

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 5854, the FY13 Military Construction-VA Appropriations Act. This subcommittee has a strong record of bipartisan collaboration and I want to commend Subcommittee Chairman CULBERSON and Ranking Member BISHOP for their leadership in advancing this important bill.

However, I remain disappointed that the Republican Majority continues to depart from the spending caps agreed to in the Budget Control Act of 2011, which already mandates deep spending cuts across the Federal budget. As we continue passing appropriations bills under the constraints of the Republican Budget Resolution, it is crucial that we protect our veterans and military families from any deep and harmful budget cuts. Members of the Committee were able to do so in this bill by providing ample funding for veterans healthcare, education, and construction improvements on our military bases. It also takes much needed action to improve the VA and Pentagon's health records sharing program.

It is an honor to serve on the subcommittee that ensures that our armed forces, their families, and our veterans get the critical resources they have earned. After listening to veterans in my District and meeting with military families on bases across the country, I worked to further strengthen H.R. 5854 to reflect their priorities. I am pleased that this bill contains language that helps women veterans gain access to important medical needs, including prosthetics for women amputees. This bill also contains language that fully supports the Defense and Veterans Affairs Departments in their efforts to increase their use of clean alternative energy sources. Lastly, it encourages our military to continue their strong commitment to providing the best quality child care and housing on base.

Although the Subcommittee reported a "clean" bill, I was disappointed that a harmful and unnecessary amendment restricting project labor agreements was adopted during Full Committee markup. I am strongly opposed to the inclusion of the provision and it is my hope that members vote to remove it before final passage of the legislation.

America has a debt to pay for the service and sacrifices our veterans have made for all of us. The funding provided in this bill is absolutely essential to provide the services and support to all our veterans, especially those returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. We can and must meet our commitments to the millions of veterans, service members and their families here and across the world.

Passage of this bill would help accomplish this and I urge my colleagues to support it.

WHO WILL DEFEND THE DEFENDERS?

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, since the tragic Islamist terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 no law enforcement agency has been more effective in preventing another successful terrorist attack than the New York Police Department. Under Commissioner Ray Kelly's leadership the NYPD has had 1000 police officers working 24/7, building a counter-terrorist infrastructure and taking proactive action to stop at least 14 terrorist plots against New York City.

Despite this outstanding record which should warrant national acclaim, the NYPD has been viciously and falsely attacked in a disgraceful series of articles by the Associated Press, aided and abetted by such politically correct apologists as the New York Times and the ACLU.

As Chairman of the Homeland Security Committee and a member of the Intelligence Committee I am proud to stand with the NYPD. I am also proud to introduce into the record an article written by Mitchell D. Silber entitled "Who Will Defend the Defenders" from the June issue of Commentary. Mr. Silber, who retired from his position yesterday, worked directly for the deputy commissioner of the NYPD's Intelligence Division, overseeing all the city's terrorism investigations.

I thank Mitchell Silber for his service and commend this article to my colleagues.

[From the Commentary Magazine, June 2012]

WHO WILL DEFEND THE DEFENDERS?

(By Mitchell D. Silber)

In April, the Pulitzer Prize for investigative reporting was awarded to the Associated Press for a series of articles it published about the New York Police Department's ''clandestine spying program that monitored daily life in Muslim communities.'' The AP's assertions were so extensive that they filled more than 50 separate pieces, the first published in August of last year. Its reporters alleged that since the attacks of September 11, the New York City Police Department's Intelligence Division had placed entire Muslim communities under scrutiny with ''no evidence of wrongdoing.'' The department, they wrote, had infiltrated mosques and Muslim student groups with no legal basis to do so. It had operated far outside its geographical jurisdiction and had cast too wide a net when monitoring and analyzing American Muslims.

The NYPD had joined the CIA in an ''unprecedented partnership,'' blurring the line between foreign and domestic intelligence-gathering, and had operated in secrecy with ''scant oversight.'' It had run afoul of legal constraints, especially a series of limitations on its intelligence-gathering to which the NYPD itself had agreed following a court case in 1985. It had violated civil-liberties rules in a way that would not be permitted of federal institutions. And after all this misbehavior, the results were mixed in any case.

The articles were quickly and widely disseminated and elicited expressions of deep outrage among Muslim Americans and civil-liberties activists. They created fissures between the police and the communities it sought to protect, undermined confidence in the NYPD, and attracted national attention—which, according to the AP's Pulitzer citation, ''result[ed] in congressional calls for a federal investigation and a debate over the proper role of domestic intelligence-gathering.'' As well they should have. A free citizenry relies on a free press to uncover civil-liberties abuses.

But any serious discussion about the alleged methods and practices of the NYPD Intelligence Division should have begun with one question: Was the AP's investigation accurate? The answer is no.

The articles misrepresent the scope, purpose, and rationale behind many of the NYPD Intelligence Division's programs. They confuse events and policies in ways that are misleading and cast the tale they are telling in the worst possible light. I know all this to be true, because I worked directly for the deputy commissioner of the Intelligence Division for the last seven years, first as a special assistant and then, for the last four years, until May 2012, as his director of intelligence analysis, overseeing all the city's terrorism investigations.

Nonetheless, the articles were accepted as gospel—perhaps because the accuracy of the work was beside the point. They were celebrated precisely for what they alleged, not what they proved. Their purpose was not to foster serious debate about NYPD anti-terrorism activities, and there has been no such serious debate in their wake.

The legal and policy questions surrounding how to safeguard civil liberties while defending society from acts of terrorism are certainly complex. There is, inevitably, a difficult balance we most strike between security and liberty, and it demands rigorous and ongoing debate about American anti-terrorist methods. Rather than raising these issues in a thoughtful way to inspire reasoned discussion, however, the series of articles made broad allegations and cherry-picked and misconstrued examples to support particularly damaging charges.

This article is intended to restore the context, accuracy, and critical detail left out by the AP and thereby convey the truth of what is an honorable and successful story of sustained, life-saving police work in a climate of unprecedented threat. It is impossible to respond to every AP allegation and distortion even in this generous space. I will therefore focus on the three subjects that have dominated headlines about alleged NYPD misconduct since the articles were published: first, a supposed human-mapping program run by the department; second, counterterrorism efforts outside New York City; and third, actions involving universities. In honing in on these hot-button issues, twill also refute a number of attendant accusations about the ethics and efficacy of NYPD methods.

But first, some background on the evolution of the Intelligence Division and its strategy.

On February 26, 1993, a massive car bomb was detonated below the North Tower of the World Trade Center. The 1,336-pound device was intended to knock the North Tower into the South Tower, bringing both down and killing thousands. The plot failed but still killed six people and injured 1,042 more.

Although the suspects were dismissed as incompetent, their associates were already plotting another attack. The extremist cleric Omar Abdel Rahman, also known as the Blind Sheikh, was at the heart of this follow-up plan to attack the United Nations, the Lincoln and Holland tunnels, the George Washington Bridge, and the FBI's New York office. That so-called Landmarks Plot was thwarted by an informant who had infiltrated the group.

Almost all the participants in both plots were ultimately arrested, tried, and brought to justice, and that temporarily closed the case for most Americans. But on the morning of September 11, 2001, Islamist terrorism crashed back into New York City when 19 al-Qaeda members hijacked four commercial passenger airliners and rammed two of them into the World Trade Center, killing 2,749 people and completing the mission begun in 1993.

Having been attacked twice successfully in the span of eight years, the city could no longer completely defer the responsibility of counterterrorism to the federal government, determined Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly. While the NYPD was prepared to work with the federal agencies, the department determined it would have to make systemic and autonomous changes in how to protect the city from further attacks.

To meet that challenge, in January 2002, the NYPD became the first police department in the country to develop its own Counterterrorism Bureau. The new mayor, Michael Bloomberg, and Commissioner Kelly appointed Marine Corps Lieutenant General Frank Libutti to run it. To head a restructured Intelligence Division, the department recruited David Cohen, a 35-year veteran of the CIA who had led both the operational and analytical branches of the agency.

This was no mere cosmetic relabeling or shuffling of the bureaucratic deck. The department increased its representation on the FBI-led Joint Terrorism Task Force from 17 detectives to 120. It reassigned fluent speakers of Arabic, Pashto, Farsi, and Urdu to counterterrorism duties. And it posted senior officers in 11 cities around the world to build relationships with local police agencies and visit the scenes of terrorist attacks abroad.

The NYPD also incorporated a crucial civilian component to fight terrorism. A corps of expert analysts in foreign affairs, intelligence, and counterterrorism were recruited from top graduate schools as well as from the intelligence community inside the Beltway. These well-trained and well-educated civilians were tasked with studying evolving methods of attack and terrorist hot spots around the world.

Additionally, the department cast a wide net for collaboration, working with law-enforcement agencies throughout the northeast and mid-Atlantic and partnering with 11,000 members of the region's private-security industry through a program called NYPD Shield.

Preventing another 9/11 meant studying the attacks of 1993 and 2001 and the thwarted Landmarks Plot. The 1993 attack and the plot were local affairs, planned by groups of regionally based conspirators, six of whom originated from the Palestinian territories, Egypt, and Kuwait. The men lived in New York City and New Jersey, and the sites of their radicalization included the Al Kifah Refugee Center and Al Farouq Mosque, both on Atlantic Avenue in Brooklyn, and the Al Salam Mosque in Jersey City. These mosques were in thrall to the Blind Sheikh.

The 9/11 attack was carried out by men from Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt, and Lebanon. They had been trained overseas before blending into the population of the United States. At least six of them chose to live in Paterson, New Jersey, specifically because there was ''an Arabic-speaking community there,'' as the 9/11 Commission Report says. Vitally, in the Landmarks Plot (the only one against New York that was derailed during this eight-year period) a confidential informant who was able to penetrate the conspiracy was the critical factor in detecting and disrupting the plan before it became an attack.

These trends meant that the department had to figure out how to (a) find individuals from abroad who had buried themselves in local communities and (b) utilize human intelligence (confidential informants) to penetrate conspiracies before they came to fruition.

If the task wasn't challenging enough, the NYPD also had to contend with a piece of legal architecture known as the Handschu Guidelines, a binding agreement overseen by a federal judge following the settlement of a lawsuit in 1985. No other police department in the country is bound by these rules, which at the time stipulated in part that police were not allowed to investigate political activity before having specific knowledge of criminal activity. After 9/11, the department was understandably concerned that prohibitions in the guidelines might interfere with its ability to prevent terrorist attacks. As a result, in 2002, the NYPD proposed to a federal court that the terms of the guidelines be modified; the court agreed.

The modified guidelines begin by stating a general principle: ''In its effort to anticipate or prevent unlawful activity, including terrorist acts, the NYPD must, at times, initiate investigations in advance of unlawful conduct'' Clearly, conducting an investigation following a successful attack, as was done in 1993 or 2001, was no longer acceptable. Plots had to be disrupted before they went operational.

The new Handschu rules also state: ''The NYPD is authorized to visit any place and attend any event that is open to the public'' and ''to conduct online search activity and to access online sites and forums on the same terms . . . as members of the public.'' The department is further authorized to ''prepare general reports and assessments . . . for purposes of strategic or operational planning.'' It is therefore entirely legal for the Police Department to search online, visit public places, or map neighborhoods.

I. THE DEMOGRAPHICS UNIT

The AP Claim: The NYPD has engaged in a ''human-mapping'' program without citing any evidence of wrongdoing. This program has placed entire Muslim communities under scrutiny.

For some, the very act of gathering intelligence is an illegitimate use of police power. But to find and stop terrorists, the Police Department uses many of the same methods that are used to arrest drug dealers, human traffickers, and gang leaders. Detectives develop detailed information about the nature of the crime and the people involved. While tips from the public are useful, the police cannot rely on them exclusively to detect terrorism conspiracies.

In 2003, with that in mind, the Intelligence Division created the Demographics Unit. Its mission was to identify ''venues of radicalization'' or ''hot spots'' in order to detect and disrupt terrorist plots in their beginning stages. The unit was also charged with identifying the locations in certain communities where foreign operatives might hope to lie low, just as the 9/11 hijackers did in Paterson, New Jersey. Given the rich diversity of the ethnic and cultural landscape of New York City, officers in the unit were specifically chosen for their unique language capabilities and cultural knowledge. Individuals were matched to geographic areas where they would be best able to distinguish the benign from the threatening. Proud to be Americans and members of the NYPD, the majority of these officers were Muslims.

A September 22, 2011, AP article paints a frightening portrait of the Demographics Unit and the work it did: ''The New York Police Department put American citizens under surveillance and scrutinized where they ate, prayed, and worked, not because of charges of wrongdoing but because of their ethnicity, according to interviews and documents obtained by the Associated Press,'' runs the article's opening paragraph. ''The documents describe in extraordinary detail a secret program intended to catalog life inside Muslim neighborhoods as people immigrated, got jobs, became citizens, and started businesses. The documents undercut the NYPD's claim that its officers only follow leads when investigating terrorism.''

But this police-state nightmare bears no resemblance to the nuanced work of the Demographics Unit. The unit employed what is called a risk-basis model. In the three Islamist plots against New York between 1993 and 2001, the vast majority of the conspirators were from a limited group of countries: Egypt, Kuwait, Lebanon, the Palestinian territories, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and Yemen. The risk-basis model would therefore indicate that these countries could be deemed ''higher risk'' or ''of concern'' in relationship to terrorism.

A similar risk-based model is exactly what the Transportation Safety Agency (TSA) recently adopted in the wake of a different terrorist plot—that of the 2009 Christmas Day Bomber, who failed to bring down a plane above Detroit only because he couldn't ignite the explosive device concealed in his underwear. The TSA made a list of ''countries of concern,'' and now passengers from those 14 states face additional scrutiny, such as pat-downs and having their carry-on luggage examined under the new rules. (There is a great deal of overlap between the countries on the TSA list, developed by the Department of Homeland Security and the State Department, and those states the NYPD has considered ''countries of concern.'')

Plainclothes officers of the Demographics Unit were deployed for this mission. They went into neighborhoods that had heavy concentrations of populations from the ''countries of interest'' and walked around, purchased a cup of tea or coffee, had lunch and observed the individuals in the public establishments they entered. This is an important point: Only public locations were visited. Doing so was perfectly within the purview of the NYPD, for, as the Handschu Guidelines say: ''The NYPD is authorized to visit any place and attend any event that is open to the public.''

Here's what they did not do: Plainclothes officers did not conduct blanket ongoing surveillance of communities. Not only is that an impossible task, but it also would have been inefficient and had a low likelihood of identifying terrorist plots in their early stages. At its largest, during a brief period after the July 7, 2005, attacks in London, the unit had 16 officers—hardly enough to monitor a neighborhood, much less whole communities. Officers would take a first pass to familiarize themselves with luncheonettes, dollar stores, and other legitimate businesses and record what they saw. They would be very unlikely to return unless there was reason to believe that a location might be a ''venue of radicalization.''

How did the AP treat this? Its writers claimed that ''the department has dispatched teams of undercover officers, known as 'rakers,' into minority neighborhoods as part of a human-mapping program, according to officials directly involved in the program.'' As mentioned above, individuals involved were not undercover officers. Undercover officers are provided with fake identities and misrepresent who they are. Plainclothes officers of the Demographics Unit carried no false identification and did not purport to be anyone in particular. This was a blatant error on the part of the AP. In addition, the AP claimed, ''Police have also used informants, known as 'mosque crawlers,' to monitor sermons, even when there's no evidence of wrongdoing.'' As a matter of Police Department policy, undercover officers and confidential informants do not enter a mosque unless they are following up on a lead vetted under the terms of the Handschu Guidelines. The AP's description of ''mosque crawlers'' roving from mosque to mosque without express legal permission to enter that location is pure fiction.

Still, there was the collection of information, and that is really what troubled people. So why cover social and recreational sites to begin with? The answer: Radicalization frequently occurs in nontraditional locations, not only religious centers. One of the key findings of the 2004 attack on a Madrid train station (inspired by al-Qaeda) and the 2005 attack on the London Underground (committed by al-Qaeda) was that the plotters had not radicalized in mosques. In Spain, different members of the terrorist cluster were radicalized in a barbershop, an apartment, and an unidentified store where some ''watched videos containing images of exercises in training camps, as well as images that exalted the value of the jihad,'' according to court testimony. In the U.K., the venues of the radicalization of the 7/7 bombers included the Iqra Learning Center bookstore and the ''al-Qaeda gym'' (the Hamara Healthy Living Centre), both in Beeston.

The AP articles claimed that the NYPD ''kept files on individuals'' gathered by the Demographics Unit. This is a significant distortion of reality. Yes, to be sure, observation reports were prepared. Naturally, such reports included the names of store owners and customers and the information gleaned from conversations. However, no flies about particular individuals were created. The Word-document reports and area-familiarization summaries about visits to public locations were kept on the shelf so that they might be accessed in the event of a fast-moving plot. It would give the department a head start on geographically based knowledge, including data about venues of radicalization and potential ''flophouses'' or other locations where operatives from specific countries might seek to conceal themselves.

For example, the Demographics Unit was critical in identifying the Islamic Books and Tapes bookstore in Brooklyn as a venue for radicalization. Information the unit collected about the store provided a predicate for an investigation that thwarted a 2004 plot against the Herald Square subway station. The unit also played a role in forming the initiation of an investigation that led to the 2008 identification of Abdel Hameed Shehadeh, a New Yorker who was arrested and is currently facing federal charges for allegedly lying about his plans to travel to Afghanistan in order to kill U.S. servicemen. Both operations were conducted in accordance with the Handschu Guidelines.

Anyone who suggests that the efforts of this unit (which was renamed the Zone Assessment Unit in September 2010) did not comport with legal rules either has not read the Handschu Guidelines, has misunderstood them, or has willfully overlooked their meaning. The AP's reporters and editors were in one of these categories. Anyone who denies the success of the demographics initiative is fortunate not to carry the burden of responsibility should there actually be a counterterrorism failure resulting in an attack. I, for one, would have borne that responsibility. The AP team would not have.

II. OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS

The AP Claim: The NYPD's Intelligence Division operates far outside its geographical jurisdiction without the knowledge of local agencies.

If vast oceans and international borders cannot hinder terror plots against the United States, invisible lines separating states and counties certainly cannot. The 1993 attack on the World Trade Center was launched from Jersey City. The 2005 attack on the London Underground was launched from Leeds, 180 miles north of the capital. More recently, Faisal Shahzad's 2010 plot to explode a bomb in an SUV in Times Square on a summer Saturday night on behalf of the Pakistani Taliban was launched from Bridgeport, Connecticut.

It is perfectly legal for the NYPD to travel beyond the boundaries of New York City to investigate cases or visit commercial establishments where terrorists might be radicalizing. Similarly, it is legal to obtain information outside of New York that the Intelligence Division may use ''to prepare general reports and assessments concerning terrorism and other unlawful activities or the purposes of strategic or operational planning.''

In order to help its partner agencies better understand their own jurisdictions, the Demographics Unit was deployed on select occasions to jurisdictions in New Jersey and Long Island. This led the AP to determine that ''the NYPD operates far outside its borders and targets ethnic communities in ways that would run afoul of civil-liberties rules if practiced by the federal government.'' What's more, according to the August 23 article, ''it does so with unprecedented help from the CIA in a partnership that has blurred the bright line between foreign and domestic spying.''

The notion of the NYPD as a rolling team of rogue spies would be comically preposterous if it weren't so damaging. First, the NYPD is not the federal government. Second, these operations were not unilateral.

Local agencies were involved. Any reports or assessments were shared with the local police agencies. What local police chose to tell or not to tell the politicians in their areas was beyond the NYPD's purview.

As the New Jersey Star-Ledger reported on March 6, 2012:

Although recent disclosures that in 2007 the New York Police Department spied on Muslims in New Jersey have unleashed a furor, interviews with a dozen former state and federal officials show the department's presence was widely known among the state's law enforcement officials. In fact, it seems that after the 9/11 terrorist attacks, almost everyone—including Gov. Chris Christie, who was U.S. Attorney for New Jersey at the time—knew to varying degrees the NYPD was scouring the state, where some of the hijackings were planned and one was launched.

A different initiative included the selective use of undercover officers and confidential informants outside city limits. As with the investigation of the 1993 plot against the World Trade Center, which refused to be limited to one side of the Hudson River, a number of terrorist investigations that began inside city limits bled over into adjacent jurisdictions. Any such investigative activity involving human sources had to be conducted in strict accordance with the Handschu Guidelines, just as if those investigations were limited to New York City.

NYPD efforts beyond city limits led to the arrests of the New Jersey-based Mohamed Alessa and Carlos Almonte at John F. Kennedy Airport in June 2010. They were headed to Somalia to join the terrorist organization al Shabaab. Their apprehension marked the conclusion of a three-and-a-half-year investigation by the FBI and Joint Terrorism Task Forces in New York and New Jersey. Also involved: the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness and the U.S. Attorney's office in Newark. The case against Alessa and Almonte was developed through the careful work of an NYPD undercover officer who made contact with the men in 2009 and became a trusted confidant in northern New Jersey.

Similarly, the investigation that led to the arrest of Jose Pimentel began with an investigation in New York City and moved upstate to the Albany region. In November 2011, Pimentel was one hour away from completing the construction of a pipe bomb intended for detonation in New York City when he was nabbed by police. The department's intelligence program was built to facilitate exactly the kind of regional collaboration that made his detention possible.

One AP headline blared, ''NYPD's spying programs yielded only mixed results.'' Strictly speaking, ''mixed results'' is accurate in that for the programs to have yielded non-mixed results, they would have been 100 percent successful or 100 percent unsuccessful. But the implication of the headline is that results have been disappointing. The record of just one aspect of these initiatives tells a dramatically different story. Read on.

III. ON CAMPUS

The AP Claim: The NYPD has investigated and infiltrated Muslim student groups without any legal basis to do so.

At universities students are expected to explore new ideas, challenge themselves, and engage in robust debate involving multiple dissenting opinions. The NYPD has been especially sensitive in any operational work that risks infringing on this protected space. Allegations that police have been infiltrating Muslim student groups at colleges in the city and schools beyond city limits, including Yale and the University of Pennsylvania, are serious and need to be addressed.

But in covering this topic, the AP conflated two different elements of investigative work: open-sourced Internet searches and undercover officers. ''Investigators have been infiltrating Muslim student groups at Brooklyn College and other schools in the city, monitoring their Internet activity and placing undercover agents in their ranks,'' reads an October 11 story. ''Legal experts say the operation may have broken a 19-year-old pact with the colleges and violated U.S. privacy laws, jeopardizing millions of dollars in federal research money and student aid.'' This is a dramatic misinterpretation of the nature and scope of the department's actions.

The first investigative initiative involving students began in 2006 and involved the NYPD Intelligence Division's Cyber Unit. Officers reviewed Muslim Student Association (MSA) websites, all of which were publicly available, for a period of six months—and with good reason.

Consider the following stories from Great Britain: On March 30, 2004, British authorities disrupted an al-Qaeda plot to mount a bomb attack in the United Kingdom. The individuals involved had obtained 1,300 pounds of ammonium nitrate fertilizer for making bombs. They considered targeting a shopping mall, a nightclub, the U.K.'s 4,200-mile network of underground high-pressure gas pipelines, various British synagogues, Parliament, and a soccer stadium. Four of the seven conspirators were either current university students, dropouts, or graduates of London Metropolitan University, the University of Hertfordshire, and Brunel University. One was an active member of the latter's Islamic society.

The 2005 London subway plot killed 52 commuters, injured 700, and severely disrupted the city's transport infrastructure. One of the suicide bombers was a recent graduate of Leeds Metropolitan University, one a recent dropout from the same university, and one a university student at Thomas Danby College in Leeds at the time of the attack.

Next summer, on August 9, British authorities disrupted an al-Qaeda conspiracy to detonate liquid explosives on nine transatlantic airliners traveling from the United Kingdom to the United States and Canada. Four of the nine conspirators were either current university students, dropouts, or graduates from London Metropolitan University, City University, Brunel University, and Middlesex University. One had been president of London Metropolitan University's Islamic Society.

Most important, the trend is not limited to the U.K. Right here in New York, Mohammed Junaid Babar and Styled Fahad Hashmi, who were arrested in connection with the previously referenced 2004 plot in the U.K. and pled guilty to al-Qaeda-related terrorist activities, had been radicalized through the university-based New York branch of al-Muhajiroun, an Islamist student group in Britain to which several of the subway bombers were linked. The group actively recruited at the Muslim Student Associations of Brooklyn College, Queens College, and other universities in New York City. More recently, the NYPD learned that Adis Medunjanin, indicted for his participation in the most serious plot on American soil since 9/11—the 2009 Najibullah Zazi plot to detonate explosives in the New York City subway system—was an active member of the Queens College Muslim Student Association.

So what did the NYPD do about campus radicalization and recruitment? For a six-month period, beginning in November 2006 and ending in May 2007, Intelligence Division detectives conducted public-information Internet searches to determine if radicalization and recruitment to terrorism were occurring on local university campuses and, if so, to what extent.

Detectives visited publicly available websites of universities and colleges in and around New York City, catalogued what they saw, and assembled the information into 23 biweekly reports. (Once again, NYPD members investigating counterterrorism activities are authorized by the Handschu Guidelines to search websites open to the public for the purpose of developing intelligence information to detect or prevent terrorism or other unlawful activities.) They were looking mostly at speakers, conferences, and events held at MSAs that might—even if inadvertently—support terrorism or provide a recruiting venue for extremist Islamist groups.

Fortunately, the vast majority of speakers, conferences, and events held at Muslim Student Associations in the tristate area were nonthreatening in nature, and in May 2007 the initiative was closed. The information from the biweekly reports was not entered into any database.

Nevertheless, not everything going on at universities was benign. Detectives learned that Jesse Curtis Morton, who has just recently pled guilty to ''using his position as a leader of Revolution Muslim Internet sites to conspire to solicit murder, make threatening communications, and use the Internet to place others in fear,'' according to the Eastern District of Virginia, spoke at Stony Brook University as a leader of the Islamic Thinkers Society. In April 2007, detectives learned that Morton's co-founder of Revolution Muslim, Yousef al-Khattab, spoke at Brooklyn College's Islamic Society.

Wholly separate from this initiative is the use of undercover officers in investigations that sometimes involved MSA-related activities. Of course, one could be forgiven for thinking that an investigation involving students from City University of New York on a whitewater-rafting trip was a direct consequence of these open-source Internet searches, given how the AP conflated the two. It was not.

Here is how the AP managed to conflate the discrete phenomena in a February 18 article: ''Police talked with local authorities about professors 300 miles (480 kilometers) away in Buffalo and even sent an undercover agent on a whitewater-rafting trip, where he recorded students' names and noted in police intelligence files how many times they prayed. Detectives trawled Muslim student websites every day and, although professors and students had not been accused of any wrongdoing, their names were recorded in reports prepared for Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly.''

The trip fell under a classic investigative framework after information obtained by the NYPD raised the possibility that an individual or group of individuals were engaged in or planning to engage in unlawful activity.

Much has been made of the benign nature of this particular event where no discussion of terrorism occurred. A post about the trip on New York magazine's website claims, ''What has civil-liberties advocates really worried is just how far the NYPD has stretched the parameters of its domestic espionage program—until now, at least, the official line was that the force only pursued leads about suspected criminal activity. Clearly, that's no longer the case.''

Such histrionics are hardly warranted. In the subway-bomb-plot trial of Najibullah Zazi and Adis Medunjanin, it was disclosed that operational planning for the plot occurred on the basketball courts of Kissena Park and while hiking on Bear Mountain, north of New York City. Neither a bucolic setting nor a recreational endeavor guarantees peaceful intentions.

The AP also has claimed that these and other investigations have occurred with insufficient oversight. One article uncritically quoted New York Civil Liberties Union lawyer Christopher Dunn, who declared of the NYPD anti-terrorism program: ''At the end of the day, it's pure and simple a rogue domestic surveillance operation.'' He continued: ''One of the hallmarks of the intelligence division over the last 10 years is that, not only has it gotten extremely aggressive and sophisticated, but it's operating completely on its own. There are no checks. There is no oversight.''

In particular, the AP has asserted that the modified Handschu Guidelines gave the NYPD operational carte blanche. ''He scrapped the old rules and replaced them with more lenient ones,'' reads an August 23, 2011, article describing U.S. District Judge Charles S. Haight Jr.'s decision to modify the guidelines in 2002. ''It was a turning point for the NYPD.''

But far from providing evidence of this charge, the whitewater-rafting case reveals it as folly. The Handschu Guidelines require written authorization from the deputy commissioner of intelligence when utilizing human intelligence. That requirement was met here as it has been in every other case. Moreover, an internal committee reviews each investigation to ensure compliance, and a legal unit based in the Intelligence Division evaluates every field intelligence report generated through an investigation. This committee meets regularly every month, and at one meeting at the end of my tenure, no fewer than 10 attorneys and five assistant or deputy commissioners were in attendance. It is important to note that investigations are discontinued unless they reasonably indicate that an unlawful act has been, is being, or will be committed.

As a matter of Police Department policy, undercover officers and confidential informants do not enter a mosque unless they are doing so as part of an investigation of a person or institution approved under the Handschu Guidelines. Likewise, when undercover officers or confidential informants have attended a private event organized by a student group, they have done so only on the basis of a lead or investigation reviewed and authorized in writing at the highest levels of the department.

Given my dual role as a former director of intelligence analysis at the NYPD and a visiting lecturer at Columbia University, I took a special interest in this issue and personally reviewed the documents in question to see the number of times that NYPD human sources were present on local campuses in the last five years. The numbers are very small and almost always involved intelligence-collection efforts limited to individuals who were under investigation, not the broader student body.

So, yes, in 2006, given the trends observed both here and overseas, the NYPD thought it prudent to learn more about what was occurring at Muslim Student Associations in the region via open sources, and the six-month initiative generated six months' worth of public-information reports. The NYPD did not send undercover sources to infiltrate MSAs throughout the northeast. Both the open-source initiative and the few investigations where undercover officers examined the activities of university students as part of an ongoing investigation authorized by Handschu Guidelines have led to a greater understanding of the relationship between terrorism and university organizations and have, as a result, kept New York City safer.

In total, the NYPD has helped to prevent 14 terrorist attacks on New York City and its surrounding areas and permitted exactly zero deadly plots to materialize in the 11 years since 9/11. Its success, based on the math alone, is indisputable. But in a free country, success is not enough. Civil libertarians are correct in asserting that safety at the cost of political freedom would betray the highest American ideals. And the unlawful targeting of New York City's minorities would constitute nothing less than a cultural and spiritual gutting of the greatest, most diverse city history has seen. But neither of those travesties have occurred, thanks to the genius of America's Constitution and the NYPD's exquisite adherence to it.

Sadly, the absence of wrongdoing goes only so far in a media-driven society shaped by the 24-hour news cycle and explosive headlines. The damage the AP inflicted upon the NYPD's reputation cannot be mitigated wholly by this or any other honest airing of the facts. Indeed, one can argue that inflicting such damage—not debating police methodology—was the point of the AP's series.

The war on the NYPD's method of combating terrorism is a war on the war on terror by proxy—an effort to portray the least controversial aspect of homeland security as instead a matter of great civil-libertarian concern. Long before the AP series, the war on the war began with efforts to discredit the federal government's endeavors to collect intelligence from combatants and terror suspects captured on the battlefields of Afghanistan and Iraq. It zoomed in on the rights of those detained overseas and at the American base in Guantánamo Bay. Now it has come home, to take on a once universally heralded and supported effort at domestic counterterrorism at the epicenter of the 9/11 attacks, New York City.

Having impugned military and intelligence efforts to fight terrorism, these foes are now taking aim at the most conventional kind of anti-terror approach—one that works within the domestic criminal-justice system, is overseen by courts, and is being managed by a police department that has rigorously kept to the terms of legal limits to which it agreed nearly 30 years ago.

By portraying the NYPD efforts as rogue operations, the AP and the Pulitzer committee are seeking to slacken attempts inside the United States to stop terrorist plots before they happen. Letting these false and misleading stories alter local counterterrorism work would be catastrophic. It has taken many hard years to craft the effective anti-terrorism policies that serve us so well today. Now, with al-Qaeda on the ropes, our renewed sense of security can morph easily into complacency—and terrorists will be sure to exploit any new opportunities to attack. The price of maintaining the safety of New Yorkers has been kept remarkably low, not only for residents but for the country as a whole. Preventing another devastating attack from occurring in the city after 2001 was much more than a local necessity. Such an attack would have been devastating to national morale.

And it still would be.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote Nos. 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304 and 305. Had I been present, I would have voted ''Aye'' on rollcall vote Nos. 300, 301, 302, 304 and 305. Had I been present, I would have voted ''No'' on rollcall vote Nos. 297, 298, 299, and 303.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID P. ROE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, on May 30, 2012 I was recorded as voting ''no'' on rollcall No. 303, the Franks amendment to H.R. 5854. I intended to vote ''aye'' and would like that to be noted in the RECORD.

H.R. 5186, THE HALT INDEX TRADING OF ENERGY COMMODITIES OR HITEC

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss H.R. 5186, the Halt Index Trading of Energy Commodities, or HITEC, Act. I recently introduced this bill with Representatives FRANK and DELAURO because I believe urgent action is needed to protect our nation's oil and refined product commodities markets from artificial and excessive levels of volatility caused by the trading practices of certain Wall Street traders. Since 1991, Wall Street investment banks such as Goldman Sachs have created and marketed a new financial product known as commodity index funds, which are really energy speculation funds, gasoline gambles. These energy speculation funds track the financial performance of one or more commodities. If a speculation fund has an investment in oil and the value of oil goes up, then the value of the fund goes up; if the value of oil goes down, the value of the speculation fund goes down.

These investments have been incredibly popular with investors but have had an adverse effect on the operation of the markets for the commodities that comprise the funds. Hundreds of billions of dollars have been invested in various energy speculation funds, artificially inflating the prices of our commodities. While these energy speculation funds may be driving up prices for many different commodities, they are having an especially pernicious effect on energy commodities. According to testimony submitted to the House Natural Resources Committee, excessive speculation added nearly $1.00 to the per gallon price of

gasoline this spring, and energy speculation funds appear to be largely responsible. Due to the activities of these energy speculation funds, Wall Street investment banks have profited by introducing new and unprecedented levels of volatility and speculation into oil and refined product markets.

Energy speculation funds have changed the very nature of our commodities markets. Traditionally, the commodities market was dominated by companies who actually used the commodities to hedge the business risk associated with oil or refined products prices. Large oil, gasoline, diesel or jet fuel consumers such as airlines, trucking firms, and shipping services were the largest participants in these markets. Indeed, in 1996, companies who actually bought oil on the commodities market so they could use it owned 93% of the oil futures or derivatives in that market. Now, however, these companies only own 37% of the oil futures or derivatives in that market. The bulk of the remaining 63% is owned by speculators who have invested in these energy speculation funds, none of whom will actually use any of the oil or natural gas in which they have invested.

Despite only being twenty-one years old, energy speculation funds have already had a profound impact on our country. They have increased the size of our commodities market. They have increased the volatility of our commodities prices. They have hurt consumers' wallets and small businesses by making them pay more at the pump. They have slowed the growth of our economy by requiring that we devote even more money to energy instead of creating new jobs. These energy speculation funds are a danger to our economy, our financial system, and the average American's wallet.

The HITEC Act will restore order to our energy commodity markets and end this experiment. The bill will ban all new investment in energy commodities like light sweet crude oil, natural gas, heating oil, and gasoline by these commodity index funds from the date of enactment. The day the President signs this bill, energy speculation funds will not be allowed to grow any more if they count speculators among their investors. Existing energy speculation funds that continue to count speculators among their investors will then have two years to wind down their investments. As the average length of a ''spot'' commodity contract is one year, this should allow energy speculation funds that continue to house speculators more than enough time to wind down their investments in a fair and orderly fashion.

This bill does not prohibit energy speculation funds from investing in agricultural commodities like wheat or corn, nor does it prohibit those funds from investing in metals such as gold. The bill also does not implicate trading of electricity in any way, shape, or form. Instead, this bill just prohibits energy speculation funds from interfering with our energy commodities, a market that determines the prices for the fuels that power our economy.

This bill will end an unnecessary and harmful source of excessive price volatility that has only served to benefit Wall Street traders and has harmed our economy by pumping up oil, gasoline, and other refined product prices. Enactment of this legislation will address one major source of the pain American consumers have recently been feeling at the pump, and I urge all of my colleagues to co-sponsor this critical legislation.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5854) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes:

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 5854, the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2013, which supports our military and their families and provides the benefits and medical care that our veterans have earned for their service.

H.R, 5854 provides the facilities and infrastructure needed to house, train, and equip our military personnel to defend this Nation, both in the United States and abroad, provides the housing and military community infrastructure that supports a good quality of life for them and their families, and allows the military to maintain an efficient and effective base structure. The bill also funds programs to ensure that all veterans receive the benefits and medical care that they have earned as a result of their sacrifices in the service to our Nation.

This bill builds on the progress of Democratically-led Congresses from 2007 through 2010 for veterans. Just as our military pledges to leave no one behind on the battlefield, Democrats in Congress have pledged to leave no veteran behind when they come home. This bill provides $71.7 billion in discretionary spending for Fiscal Year 2013, equal to last year's level.

For VA programs, the bill provides $60.7 billion in discretionary funding, $2.2 billion above the FY 2012 enacted level. The bill also assumes $74.6 billion in mandatory funding. With this funding, the VA will be able to provide quality medical care to more than 6.3 million patients in 2013, including 610,000 veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan.

Madam Chair, let me note my strong opposition to a number of provisions in this bill. This bill enacts a pay freeze on federal workers and rejects the President's proposed 0.5 percent pay raise.

I also oppose the language banning the implementation of the executive order encouraging government agencies to require contractors for large-scale Federal construction projects to negotiate or participate in labor agreements with unions. Republicans are trying to use this critical measure for our military and veterans to advance their controversial anti-worker agenda of no project labor agreements in Federal contracting.

I would like to take a moment to express my strong support for the Grimm amendment. Last year, I worked with Congressman LATOURETTE on defeating anti-Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) language in the MilCon/VA Appropriations bill and this year I rise in support of the Grimm amendment.

Section 517 of H.R. 5854 prohibits agencies from being able to use all available methods to ensure that Federal contracts are cost-efficient. Section 517 of this legislation increases the risk of project cost overruns, delays, and fails to protect our workers.

The Grimm amendment ensures that funds for large-scale construction projects utilize the most cost-effective and efficient process for the awarding of Federal contracts and simply saves taxpayers money!

Madam Chair, however one feels about Project Labor Agreements, the MilCon/VA bill is not the appropriate vehicle to have this debate. The MilCon/VA bill is intended to reflect our commitment to our veterans and our service members in uniform and should be limited to that purpose.

The Grimm amendment simply allows Federal agencies to use all tools at their disposal in awarding large-scale contracts that ensure taxpayer funds are used efficiently and that projects are completed on time and on budget.

All of us in Congress are looking at ways to rein in our deficit. This amendment protects workers and taxpayer funds. I urge my colleagues to support the Grimm amendment.

Madam Chair, in my remaining time let me discuss an additional reason why I support this legislation. This bill includes $169 million for the ongoing effort to create an integrated electronic health record system that transitions from an individual's active service in the military to the VA and requires the VA and Defense Department to provide Congress with an execution and spending plan for FY 2013 and outline a road map for completing the project.

The bill also includes the requested levels of $1.4 billion for VA homeless assistance programs and $4.8 billion for homeless veterans' treatment costs. The bill provides the requested $250 million to improve access and quality care for the more than three million veterans residing in rural areas and $6.5 billion for mental health programs including $443 million for post-traumatic stress disorder and $76 million for suicide prevention.

This is not a perfect bill but this piece of legislation addresses the most critical needs of our service members, military families, and veterans. The positive provisions outweigh the negative ones and I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5854.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARTIN HEINRICH

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. Speaker, I unfortunately missed three votes the afternoon of May 31, 2012, which included rollcall votes 294, 295 and 296. If I had been present, I would have voted in favor of rollcall vote 294, Representative UPTON's (MI–6) bill, H.R. 5651. If I had been present, I would have voted in favor of rollcall vote 295, Representative TURNER's (OH–3) bill, H.R. 4201. Lastly, I would have voted in favor of rollcall vote 296, Representative CUELLAR's (TX–28) bill, H.R. 915.

RECOGNIZING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KIWANIS CLUB OF STOCKTON

HON. JERRY McNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. McNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Kiwanis Club of Stockton on the occasion of its 90th anniversary.

The Kiwanis Club of Stockton was first chartered in 1922. It is a part of Kiwanis International, a global organization that is represented around the world. Kiwanis International works to make a difference in children's lives by providing grants to local Kiwanis clubs that benefit community projects, scholarships to high school students, and youth leadership programs.

In my district, the Kiwanis Club of Stockton works tirelessly to support the youth of the Stockton area. One of the chief ways the Kiwanis Club assists students is through its High School Scholarship Program. Each year, the club awards accomplished high school seniors with funds to help support their college educations. The Kiwanis Club promotes the well-being of children in the community by donating "wish list" items to the St. Mary's Service Center in Stockton and by hosting an annual clean up day of Pixie Woods, a local children's park in Stockton.

I commend the Kiwanis Club of Stockton for its outstanding service and I have no doubt that its efforts have made, and will continue to make, a positive impact on the lives of many children and families throughout our community. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Kiwanis Club of Stockton on the occasion of its 90th anniversary.

RECOGNIZING MS. SNIGDHA NANDIPATI

HON. BRIAN P. BILBRAY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Ms. Snigdha Nandipati, the 2012 Scripps National Spelling Bee champion from Rancho Penasquitos, a community from my district in San Diego, California.

The winning word, guetapens, means to ambush, snare or trap. While not many people know what this word means, even less know how to spell it. Ms. Nandipati did. The eighth-grader from Francis Parker Middle School, armed with her lucky key chain, defeated 277 of the country's best spelling bee competitors in a three-day competition to win the coveted title.

As with all things, the achievement does not tell the entire story. In preparation for this competition, Ms. Nandipati studied six hours a day on a computer program created by her father, designed to generate random words for her to spell. If that was not enough, she showed initiative by founding her school's own spelling bee club so students could hone their competition skills and challenge each other.

Consider this: as this statement is typed on Microsoft Word, spell check displays its signature hashed-red line below the winning word indicating that it is either incorrectly spelled or the computer does not recognize the word; concluding that even Bill Gates, founder of Microsoft, does not recognize or know how to spell the word Ms. Nandipati prevailed with.

I hope my colleagues will join me along with many proud San Diegans in recognizing the fine achievement of Ms. Nandipati. Without question, her hard work, initiative and success are worthy of recognition by the House of Representatives.

HONORING THE 2012 GRADUATES OF CHARLES DREW UNIVERSITY

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the 2012 graduates of Charles Drew University in Los Angeles. This unique school is a true national treasure. Formally established in 1966 as a postgraduate medical school, CDU is a private, non-profit, minority-serving medical and health science institution. But it is much more than that; it is one of only four historically black graduate institutions in this country, and the only one located west of the Mississippi.

The men and women who graduate from this institution go on to have remarkable careers. Since 1971, when the first student matriculated, CDU has graduated over 550 physicians, 1,200 physician assistants, 2,800 physician specialists and numerous other healthcare professionals from diverse backgrounds, most of whom dedicated their careers working in underserved communities.

In Los Angeles County nearly one in every three minority doctors were trained at CDU, and graduates of the College of Medicine are two to three times more likely to practice in diverse and medically underserved communities than physicians trained in other medical schools. The school is simply indispensable to the minority communities in LA County.

African Americans, who account for only 13 percent of the U.S. population, account for more than 50 percent of all new HIV/AIDS diagnoses. African Americans die from diabetes at twice the rate of white Americans, and die from cancer at a rate 25.4% higher than white Americans.

Mr. Speaker, these statistics are grim, and there are many more shocking health disparities that exist between racial groups in our country. This is why health research institutions, like CDU, that are focused on eradicating these disparities are of vital importance.

With so many patients to serve, it is critical that we have enough trained health care professionals to adequately serve all communities, especially those that are economically disadvantaged like the area surrounding CDU. The graduates that emerge from this institution are fundamental in fulfilling that role.

As the Member of Congress for the 37th District of California in which the Charles Drew University is located, I am personally familiar with CDU's accomplished record of service. Each member of the graduating class has chosen a career path that will not only be exciting and rewarding, but will make a true difference in the lives of so many people.

Mr. Speaker, today I honor this exceptional University, and the 2012 graduates who will be moving on to provide health care with excellence and compassion. I know that it will be men and women like them that will transform the health of underserved communities.

CONGRATULATING TERESA A. RODGES AS THE 2012 WOMAN OF THE YEAR FOR THE LAMBDA RHO ZETA CHAPTER OF THE ZETA PHI BETA SORORITY

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an exemplary member of our community, Mrs. Teresa A. Rodges, for her abundant service to the community and her outstanding achievements as recognized by the Lambda Rho Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc.'s 29th Finer Womanhood Luncheon.

Mrs. Rodges dedicates both her free time and professional career to community service. She has held top-level executive positions at organizations that work to make a difference in the community, including Matrix Human Services in Detroit, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Pontiac, and her current position as Executive Director of the McLaren Oakland Riley Foundation.

As an outstanding member of her community, Mrs. Rodges saw a need to help those experiencing economic misfortune and unemployment in Pontiac and the surrounding area. Realizing fewer women could afford health insurance, Mrs. Rodges created the Sister & Sister Free Mammogram Program in 2007. She worked relentlessly to raise funds in order to ensure adequate care for economically disadvantaged women. The Sister & Sister program has provided over 3,000 free mammogram screenings, detected breast cancer in several women, and provided follow-up treatment to women in need. With the leadership of Mrs. Rodges, funds were raised to purchase a digital mammography system. This program and Mrs. Rodges have received recognition and support from elected officials statewide.

Mrs. Rodges has also dedicated her time to helping the Pontiac school system. As a member of the Pontiac Promise Zone Authority Board, she was instrumental in raising $750,000 in funding for scholarships to Pontiac students. She also created the Riley Scholars program to recruit mentors, hire managers, and tutors to ensure that every student in the Pontiac School District has access to postsecondary education.

An astonishing number of boards and committees for local non-profits have been the beneficiaries of Mrs. Rodges commitment to helping others. Some of the boards and committees she has served on include: the Women's Survival Center, Oakland University School of Nursing Board of Visitors, Baker College Business Advisory Committee, and the United Way Executive Committee. Mrs. Rodges' service to these and other local organizations shows her dedication to the community and over the years they have recognized her with many awards for her leadership and service.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Teresa A. Rodges has dedicated her life to helping others in need. From organizing post-secondary education programs to creating affordable mammogram screenings for underprivileged women, she is a role model to the community and the epitome of an excellent leader. She has changed and saved the lives of many people through her service. I am pleased to honor Mrs. Rodges as the Lambda Rho Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority recognizes her as its 2012 Woman of the Year.

HONORING PRESIDENT MA OF TAIWAN FOR HIS RE-ELECTION VICTORY

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and honor President Ma of Taiwan for his re-election victory. I believe that the people of Taiwan and the United States have a reason to celebrate President Ma's second inauguration, which occurred on May 20, 2012.

I hope that during his second term, President Ma and the United States can work together to address the concerns that both our countries share, such as enhancing our mutual security, and exchanging ideas to improve the health care of both of our societies.

These efforts, with the countless successes in the past and the close relationship we have maintained with Taiwan, assure a bright and peaceful future for both of our countries.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIM HUELSKAMP

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 302, the Grimm Amendment to H.R. 5854, I inadvertently voted yes when I intended to vote no. I believe every worker should be able to decide for themselves whether or not they would like to join a union. Project Labor Agreements violate workers' rights and inhibit business growth. No one should ever face compulsory membership in any group. Given our current fiscal situation, the last thing Congress should be doing is imposing more burdensome regulations on businesses and workers. I am proud that Kansas is a Right-to-Work state, and I am committed to promoting workers' rights at the federal level.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5854) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes:

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Chair, I was unavoidably detained and unable to be present for the vote on the Grimm Amendment to H.R. 5854, the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act. I want to state for the record that I strongly support this amendment, and had I been present, I would have voted yes.

Mr. GRIMM's amendment would strike the anti-project labor agreement language inserted into the bill. This bi-partisan amendment is an important defense against Republican attacks on labor and project labor agreements.

As a Member of Congress, I take the responsibility to protect workers' rights seriously, and I support economic solutions that protect and lift all Americans—not just the privileged few—in order to create a safe and prosperous nation for all. A cornerstone of this economy are Project Labor Agreements, which are pre-hire agreements that establish the terms and conditions of employment to ensure tax payer funded projects use local workers to finish on time and under budget.

It is time to rebuild our economy in a way that is consistent with our values. Until all Americans are back to work, more must be done on behalf America's middle class and working families. Project Labor Agreements are a vital part of this process, and I strongly support all attempts to protect them.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, on May 30, 2012, I was unavoidably absent for votes in the House chamber. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall Votes 294, 295 and 296.

CONGRESSIONAL SHADOW DAY FOR FOSTER YOUTH

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support of National Foster Care Month, which is observed in May to increase awareness of the challenges faced by children in the foster care system. Yesterday, I participated in Congressional Shadow Day for Foster Youth and had the pleasure of being shadowed by Dontysha Torry of Washington, DC. Dontysha shares the experience of over 400,000 children in America who are a part of our Nation's child foster care system. I would also like to urge my colleagues to not lose sight of the challenges facing thousands of children who find themselves in the foster care system. These 400,000 children are our children, and the responsibility for their successful development into adulthood remains our responsibility. This is why foster care polices should be shaped, or reconsidered with the aim of: 1) increasing the amount of eligible parents willing to adopt; 2) minimizing traumatic changes in a child's educational career and developmental process; 3) curbing the risk of homelessness in early adulthood; 4) and addressing the serious realities of sexual abuse.

I would be remiss if I did not also mention the importance of remaining mindful of the impact foster care policy has on underprivileged communities. African-Americans, who make up approximately 60 percent of my constituents in Brooklyn, but approximately 12 percent of the larger U.S. population, make up a staggering 27 percent of children who enter foster care. Unfortunately, African-Americans are more likely to remain in the foster care system longer and in many instances will never be permanently placed.

Finally, we all know that often quoted proverb "it takes a village to raise a child." Similar to villages, which comprise of a number of different community members that serve different purposes, the community established to support foster care children should also be a diverse one. The success of a child is dependent on the influence of a number of persons including: those willing to adopt; those willing to serve as court appointed special advocates; and those willing to serve as tutors and higher education counselors. Let us all encourage our community members to get involved regardless of how minor one may assume their role to be. We can hardly imagine the impact a small deed may have on a child.

As National Foster Care Month comes to an end, I urge all of my colleagues to join the Foster Youth Caucus and support initiatives and legislation that brings to issue what foster youth face in the nation to light.

RECOGNIZING THE PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER VOLUNTEERS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Prince William County Juvenile Detention Center Volunteers.

JDC Volunteers ensure the efficiency of Juvenile Detention Center's after-school program. They treat the youth with respect, dignity and worth, becoming role models for youth who wish to change their lives. The volunteers promote healthy social, educational, emotional, and physical development. The JDC Volunteers are truly an integral part of the center, as well as these children's lives.

It is my honor to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of volunteers for the Prince William County Juvenile Detention Center:

Joshua Ahmadi, Jean Andreas, Antonio Ante, Mileydi Ante, Warren Anthony, Alex Arevalo, Jose Argueta, Melis Argueta, Anthonese Barlow, Beverly Barnes, Tina Barnett, Edwardo Barrow, Paul Bauer, Robin Bauer, Matt Behnke, Katherine Best-Brown, Patricia Black, Renee Blakey, Leah Bogden-Collins, Barbara Borthwick, Patrick Bowens, Diana Bowers, Angela Brown, Michael Brown, Renee Brown, Peggy Bruhn, Richard Buckholt, Isabella Buckley, William Burrell,

Brigitte Caboteja, Keisha Cameron, Daniel Card, Alfred Cardwell, Christopher Cavaluzzi, Elizabeth Charity, Louis Chevalier, Marcia Clark, Triane Clowers, Erin Collins, Carolyn Craig-Sprow, Elaine Crocker, Vincent Currie, David Danieli, Jacqueline Daugnon, Randy Davenport, Carolyn Demps, Joel Devallon, Arthur Diggs, Paul Dressler, Henry During, Michael Edwards, Christopher Floyd, Ingrid Floyd-Casco, Emilio Fogerty, Barbara Fortenberry, Stephanie Fox, Doug Freeman, Michael French, Lohrland Gandy, Aria Gee, Keith Givens, Patsy Gordon, CeCe Greco, Tabatha Guion, Linda Hammon, Darrell Harris, Ruth Hellwig, Sherri Hines, Ernest Hines II, Rebecca Hixon, Mary Hoffman, Corey Holeman, Gay Howard, Bob James, Vondetta James, Jackie James-Bond, Kimberly Jappell, Breanna Jones, Matthew Jones, Karen King, William Lewis, Dudley Ligon, Vickey Logan, John Louisor, Cora Lynch, Floyd Mangin, Sherman Manley, Leonardo Manning, Bruce Marchal, Ardine Marie, Antonio Mason, David Masters, John McKie, John McMackin, Liz Medina, Robert Melvin, Dan MenMuir, Charles Miller, Jeanne Moore, William Moore, Gregory Morris, Dona Mosley-Williams, Tyler Newton, Dianne Noble, Debbie Page-Maples, Robin Paglianite, Sheila Parocia, Caris Penzien, Christy Phillips, Bernice Piasare, LaTasha Pless, Daniel Ramirez, Paul Ramos, Carlos Recono, Hugo Retana, Rhonda Richardson, Sabeana Roberts, Reina Rodriguez, Suzanne Rucker, Joy Russom, Brandis Sanchez, Cathy Sanders, Charlene Scott, Pastor Angel Serrano, Natasha Severe, Cathy Shaffer, Dennis Smith, Latonya Smith, Odell Smith, Victoria Soberanis, Jeanne Spears, Martin Steinberg, Kevin Stewart, Sherry Stone, Anita Sullivan, Carolyn Taylor, Brenda Todd, Shonietta Travers, Doyoberto Trejo, Aimee Tucker, Ortho Vines, Diane Walden, Andrew Walker, Kenneth Wallace, Patricia Wallace, Amy Ward, Sandra Watjen, Shirley Watson, Delores Weikert, Stephen Weikert, Sandy Weinger, Elizabeth Williams, Stacy Williams, Brianne Wilson, Carol Wilson, Michael Wilson, Robert Wilson, Ericca Wright, Reynold Wright, Laurie Raines, Kelly Jimenez, Tracey Wilkins-Clark, Tricia Wyman.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the Prince William County Juvenile Detention Center Volunteers for their service and in thanking them for their dedication to our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF BRENDAN HAAS

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of nine-year-old Brendan Haas, a resident of Kingston, Massachusetts, who has displayed the most profound sense of generosity and caring to the family of a fallen soldier.

In February, Brendan set up a Facebook page called ''A Soldier for a Soldier,'' which involves ''trading up'' items for something bigger and better. His intention was always to donate the best item he received to a military family. Through this project, Brendan began with a single toy soldier and spent three months dedicated to trading for bigger and better things before he received the item he wanted to donate. Brendan then held a raffle with the names of families across the country and ended up drawing the name Liberty Hope Steele, the daughter of Timothy Steele, a soldier from his native Massachusetts who was killed in Afghanistan last August. On Memorial Day, Brendan presented the Steele family with a free vacation to Disney World.

Brendan's generosity knows no bounds, as he recently demonstrated a second time. Recognized for his actions during the morning telecast of ''Good Morning America,'' Brendan was informed that the Walt Disney Company was awarding him and his family an all-expense paid vacation to Disney World for what he had done on behalf of the Steele family. Brendan; however, refused to accept the trip for himself; instead, he said it would be raffled away to another military family.

This type of selflessness is years beyond what we would expect of a young boy. Brendan has made his community and his country very proud.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Brendan Haas for his remarkable spirit, dedication and generosity. I know we will see more great things from him in the future.

COMMEMORATING AZERBAIJAN'S REPUBLIC DAY

HON. DAN BOREN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. BOREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the people of the Republic of Azerbaijan and their celebration of Republic Day on May 28.

Azerbaijan first declared independence from the Russian Empire on May 28, 1918. Though the Azerbaijan Republic later succumbed to Soviet forces in 1920, in its 2 years of independence Azerbaijan achieved a number of measures on state-building, armed forces, education, economy, and universal suffrage, from which it benefits today. Azerbaijan restored its independence in 1991 after the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Azerbaijan is a key global security partner for the United States. Azerbaijan was among the first nations to offer unconditional support for US and its allies in anti-terrorism efforts, providing use of its airspace, airports, and troops for operations in Afghanistan. Azerbaijani troops were also part of international contingent in Kosovo and Iraq.

Azerbaijan has opened Caspian energy resources to development by U.S. companies and has emerged as a key player for global energy security. The Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan pipeline project is the most successful project contributing to the development of the South Caucasus region and has become the main artery delivering Caspian Sea hydrocarbons to the U.S. and our partners in Europe.

As a proud Co-Chair of Congressional Azerbaijan Caucus I call my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Republic of Azerbaijan on this important occasion.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5854) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Chair, I rise today to express my qualified support for H.R. 5854, the FY13 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations bill. While I commend Chairmen ROGERS and CULBERSON and Ranking Members SMITH and BISHOP for their efforts to craft bipartisan legislation dedicated to addressing the needs of current and former servicemembers and their families, I support this bill with strong reservations about how the measure treats the very civilian employees who will be asked to provide the services and carry out the instructions outlined in the bill.

H.R. 5854 contains a number of important provisions designed to serve our military with an eye toward trimming spending, eliminating waste and directing taxpayer dollars more effectively.

The MilCon-VA bill, as it is called, funds construction by the Department of Defense for hospitals, clinics, schools, family housing and other facilities in order to deliver timely and vital medical care to our Nation's veterans, active military members and their families. The measure also provides funding for disability care, educational benefits and other resources to help advance U.S. missions abroad.

Specifically, I applaud the committee for funding support for medical services and facilities; for veteran's compensation, pension and burial benefits for former servicemembers, survivors and their dependents; and for the important family housing here and abroad that helps ease some of the financial burden faced by our men and women in uniform.

Despite providing necessary support for these and other important projects and programs, this bill also continues a troubling new Republican pattern in the Congress of balancing our fiscal accounts on the backs of our Federal employees. It seems like every time the Republicans bring a bill to the floor, they use it as a vehicle to attack public servants by cutting their pensions, or pay, or benefits to pay for other spending items. Federal employees have already given up $60 billion of salary over 10 years as part of the two-year pay freeze. Starting in January 2013, new Federal employees will contribute more to their pensions to offset the $15 billion cost of Unemployment Insurance Extension legislation. And with this MilCon bill, Federal employees are asked to give up the very small .5% partial COLA allotted in the President's FY13 budget request.

Nurses and rehabilitation specialists, weapons systems mechanics and border guards are among the many dedicated Federal employees that serve our country. They sometimes serve shoulder-to-shoulder on the battlefield with our uniformed servicemembers.

They should not be a piggy-bank that Republicans turn to whenever they need a source of funds.

RECOGNIZING THE GOODWILL INDUSTRIES OF THE HEARTLAND, IOWA CITY, AND THE ABILITYONE PROGRAM

HON. DAVID LOEBSACK

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. LOEBSACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the AbilityOne Program. Over the last few years, AbilityOne has helped more than 50,000 Americans who are blind or have other significant disabilities gain the skills necessary for gainful employment.

The AbilityOne Program, through Federal purchasing, supports community-based nonprofit agencies that are dedicated to training and employing people with disabilities. Opportunities through the AbilityOne program have brought individuals into working society and afforded them the ability to receive competitive wages and benefits. The job skills and training these individuals receive go a long way to foster greater independence and quality of life. Those who benefit from the program have historically suffered from significant unemployment, but AbilityOne is turning this trend around.

I would also like to acknowledge Goodwill Industries of the Heartland of Iowa City, an AbilityOne Program affiliate. As one of 207 regional Goodwill organizations, Goodwill Industries of the Heartland serves Iowa communities by empowering people with significant disabilities to seek education and employment. With the support of the AbilityOne Program, Goodwill Industries of the Heartland's training and job placement programs help clients and their families live more independently while making positive contributions to their communities.

I want to commend the dedication and commitment of the staff of both AbilityOne and Goodwill Industries of the Heartland of Iowa City. Their work helps people with disabilities live full lives as active members of society.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

The Senate was not in session and stands adjourned until 2 p.m., on Monday, June 4, 2012.

Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 6 public bills, H.R. 5883–5888; and 1 resolution, H. Res. 673 were introduced. **Page H3404**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H3404–05**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 5882, making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 112–511);

H.R. 2512, to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal land in Clark County, Nevada, for the environmental remediation and reclamation of the Three Kids Mine Project Site, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–512); and

H.R. 4607, to ensure economy and efficiency of Federal Government operations by establishing a moratorium on midnight rules during a President's final days in office, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 112–513, Pt. 1). **Pages H3366, H3403–04**

Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2013: The House resumed consideration of H.R. 5325, making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013. Consideration began yesterday, May 31st. **Pages H3366–90**

Agreed to:

Holt amendment that increases funding, by offset, for the Army Corps of Engineers Construction account by $2,000,000; **Pages H3368–69**

Cleaver amendment that increases funding, by offset, for Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies by $3,000,000; **Page H3370**

Scalise amendment that increases funding, by offset, for the Army Corps of Engineers Construction account by $10,000,000 (by a recorded vote of 216 ayes to 177 noes, Roll No. 306); and **Pages H3367–68, H3384–85**

King (IA) amendment that reduces the Army Corps of Engineers Construction account by $1,000,000 and increases the Army Corps of Engineers Operation and Maintenance Account by $571,429 (by a recorded vote of 203 ayes to 185 noes, Roll No. 307). **Pages H3369–70, H3385**

Rejected:

Broun (GA) amendment that sought to reduce funding for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy by $335,000,000 and apply the savings to the spending reduction account; **Pages H3370–72, H3383–84**

Moran amendment that sought to strike section 110 (by a recorded vote of 152 ayes to 237 noes, Roll No. 308); **Pages H3372–78, H3385–86**

Hultgren amendment that sought to reduce funding for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy by $30,000,000 and increase funding for the Department of Energy Science account by $15,000,000 (by a recorded vote of 130 ayes to 256 noes, Roll No. 309); **Pages H3379–80, H3386–87**

Chaffetz amendment that sought to reduce finding for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy by $74,000,000 and apply the savings to the spending reduction account (by a recorded vote of 140 ayes to 245 noes, Roll No. 310); **Pages H3382–83, H3387**

McClintock amendment (No. 6 printed in the Congressional Record of May 31, 2012) that sought

to reduce funding for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy by $1,450,960,000 and apply the savings to the spending reduction account (by a recorded vote of 113 ayes to 275 noes, Roll No. 311); **Pages H3380–81, H3387–88**

Kaptur amendment that sought to increase funding, by offset, for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy by $10,000,000 (by a recorded vote of 183 ayes to 200 noes, Roll No. 312); **Pages H3378–79, H3388–89**

Tonko amendment that sought to increase funding, by offset, for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy by $180,440,000 (by a recorded vote of 148 ayes to 236 noes, Roll No. 313); and **Pages H3381–82, H3389**

Hahn amendment that sought to increase funding for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy by $50,000,000 and reduce funding for Fossil Energy Research and Development by $100,000,000 (by a recorded vote of 139 ayes to 245 noes, Roll No. 314). **Pages H3383, H3389–90**

Point of Order sustained against:

Broun (GA) amendment that sought to reduce funding from various accounts by $27,036,730 and apply the savings to the spending reduction account. **Page H3371**

H. Res. 667, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 5743), (H.R. 5854), (H.R. 5855), and (H.R. 5325), was agreed to yesterday, May 31st.

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12 noon on Tuesday, June 5th for morning hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business. **Page H3393**

Amendments: Amendments ordered printed pursuant to the rule appear on page H3405.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Nine recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H3384–85, H3385, H3386, H3386–87, H3387, H3387–88, H3388–89, H3389, and H3389–90. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Committee Meetings

REMOVING THE BARRIERS TO FREE ENTERPRISE AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

Committee on the Budget: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Removing the Barriers to Free Enterprise and Economic Growth". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

AMERICAN MANUFACTURING COMPETITIVENESS ACT OF 2012; AND MOTOR VEHICLE INSURANCE COST REPORTING

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade held a hearing on H.R. 5865, the "American Manufacturing Competitiveness Act of 2012"; and legislation to repeal an obsolete provision in title 49, United States Code, requiring motor vehicle insurance cost reporting. Testimony was heard from Representatives Lipinski and Kelly; Phillip Singerman, Associate Director for Innovation and Industry Services, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce; and public witnesses.

CYBER THREATS TO CAPITAL MARKETS AND CORPORATE ACCOUNTS

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Capital Markets and Government Sponsored Enterprises held a hearing entitled "Cyber Threats to Capital Markets and Corporate Accounts". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

CLASS ACTION SEVEN YEARS AFTER THE CLASS ACTION FAIRNESS ACT

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on the Constitution held a hearing entitled "Class Action Seven Years After the Class Action Fairness Act". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

OBAMA ADMINISTRATION'S ACTIONS AGAINST THE SPRUCE COAL MINE: CANCELED PERMITS, LAWSUITS AND LOST JOBS

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a hearing entitled "Obama Administration's Actions Against the Spruce Coal Mine: Canceled Permits, Lawsuits and Lost Jobs". Testimony was heard from Lisa P. Jackson, EPA Administrator; Joseph Pizarchik, Director, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement; Jo-Ellen Darcy, Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), Army Corps of Engineers; Art Kirkendoll, West Virginia State Senator; and public witnesses.

FUTURE OF THE NATIONAL MALL

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands held a hearing entitled "Future of the National Mall". Testimony was heard from Stephen E. Whitesell, Regional Director, National Capital Region National Park Service; Tom Luebke, Secretary, Commission of Fine Arts; Preston Bryant, Chairman, National Capital Planning Commission; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR MONDAY, JUNE 4, 2012

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

2 p.m., Monday, June 4

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: The Majority Leader will be recognized and intends to resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 3220, Paycheck Fairness. At 5 p.m., Senate will begin consideration of the nomination of Timothy S. Hillman, of Massachusetts, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts, with a vote on confirmation of the nomination at approximately 5:30 p.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

12 p.m., Tuesday, June 5

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Resume consideration of H.R. 5325—Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2013.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Berman, Howard L., Calif., E949
Bilbray, Brian P., Calif., E964
Bonner, Jo, Ala., E945, E946, E947, E948, E949
Boren, Dan, Okla., E966
Buchanan, Vern, Fla., E948
Bucshon, Larry, Ind., E955
Calvert, Ken, Calif., E957
Campbell, John, Calif., E955
Cardoza, Dennis A., Calif., E950
Carson, André, Ind., E947, E954
Clarke, Yvette D., N.Y., E946, E957, E965
Connolly, Gerald E., Va., E950, E951, E952, E953, E954, E955, E956, E965
Conyers, John, Jr., Mich., E965
Eshoo, Anna G., Calif., E948
Gallegly, Elton, Calif., E949
Green, Gene, Tex., E949, E953
Gutierrez, Luis V., Ill., E965
Heinrich, Martin, N.M., E963
Hoyer, Steny H., Md., E945, E951
Huelskamp, Tim, Kans., E965
Hurt, Robert, Va., E950, E956
Keating, William R., Mass., E966
Kildee, Dale E., Mich., E951
Kind, Ron, Wisc., E948, E954, E957
King, Peter T., N.Y., E958
Loebsack, David, Iowa, E967
McCollum, Betty, Minn., E945, E958
McNerney, Jerry, Calif., E964
Markey, Edward J., Mass., E962
Peters, Gary C., Mich., E947, E954, E957, E964
Poe, Ted, Tex., E946, E952
Reed, Tom, N.Y., E956
Richardson, Laura, Calif., E950, E963, E964
Roe, David P., Tenn., E962
Rogers, Mike, Ala., E951
Simpson, Michael K., Idaho, E958
Slaughter, Louise McIntosh, N.Y., E962, E965
Smith, Adam, Wash., E946, E953
Stivers, Steve, Ohio, E955
Tiberi, Patrick J., Ohio, E945
Van Hollen, Chris, Md., E955, E966
Wasserman Schultz, Debbie, Fla., E956

Congressional Record

The *Congressional Record* (USPS 087–390). The Periodicals postage is paid at Washington, D.C. The public proceedings of each House of Congress, as reported by the Official Reporters thereof, are printed pursuant to directions of the Joint Committee on Printing as authorized by appropriate provisions of Title 44, United States Code, and published for each day that one or both Houses are in session, excepting very infrequent instances when two or more unusually small consecutive issues are printed one time. ¶Public access to the *Congressional Record* is available online through the U.S. Government Printing Office at *www.fdsys.gov*, free of charge to the user. The information is updated online each day the *Congressional Record* is published. For more information, contact the GPO Customer Contact Center, U.S. Government Printing Office. Phone 202–512–1800, or 866–512–1800 (toll-free). E-Mail, *contactcenter@gpo.gov*. ¶The *Congressional Record* paper and 24x microfiche edition will be furnished by mail to subscribers, free of postage, at the following prices: paper edition, $252.00 for six months, $503.00 per year, or purchased as follows: less than 200 pages, $10.50; between 200 and 400 pages, $21.00; greater than 400 pages, $31.50, payable in advance; microfiche edition, $146.00 per year, or purchased for $3.00 per issue payable in advance. The semimonthly *Congressional Record Index* may be purchased for the same per issue prices. To place an order for any of these products, visit the U.S. Government Online Bookstore at: bookstore.gpo.gov. Mail orders to: Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 979050, St. Louis, MO 63197–9000, or phone orders to 866–512–1800 (toll-free), 202–512–1800 (D.C. area), or fax to 202–512–2104. Remit check or money order, made payable to the Superintendent of Documents, or use VISA, MasterCard, Discover, American Express, or GPO Deposit Account. ¶Following each session of Congress, the daily *Congressional Record* is revised, printed, permanently bound and sold by the Superintendent of Documents in individual parts or by sets. ¶With the exception of copyrighted articles, there are no restrictions on the republication of material from the *Congressional Record*.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Superintendent of Documents, *Congressional Record,* U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, along with the entire mailing label from the last issue received.