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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MCCLINTOCK).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
June 6, 2012.

I hereby appoint the Honorable TOM MCCLINTOCK to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 17, 2012, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes each, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

AFGHANISTAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I am still very disappointed that during the debate of the National Defense Authorization Act that Mr. MCGOVERN and I myself had an amendment, known as the McGovern-Jones amendment, and all it did, Mr. Speaker, was set the parameters and the benchmark for bringing our troops home after 2014. The amendment basically said that if you're not bringing the troops out by 2014, then any continuation of those troops would have to be voted on by the Congress.

I'm always very disappointed that the Congress does not meet its constitutional responsibility when it comes to war. Mr. Speaker, because of my disappointment and my continued support of bring our troops home, I will read the names of nine servicepeople given by the Department of Defense who were reported in the Raleigh, North Carolina, paper, The News & Observer:

Hospitalman Eric D. Warren
Private First Class Cale C. Miller
Corporal Keaton G. Coffey
Petty Officer First Class Ryan J. Wilson
Second Lieutenant Travis A. Morgado
Specialist Arronn D. Fields
Sergeant Michael J. Knapp
Sergeant Jabraun S. Knox
Specialist Samuel T. Watts.

Mr. Speaker, we are continuing to spend money that we do not have. Every day our debt goes up. Every day we borrow money from foreign governments, and yet we will not bring our troops home from Afghanistan.

It's kind of ironic that the administration has signed a security agreement that will continue a financial relationship with Afghanistan after our troops come home in 2014. That relationship is for 12 years, has been projected that we will spend approximately $4 billion a month for those 12 years to pay for a corrupt leader and a corrupt government that will not survive.

It does not matter how much money we spend. Afghanistan's history is that no nation has ever gone into Afghanistan and changed one thing. I do not understand why we in the House continue to find the money—of course it's borrowed money, by the way, probably from the Chinese—to send to Afghanistan. Yet we vote on programs to cut milk for children in the morning at school. We vote to cut programs for senior citizens to get a sandwich at the senior center, and yet we continue to fund a war that history has shown we will never win.

I have a poster of a photograph that was in the Greensboro paper that has Dover Air Force Base as they are bringing home the flag-covered transfer case. The nine names that I just read, they took their final trip in the back of a plane and they lay dead in a transfer case with a flag over their bodies.

Our Congress needs to wake up, Mr. Speaker. It makes no sense that we will stay there to 2014 or 2015.

I have with me a book that if I could pay for every Member of Congress to have this book, and they would guarantee me that they would read this book, then I would buy it for them. Mr. Speaker, the title of this book is ''Funding the Enemy: How U.S. Taxpayers Bankroll the Taliban.''

The Taliban, the Taliban, that's our enemy. Yet American dollars are going over, and many of those dollars end up in our enemy's hands to buy weapons and bullets to kill young Americans. I have read only 100 pages. I hope to finish this book next week when we are home; but I think if any taxpayer in this country would read this book, they would be up here protesting Washington sending money to Afghanistan. What is ironic, Mr. Speaker, is that the Taliban will eventually take over Afghanistan, no matter what we do.

I hope that my friends on both sides of the aisle will support us from time to time as we have amendments to create a parameter for bringing our troops out because, quite frankly, I think we will be there probably until 2015 or 2016.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I ask God to please bless our men and women in uniform. I ask God to please bless the families of our men and women in uniform.

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I ask God in His loving arms to hold their families who have given a child dying for freedom in Afghanistan.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask three times, God, please, God, please, God, please continue to bless America.

MODERNIZING THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION TAX CREDIT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, sometimes simple concepts are the most powerful.

Since the beginning of my career, I have seen the power of historic preservation as a key component to a liveable community that is rich and varied, not just merely the historic character, but the mixed uses, architectural diversity, human scale and function, economic development, jobs, and the creation of value.

Today, the National Trust for Historic Preservation will be announcing with their president, Stephanie Meeks, some of the most endangered places that we might lose, serving as a call to action. Our heritage matters.

That's why for over 35 years Federal Tax Code has granted special recognition to help with the cost of rehabilitating historic properties, and for good reason. Over 37,000 historic properties have been rehabilitated, have leveraged $90 billion in investment, and created 2 million jobs.

Historic preservation is good for the soul. People love the enhancement of historic properties, neighborhoods, and districts. It directly links people to who they are, helping us understand and appreciate our roots. It is very important that most people also appreciate historic preservation. That's why it serves as a magnet for tourists and other investors so that surrounding properties and neighborhoods can be strengthened.

It also strengthens the economy. The investment and its ripple effects create more tax revenue and avoid the cost of rundown property and blight. As a local official, for years I learned firsthand that it is hard and expensive to deal with deterioration of the building stock in the neighborhoods in which they are located.

Historic preservation is the best option for the environment. Recycling a building usually has more net environmental benefit than a LEED-certified new building.

□ 1010

Historic preservation strengthens the community. A varied streetscape with a mix of uses makes that community safer and more resilient the same way that a forest that is composed of a variety of different tree species is more resistant to fire and disease than a monoculture of a single species. Historic preservation avoids that monoculture of the built environment that is numbing to the soul and depressing to the economy, which is subject to decline in the future as the entire area ages and deteriorates at the same time. We're watching this phenomenon on display in communities across the country as first- and second-tier suburbs deteriorate.

As I mentioned at the beginning, Historic Tax assistance has been in the Tax Code since 1976. That's why it's important with all the justifiable pressure and concern to reform and simplify the Tax Code that we must retain tools for historic preservation. Indeed, I think it's time to modernize the historic property tax credit to reflect the many changes since 1976. Some of the most profound adjustments were made during the administration of Ronald Reagan, but it's been over 25 years since the provisions were addressed comprehensively.

We need to recognize the difficulty with the current investment climate that makes it more difficult for people to take advantage of the tax credit as well as opportunities going forward to maximize the capacity for this important program. That's why I have introduced, with my Republican partner, Congressman AARON SCHOCK, H.R. 2479. It would provide more benefit to smaller-scale, Main Street rehabilitation. There will be a 10 percent bonus for significantly enhancing energy conservation and special incentives that can be used in tandem with the 33 historic tax credit programs in individual States across America.

It's hard to think of a better value for strategic investment in communities that provide a sense of place in history with the creation of jobs and wealth. A modernized historic preservation tax credit will be a key ingredient for years to come—a building block for a livable community where families are safe, healthy, and economically secure. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important modernization of the historic preservation tax credit.

THE TALLEST WARRIOR ON THE LONGEST DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, growing up, I knew that my dad, when he was a teenager, fought in the ''Great World War II.'' Because my father never spoke much about it until recently, I was curious about what happened. My fascination with World War II began when I saw the movie ''The Longest Day'' as a kid. Young Americans—mainly boys, really—who had never been far from home were sent to a faraway land to free a people they had never met. They charged onto a beach through a hail of gunfire in order to stop the spreading threat of evil in Europe.

This action-packed movie depicts the graphic details of the longest day on June 6, 1944, D-day. Brigadier General Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., played by Henry Fonda in the movie, was the son of President Theodore Roosevelt. You remember President Roosevelt. He led the charge up San Juan Hill in the Spanish-American War.

Teddy, Jr., fought in World War I as well with his brothers. His brother Quentin, a fighter pilot, was killed in action. General Roosevelt was crippled from the wounds of World War I and had a heart condition, but he was not finished fighting. At the age of 56, General Roosevelt was the highest ranking officer that landed on the shores of Normandy. He was determined to lead this new generation of warriors—who became the Greatest Generation—as they took on the Nazis.

His son Quentin Roosevelt II, named after Teddy Jr.'s late brother, the fighter pilot, was also on the beaches of Normandy that day. They were the only father and son duo known to fight on D-day. Roosevelt and his boys were part of Operation Overlord. The greatest invasion in history was expected to come at a high cost. And, it did. American youth gave their lives that day for the future of others.

Armed only with a walking stick and a pistol and under constant enemy fire, Roosevelt led several groups of 20-something Americans up Utah Beach and inland. General Omar Bradley described Roosevelt's actions as the ''single greatest act of courage'' he witnessed in the entire war.

On D-day, thousands of American boys charged out of the sea onto French soil, beginning the liberation of Western Europe. Our boys laid claim to the beachheads inch by bloody inch. The remarkable Army Rangers climbed the cliffs at Pointe due Hoc under heavy, brutal German fire. They had to.

Americans did not go to Normandy to conquer. They went and they sacrificed to ensure that Hitler would no longer be a threat. Hitler had little regard for American GIs. He was certain that the ''soft'' sons of America would never become soldiers. He thought the Nazi youth would be able to outfight the Boy Scouts. He was wrong. The Boy Scouts took them on D-day. The sand was stained red with the blood of American warriors and that of our allies.

Mr. Speaker, to my left is a photograph of the Cliffs of Normandy, where Americans are buried. In all, 9,387 Americans are buried at the top of the beach at Normandy. Buried on the cliffs, their white crosses and Stars of David shine and glisten in the morning sunshine over now peaceful Omaha and Utah Beaches. One of the ones buried there is the tallest warrior on the longest day, Brigadier General Theodore Roosevelt, Jr. This is his grave. It is at the front of Normandy. Fittingly, he is buried next to his brother Quentin. Quentin was the only person from World War I to be buried at Normandy. General Roosevelt, who died of a heart

attack shortly after the Normandy invasion, later received the Medal of Honor for his heroics at Normandy. In this photo is his cross in Normandy's cemetery.

Today, we express our gratitude to the Greatest Generation of Americans who defied danger and fearlessly fought for freedom.

Mr. Speaker, where does America get such people? They were the young breed, the rare breed, the American breed, who took to the treacherous beaches of Normandy under the leadership of a remarkable man who stood tall to lead his troops into battle on the longest day, Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., the tallest warrior.

And that's just the way it is.

SMART SECURITY: BY HELPING PEOPLE, WE HELP OURSELVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, last week, a bipartisan group of Members convened a panel discussion on Capitol Hill. Actually, it was an informal hearing about the Afghanistan war. One of the speakers was Lieutenant Colonel Danny Davis who, after two tours in Afghanistan, has courageously come forward, speaking truth to power with his assessment of the situation on the ground and his belief that the war is wrong.

I wish more of my colleagues had been there to hear what Lieutenant Colonel Davis had to say. He talked about the arrogance and stubbornness that allows our country to continue this military occupation long after it's proven futile. He discussed the strain and stress we put on our Armed Forces. And, as he explained, the Taliban are stronger now than they were. Push them down, he said, and they pop up in another area.

After the most powerful military surge in the history of civilization, we still haven't been able to keep them down. This shouldn't be a major revelation. When will we learn? We are emboldening the very radical forces that we're trying to defeat.

It's common sense that thousands and thousands of occupying U.S. troops will breed and do breed resentment and drive the Afghan people straight into the arms of the Taliban. Every additional day that we keep boots on the ground in Afghanistan is another day that the Taliban wins over more recruits and poses a greater threat to our safety and our interests.

Here's a novel idea, Mr. Speaker. How about we win over the Afghan people instead of alienating them and giving them common cause with insurgents? How about we move to implement a SMART security agenda where war is the very last resort?

Under SMART Security, we would emphasize diplomacy and development. We would seek peaceful conflict resolution instead of military force. And instead of launching drone attacks on troubled nations half a world away, SMART Security would have us empowering and investing in the people who live there. And why? Because it's the right thing to do. Absolutely. But also because the goodwill it engenders works to our benefit because, by helping people, we help ourselves.

The foundation of SMART Security is the recognition that killing more people will not make us safer, that it will undermine our national security instead of contributing to it. But if we help send Afghan girls to school, if we help Afghan women get proper prenatal care, if we help Afghanistan rebuild its infrastructure and its economy, these are the things that will advance in our interests, and our security will be better off.

□ 1020

A more Democratic, more prosperous Afghanistan is one where the extremists can't get a toehold, where the Taliban can't exploit and feed off people's desperation. And by the way, Mr. Speaker, we can do SMART Security at a fraction of the cost of our current approach—pennies on the dollar.

Humanitarian aid is a lot more cost effective than weapons systems and military occupation. The current Afghanistan policy has been given a chance to work, and it has failed spectacularly. The time for patience, after more than a decade of war, has long since come and gone.

As a matter of moral decency, fiscal sanity, and common sense, it's time now to bring our troops home.

FLEXIBLE PERMITTING SYSTEM WORKS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. OLSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, the people I work for, the people of Texas 22, were disrespected once again yesterday by Dr. Al Armendariz, the former Region 6 EPA Administrator, a region that includes my home State of Texas.

After losing his job a few weeks ago because he advocated using Roman tactics like crucifixion to beat down America's producers of fossil fuel energy, Dr. Armendariz finally accepted an invitation to testify today before the House Energy and Power Subcommittee of the Energy and Commerce Committee. Late yesterday, Dr. Armendariz informed the committee that he had changed his mind. He can no longer come. He couldn't come—I don't know why he couldn't come. It wasn't weather. I checked. I flew up from Texas last night, yesterday morning, no problems. I checked Dallas-Fort Worth, nothing. Nine American Airlines flights out of Dallas-Fort Worth—where Dr. Armendariz lives—flew here yesterday into Reagan National. None of them were delayed. Why couldn't he come?

He chose not to come because he could not defend his actions to his employer, the people of Texas 22, the district I represent and the people of Region 6. He could not defend interfering with Texas's flexible permitting system to minimize the emissions from our farmers and power plants of nitrous oxide and sulfur oxide.

Texas's flexible permitting system works. Those emissions have been cut double the national average in Texas. That's why we're the fastest growing State in America. That's a great testament to how they work. You cannot grow more than any State in America, add industry, and have a reduction that doubles the national average. We did that, and yet Dr. Armendariz threw that out. He could not defend jamming Texas into the cross-state air pollution rule just this past summer. Immediately after he did that, without being notified, we should have gotten at least 1½ year notification, we got a 6 month notification. Because of that, the largest power producer in my home State, which was using coal for power production, said: I'm going to have to shut down two power plants.

Reason prevailed, and that rule got kicked down the road. But again, it wasn't because what Dr. Armendariz did. He wanted to punish Texas.

And most importantly, he could not defend this email, which he leaked to radical environmental groups announcing that EPA was dropping the hammer on a producer of American fossil fuels in the Barnett shale plate. What he was concerned about was contamination of water in two wells, two houses there near this oil and gas recovery fossil plate. The problem: he was worried about water contamination. He sent this out, and I will read it to you:

> Hi, everybody. We're about to make a lot of news. The first story has already been printed. There'll be an official press release in a few minutes. Also, time to TiVo Channel 8. Bug David for more info.

That was coming from the regional administrator. A couple of other points:

> Thank you for helping to educate me on the public's perspective of these issues, and thank you all for your continued support and friendship.

These aren't the public. The people of Texas 22 I represent are the public. But look what he sent out. Again, he sent this out to the radical environmentalists, taking their marching orders. Here is the response from one of them:

> Texas sheriff, yee haw! Hats off to new sheriff and his deputies.

Texas does not need a new sheriff and new deputies. We need a regional administrator that wants to strike a commonsense balance between a growing State and clean air and clean water.

The American people were fooled in November of 2008. With the help of Dr. Armendariz, they won't be fooled again.

ARMY CELEBRATES 237TH BIRTHDAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, as the Army Caucus cochairs, my colleague and I rise today in celebration of the United States Army's upcoming 237th birthday. Since June 14, 1775, when the first company was formed to defend our great country against the British, the brave men and women of the Army have upheld the seven core values of this strong brotherhood. Those values are: loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage.

Today, the Army stands over one million strong. We pause to salute the soldiers and fallen warriors of 237 years past whose legacies our soldiers strive to uphold. We pause to thank them for their service and sacrifice in every conflict in war in the history of our Nation. And we pause to thank the families of our soldiers for their continuing support of our Nation's defenders during these critical times.

The past decade has proven the Army as a leader in the war against terrorism, tyrannical leadership, and oppression in the Middle East, where you, the Army, have given countless millions of people hope for their future while at the same time making America more secure and a grateful Nation. Your actions on and off the field of battle have and will continue to inspire us all for generations to come.

From Iraq and Afghanistan, across Europe and the Pacific Rim, the men and women of the United States Army represent the best of America's ideals and the finest of her dreams. You are the very best at what you do. Your resilience, courage, professionalism, and battle-hardened ways will seize the day against any enemy of our great and powerful Nation.

We cannot thank you enough for what you do, your devotion to duty, and your tireless efforts in the defense of our Nation. Thank you for always putting the mission first, never accepting defeat, and never quitting. For 237 years you have made it perfectly clear that no matter who rises up against our country, there's one thing that will never change: you always have been and will continue to be Army strong.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to my good friend and cochair, Mr. REYES.

□ 1030

Mr. REYES. I want to thank my colleague and fellow cochair from the Army Caucus, Judge CARTER, for yielding me the time to honor the United States Army on its 237th birthday.

The Army, as my colleague has said, dates back to 1775. It has always stood tall, both in peacetime and in times of war, in times of conflict or police actions, which means that our proud men and women in the Army have stood in harm's way to benefit freedom not just for our country, but throughout the world.

Our Army has been at war now for over 10 years. Today it is battle tested, and it's proven itself once again. Our Army is over 1 million strong, composed of some of America's most dedicated and outstanding individuals. So today I'm proud to stand with my cochair to take a moment to recognize the men and women who have selflessly served our Army for the past 237 years, especially those who made the ultimate sacrifice defending our freedom and our American way of life. We pause to thank our soldiers and their families for their service and their commitment, which remain steadfast and strong.

From the Revolutionary War to the current conflict in Afghanistan, our Army has triumphed over those who seek to harm our country. For 237 years, the Army has always been relevant and remains a critical force for world freedom today. With the transformation of the Army to a leaner, lighter, and more lethal force, the United States Army will continue to be vital to our national security and to the national security of countries around the globe.

As we plan for the future, let us reflect on the great legacy that the United States Army has given this great Nation through the men and women who were and are proud to be Americans. Our soldiers, noncommissioned officers, and officers of the United States Army are the most outstanding fighting force in our world. We cannot thank them enough for their dedication to excellence and their commitment to duty, honor, and country. And let us not forget their families who sacrifice for our national security as well. Their execution is unmatched, their commitment is unwavering, and their bond is unbreakable. I am proud to be part of that Army lineage, and this morning, as I wear this Army-strong tribute, I salute our brave men and women who have made our Army great, but who have kept our country safe and secure and represent the global effort to maintain freedom around the world.

So again, I am proud to stand with my cochair, Judge CARTER, and pay tribute for the past 237 years of sacrifice to our great United States Army.

OBAMACARE PROPAGANDA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. QUAYLE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUAYLE. Mr. Speaker, at a time of record-breaking debt and deficits—or really anytime for that matter—it boggles the mind that the Obama administration would spend $20 million of taxpayer money to pay for propaganda on behalf of ObamaCare. Yet that has happened. Mr. Speaker, I have seen these commercials that attempt to explain the supposed benefits of ObamaCare, but they are just poorly conceived campaign ads.

It's bad enough that American taxpayers are on the hook for this massively expensive boondoggle which does nothing to solve the underlying problems in our health care system. It's bad enough that many Americans are losing their health care coverage because of this bill, and that the bill is causing more and more doctors to drop Medicare patients. It's bad enough that Americans will see their tax bill go up because of ObamaCare. Now the Obama administration expects the American people to pay for ads touting the law that did these things.

Rarely does a day go by where we don't hear of a new negative effect of this disastrous legislation. This week, we learned that many students are seeing their university-based or individual health care premiums rise dramatically. Some colleges have either dropped their student health plans entirely or are planning to do so as ObamaCare mandates kick in that force students to purchase health plans that in most cases go far beyond what is necessary.

Then yesterday, we saw an op-ed in The Wall Street Journal by Steven Greer, who was involved in a grant approval process for an ObamaCare program. Through this op-ed, we got yet another dismal view into the twisted bureaucracy that is implementing this disastrous legislation. Mr. Greer recounts one case in which a $1.9 million grant was given to George Washington University for a program which is expected to produce merely $1.7 million in health care savings.

Mr. Speaker, even before full implementation, ObamaCare has been a costly disaster for the American people. This arrogant, taxpayer-funded propaganda campaign just adds insult to injury. And like ObamaCare, the ad campaign should end immediately.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 36 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

Reverend Joseph Shea, St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Simi Valley, California, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, as we gather today, I ask for Your blessings upon these men and women whom You and this great Nation have chosen to serve us.

Grant them the grace to be leaders whose walk is by faith, whose behavior is by principle, whose vision is high,

whose pride is low, and whose love for You and this wonderful Nation is wide and deep.

Grant that these leaders be ribbed with the steel of Your spirit so that their strength will be equal to the task, that they won't fade under the light of scrutiny, that they will be calm amidst the storms of criticism, that they won't bend amidst the storms of criticism, that they won't bend under the heavy load of responsibility, and that they will courageously hold high the torch of Your truth to guide them.

We ask these blessings in Your holy name.

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 gentlewoman from New York (Ms. HOCHUL) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. HOCHUL 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.

WELCOMING REVEREND JOSEPH SHEA

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from California (Mr. GALLEGLY) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I have known Father Joseph Shea since he was appointed pastor of St. Rose of Lima Parish in my home city of Simi Valley, California. He's been there now for approximately 4 years, and we've worked together on several projects that have benefited our community.

It is befitting that we continue the tradition of having pastors from across our country open the people's House with a prayer for our Nation and its people.

I want to thank the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, Chaplain of the U.S. House of Representatives, for giving Father Shea the opportunity to open today's session of the House. Having guest chaplains from across the country participate in this historical undertaking truly does manifest the freedom of worship enjoyed across the United States.

I also want to thank Father Shea for traveling all the way across this great Nation to be here with us this morning to offer the spiritual opening for the day.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks announced that the Senate has passed a bill and agreed to a concurrent resolution of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 2061. An act to provide for an exchange of land between the Department of Homeland Security and the South Carolina State Ports Authority.

S. Con. Res. 5. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for an event to award the Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the Montford Point Marines.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN). The Chair will entertain 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HONORING DONALD KACZYNSKI'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO ARKANSAS' DISABLED VETERANS

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

Mr. CRAWFORD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Donald Kaczynksi from my home State of Arkansas. Donald is a Marine veteran with a passion for serving other veterans who are living with a disability.

After receiving an honorable discharge from the Marines, Donald was faced with the challenge of finding a new career. He saw firsthand the obstacles disabled veterans face and knew he wanted to help other veterans have a higher quality of life.

After moving to Hot Springs Village, Arkansas, he started a mobile concession stand business. With his business, Donald drives to events throughout Arkansas, providing concessions for veterans' gatherings.

In addition to his business, Donald serves Arkansas' veterans as commander and adjutant of the Hot Springs Village VFW. Most recently, Donald was elected to serve as the 2011–2012 State commander of the Disabled American Veterans Department of Arkansas. In 2004, Donald was recognized as the VFW Man of the Year for Arkansas, and in 2008 as the Disabled American Veterans Man of the Year.

Madam Speaker, we honor Donald Kaczynski and his service to Arkansas' veterans.

PAKISTAN IS A SAFE HAVEN FOR THE TALIBAN AND AL QAEDA

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

Ms. HOCHUL. Madam Speaker, as we recall the brave heroes of the D-day invasion 68 years ago today, I thought of the new American heroes who are fighting for us on the front lines of Afghanistan, a place I left a few weeks ago, and the 36 hours I spent in the war zone speaking to them.

Conversations with generals, diplomats, and the troops on the ground confirm that Pakistan remains a safe haven for the Taliban and al Qaeda. First it was proved to the world when Osama Bin Laden was found to be hiding there for a lengthy amount of time.

But on Monday, a drone strike just over the Pakistani border killed al Qaeda's number 2 in command, further proving beyond all doubt that Pakistan continues to harbor terrorists. If Pakistan is unwilling to condemn these international terrorists and work with the United States to find them, they should not be eligible for foreign aid. Period. End.

I pledge to continue to work in a bipartisan way with my colleagues to restrict funds as long as Pakistan sits by and provides refuge to terrorists who put our troops, which I just left, and our Nation, in harm's way.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BILL STEWART, FORMER FOOTBALL HEAD COACH OF WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY

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

Mr. MCKINLEY. Madam Speaker, the State of West Virginia lost one of its greatest residents, greatest citizens last week, and I lost a very close friend. Former head coach of West Virginia University's football team and New Martinsville native Bill Stewart unexpectedly passed away on May 28.

Stewart was a man of integrity and high moral character who practiced truly what he preached, both on and off the field.

As the head coach of the Mountaineers, he represented our State and the university in the best possible way. His signature win over Oklahoma in the 2008 Fiesta Bowl launched him into the national spotlight. His legacy will be the type of life he led.

Coach Stew never met a stranger, and he never lost sight of his home. He lived each day to its fullest and had a contagious enthusiasm that inspired everyone around him.

Leave no doubt: Bill Stewart will be missed for years to come because he was a man of his word, a man who openly followed his faith, and a dedicated father, husband, and friend.

Bill Stewart took that final, dusty, windy country road home to his place in Heaven.

□ 1210

THE NEED TO PASS THE TRANSPORTATION BILL

(Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. I rise today to speak out about the need to pass a transportation bill.

I am very frustrated by the inaction of the House Republican conferees and how their obstructionism is negatively affecting job creation in this country. The current transportation extension expires at the end of this month. We are in the height of the summer construction season, and we are losing the opportunity to get these jobs going and the construction and the manufacturing industries back to work.

One surefire way to create jobs is to invest in our country's infrastructure, but House Republicans are obstructing it at every turn. Last month, we were forced to pass a 10th temporary extension of highway funding because of the GOP's inaction. This is my 20th year here, and this is the first time that this bill has been held up because of partisanship.

This inaction only increases the instability for the construction industry, and it makes it impossible for State and local governments to plan long term.

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY

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

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, according to the Social Security trustees, the Social Security Disability program is expected to exhaust its trust fund in just 4 years. If the fund is exhausted and if nothing is done, only around 80 percent of the benefits will be paid out. Over 11 million Americans could be impacted.

Again, we have another government entitlement program headed towards bankruptcy. This is a program that costs as much as the annual budgets of the Departments of Agriculture, Homeland Security, Commerce, Labor, Interior, and Justice combined. I know how important this program is to many of my own constituents. With regard to Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, and the disability program, tens of millions of people rely on these programs, but they are not structurally sound.

Doing nothing is not the answer, and taking funds from the general revenue does nothing to provide the long-term stability that we need. We need real innovative reform that fixes our problems, that saves and strengthens these programs without piling up debt. If we don't act to save and strengthen these programs, our creditors will make the decisions for us down the road. We need to address these problems in a bipartisan manner. One party can't do it alone.

ANTHONY ANDERSON, A RISING JUNIOR AT LA SALLE ACADEMY

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

Mr. CICILLINE. I rise today to honor Anthony Anderson, a rising junior at LaSalle Academy in my home State of Rhode Island.

Earlier this year, Anthony was awarded a Gold Medal from the National Scholastic Art & Writing Awards for a self-portrait he submitted focused on the issue of bullying. Anthony has been recognized each year by the National Scholastic Art & Writing Awards since he was in the seventh grade, and this month, Anthony's painting is on display at an art gallery in New York City.

His family and his art teacher at LaSalle were invited to Carnegie Hall last week for a ceremony honoring his work and the work of other Gold Medal winners from across our Nation.

I congratulate Anthony on his impressive accomplishments and join Rhode Islanders all across our State in wishing him continued success in the years ahead.

HONORING RECIPIENTS OF THE SMALL BUSINESS WEEK AWARDS

(Mrs. BIGGERT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BIGGERT. Madam Speaker, too often people in Washington forget that it's our small businesses that create jobs, not government. These men and women are doing the most important work to bring about economic recovery and growth. In fact, over the past 17 years, small businesses have created an impressive 65 percent of all new American jobs.

So today, Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in celebrating the successes of our local job creators, including two individuals from my district who are being recognized by the U.S. Small Business Administration, SCORE and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity.

Congratulations to Kathy Xuan, the CEO of PARC Corporation, which is a plastics recycling company in Romeoville, Illinois, on being named Exporter of the Year. I also offer a hearty salute to Mike Rohan, the President of All Trust Home Care, Incorporated, which is in Hinsdale, Illinois, who has earned the Entrepreneurial Success of the Year Award.

These achievements are an important reminder to Congress that we must put politics aside and work together to create an environment where leaders like Mike and Kathy can do what they do best—create jobs.

STOPPING THE STUDENT LOAN INTEREST RATE HIKE

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

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. American innovators contribute to an economy second to none and provide a strategic advantage in national security. But from where will the advancements of tomorrow come?

The U.S. ranks 27th in the world in graduates with science and engineering degrees, so the last thing Congress should do is make education less affordable. Yet that's exactly what will happen on June 30 if Congress fails to act. Interest rates on student loans will double, hiking the yearly payments by $1,000 for more than 7 million students in this country.

April's Republican ruse of tying student loan interest rates to the evisceration of preventative health care for women and children was an unconscionable partisan ploy. No parent should be forced to choose between his child's health and education. No woman should have to choose between breast cancer screening and a student loan.

Lowered interest rates were the result of bipartisan cooperation between a Democratic Congress and a Republican President. We must stop the interest rate hike in a responsible and bipartisan manner, and I urge speedy action.

IN HONOR OF GAYLEN BYKER

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

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. I wish you could meet my friend, Dr. Gaylen Byker, a truly renaissance man who was born in Iowa but raised in Hudsonville, Michigan, which is in my district, where he grew up in a family that was very entrepreneurial and very politically involved. His father actually served as a State senator, Gary Byker.

Gaylen attended Calvin College, where he is now President, and earned a BA with concentrations in philosophy, English, political science, and speech, with a minor in Russian. He also entered the Army in 1967 and served in Vietnam, and he was discharged with the rank of captain. He went on to earn a law degree at the University of Michigan and then his master's degree in world politics at Michigan as well. After that, he decided he needed to get his Ph.D. in international relations from Pennsylvania.

He then served and worked at an energy exploration company out of Houston. He worked on Wall Street, both on energy as well as in derivatives and futures. He then served as a lawyer in Philadelphia. He has been involved in numerous organizations and volunteer opportunities, including the Ruffed Grouse Society of the United States.

He is an avid hunter—and a pretty good shot as well, I might add. He became president of Calvin College in 1995, where he has served it since then for the last 17 years. Gaylen is truly a person who has left a place better than when he found it.

Dr. Byker, we just want to say thank you for your service to Calvin College in the greater community in west Michigan.

AMERICAN CRYSTAL SUGAR FACTORY LOCKOUT

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

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to what is a very serious problem for the families of at least 1,300 workers, 900 of whom live in my home State of Minnesota. They've been in a labor dispute with their company. On Friday, there is a chance to go back to the bargaining table to come up with a good settlement.

Now, these workers, they didn't go on strike. They've been locked out. They've been locked out for 10 months at the American Crystal Sugar Factory in Moorhead, Minnesota. Many of these people have worked at this factory their entire lives and are really good, solid members of their community. These workers have gone to work, and they've actually stood up and gone to bat for the company, particularly regarding the sugar program, and in countless other ways as well. These workers even vowed not to go on strike because they know how important their work is to the company and to the community. The only thing they've done wrong is they haven't been able to pay their higher health insurance costs, which is the real crux of the negotiation.

This Friday, the sides are going back to the bargaining table for the first time in 4 months. I commend both labor and management for getting back to the table. But, Madam Speaker, I urge management to listen carefully to the pleas of these workers and to come up with a fair settlement.

□ 1220

LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION

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

Mr. GRAVES of Georgia. Madam Speaker, in 2009, the Obama administration said that unemployment would never reach 8 percent if the stimulus was approved. Well, it was. And 3 years later and $1.2 trillion in spending, unemployment has remained above 8 percent for 40 consecutive months, the longest span since the Great Depression. Even more alarming is that the 8 percent doesn't illustrate how grim the situation really is.

More than 500,000 more Americans are out of work today than they were when President Obama took office in 2009, and the percentage of Americans working is at a 30-year low. Unemployment would be even higher if it were not for the grit and the resolve of the American people themselves. With these numbers, it's clear that President Obama's agenda has failed, and it's making the economy worse.

House Republicans have a plan. They have a plan for America's job creators to help turn this economy around. It's time for the President and it's time for the Senate Democrats to stop blocking jobs for Americans and to join us in helping get Americans back to work.

68TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ALLIED INVASION OF EUROPE

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

Mr. YODER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mark the 68th anniversary of the Allied expeditionary forces landing in Normandy, France, at the start of the end of World War II. The allied invasion of Europe was led by a native Kansan born in Abilene and a truly great American hero, former-President General Dwight ''Ike'' Eisenhower.

On the morning of June 6, 1944, General Eisenhower inspired his men to fight for the values of liberty and freedom, stating:

> Your task will not be an easy one. Your enemy is well trained, well equipped, and battle hardened. He will fight savagely.
>
> Our homefronts have given us an overwhelming superiority in weapons and munitions of war, and placed at our disposal great reserves of trained fighting men. The tide has turned. The free men of the world are marching together to victory.
>
> Good luck. And let us beseech the blessings of Almighty God upon this great and noble undertaking.

We all remember the tremendous sacrifices the Greatest Generation gave for the cause of freedom and liberty as we mark this solemn anniversary today.

REPUBLICAN BUDGET

(Ms. HANABUSA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. HANABUSA. Madam Speaker, I'm here to ask that the Republican budget respect our seniors.

We've got to ask ourselves why are we giving those who make over a million dollars about $394,000 on average in tax cuts and those making between $20,000 and $30,000 get $129. Why? And why is it that there is about $3 trillion in breaks that we're giving to Big Business, Big Oil, gas, and the super rich? Why are we doing that?

Then there is an effort in the Republican budget to change Medicare to the voucher program. This is why AARP says, ''Republicans are shifting the cost to our seniors and ending the Medicare guarantee, that guarantee that many of them rely upon.'' And our Congressional Budget Office agrees with this.

The attacks on the Affordable Care Act by the Republicans also are going to set us back. That act closes the doughnut hole for seniors' prescription drugs. It also allows them to have preventive health care, and we're taking that away, too.

Madam Speaker, let's just respect our seniors, and not do what we're doing.

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 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 (Mr. GRAVES of Georgia). 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 gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) kindly take the chair.

□ 1224

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 Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Tuesday, June 5, 2012, the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FLORES) had been disposed of, and the bill had been read through page 56, line 24.

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 yield to the gentleman from Virginia for the purpose of engaging in a colloquy.

Mr. HURT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

In Virginia's Fifth District, State and local officials have been working diligently to attract new businesses to create new jobs in Southside, Virginia. In Henry County, a county located in Virginia's Fifth District, local officials have identified a 200-acre site that has the potential to attract major economic development opportunities at a time when the Martinsville-Henry County area suffers from the highest unemployment rate in Virginia—15 percent and 10 percent respectively.

Unfortunately, Federal regulators, including the Army Corps of Engineers, have resisted moving forward with this important initiative and stalled the

county's permit application because of the lack of an identified end-user for the site. At the same time, the potential companies that would invest in this site and create jobs in Southside, Virginia, are unwilling to commit their resources due to the risk and time delays associated with an outstanding permit with the Corps.

While State regulators have issued permits for the Henry County site, the Corps continues to be steadfast in its unwillingness to move forward with the permit, even though they have issued permits for similar speculative development projects in the past which subsequently attracted new industries and jobs to that area.

Mr. Chairman, this site represents an economic opportunity that could bring thousands of jobs to an area of Virginia that is still struggling with double-digit unemployment. This project has bipartisan support from members of the congressional delegation, as well as Virginia's governor, Bob McDonnell.

Virginia has proven that it is the most attractive State for business and has been recognized as such in the past year. If given the opportunity, I have no doubt that the site would be the impetus for economic development in Martinsville and Henry County, an area which needs economic development more than ever.

Mr. Chairman, I would ask your assistance in working with me to ensure that Federal regulators are not needlessly stalling economic development and job creation in Virginia's Fifth District and other areas of our country.

With that, I thank the chairman for his leadership on this bill and on this issue, and I look forward to working with him.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. I thank the gentleman from Virginia for bringing these concerns to my attention.

I agree that we must assure that Federal agencies and regulations are not contributing to unnecessary delays that harm economic development and job creation, especially at a time of economic distress and high employment.

I pledge our committee pledges to work with the gentleman and others who have seen an overreaching regulatory process negatively affect job prospects in their districts to address these problems.

With that, Madam Chair, 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 yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. DOYLE. Madam Chair, I rise today to engage in a colloquy with the chairman and the ranking member.

I'm here today to express my concern with the future of the Nation's inland waterway system.

The bill before us today, despite the chairman's best efforts, continues a trend of underfunding needed infrastructure improvements in our Nation's locks and dams. This underfunding is a combination of the administration's request and lack of a long-term solution to the Inland Waterways Trust Fund.

Locks and dams are a crucial mechanism of commerce and mode of transportation in Pennsylvania. They allow for the transport of commodities that are essential to businesses in my region, like coal, grain, and scrap metal. Along the Allegheny River, the Army Corps' budget for operating locks and dams was cut by nearly one-half in just one year.

□ 1230

Projects on other rivers in the Pittsburgh region, the Ohio and the Monongahela, have slowed to a stop or are in need of repair. The cuts to this fund have the Corps and surrounding communities and businesses wondering exactly how or if a repair will be made if something breaks.

But this is only a portion of the work that needs to be done, and the mechanism that we have to fund new or major rehabilitation projects, the Inland Waterways Trust Fund, is also in need of repair. Even in times of fiscal restraint, we must find ways to fund projects that protect our safety and allow the use of our waterways for commerce. The longer we wait to fully respond to the critical needs for our infrastructure, the more they are going to cost.

Madam Chairman, just in a recent article in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, quoting our local Corps person:

> This is it for the Allegheny locks and dams. If something breaks we've got to scramble for funds, and there's no guarantee we'll fix it.

This has forced the Corps to adopt a fix-when-fail attitude towards maintaining about 200 locks and related dams on about 11,000 miles of the Nation's rivers. The average lock is over 60 years old. In Pittsburgh, they're over 80 years old.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to work with you and the ranking member to find a solution to this urgent need.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. CRITZ).

Mr. CRITZ. Thank you, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. VISCLOSKY, and Chairman, for yielding.

I would like to add my voice to Mr. DOYLE's on the issue of the aging state of our Nation's waterways and the vast shortfalls and funding on urgently needed projects. I believe the chairman has done his best, given if available funds in the trust fund and would like to work with the gentleman from New Jersey to find a long-term solution to this issue.

Consisting of over 230 lock chambers, our inland waterways move hundreds of millions of tons of cargo annually. To move this cargo on the Nation's highways would require an additional 24 million trucks, would cost billions more in fuel costs, and generate millions of tons of pollution.

The Federal Government has invested in this infrastructure for over 200 years. The locks and dams that are the backbone of this system are built with a 50-year design life; yet many, for example, those on the Monongahela River in western Pennsylvania, are over 100 years old.

I am deeply troubled by the lack of funding for these projects and specifically by the lack of progress on finding a solution to the funding shortfalls in the Inland Waterways Trust Fund. This fund generates roughly $85 million per year through a fuel tax on barges, yet falls well short of the $380 million per year the Inland Waterways Users Board estimates is needed to fully fund capital reinvestments in the system.

The Transportation Department projects that the waterway traffic will increase 20 percent by 2020. We can no longer afford to sit on our hands and wait for these vital lanes of commerce to fail. We need to invest in America and keep our Federal waterways open for business. The Inland Waterways System is far too important to allow it to continue to languish with inadequate funding and crumbling infrastructure.

I look forward to working with the chairman, the ranking member, and Mr. DOYLE to find a solution to this urgent need.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. I yield to the chairman of the subcommittee, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN).

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. I assure the gentlemen from Pennsylvania that I share their concern with the funding of the inland system and the solvency of the Inland Waterways Trust Fund. This is why you see extensive report language on the Olmsted Locks and Dam and the cost overruns at that project, as well as language on the trust fund itself. As the gentlemen are aware, any changes to address the solvency of the trust fund are most appropriately discussed within the authorizing committees. I know they're aware of the situation and are evaluating various options.

The Acting CHAIR. The time of the gentleman from Indiana has expired.

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

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

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. I yield to the ranking member for the purpose of a colloquy.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I simply would associate myself with the chairman's remarks, Mr. CRITZ's remarks and Mr. DOYLE's remarks and would simply conclude my portion by thanking both gentlemen for raising this vital issue. We engage in investing in infrastructure in Afghanistan. We create infrastructure investment in Iraq and elsewhere. It is time that we

repair and invest in the infrastructure, the waterway infrastructure in the United States of America, to create jobs in the short term and to create jobs in the future.

Again, I really, from the bottom of my heart, thank the gentlemen for raising this issue and look forward to working with them.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. I yield back the balance of my time.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. FLAKE

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk that is designated as No. 1.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. ____. Each amount made available by this Act (other than an amount required to be made available by a provision of law) is hereby reduced by 0.27260690084897576 percent.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to the order of the House of Tuesday, June 5, 2012, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chair, funded at $32 billion, the FY2013 Energy and Water appropriation bill that we have under consideration today actually spends about $87 million more than we did last year. With a $1.3 trillion deficit and a national debt that's now more than $15 trillion, I think we have got to do better here.

This amendment simply says let's pare it back. Let's do an across-the-board cut of .027. Now, the reason we picked that number is that would bring us back exactly to last year.

I think when you look across the country, you look at what State and local governments are doing in order to balance their budgets. Sometimes they are going all the way back to 2005, 2004, or maybe more to balance their budgets. What are we doing here in Congress with a $15 trillion debt? We're actually increasing spending on some bills.

Now, we have cut others, and I have supported the so-called Ryan budget where we do make some overall cuts, and that's good. But when you have a bill like this, I don't know how we can justify increasing spending $87 million over last year. Again, as some will say, well, this conforms to the budget agreement, the Ryan budget act and the 302(a) levels that we have set. That is true it does; but I would suggest that if we're increasing funding here, this is a good place to find savings and perhaps the 302(b) level should have been set a little lower.

I would urge adoption of the amendment. Again, this is simply a cut that would take us back to where we were last year—not 2008 or 2009, but FY12. I don't think that's unreasonable.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Chair, I rise in opposition to the gentleman's amendment.

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

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Chair, I take exception to any claim that our bill unnecessarily increases spending. There is one reason that this bill is $188 million above fiscal year 2000: it's defense, national security. Many Members may not realize it, but nearly one-third of our bill supports critical national security needs, including nuclear weapons. That is actually the origin of why we have a Department of Energy today: it's the Atomic Energy Act.

Only two subcommittees received increases in fiscal year 2013, the Energy and Water bill and the Defense bill, because those increases are needed to support national security. There are no other reasons.

The defense portion of this bill is almost $300 million more than last year, an increase which directly supports our nuclear weapons and national security. Even with those security increases, our bill is still less than one-third of 1 percent above last year's bill. That means the rest of the bill is cut deeply.

It means that spending for our nondefense accounts is cut by 800 million below last year's levels. Even with the increase for defense spending, our bill is still below 2009 levels, actually quite close to 2008 levels. So I'll not accept any criticism that our bill in any way is not reflective of this body's work to reduce spending. The House's commitment to cut spending, Federal spending, was fully engaged in in a bipartisan way by the Energy and Water Subcommittee.

□ 1240

The gentleman's amendment would cut the bill simply because of the increases we provided for defense spending. To be clear, the amendment is a cut to national security. That's the point I'll make very clear to any Member who has questions on whether to vote for this amendment.

I urge my colleagues to vote ''no,'' to protect defense spending, and I also add a postscript. Our bill, historically, has done things for a lot of States. And Arizona has benefited from the Central Arizona Water Project. It may not have happened during Mr. FLAKE's tenure as a Member of Congress, but in a bipartisan way we've looked after the needs his constituents and Arizonans.

We are reducing spending. And even as we reduce spending, we have obligations to look at other needs across the country in the energy sector as well as the water sector, which is why I relate the Arizona Central Arizona Project.

So we're cutting spending. We're reducing spending. We're keeping our commitment to the American taxpayers.

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 also want to add my voice to the chair's in opposition to the gentleman's amendment. We just had a colloquy on the House floor with several Members from the State of Pennsylvania relative to the fate of 230 lock chambers on our inland waterways that carry hundreds of millions of tons of cargo. If they fail, we would need, as has already been mentioned this morning, 24 million additional trucks, which would cost billions more in fuel and generate millions of tons of pollution. These locks that are the backbone of this Nation's inland waterway system were built with a 50-year design life. Many of those that exist in western Pennsylvania are now over a hundred years old.

Relative to cuts, I want to emphasize to our colleagues that there was a lot of work that the chairman, the members of this subcommittee, and the staffs put into this bill to make very discreet, discerning decisions, and in many instances, to make cuts. I would take simply one program as an example: environmental cleanup.

We have, again, a national responsibility to clean up these legacies of the Cold War for the health and safety of 300 million people. But we made discreet decisions. For defense environmental site-by-site decisions, for example, on the Office of River Protection in the State of Washington, we are $30 million below last year's level. For the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in the State of Tennessee, we're $20 million below last year's level. For the Savannah River site in South Carolina, we are $43 million below in the current year level. For the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant we are $12 million below last year's level. And for technology development, to do a better job on this, we're $1 million below. We made discreet decisions.

I would simply close by saying that the gentleman at the close of his remarks said that he wants this cut to take us back to where we were. Those locks were built a hundred years ago. I don't want to go back there. We are here to take this Nation forward and to invest in the future of this Nation so that the young people of this Nation have a future. I do not want to go back to where we were.

I am adamantly opposed to the gentleman's amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FLAKE. What I simply meant was take back the spending level to where we were last year. Nobody wants to go back in time. But if we want to talk of a future for our kids, as was mentioned, saddling them with $15 trillion in debt doesn't give them much of a future. And that's the problem here. We just keep doing that bill after bill after bill after bill—increasing spending.

I take the gentleman's point on the needs of defense, but we've got to find savings. We've got to find savings here. We can't continue to go on and pile up more debt. And I would suggest that

finding savings amounting to one-quarter of one penny on this bill is not unreasonable.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

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

Mr. FLAKE. 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 Arizona will be postponed.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. DEFAZIO

Mr. DEFAZIO. I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

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 Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy to implement or administer any change to the requirement in section 9.104–1(d) of title 48, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on January 19, 2001), that to be determined responsible, a prospective contractor must have a record of satisfactory compliance with antitrust laws.

Mr. DEFAZIO (during the reading). I ask unanimous consent that the reading be suspended.

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oregon?

There was no objection.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Chair, I reserve a point of order on the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The point of order is reserved.

Pursuant to the order of the House of Tuesday, June 5, 2012, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) and a Member opposed each will control 10 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon.

Mr. DEFAZIO. This is a very, very dramatic map. The colors indicate gasoline prices across America as of last week by county. As you can see, the entire west coast of the United States is in bright red.

Now we often hear from the oil and gas industry that prices are set internationally. This is an international market. You have to understand that.

Well, that's kind of interesting. Crude oil prices are down dramatically. U.S. production of crude is up a million-and-a-half barrels a day. We're exporting gasoline from the United States of America. But somehow we're missing that international market on the west coast. We're being price gouged on the west coast of the United States through a series of rather interesting or perhaps suspicious circumstances.

The largest refinery in Washington State, Cherry Point, experienced a fire in February, and it's been quite a bit of time in recovery. It's been delayed several times. It's now coming back online. But given the fact that it was known that the largest refinery in the Northwest was offline, one would think that other refineries in California would endeavor to stay online, particularly as we begin the summer driving season. Well, no, actually not, because they had to do routine maintenance.

So five refineries in California, just before Memorial Day weekend in May, decided that it was time for routine maintenance. Then, suddenly we had a shortage. Well, actually we didn't have a shortage. There were no gas stations with yellow flags. There were no gas stations with little red flags. No one was going without gasoline, but a shortage was declared by the industry and the price was jacked up.

So while the rest of the country has seen prices come down, following the international markets, the price on the west coast has gone up, skyrocketing last week 13 cents for a gallon of regular. In one week it went up. It dropped a penny yesterday. All right. We're on the way down. It seems it always goes down a lot slower than it goes up. Kind of interesting.

So I contacted the President's working group for oil price and market manipulation, and my inquiry has been referred to various departments within the government, including the Justice Department, to look at antitrust implications; the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and others, to look at potential market manipulation.

□ 1250

So I just thought in light of the fact that there may have been—may have been—some market manipulation here and perhaps at other times in the past, that we should just have a simple statement of fact on behalf of the United States House of Representatives. No oil or gas company convicted of antitrust violations should be able to access any of the $500 million in the Fossil Energy Research and Development section. That is to say, taxpayers of the United States should not gift money to oil and gas companies that have been convicted of price-gouging the taxpayers of the United States of America. Pretty simple.

I mean, I have even greater concerns over that account; and I joined with 102 Republicans, last night, and 36 Democrats in voting to delete the $500 million for fossil energy research and development. I think the industry can fund it on its own. And I would hope at least those 102 Republicans last night who voted to totally eliminate that account and the 36 Democrats who voted to totally eliminate that account would join with me today to say, well, we didn't eliminate the account, but we're not going to allow anybody convicted of antitrust that is price-gouging American consumers and taxpayers to access these taxpayer dollars to subsidize their private research and development and profits.

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 would simply note that what the gentleman from Oregon proposes is a commonsense approach to ensuring the highest ethical standards for companies that receive a contract with the DOE's Office of Fossil Energy. We should not be rewarding companies that have a history of predatory economic practices with Federal contractors.

If his amendment is allowed in order, I would certainly urge my colleagues to support it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Chair, I rise to claim time in opposition.

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

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. The gentleman highlights some very difficult issues that deserve our attention, and I especially share my colleague's concern about gasoline prices, and that's why the committee has focused on trying to reduce gas prices in the future.

However, the areas of antitrust determinations, compliance, and enforcement that he mentions, quite honestly, are within the purview of the authorizing committee. We are aware of them. We're acutely aware of them. We understand where he's coming from.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Chair, I make a point of order against the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman may state his point of order.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. I make a point of order against the amendment because it proposes to change existing law and constitutes legislation in an appropriation bill and therefore violates clause 2 of rule XXI. The rule states in pertinent part: an amendment to a general appropriation bill shall not be in order if changing existing law. The amendment imposes additional duties.

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.

The gentleman from New Jersey makes a point of order that the amendment offered by the gentleman from Oregon proposes to change existing law, in violation of clause 2(c) of rule XXI.

The amendment would limit funds for an assistant Secretary in the Department of Energy to implement or administer any change to a cited regulation as in effect on January 19, 2001. The Chair is aware that such regulation is no longer effective under current law. The amendment would therefore require a determination by the assistant Secretary of the state of prior regulation, and a further determination of what, if anything, has effected a ''change'' to that prior regulation.

By requiring a new determination, the amendment constitutes legislation within the meaning of clause 2(c) of rule XXI. The point of order is sustained. The amendment is not in order.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. FLAKE

Mr. FLAKE. I have an amendment at the desk, designated as Flake No. 2.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

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 for the Batteries and Electric Drive Technology program within the Department of Energy's Efficiency and Renewable Energy Program.

Mr. FLAKE (during the reading). Madam Chair, I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading.

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to the order of the House of Tuesday, June 5, 2012, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chair, I know we have been on this bill a long time, and I don't plan to take my full 5 minutes here.

This amendment would simply prohibit funding for the Department of Energy Batteries and Electric Drive Technology program, preventing unnecessary Federal spending to the tune of about $171 million.

We all know that for too long Washington has meddled too much in the energy market. Not only has the government proved itself to be ill-equipped to pick winners and losers, I think government is just plain bad at it. The list of winners is dubious at best, and it's a diverse one, from oil subsidies, ethanol mandates, to Solyndra, and now the Chevy Volt. The common thread is a seemingly endless supply, endless stream of taxpayer funding.

Enter the Batteries and Electric Drive Technology program. This is one of the countless acronyms that taxpayers know little of despite helping to fund these programs to the tune of a few hundred million dollars. Interestingly, the BEDT is the very program that developed the Chevy Volt battery that we've all heard so much about and, I think, the manufacturing lines that are now stopping or diminishing.

While I wholeheartedly support my colleagues' commitment to work to reduce the burden of rising energy and gasoline prices, I believe it would be imprudent to acquiesce key funding in this regard to components of the President's go green or go bust initiative. This hasn't gone too well, and I don't know why we continue to fund it.

Instead, I think we ought to eliminate the energy subsidies and preferential policies while encouraging free market growth and innovation. We could start out by eliminating funding for the BEDT.

I urge support for the amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Chair, I rise to claim the time in opposition.

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

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. I rise to oppose the amendment. There is valuable, cutting-edge research in the Department of Energy that enables future generations of vehicle technologies to proceed, technologies that are too far in the future for American private sectors to support, but that will keep future generations of manufacturing and jobs here in the United States and have the consequence of lowering what Americans have to pay for gasoline at the pump.

This amendment—and we're all supporting cutting wasteful spending—would virtually eliminate this important piece of our comprehensive approach; and, therefore, I strongly oppose it.

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 also rise in opposition to the gentleman's amendment. We need to move away from our dependency on fuel imported by unfriendly nations. I have in past debates on this floor, and I would do it again, referenced the senior Senator from Indiana, Senator LUGAR, who has long characterized our energy crisis paramount, as one of national security, given where those petroleum purchases take place. The fact is, if we can get more miles per gallon, we have solved part of that national security crisis.

None of us today standing here or sitting here are going to be able to do much about the price of a barrel of oil. But if each one of those individual drivers can get some relief by getting an extra mile per gallon for their vehicle, we have also helped ameliorate their economic pressure and the costs that they have.

I think it is shortsighted to eliminate this program which has the potential to address a major issue in the viability and practicality of electric vehicles, and that is the battery. We need to be looking at the cost, performance, life, and abuse tolerance of batteries, and I do support the Department's efforts on this front and have been active for a number of years in seeking additional funds for it because I think it does a great value to this country's future.

I oppose the gentleman's amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chair, it was mentioned that government research, the Federal Government typically gets involved in research when the return is too far out for commercial enterprise to realize any benefit. I would suggest that that just doesn't apply here at all. We're talking about batteries. And those who tout this program claim that we already have evidence on the road, the Chevy Volt, of this technology working, and so that's not too far out. So if there's technology on the road, or in this case mostly still sitting in the lots, apparently, because these cars aren't selling very well, it isn't out there too far in the future.

I think we get confused about what really is the role of the Federal Government with regard to research when we have programs like this where there could be profit—and is, in certain technologies tomorrow—and it becomes less research and more subsidy, and that's where I think this program falls into.

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

□ 1300

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

The amendment was rejected.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. FLAKE

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk, designated as Flake No. 3.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

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 by the Department of Energy to fund the Wind Powering America Initiative.

Mr. FLAKE (during the reading). Madam Chair, I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading.

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to the order of the House of Tuesday, June 5, 2012, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Chair, this amendment would prohibit funding for the Wind Powering America initiative under the Department of Energy.

Hot air jokes aside here, nobody can say that the Federal Government has not been good to the wind industry. Turbines made for popular earmarks in Congresses past, and wind technology research and development receives tens of millions of Federal dollars annually. Developers continue to reap billions of dollars from a two-decade-old production tax credit that will hopefully be allowed to expire this year.

But as much as I disagree with my colleagues who would have us continue to prop up an industry that even Secretary Chu of the Energy Department describes as mature, that's not what

this amendment is about. This amendment is about putting an end to Wind Powering America, an initiative that just picks winners and losers and operates in the rarified air of a Federal program that is actively advocating on behalf of a particular industry.

Had you happened across an Associated Press article announcing WPA's creation 13 years ago, you would have mistaken it for a trade organization. The Energy Department described WPA as an initiative aimed at building national awareness of wind's benefits, increasing customer demand, overcoming institutional biases, and even advocating on behalf of the wind production tax credit.

These goals have evolved into egregious examples of unnecessary waste, like a podcast titled: ''When wind developed doesn't match up to potential, look at policy.'' And with episodes like Careers in Wind Energy, WPA goes around to the Nation's K–12 schools to promote wind energy workforce development and pushes its Wind for Schools project to implement wind-energy curricula.

While it's hard to understand why taxpayer monies are funding WPA, it's downright impossible to find out how they are funding WPA. The last time WPA was mentioned in an appropriation bill was in 2003 in a conference report approving level funding at $3.1 million. In fact, we couldn't find funding figures more recent than 2008, when an Energy Department budget request confirmed it to be $5.5 million. After that, WPA falls into the bureaucratic abyss. This amendment would not only put an end to this federalized wind-advocacy program, it would end the practice of blindly funding it.

This amendment is anything but tilting at windmills. Congress ought to make a point to not oversee how much we spend, but how we spend it. We can do just that by eliminating the Wind Powering America project.

I urge support for the amendment and reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DICKS. Madam Chair, I rise to claim the time in opposition to the amendment.

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

Mr. DICKS. The amendment prohibits funds for the Wind Powering America program, which has been funded since 1999 to increase information-sharing in support of expanding domestic wind power.

Madam Chairman, I rise to oppose the amendment. I appreciate my colleague's continued efforts to stop inappropriate or wasteful Federal spending. However, there is a distinction between improper and proper Federal activities, and I believe this amendment would eliminate an example of the latter.

I agree with my colleague that the government should not be funding the deployment of proven technologies, and for that reason we have significantly ramped back the wind energy program. In fact, our bill cuts the program by 25 percent and focuses the remaining funds on unproven technologies not yet in the market, like offshore wind. I know they don't have any of that in Arizona, but we have significant offshore wind in Washington State.

There is also a proper Federal role for facilitating the free flow of information where market failures prevent the efficient operation of free markets. In this case, a small program facilitates the free flow of information collected by national laboratories, such as resource maps and detailed wind data. Programs like this use small amounts of Federal funds to fix a market failure and get government out of the way so that our private sector can get to the work of creating manufacturing and construction jobs here at home.

We can talk about which specific parts of this program should be cut, but I cannot support its complete elimination, and I must oppose the amendment.

I yield to the distinguished ranking member of the subcommittee, Mr. VISCLOSKY.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. I appreciate the gentleman yielding.

I believe that there is a proper role for government where there is no private organization willing or able to fill an information need, and information is vital if we are going to improve our energy policy.

This program provides a venue at a very modest cost to the taxpayers to disseminate valuable information that supports the diversification of the Nation's energy supply.

While I do appreciate the gentleman from Arizona's efforts to search out sources of wasteful and inappropriate spending, I disagree that this program is one of those instances and join my colleague from Washington in opposition to the amendment.

Mr. DICKS. Again, the gentleman from Arizona would eliminate this entire program; we think that is overstepping.

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

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 in support of the gentleman from Arizona's amendment. While we may have our differences—and not all of his amendments that he has proposed have passed—he has been congenial and a class act and I'd like to thank him. I would like to thank him also for his continued efforts, which have been recognized on the other side too, to fight wasteful Federal spending.

We agree, I think most of us, that our government should not be funding the deployment of proven technologies. For that reason, our committee and our bill has significantly ramped back the wind energy program to 25 percent below fiscal year 2012 and focused the remaining funds on unproven technologies not yet in the market, like far offshore wind. If there are small cases where the Department is carrying out activities not appropriate for the Federal Government, they should be eliminated.

So I salute the gentleman, and I am pleased to support his efforts. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FLAKE. I rise to thank the gentleman and express a lot of shock here. But I appreciate the fine work the gentleman does on this legislation.

Again, this program is advocacy for a proven technology. After 13 years of this program, to spend more—and we really don't understand how much each year, but it could be $5.5 million—for people in the Federal Government, on taxpayer dollars, to go and advocate on behalf of wind energy. All of us receive visits frequently from people in the wind industry who have proven technology, who are out there already deploying it. Why in the world we should continue to spend hard-earned taxpayer dollars to advocate for these programs, I just don't know.

So I thank the gentleman, the chairman of the committee, for supporting the amendment, and I urge its adoption.

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

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

The amendment was agreed to.

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 suspect, Madam Chair, that the ranking member, Mr. VISCLOSKY, and I are going to use this opportunity to thank a whole host of people who have allowed us to bring this bill to the floor and, we hope, to a very successful conclusion.

□ 1310

First of all, to Chairman ROGERS from Kentucky and his working partner, Congressman NORM DICKS, on behalf of the committee, we want to thank you for giving us full support, bipartisan support, and giving us the flexibility to have a number of hearings to do a comprehensive approach through that hearing process and your insistence, both of you, on what we call regular order, the ability of the Appropriations Committee to work in a bipartisan way. I shouldn't comment on the House in general, but in terms of our committee, there's been a good bipartisan working relationship. So you've laid the foundation for Mr. VISCLOSKY and me to sort of proceed in regular order, and we're grateful.

I'd also like to thank the Members for their cooperation in terms of amendments. I think we started maybe last year with 103 amendments. A lot of

amendments were drawn into a unanimous consent situation, so we've been able to reduce the amendments, and Members have come to the floor, spoken on an expeditious basis and, I think, performed admirably, and I think they have made our bill better and more comprehensive.

I'd also like to thank those who are on the floor, particularly our committee staff, Rob Blair, our clerk, who's to my left, Joe Levin, Loraine Heckenberg, Angie Giancarlo, Perry Yates, and Trevor Higgins.

On the minority, I'd like to thank Taunja Berquam. I'd also like to thank my personal staff, Nancy Fox and Katie Hazlett, and Mr. VISCLOSKY's personal staff, Joe DeVooght.

And of course, Madam Chair, there are a whole host of people who make the floor work on the appropriations side. Some of them would not like to be publicly recognized. But let me say, in our heart, we hold them dear because we're able to get our bill to the floor, make sure that our amendments all meet the letter of the law and the Constitution, the Parliamentarian having vetted all those amendments. So we're highly appreciative of that.

And I certainly would be happy to yield to my ranking member if he cares to—I'm sure he would—make some remarks.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. I appreciate the gentleman yielding very much. And I think the only other thank-you I would add, and I would very sincerely join the chair in all of the recognitions that he has enumerated, is the Chair, herself, as well as all of those others who have served us over the last 4 days and done a very expeditious job.

I cannot thank the chairman enough for all he has done for us and for this country and for being the consummate gentleman. It is a privilege and a delight to work with you, as well as the other members of the subcommittee.

I would point out that, while we agree very substantively on this bill, there are degrees of differences. We did not, in the intervening last 4 days, agree on every amendment, but we had reasoned and thoughtful debate. We had votes, and decisions were made.

It is a profound privilege that people like Chairman FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. DICKS, and I have serving this country in this Congress. I am an institutionalist, and this is a perfect example of how that institution should work: to meet collectively, to resolve our differences, and to work as hard as we can to hopefully, in fiscal year 2013, leave this country a little bit better.

Again, thank all of the people, and particularly the staff and the Chair for all their good work.

I appreciate the chairman for yielding.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Reclaiming my time, I want to also note this is the last Energy and Water bill that Mr. DICKS will be participating in. And I say on behalf of our committee that we've always known that you're fully engaged in every subcommittee where you are so prominent, and we want to thank you for that.

Let me say, too, that we're pleased we've built in our bill some common ground for energy policy across our Nation. Most importantly, as I said in my remarks, the national security segment: what we need to do to make sure that our nuclear stockpile is reliable, that we proceed with cleanups, things that we do relative to naval reactors and the next generation of nuclear ballistic submarines, and the comprehensive energy policy that's directed not only towards research into the future but trying to minimize rising gas prices, which have affected every American pocketbook.

Lastly, we've done it with a lot less money. We're actually, in some cases, close to the 2008 level, somewhere between 2008 and 2009. And while some people may like to damn us, we've done our best to cut spending and reflect the real economy out there, the fact that people are paying too much in the way of taxes, we have too much debt and such a large deficit. We've done our part.

I yield back the balance of my time.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

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

An amendment by Mr. ROHRABACHER of California.

An amendment by Mr. STEARNS of Florida.

An amendment by Mr. SHIMKUS of Illinois.

An amendment by Mr. TIPTON of Colorado.

An amendment by Mr. LUETKEMEYER of Missouri.

An amendment by Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas.

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

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. ROHRABACHER

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRABACHER) 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 181, noes 229, not voting 21, as follows:

[Roll No. 319]

AYES—181

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Amash
Amodei
Bachmann
Barrow
Barton (TX)
Benishek
Bilbray
Black
Blackburn
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Coffman (CO)
Conaway
Costello
Cravaack
Crawford
Cuellar
Culberson
DeFazio
Dent
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donnelly (IN)
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Flake
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Gosar
Gowdy
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Harris
Hartzler
Heck
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Hochul
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kissell
Kline
Kucinich
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Latham
Latta
LoBiondo
Long
Luetkemeyer
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McIntyre
McMorris Rodgers
Meehan
Meeks
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Olson
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Peterson
Petri
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Reed
Ribble
Rigell
Rivera
Roe (TN)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ross (AR)
Ross (FL)
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schilling
Schmidt
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Sherman
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stearns
Stutzman
Sullivan
Sutton
Thornberry
Upton
Visclosky
Walberg
Walsh (IL)
Webster
West
Westmoreland
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Woodall
Yoder
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOES—229

Ackerman
Alexander
Altmire
Andrews
Austria
Bachus
Baldwin
Barletta
Bartlett
Bass (CA)
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Berg
Berkley
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bonner
Bono Mack
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Chandler
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Courtney
Crenshaw
Critz
Crowley
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
DeGette
DeLauro
Denham
Deutch
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Dold
Doyle
Dreier
Edwards
Ellison
Emerson
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Fleischmann
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gallegly
Garamendi
Gibson
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Granger
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith (VA)
Grijalva
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Gutierrez
Hall
Hanabusa
Harper
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heinrich
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly
Kildee
Kind
Kingston

Kinzinger (IL)
Langevin
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
LaTourette
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Luján
Lummis
Lynch
Maloney
Marino
Markey
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McKinley
McNerney
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Neal
Nunnelee
Olver
Owens
Pallone
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Reyes
Richmond
Roby
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Roybal-Allard
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stark
Stivers
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiberi
Tierney
Tipton
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Walden
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Whitfield
Wilson (FL)
Womack
Woolsey
Yarmuth
Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—21

Baca
Berman
Castor (FL)
Chu
Coble
Engel
Filner
Hahn
Hanna
Lewis (CA)
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Moore
Napolitano
Pascrell
Paul
Platts
Richardson
Rothman (NJ)
Shuler
Slaughter

□ 1341

Messrs. MCNERNEY, HOYER, HALL, MARKEY, GERLACH, SARBANES and RAHALL changed their vote from ''aye'' to ''no.''

Messrs. ROGERS of Michigan, HUELSKAMP, NUNES, GRIFFIN of Arkansas, PETRI, SMITH of New Jersey, KUCINICH, Mrs. BUERKLE, Messrs. MCCAUL, CUELLAR, DESJARLAIS and WEBSTER changed their vote from ''no'' to ''aye.''

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Madam Chair, on rollcall 319, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. STEARNS

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) 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 348, noes 60, not voting 23, as follows:

[Roll No. 320]

AYES—348

Ackerman
Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Amash
Amodei
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Baldwin
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Benishek
Berg
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Brown (FL)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carney
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chandler
Cicilline
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (KY)
DeFazio
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Doggett
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Emerson
Eshoo
Farenthold
Farr
Fattah
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Hanabusa
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Heinrich
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hochul
Holden
Holt
Hoyer
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Israel
Issa
Jackson Lee (TX)
Jenkins
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kline
Kucinich
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Langevin
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Levin
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Long
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mack
Maloney
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meehan
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mulvaney
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Nadler
Neal
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Olver
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Pearce
Pelosi
Pence
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Polis
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Quayle
Quigley
Rahall
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)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Runyan
Ryan (WI)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Speier
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Sutton
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tierney
Tipton
Tonko
Tsongas
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Van Hollen
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Waters
Waxman
Webster
Welch
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOES—60

Andrews
Bass (CA)
Berkley
Carnahan
Carson (IN)
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Conyers
Courtney
Crowley
Davis (IL)
DeGette
DeLauro
Deutch
Dingell
Edwards
Ellison
Frank (MA)
Fudge
Garamendi
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hastings (FL)
Himes
Hinchey
Honda
Jackson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Kildee
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Lewis (GA)
McCollum
McDermott
Meeks
Perlmutter
Peters
Rangel
Richmond
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sires
Smith (WA)
Stark
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Towns
Velázquez
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Watt
Wilson (FL)
Woolsey

NOT VOTING—23

Baca
Berman
Castor (FL)
Chu
Coble
Engel
Filner
Hahn
Hanna
Johnson (GA)
Lewis (CA)
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Moore
Moran
Napolitano
Pascrell
Paul
Platts
Richardson
Rothman (NJ)
Shuler
Slaughter

□ 1346

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas and Ms. PELOSI changed their vote from ''no'' to ''aye.''

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Madam Chair. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 320, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. SHIMKUS

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SHIMKUS) 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 326, noes 81, not voting 24, as follows:

[Roll No. 321]

AYES—326

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Amash
Andrews
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Baldwin
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (NH)
Benishek
Berg
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Cardoza
Carney
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chandler
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Cuellar
Culberson
Davis (KY)
DeFazio
DeGette
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dingell
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Emerson
Eshoo
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Hanabusa
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heinrich
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Himes
Hinojosa
Hochul
Holden
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly
Kildee
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Kucinich
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Long
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McHenry
McIntyre
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meehan
Meeks
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moran
Mulvaney
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neal
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Owens
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Peters
Peterson
Petri
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Quayle
Quigley
Rahall
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
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schiff
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Smith (NE)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Southerland
Speier
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Sutton
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tierney
Tipton
Tonko
Towns
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Van Hollen
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Walz (MN)
Webster
Welch
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOES—81

Ackerman
Amodei
Bass (CA)
Becerra
Berkley
Brown (FL)
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carson (IN)
Chaffetz
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Conyers
Crowley
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeLauro
Doggett
Edwards
Ellison
Fattah
Frank (MA)
Fudge
Garamendi
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hastings (FL)
Heck
Hinchey
Hirono
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Kissell
Langevin
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lofgren, Zoe
Luján
Maloney
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
Nadler
Olver
Pallone
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Pingree (ME)
Polis
Rangel
Richmond
Roybal-Allard
Rush
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Schakowsky
Serrano
Stark
Thompson (MS)
Tsongas
Velázquez
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Woolsey

NOT VOTING—24

Baca
Berman
Castor (FL)
Chu
Coble
Engel
Farr
Filner
Hahn
Hanna
Johnson (GA)
Lewis (CA)
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Moore
Napolitano
Pascrell
Paul
Platts
Richardson
Rothman (NJ)
Shuler
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)

□ 1353

Mr. CICILLINE and Ms. WATERS changed their vote from ''aye'' to ''no.''

Mrs. SCHMIDT and Ms. BONAMICI changed their vote from ''no'' to ''aye.''

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Madam Chair, on rollcall 321, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. TIPTON

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TIPTON) 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 355, noes 51, not voting 25, as follows:

[Roll No. 322]

AYES—355

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Amash
Amodei
Andrews
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Baldwin
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (CA)
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Benishek
Berg
Berkley
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonamici
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Brown (FL)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Carney
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chandler
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Cooper
Costello
Courtney
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Cuellar
Culberson
Davis (CA)
Davis (KY)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Emerson
Eshoo
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Hanabusa
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Heinrich
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Himes
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hochul
Holden
Hoyer
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Israel
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly
Kildee
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Langevin
Lankford
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Long
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mack
Maloney
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meehan
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, George
Mulvaney
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neal
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Pascrell
Paulsen
Pearce
Pelosi
Pence
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Polis
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Quayle
Rahall
Rangel
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)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Runyan

Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schiff
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Southerland
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sutton
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tierney
Tipton
Tonko
Tsongas
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Van Hollen
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waxman
Webster
Welch
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOES—51

Ackerman
Blumenauer
Cardoza
Carnahan
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Clyburn
Cohen
Conyers
Costa
Crowley
Cummings
Davis (IL)
Edwards
Ellison
Farr
Fattah
Fudge
Garamendi
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hinchey
Holt
Honda
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Kucinich
Larsen (WA)
Lee (CA)
McCollum
McDermott
Meeks
Miller (NC)
Moran
Nadler
Olver
Pastor (AZ)
Quigley
Richmond
Rush
Schakowsky
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sires
Speier
Stark
Thompson (MS)
Towns
Velázquez
Watt
Woolsey

NOT VOTING—25

Baca
Berman
Carson (IN)
Castor (FL)
Chu
Cleaver
Coble
Engel
Filner
Gohmert
Hahn
Hanna
Lewis (CA)
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Moore
Napolitano
Paul
Platts
Richardson
Rothman (NJ)
Shuler
Slaughter
Sullivan
Waters

□ 1357

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Madam Chair, on rollcall 322, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. LUETKEMEYER

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the second amendment offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. LUETKEMEYER) 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 242, noes 168, not voting 21, as follows:

[Roll No. 323]

AYES—242

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Amash
Amodei
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Benishek
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Costello
Courtney
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Emerson
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Himes
Hochul
Holden
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Kelly
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Lankford
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Marino
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McIntyre
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meehan
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Owens
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Peterson
Petri
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Reed
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
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Webster
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NOES—168

Ackerman
Andrews
Baldwin
Barrow
Bass (CA)
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Berg
Berkley
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Boren
Brady (PA)
Brown (FL)
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Chandler
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Deutch
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Edwards
Ellison
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Fortenberry
Frank (MA)
Fudge
Garamendi
Gonzalez
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Heinrich
Higgins
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kildee
Kind
Kissell
Kucinich
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Luján
Lynch
Maloney
Manzullo
Markey
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Neal
Noem
Olver
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Pingree (ME)
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Rehberg
Reyes
Richmond
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Sires
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stark
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Woolsey
Yarmuth
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—21

Baca
Berman
Castor (FL)
Chu
Coble
Engel
Filner
Gohmert
Hahn
Hanna
Lewis (CA)
Marchant
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Napolitano
Paul
Platts
Richardson
Rothman (NJ)
Shuler
Slaughter

□ 1402

Messrs. KUCINICH and MARKEY changed their vote from "aye" to "no."

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Madam Chair, on rollcall 323, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. JACKSON LEE OF TEXAS

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the fourth amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) 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 150, noes 260, not voting 21, as follows:

[Roll No. 324]

AYES—150

Ackerman
Baldwin
Bass (CA)
Becerra
Bilbray
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Boswell
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Conyers
Cooper
Courtney
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Frank (MA)
Fudge
Garamendi
Gibson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hochul
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Kaptur
Keating
Kildee
Kind
Kucinich
Larson (CT)
Latham
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Loebsack
Lowey
Lynch
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
Michaud
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Neal
Nugent
Olver
Pallone
Pascrell
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Pingree (ME)
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Richmond
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Sires
Smith (WA)
Speier
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Woolsey
Yarmuth

NOES—260

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Amash
Amodei
Andrews
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (NH)
Benishek
Berg
Berkley
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Cardoza
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chandler
Cicilline
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Costa
Costello
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Ellmers
Emerson
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Heinrich
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Kelly
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Langevin
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
LaTourette
Latta
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Lofgren, Zoe
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Maloney
Manzullo
Marino
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meehan
Meeks
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neugebauer
Noem
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Owens
Palazzo
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Peterson
Petri
Pitts
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)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Scalise
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schwartz
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stark
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Webster
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—21

Baca
Berman
Castor (FL)
Chu
Coble
Fattah
Filner
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hanna
Lewis (CA)
Marchant
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Napolitano
Paul
Platts
Richardson
Rothman (NJ)
Shuler
Slaughter

□ 1405

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. Filner. Madam Chair, on rollcall 324, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

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. NUGENT) having assumed the chair, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, 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.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO OFFER MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 4348, SURFACE TRANSPORTATION EXTENSION ACT OF 2012, PART II

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to rule XXII, clause 7(c), I hereby announce my intention to offer a motion to instruct on H.R. 4348.

The form of the motion is as follows:

Mr. Broun of Georgia moves that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4348 be instructed to insist on provisions that limit funding out of the Highway Trust Fund (including the Mass Transit Account) for Federal-aid highway and transit programs to amounts that do not exceed $37,500,000,000 for fiscal year 2013.

□ 1410

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 5855, and that I may include tabular material on the same.

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

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 consideration of the bill, H.R. 5855.

The Chair appoints the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

□ 1411

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 consideration of the bill (H.R. 5855) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes, with Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

The gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ADERHOLT) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. PRICE) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alabama.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Chair, it was 68 years ago today that more than 9,000 Allied soldiers were killed and wounded during the D-day invasion in Normandy, France. That courageous operation, as well as the sacrifice of so many brave individuals, serves as a sobering reminder that freedom and security are not free. It is with this solemn commitment to both freedom and security that I respectfully present to the people's House the FY 2013 appropriations bill for the Department of Homeland Security.

Similar to our committee's work over the past 2 fiscal years, this bill demonstrates how we can sufficiently fund vital security programs while also at the same time reducing discretionary spending overall. This bill does not represent a false choice between fiscal responsibility and our Nation's security. Both are national security priorities and both are vigorously addressed in this bill by focusing upon four key priorities:

First, fiscal discipline. This bill reduces spending below the FY12-enacted level;

Second, oversight. This bill continues and strengthens the subcommittee's long bipartisan tradition of strict accountability;

Third, support for frontline operations. This bill sustains and it actually even increases operational programs, including border and maritime security, immigration enforcement, investigations, targeted aviation security activities, disaster relief, and also cybersecurity;

Fourth, preparedness and innovation. Despite the bill's overall reduction in spending, investments and preparedness grants and science and technology are substantially increased above FY12 levels.

In sum, I believe this to be a very strong bill that incorporates considerable input from nearly 200 Members, including members of the authorizing committees, and also along with the Appropriations Committee, which meets our Nation's pressing needs for both security and fiscal restraint.

I would like to go into a few details on fiscal discipline and spending that are included in this legislation.

The bill before us today provides $39.1 billion in base discretionary funding, which is nearly a half billion dollars below the FY12-enacted level, and it is almost $400 million below the President's own request. There are no earmarks in this bill or the accompanying report.

The bill cuts the Department's bureaucratic overhead and headquarters functions by nearly 18 percent below the request and 7 percent below last year's level. Also, the bill substantially reduces the administrative overhead of the Department of Homeland Security component agencies, including a $61 million reduction to TSA's administrative functions and a reallocation of TSA's resources to increase privatized screening and canine enforcement teams. In fact, TSA is cut overall by some $422 million below last year's level.

As I noted, this bill puts priority funding on frontline personnel, such as the Border Patrol, CBP officers, Coast Guard military personnel, and law enforcement agents. It supports the largest immigration detention capacity in the history of ICE, and it sustains high-risk aviation security. It fully funds the known requirement for disaster relief; supports long overdue initiatives in cybersecurity; and robustly supports intelligence, watch-listing, threat-targeting systems, preparedness grants, and science and technology programs, including the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility.

In addition, this bill reforms the way the Coast Guard acquires its costly operational assets and responsibly funds much-needed cutters and aviation assets, those essential tools that will keep our coastlines safe and secure our maritime approaches against the plague of illegal drugs.

This bill also provides funding where the administration utterly failed. This bill makes up for the $115 million shortfall that was handed to us by the Department through phony, unauthorized fee collections, as well as the $110 million shortfall resulting from OMB's failure to properly access CBP's fee collections. The administration may be able to rely on some of these fee gimmicks in the President's budget, but here in the House and in the subcommittee we do not have that luxury.

With respect to oversight, our subcommittee has a bipartisan tradition of insisting upon results for each and every taxpayer dollar that it appropriates. Therefore, the bill includes robust oversight by way of intensified spend plan requirements, reporting requirements, a full accounting of disaster relief costs, and operational requirements to include Border Patrol staffing levels and ICE's detention capacity.

However, I must note that the Department of Homeland Security did an unacceptably poor job at complying with the statutory requirements that were enacted in FY12. Those failures are assertively addressed in this bill and the report, and we address this through sizable cuts and withholdings to the Department.

Furthermore, this bill holds the administration's feet to the fire when it comes to enforcing our Nation's immigration laws. In response to the administration's repeated attempts to water down enforcement, this bill directs ICE to maintain 34,000 detention beds and continue funding 287(g) and worksite enforcement at the FY 2012 levels. It is the prerogative of Congress to set such priorities, and I stand by this direction in the bill.

Our subcommittee is serious about compelling the Department to not only enforce the law, but to comply with the law as well, and we cannot tolerate further failures in this regard.

Finally, on preparedness and innovation. The bill increases preparedness grants by nearly 17 percent and science and technology programs by nearly 24 percent above last year's levels. Committee members and our authorizing members have provided considerable input on these programs, and I'm committed to leveraging technology and well-justified investments to sustain our Nation's preparedness as well as spur innovation and foster an environment for job growth.

In closing my comments this afternoon, I would like to thank Ranking Member DAVID PRICE. He has been a statesman and a real partner during this process as we have moved this bill forward over the last several months. I do want to thank him for his dedicated professionalism and also his dedicated staff that have acted in a tremendously professional manner, for their input and contributions that they have made to this bill.

Let me recognize and thank the members of the Appropriations Committee and also many of the members of the authorizing committee, for their input and their vital oversight work over the past few months as well, as we have moved forward in the producing of this bill.

□ 1420

I'd like to thank the dedicated staff for the Department of Homeland Security that I work with on a day-by-day basis as we move this bill forward: the clerk, Ben Nicholson; Jeff Ashford; Kris Mallard; Kathy Kraninger; Miles Taylor; Cornell Teague; and Joe Croce, as well as in my own office, in my personal office who worked on this bill, Brian Rell and Mark Dawson and, of course, on the minority side, Stephanie Gupta, who did a tremendous job in a professional manner on the minority side.

Finally, I do want to thank the distinguished chairman and the ranking member of the overall Appropriations Committee, Chairman HAL ROGERS and Ranking Member NORM DICKS. As much as we had to make difficult choices and tradeoffs at the subcommittee level, I know they had to make much more difficult choices across all 12 subcommittees.

So I sincerely believe, Mr. Chairman, that this bill reflects our best efforts to address our Nation's most urgent needs for security and also to address fiscal discipline. I would urge my colleagues in the House to support this measure.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the bill and yield myself such time as I may utilize.

Mr. Chairman, I'm pleased we're considering the fiscal year 2013 Department of Homeland Security appropriations bill in a timely fashion and under an open rule. Chairman ADERHOLT has been collaborative and collegial in the drafting of this bill, and I appreciate his willingness to include input from our side all along the way.

I'm generally supportive of the funding levels provided in the bill. The fact remains, however, that our subcommittee was forced to accept a reduced allocation for the Department of Homeland Security when Republicans unilaterally cast aside the spending agreement we reached last August, forcing the Appropriations Committee to absorb $19 billion in reductions below the Budget Control Act levels.

Largely because the majority broke that agreement, DHS is funded at 1 percent below the requested level, continuing a downward funding trend for

this agency over the past few years. The bill does retain the disaster cap adjustment included in the Budget Control Act agreement.

Mr. Chairman, fortunately, despite these circumstances, the bill before us provides adequate funding for DHS front-line employees so that they can continue to conduct critical operations along our borders, to protect our Nation's airports and seaports, to disrupt the latest plots against the United States and our citizens, and to respond to the spate of natural disasters our country has experienced.

I'm also pleased that the bill significantly increases funding for critical grant programs, in marked contrast to the current year's inadequate levels. The bill also rejects the administration's poorly articulated changes to the grant structure, changes that have not been authorized.

Specifically, funding for FEMA's State and local grants is $413 million above the fiscal year 2012 level, and both fire grants and emergency management performance grants are funded at the levels requested by the administration.

Equally important, the bill provides improved funding for research and developments efforts. The bill contains sufficient resources for the Science and Technology Directorate to fund all high-priority research efforts and some new projects as well.

Unfortunately, while the bill appears to fully fund the administration's request for science and technology, in reality it includes $75 million for construction of the National Bio and Agrodefense Facility, NBAF, which the administration did not request, in effect reducing funds for research and development efforts.

Now, I support the eventual construction of this facility, but I must question the inclusion of $75 million in limited resources for a project that the President did not request, that remains under review by two National Academy of Science panels, and that already has unobligated prior-year appropriations that it can draw upon.

The bill also increases funding for critical Coast Guard, as well as Air and Marine, acquisitions, to recapitalize aging assets while also bringing the latest aviation and vessel technologies online to ensure our personnel can operate more effectively.

And, finally, the bill includes a substantial increase for cybersecurity protective efforts to continuously monitor and detect intrusions to our Federal networks from foreign espionage and cyberattacks.

Mr. Chairman, the bill does contain some ill-advised immigration provisions. Unnecessary and wasteful statutory floors are set for a variety of programs, such as an arbitrary minimum of 34,000 detention beds, a required level of spending for the seriously flawed 287(g) program, and an inflexible amount for work-site enforcement. Including these types of spending floors and mandates in bill language limits the Department's flexibility to respond decisively to immigration challenges and is likely to waste taxpayer dollars for no good reason.

I also object to the three abortion general provisions that were added in full committee. Now, we all know, Mr. Chairman, abortion is a politically charged subject. Numerous restrictions in law have already conditioned and qualified reproductive freedom in practice. Among those are prohibitions on the use of Federal funds for abortion procedures, which are specifically applied to Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the Department of Homeland Security by the President's Executive Order 13535, issued on March 24, 2010.

Until now, our bill has never touched on the topic of abortion because it's not relevant to the Department of Homeland Security, and it falls far outside the lines of jurisdiction of this subcommittee. So these provisions are redundant. They will accomplish nothing. They make no change whatsoever in current law or procedures.

They seem designed mainly for political effect; but I tell you, political effect cuts both ways. These abortion riders, while unnecessary, are inflammatory. They're divisive. They should not be included in the final bill.

Finally, I also strongly disagree with provisions that withhold the following: 60 percent of all funding provided to the Secretary, Under Secretary, Chief Financial Officer; 10 percent of all funding for salaries and expenses at Customs and Border Protection personnel; about 37 percent for Coast Guard Headquarters Directorate until they submit numerous reports required by statute.

Even more egregiously, these withholdings are coupled with a provision that prevents the Secretary, the Deputy Secretary, the commandant of our Coast Guard, and the vice commandant from using their aircraft until certain key reports are received by the committee. These constraints are excessive. They will prevent Department and Coast Guard leadership from effectively doing their jobs.

I support efforts to hold the Department accountable; and, in fact, we included carefully calibrated and targeted withholdings in this bill when I was chairman. But excessive and unrealistic limitations, frankly, detract from this subcommittee's credibility, and they're likely to be counterproductive.

Mr. Chairman, I will close by thanking the hardworking professional staff which has helped craft this bill and has assisted the subcommittee in a bipartisan manner over the course of the year. I want to thank, as the chairman did, Ben Nicholson, Kathy Kraninger, Jeff Ashford, Kris Mallard, Joe Croce, Miles Taylor, and Cornell Teague on the majority side and, of course, Stephanie Gupta on our side of the aisle and Justin Wein from my office.

Again, I want to reiterate my appreciation to the chairman for his efforts to work with us on so many issues and to sustain our front-line Federal homeland security operations.

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

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS), the chairman of the full Appropriations Committee.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Thank you, Chairman ADERHOLT, for yielding the time.

Mr. Chairman, this is the 10th anniversary bill for this subcommittee. We began work in 2003, and the first three speakers that are on the platform today are the three chairmen of that subcommittee in its 10 years of history. I have the honor of being the first chairman and then was followed by DAVID PRICE as chairman, and now ROBERT ADERHOLT. So we have—if there is any accumulated wisdom, we posses a portion of it.

So we want to thank Chairman ADERHOLT and Ranking Member PRICE for their hard work on this subcommittee. This is truly a bipartisan, nonpartisan subcommittee because the Nation's security cannot bow to any partisan spirits.

□ 1430

I think after these 10 years we can all agree that the country is indeed safer than it was then. The country has thwarted several attempts at terrorist attacks in our skies. We've eliminated the world's most heinous terrorist, Osama bin Laden, and more recently the number two al Qaeda leader in Afghanistan and Pakistan. But we face constant reminders that the war on terror is anything near over. Our freedom is not free, and we can't skimp on our national security if we want to stay vigilant and, most importantly, safe.

Discretionary funding in this bill totals just over $39 billion, which, indeed, is a cut of $483 million below last year and $393 million below what the President requested. Chairman ADERHOLT and his subcommittee drafted this bill with four priorities in mind: one, putting security first; second, encouraging strong fiscal discipline; three, mandating robust oversight efforts; and four, boosting the research and grant programs that support American jobs, innovation, and preparedness.

To support and address vital front-line operations, the bill makes smart increases or holds constant programs that enhance intelligence, threat-targeting, or that act as the first line of defense and response. This includes providing funding for the largest immigration detention capacity and number of Border Patrol agents in ICE history.

But at the end of the day, the bill totals less than it did last year, and that's because of thoughtful, responsible reductions. Our limited government resources must be put toward programs and services with proven benefits and tangible results. These cuts

targeted programs with known inefficiencies, program delays, excessive overhead costs, or those that simply had lower budget requirements. The bill also rescinds excess or unspent prior-year funds.

Now, as the Department enters its 10th anniversary, we are reminded that the Department in its current form is still ''under construction.'' Though we have seen some real progress made, DHS can still improve the way it spends taxpayer dollars and administers its grant programs.

This legislation, I think, takes the right steps to direct spending accordingly—enacting reforms, requiring tougher oversight, and demanding justifications and spending plans from programs that do not have a history of wise spending decisions.

Again, I want to thank Chairman ADERHOLT, Ranking Member PRICE, all of the members of the subcommittee, and the hardworking staff for all the many hours they've spent in drafting this important bill. This legislation is proof that we can do more with less. A reduction in spending, coupled with reforms to encourage efficiency and sustainability, will help us get on a stronger fiscal path.

I believe this is a good bill, Mr. Chairman. It's as good a bill as I've seen in my 10 years on this subcommittee, and I want to, again, congratulate those who had a hand in making it possible.

So I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on this bill to help prevent future terrorist attacks, to protect air passengers, and to keep our border secure.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I would like to yield 3 minutes to an outstanding member of our subcommittee, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY).

Mrs. LOWEY. I would like to thank Chairman ADERHOLT and Ranking Member PRICE for their bipartisan work on this legislation.

The fiscal year 2013 Homeland Security appropriations bill would make smart investments in our national security infrastructure, including increasing funds for cybersecurity, focusing homeland security dollars at communities most at threat of terrorist attacks, and providing our first responders with the resources to protect us.

With limited resources, we must prioritize assistance to the regions most likely to be attacked. That is why I am so pleased that this bill takes a step toward restoring the original intent of the Urban Area Security Initiative by focusing resources on the 25 most at-risk cities while still providing funding for other regions through other programs.

Ten years after 9/11, the threat of radiological attack and New York's status as the number one terror target remain. That is why I am so pleased that this bill would maintain $22 million to support Securing the Cities, which seeks to prevent the smuggling of illicit nuclear material into Manhattan.

I am also pleased that Assistance to Firefighter and SAFER grants would be adequately funded. As local governments have faced difficult budget decisions, firefighters have been laid off, leaving our neighborhoods with inadequate protection. This legislation would fund firefighter hiring grants and would extend the SAFER waiver to allow communities to retain or rehire laid-off firefighters.

I am extremely disappointed, however, that Republicans needlessly injected divisive social issues into the bill. I've served on this subcommittee or on the authorizing committee for nearly a decade. In that time, I've met with the first responders, ICE agents, Border Patrol, and many other security personnel. Not once have they said that women's reproductive health makes our country less secure—not once. Weighing down this bill with ideological riders is a disservice to all first responders.

In closing, again, I would like to thank the committee for its investments in homeland security and first responders, and I hope that this legislation will not be used as a vehicle for ideological policy riders on the floor.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I would like to yield 3 minutes to the chairman of the Homeland Security authorizing committee, the gentleman from New York, Mr. PETER KING.

Mr. KING of New York. I thank the chairman of the Appropriations subcommittee for yielding.

Let me at the very outset thank him for his leadership and cooperation in working through such a difficult bill at such a difficult time in our history. We are faced with a severe terrorist threat. We are also faced with severe fiscal restraints. Last year, I very reluctantly voted against the Homeland Security appropriations bill.

I want to commend Chairman ROGERS and Chairman ADERHOLT for working to resolve the good faith differences we had. For instance, in areas such as State and local grants, we increased them by $350 million to increase by 50 percent the amount allocated to the highest-risk areas in our country. The Urban Area Security Initiative, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, port security, transportation security—all of those programs were addressed in this bill. Nothing is ever as much as we want, but considering the realities we face as a Nation, Chairman ROGERS and Chairman ADERHOLT have done an outstanding job.

Coming from a district which lost so many people on September 11 and which still faces threats, and where we every day, quite frankly, analyze terror threat reports, this funding is extremely important, especially to the NYPD, which does such an outstanding job in spite of the gratuitous, mindless, shameless attacks made upon it by those in the media and by others in elected office as well. So this funding is extremely, extremely vital, especially for the STC, the Secure the Cities program, which will protect not just New York but will provide a template to protect urban areas against dirty bomb attacks throughout the country.

Let me also focus on the issue of the TWIC program. I know the ranking member from the Homeland Security Committee is here and that he'll be addressing this later, but this is an issue of bipartisan concern to our committee: the fact that we still have not been able to protect the TWIC system and that there have been burdens imposed on our workers as far as time constraints being imposed on them and as far as the funding they have to spend. This is a real burden that has been put on them.

□ 1440

So in the Homeland Security Committee, we passed by voice vote the SMART Port bill, which attempts to alleviate this burden on the port worker. Primarily what it does is extends the validity of the TWIC cards currently set to begin expiring later this year until the Department of Homeland Security finally releases the TWIC reader rule.

Port workers, drivers, and others who have to obtain a TWIC should not have to bear the burden of the government's inability to get the job done. I believe the provision we included in this SMART Port bill provides sufficient motivation for the Coast Guard and TSA. I can assure you on behalf of myself—I know he can speak for himself—and the ranking member of the committee as well, we will work together, our committee will work with the Appropriations Committee and with the Department as we try to resolve this issue.

Again, I thank Chairman ADERHOLT for his leadership and for the job that he has done.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I would like to yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR), a leading member of our full Appropriations Committee.

Ms. KAPTUR. I would like to thank Ranking Member PRICE for yielding us this time, as well as Chairman ADERHOLT and full committee Chairman ROGERS, for their work on this legislation and for accepting and including the buy American language that we had worked so very hard and requested.

The Department of Homeland Security needs to raise its consciousness about the importance of buying American and its relationship to jobs in America. Our language further clarifies what has long been the intent of Congress, that the Department of Homeland Security must comply with the Berry amendment and buy U.S.-made products. This is an essential provision for the American economy and our manufacturers.

Congress has already voted to explicitly direct the Department of Homeland Security to comply with the Berry amendment. The Department of Homeland Security is either musclebound or

has been dragging its feet, but somehow they're not hearing us for some odd reason. Also, the Department of Homeland Security's authorizing committee unanimously adopted an amendment that would ensure permanent compliance.

The Department of Homeland Security, one of the largest departments in our government, should be the leader in Homeland Security, starting with strengthening American procurement. Can you imagine what they procure in a year? I know they buy a lot of U.S.-made flags—or at least they should—but also vessels, our Coast Guard's full array of equipment, security systems, weapons, uniforms, etc. The list goes on and on. So why wouldn't they make an effort to do what Congress directed?

I would like to also acknowledge the fine work of the gentleman from North Carolina, Congressman LARRY KISSELL, for his consistent leadership on this issue of buying American. I would also like to acknowledge Representative KATHY HOCHUL, who, in her first term, has been a steadfast leader for buying American as essential for U.S. job creation.

I want to thank the full committee for their commitment to this issue. We would like to invite the Department of Homeland Security to the American table. Let's follow suit with the Department of Defense and the other major departments of our government. Let's buy American and help to contribute to procurement of goods and services made right here in the USA. It's the best investment that we can make in the future.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank the ranking member so very much, along with Mr. ADERHOLT, for including this language in the bill. Let us hope that the Department of Homeland Security is listening, pays attention to the law, and buys American in the national interest.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, at this time, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey, the hard-working chairman of the Energy and Water Subcommittee, who has also been on the floor this week with his legislation, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank the chairman for yielding, and I rise in support of the Homeland Security appropriations bill.

Our Nation lives with the memory of September 11, 2001, each and every day. We can never take back the events of that day or the thousands of lives, including 700 from New Jersey, that were lost.

Like Mr. KING, I would like to highlight that this legislation includes critical funding for investments in first responder grants. The bill includes $1.7 billion for the Department's State and local grant program, which include the Homeland Security Grant program, or what we call UASI, Urban Area Security Initiative, both of which have been greatly benefiting New Jersey and the New York metropolitan area for the last 10 years. The bill also includes $650 million in firefighter grants and $350 million for emergency management performance grants.

It's important to note that this bill again includes, due to the leadership of the chairman, language to improve accountability and transparency to ensure the taxpayers' dollars are well spent.

Lastly, I think all of us would like to recognize how much we depend on the hard work and dedication and tireless work of so many homeland security professionals, emergency squads, fire and police that do the job and some of whom have paid the ultimate sacrifice.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I am privileged to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Mississippi, the outstanding ranking member of the authorizing committee, Mr. THOMPSON.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman from North Carolina for allowing me the time.

I have a number of thoughts on the underlying bill before us today, but I'd like to take the opportunity to discuss the Transportation Worker Identification Credential program, the TWIC program.

Earlier today, the authorizing committee, on a bipartisan basis, approved language modeled after a bill I introduced, H.R. 1105, to prevent current TWIC holders, the men and women who work in our ports, from being forced by TSA to pay for new identification cards beginning in October of this year, given the program is not fully implemented and the Department has not even issued a rule for biometric readers.

The TWIC program is focused on protecting the Nation's maritime transportation facilities and vessels by requiring maritime workers and other workers who need unescorted access to secure port facilities to obtain a biometric identification card. After initial delays, all maritime workers were required to obtain biometric TWIC cards by April 2009. The cost to workers for these cards is $132.50 per credential. To date, over 2.1 million longshoremen, truckers, merchant mariners, and rail and vessel crew members have undergone extensive homeland security and criminal background checks to secure TWICs. Even as workers raced in the spring of 2009 to obtain TWICs to continue working in our Nation's ports, TSA has been more than 2 years late in starting the reader pilots.

Our committee has been told that even under the best circumstances, final regulations are not likely to be issued until late 2014, more than 5 years beyond the date required in statute. Yet, unless Congress or the administration acts, starting October 2012, workers will have to renew the cards they were issued.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. FORTENBERRY). The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I yield an additional minute to the gentleman from Mississippi.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Thank you very much, Mr. Ranking Member.

The point I would like to make, Mr. Chairman, is that 2.1 million workers have TWIC cards. Through no fault of their own, they will be required to renew those cards unless we act.

I appreciate this legislation, acknowledging that we have to do something for those workers or, through no fault of their own, they'll have to renew a card, which is at this point, at best, a flash card. It's not really a worker identification card.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, at this time I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LATHAM), who is the chairman of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee.

□ 1450

Mr. LATHAM. Chairman ADERHOLT, thank you very much.

I rise in strong support of H.R. 5855, the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2013, and I commend the chairman and the ranking member and the staff for doing a really excellent job of crafting a bill that both strengthens our security and reduces government spending.

I'm pleased the committee adopted an important amendment, which I cosponsored, which would waive Federal grant requirements to allow the retention of firefighters hired in our local communities. This is a critically important provision for maintaining response capabilities throughout the Nation.

I also want to highlight the fact that despite spending reductions elsewhere in the bill, we were fully funding FEMA's stated requirements for disaster relief, including flood-related grants. Congress has long recognized the Federal role in disaster relief and prevention efforts, since the first disaster relief bill was passed in 1803. The funding contained in the bill today is important because it continues the move away from ad hoc disaster legislation, and toward including relief in mitigation funding in our regular appropriations.

This assistance is vitally important for the safety net for communities at risk for natural disasters. Throughout the summer of 2011, I saw firsthand the flood damage along the Missouri River in western and southwestern Iowa and spoke with Iowans whose lives were disrupted by that disaster. The flood dealt serious damage to properties along the river and took a breathtaking toll of nearby communities. Hazard mitigation and other disaster assistance funding is absolutely necessary to help them rebound from this tragic flooding.

With that, Mr. Chairman, I urge all Members of the House to support final passage of H.R. 5855.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ADERHOLT. I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. LOBIONDO), who is the chairman of the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation.

Mr. LOBIONDO. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in very strong support of H.R. 5855.

Earlier this year, the President requested to cut funding for the Coast Guard more than 4 percent below the current level. This was the first time in over a decade that a President has proposed to reduce funding for the Coast Guard. In his budget, the President proposed to slash the number of servicemembers by more than 1,000, which would shutter recruiting stations, take recently upgraded helicopters out of service and exacerbate the growing patrol boat mission-hour gap by retiring vessels before their replacements arrive.

For acquisitions, the President proposed to slash the budget by more than $270 million, or 19 percent below the FY2012 enacted level. The request proposed to terminate or delay the acquisition of several critically needed replacement assets and eliminate funding to renovate derelict housing for servicemembers and their dependents.

The cuts put forth by the Obama administration were simply unacceptable and I myself and, I think, a large number of Members were gravely concerned. As chairman of the Coast Guard's authorizing committee, I know how critical it is for us not to repeat the mistakes of the 1990s when misguided cuts to the service's operating and acquisitions budget left it entirely unprepared to meet the post-9/11 mission demand.

The Acting CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. ADERHOLT. I yield the gentleman an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. LOBIONDO. Fortunately, the bill before us today rejects the draconian cuts proposed by the President and ensures the Coast Guard is provided with the resources needed to carry out its critical missions. I want to especially thank Chairman ADERHOLT, Ranking Member PRICE, and their entire staff for recognizing the critical mission needs of the Coast Guard and accommodating those needs for the protection of America.

I urge all Members to support the legislation.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the vice-chairman of our Subcommittee on Homeland Security, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER).

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5855, the FY2013 Homeland Security Appropriations measure.

As a member of the Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee, I believe that under the leadership of Chairman ADERHOLT we have exercised the much-needed oversight of the Department through the course of this year's hearings. This bill, along with the accompanying report, continued to ensure Congress is kept informed of how valuable taxpayer dollars will be spent by requiring numerous reports and briefings from DHS.

This bill funds frontline security operations at their highest level in history, ensuring that our Border Patrol agents and ICE officers have the resources they need to secure our borders. I'm also pleased that this bill includes language that will improve awareness and cooperation between Federal Agencies and nongovernmental organizations to help them combat the heinous crime of human trafficking, also known as modern-day slavery.

I urge my colleagues to support this critical measure.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania, a hardworking member of our Subcommittee on Homeland Security, Mr. DENT.

Mr. DENT. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of the Department of Homeland Security Act of 2013, and I want to thank Chairman ADERHOLT and Ranking Member PRICE for their leadership of this subcommittee.

H.R. 5855 is a fiscally responsible measure, and it totals $39 billion in discretionary funding for DHS, a decrease of about $484 million below current levels. The bill takes a scalpel to Agencies, ensuring adequate funding is available to meet program objectives while weeding out unnecessary spending.

I want to take a moment to highlight a few of the critical aspects of this bill. First, our first responders, we provide $2.8 billion for FEMA first responder grants. Additionally, the Assistance to Firefighter Grants and Emergency Management Performance Grants will receive $670 million, equal to the President's request.

Furthermore, I am pleased to note an amendment offered by Mr. PRICE, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. LATHAM and me during the full committee markup to foster further flexibility for local departments in utilizing fire grant funds that were adopted in this measure.

As for border protection, the bill contains $10.2 billion for U.S. Customs and Border Protection, supporting the largest totals of CBP border agents and officers in history. Similarly, the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement received $5.5 billion in supporting initiatives like the Visa Security Program, as well as 34,000 ICE detention bed spaces, our highest capacity to date.

These are just a few provisions in the bill I wanted to touch on this afternoon. H.R. 5855 has been crafted as a smart and fiscally responsible funding bill from the Department of Homeland Security. I encourage my colleagues to support passage.

Also, I just want to commend the leadership of Chairman ROGERS and Ranking Member DICKS for their leadership on this measure as well.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ROGERS), who is the subcommittee chairman on the authorizing Homeland Security Subcommittee and chairing the Transportation Security Subcommittee.

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this bill and urge all of my colleagues to vote for it.

I also want to congratulate my friend and colleague from Alabama, Chairman ADERHOLT, for all his hard work on this bill.

He has shown the American people how to craft a bill that is strong on homeland security, helps protect us from terrorist attacks, funds vital programs and grants, and does so in a fiscally responsible manner by spending almost $500 million less than last year.

The bill helps protect our borders and prioritizes funding for immigration enforcement. It provides critical grants funding for our first responders, our heroes on the frontline of attack or disaster.

For transportation security, the bill takes on TSA's bureaucratic mess. It cuts $61 million from TSA managerial overhead. It caps full-time screening personnel at 46,000, and it emphasizes the private sector's role in airport security screening operations.

□ 1500

Importantly, it does not increase any fees that would fall on the traveling public, which would threaten jobs in the aviation industry.

I know firsthand of Chairman ADERHOLT's dedication and leadership on these issues. I also know of his commitment to reducing wasteful spending and restoring fiscal sanity in Washington. Again, I commend my friend and colleague from Alabama and his fine staff for their hard work and dedication and urge all my colleagues to vote for the bill.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, does the majority have any further requests for time?

Mr. ADERHOLT. We have no further requests for time.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I will conclude by again commending the chairman and our whole subcommittee. We have a good active group of members, and virtually all had positive input into this legislation. I appreciate the spirit in which the chairman has made an honest effort to accommodate constructive input from all sources.

There's much to commend about this bill, starting with the support of frontline operations, but also some improvements from the funding situation we're

dealing with this year with respect to State and local FEMA grants, for example, and with respect to science and technology investments. There are funding shortfalls in this bill with respect to the headquarters' needs at St. Elizabeth's, with respect to certain administrative needs of the Department, and others that we could name. But under the constraints of the budget allocation there is a good balance in this bill, I think, and one that has required a great deal of accommodation and a great deal of hard work.

I have already said that I think there are some extraneous elements of this bill that are not so constructive: the immigration provisions, the abortion provisions, and some excessive withholding provisions. I sincerely hope that in the debate to come we will not compound that problem.

We know we're going to be dealing with dozens of amendments. We're going to be dealing with additional proposed riders, ill-advised for the most part. We're going to be dealing with some tempting spending provisions that will cannibalize those front office expenses or the science and technology expenses or other accounts in this bill for the sake of amendments that may sound good but really could upset some of the delicate balances that this bill has struck.

So we're going to have, I hope and believe, a probably lengthy and also constructive process of discussion and amendment under the open rule, and I very much hope that the end result of that process will be a bill that can claim broad support. We're going to have a few hours until that process begins, but I look forward to getting on with this and at the end of the week producing a Homeland Security appropriations bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ADERHOLT. As I had mentioned earlier in my opening comments, I do believe this bill is a good bill. It reflects our best efforts to try to address our Nation's most urgent needs: of course, first of all, security, and second of all, fiscal discipline. Both of those are very important in this age in which we live.

So I would urge my colleagues to support this measure as it moves to the floor.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 5855, the Fiscal Year 2013 Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act. I want to commend Chairman ADERHOLT and Ranking Member PRICE for their work on this bill, which provides vital security funding while also being fiscally responsible.

As the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications, I am particularly pleased that the Appropriations Committee rejected the Administration's proposal to create a new National Preparedness Grant Program. The proposal in the President's budget request lacked detail and was developed without any input from emergency response providers. I appreciate Chairman ADERHOLT's recognition that this proposal requires consideration by the Committee on Homeland Security. That consideration is underway. The Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness has been working with FEMA and stakeholders to consider this and other proposals for grant reform. Until that review is complete, it is this body's direction that FEMA should continue to administer the grant programs in accordance with the statutory authorities in the 9/11 Act and the SAFE Port Act.

With that, I urge all Members to support this bill.

The Acting CHAIR. All time for general debate has expired.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CARTER) having assumed the chair, Mr. FORTENBERRY, 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. 5855) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

MOTIONS TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 4348, SURFACE TRANSPORTATION EXTENSION ACT OF 2012, PART II

Mr. FLAKE. I have a motion at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FORTENBERRY). The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Flake moves that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4348 be instructed to recede from disagreement with the provision contained in the matter proposed to be inserted as section 104(c)(1)(B) of title 23, United States Code, by section 1105 of the Senate amendment that reads as follows: ''for each State, the amount of combined apportionments for the programs shall not be less than 95 percent of the estimated tax payments attributable to highway users in the State paid into the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) in the most recent fiscal year for which data are available''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XXII, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This motion is simple: it simply ensures that the minimum rate of return for any State under any new highway reauthorization is 95 percent.

As I'm sure everyone is aware, every gallon of gas sold in your State provides money to the highway trust fund via the Federal gas tax. Trust fund money is then dispersed back to the States using very complex mathematical formulas that are determined with each surface transportation reauthorization. A reoccurring issue is the debate surrounding Federal transportation policy. It's been the historic disparity by which a number of States have received less back in funding than they have invested in the highway trust fund through the gas tax. For years, these donor States have fought for more equity and a higher minimum rate of return to ensure that they recoup as large a slice of their own gas tax dollars as possible.

This motion would increase the minimum rate of return to 95 percent, as passed in the Senate-MAP 21 bill. With the influx of general fund moneys to backfill the highway trust fund over the past couple of years, this donor/donee State issue has been a bit blurred, but the issue going forward can't be ignored.

This is not a partisan issue, I should mention. It's simply an issue of fairness. I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on this motion and just tell the conferees to not agree to anything that gives States less than 95 cents on the dollar for what they pay in. As we know, for years and years, there's been this disparity. States like Arizona, California, Texas, and Florida, are donor States. Under SAFETEA-LU, the minimum rate of return is just 92 cents. These are growing States. Why in the world are we giving a dollar and getting 92 cents back?

This disparity has existed for a long time for a number of reasons. One of the primary reasons has been the existence of earmarks along the way whereby Members of donor State delegations were convinced to go ahead and accept a lower rate of return for their State in exchange for moneys to spend however they wanted with regard to earmarks. And that has not been a good trade for most donor States.

When you add up all the Members of the House of Representatives who represent donor States, it's over 300. So we can all ban together as donor States and say we're not going to sign off on anything that gives us less than 95 cents on the dollar.

Now we all recognize there are reasons why certain States with very small populations and very big infrastructure needs might receive more than the dollar that they put in. But there is no excuse to, in perpetuity, treat States like Arizona and others to a smaller rate of return year after year after year.

□ 1510

It is simply not right. This is simply telling the conferees, agree at least to what the Senate is doing. I should note that we're going to conference in the House with the extension of SAFETEA-LU which is 92 cents on the dollar. We're saying just take it up to 95.

So that's what this motion is about. I would urge my colleagues to agree to it, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the motion to instruct conferees offered by Mr. FLAKE, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This motion directs the transportation reauthorization conferees to agree to a provision contained in the Senate bill increasing the guaranteed minimum percentage rate of return that each State receives in Federal aid highway formula funding from 92 percent to 95 percent of payments in the highway trust fund collected through gas tax contributions in that State.

This is the same old donor/donee argument that we've been having for years, but it is becoming even more ridiculous now that all States are, in effect, donee States. Frankly, I'm not quite sure what the realistic impact of a 95 percent minimum guarantee would be at this point.

For several years, general fund revenue has been filling the gap between what the highway trust fund can support and current funding levels, so now every State gets back more from the program than the amount of gas taxes collected in that State. In effect, every State is a donee State. In fact, under SAFETEA-LU, under the current formula which guarantees 92 percent, Mr. FLAKE mentioned Texas. Texas gets back $1.03 for every dollar it puts in. California, $1.19 for every dollar it puts in. There is no State that gets back less than a dollar for a dollar. So increasing the guarantee from 92 to 95 percent, frankly, I don't understand the point of it.

The Senate bill continues to fund the program through nongas tax-related revenue. Unless my colleagues are proposing to raise the gas tax, and I don't think they are, this motion is, frankly, meaningless.

But the idea behind the motion is wrong in any event. It is highly irresponsible to pick out and insist upon one factor that affects the overall funding distribution to the States without a complete picture of how the programs will be funded and apportioned. The Senate did raise the minimum percentage to 95 percent, but within an overall framework that required that each State get the same percentage of funds it got in the last year of SAFETEA-LU. In the Senate bill, all States were held harmless.

The motion to instruct does not insist on adopting the Senate's funding structure. It cherry-picks one factor to benefit certain States at the expense of others. I would caution against anyone voting for something that affects how much transportation funding will go to your State without knowing what the ultimate impact will be.

We know that House Republicans would like a different formula than what's in the Senate bill since they took a different approach in H.R. 7. Depending on how the final bill is structured and what the ultimate funding levels are for the program, raising the minimum to 95 percent could conceivably result in steep cuts to certain States.

In TEA–21 and SAFETEA-LU, the last two transportation bills we had, we opposed raising the minimum percentage, but ultimately we could live with it because the overall funding levels were increased and States were held harmless; and even though some States got a lower percentage of the funding than they would have gotten without increasing the minimum guarantee, they got more money because the pie was bigger. Each State got an increase in funding, just not as big an increase as some others. Increased funding is highly unlikely in this environment, so this type of motion, although probably meaningless in the long run because every State gets more than 100 percent right now, is potentially dangerous.

I'm sure that Mr. FLAKE and others will say it is the principle of the matter, that those who contribute to the program deserve to benefit from it at the same level. But if that is the principle, why then do they just look at the gas tax? If you truly believe in the principle of user pays, why shouldn't that same theory apply to all revenue that goes into the program? And why apply it just to the highway program?

For example, my State of New York contributes much more to the Federal Government every year than it receives back in Federal expenditures. We have a huge balance of deficit with the Federal Government, and yet the one area where we get more back is the gasoline tax, and so that should be abolished?

This is not about equity. This is about gaming the system by applying this principle to one aspect of one program to benefit certain States at the expense of others. And if you follow the logic through, what these donor arguments are really saying is that each State should get a dollar back for every dollar it puts into the Federal system. If so, why do we have a Federal Government at all? I'm sure some of my colleagues would be happy to have no Federal role in transportation and devolve it completely to the States, but that is not yet the policy of the United States Congress, and I would caution my colleagues about going too far down that road.

The fair thing to do is to spend Federal funds where they are needed. And by the way, one of things that the current formula has done is to say that if a State invests a lot of its own money in efficiency—New York, for example, has a spent billions of dollars of its own money building up a mass transit system. Because of that, we are very energy efficient. We use far less gasoline per capita than other States because we have a mass transit system. That helps the country. It reduces the amount of petroleum that we have to import. And for that, a State that does that should be punished by getting a smaller percentage of highway funds because it invested in mass transit? That doesn't make sense. We should be encouraging States to invest in energy efficiency.

The fair thing to do is to spend Federal funds where they're needed. We have a national transportation system that benefits everybody. These kinds of debates are illogical and divisive, especially when it has no practical impact at all because every State is now a donee State. Our time would be better spent working together to draft a bill that benefits all States. If the purpose of this bill is to create jobs and spur economic growth, we should ensure that all States benefit.

And by the way, we have, this year, a House bill that didn't go anywhere. The Senate passed a real transportation bill. The House only passed a 90-day extension because the Republicans couldn't agree among themselves on a bill. But the bill that they have and they're trying to use as the basis of a conference committee—which they cannot do legally—air-drops into the conference committee a lot of poison pills that will make sure that no comprehensive bill is adopted. It air-drops into the conference committee a provision that says that hazmat provisions should not apply to certain transportation workers. It air-drops into the bill a completely unrelated provision about the XL pipeline that has nothing to do with the transportation bill.

If we care about employment, we should pass the Senate bill and we shouldn't get involved in side debates over provisions that would be unfair if they could be implemented, like this one, but in any event, cannot be implemented; because to say that every State should get back at least as much as it puts in when every State, in fact, is getting back more than it puts in has no practical impact. And I don't understand why we are wasting our time, frankly, debating a provision and motion to instruct conferees on something that may cause some controversy but really will have no practical impact, will affect no dollars, will direct no dollars to any State or away from any other State at all.

We should be debating how to finance the overall bill. We should be debating how to get more funding for highways, for mass transit, how to get our construction workers back to work in this construction season to reduce the unemployment rate in this country. That is what we should be acting on instead of wasting our time debating entirely theoretical questions that have no practical import whatsoever and that are philosophically wrong.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FLAKE. It is an amusing discussion what is a side issue or a theoretical issue with no practical application. Sounds just like someone who comes from a State that receives more than a dollar for the dollar they kick in, and that's exactly the case here. It may seem like a side issue or a theoretical issue to somebody else, but it is a very real issue if you come from a donor State.

I suppose by the same argument, when I got here, I think the rate of return was 89 cents. We managed to get it up to 92. That hasn't been theoretical. That's very real dollars that come back to a State that put more in than they are getting back.

So you can strip away everything you just heard and realize that the argument to keep the disparity going is coming from someone who comes from a donee State, a State that is receiving more than they're putting in.

□ 1520

As I mentioned in my opening remarks, because we are backfilling, that line is blurred. Everybody is getting back more than they kicked in because the general fund is kicking it in. That won't always be the case; that better not always be the case. We can't afford for that to always be the case.

So when we go back to the highway trust fund used as it was intended to be used, then it's not theoretical at all for a donor State to require—and the gentleman keeps mentioning get a dollar for dollar. We aren't saying a dollar for dollar, we're saying 95 cents on the dollar.

Now, the gentleman says what's the purpose of the Federal Government? Many of us have introduced legislation to say that what should be sent to Washington should be what is required to maintain the interstate highway system, the purpose for which the gas tax was put in place to begin with. But 18 cents a gallon doesn't need to be sent back because so much of it is sent simply by formula back to the States. And when it does come back to the States, it's encumbered with things like Davis-Beacon requirements, other set-asides, mandates and stipulations that drive up the cost of construction projects in every State. And so what was a dollar you sent to Washington spends like about 70 cents once it comes back, and you don't even get that dollar you sent to Washington.

So the gentleman's point about let's refigure how we do this is well taken. And I've introduced legislation, as have several of my colleagues, to do just that, turn back proposals to ensure that, yes, we still send money to Washington to take care of and to refurbish and to replace and to restructure that which is truly interstate. The interstate highway system is a wonderful thing, but to just send it to Washington to be rewarded with only part of it being sent back, and that part of it that is sent back encumbered with so many stipulations and mandates that it spends a lot less than a dollar isn't right. So the gentleman makes a good point, and I hope that he would join with many of us in the legislation to do just that.

In the meantime, let's at least send a signal to the conferees. We all know that these motions to instruct are not binding. All they are is a signal from the House to act in a certain way when you get into conference. What we're saying here, and I think the message should be from the more than 300 Members of this body who represent donor States, is let's be treated a little more fairly here. That's all we're asking.

So with that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume at the moment.

Mr. Speaker, again, there is no donee State. Arizona, over the last 4 years or 5 years, got $1.07 for every dollar they put in. There is no such thing as a donee State anymore.

Now, it is true, as Mr. FLAKE says, that that is because we are supplementing the gasoline tax with general funds to maintain the highway program, to maintain the mass transit program. He says that it better not continue. Well, we have only several choices:

Number one, we can raise the gasoline tax. I might support that. I think most Members of this House probably wouldn't. I'm sure Mr. FLAKE wouldn't support raising the gasoline tax.

Two, we can fund our transportation system at a totally inadequate level and watch that system deteriorate and watch our country become less competitive with other countries, which is what we're doing now.

Three—and the fact is that we funded the last bill at $286 billion, SAFETEA-LU. When the Secretary of Transportation under President Bush said that we needed at least $375 billion for that time period just to keep the system at a system of reasonable repair and reasonable efficiency, never mind major new construction. But we did that because President Bush said no raising the highway taxes and no funding from the general fund, and no use of other revenues.

If we keep doing that, if we try to maintain the system only on the gasoline tax and don't raise the gasoline tax, then that's a declining revenue base. It's declining for two reasons: one, because of inflation, everything costs more and the same amount of money buys less. And, number two, we're becoming more energy efficient. We want to become more energy efficient; we want to use less gasoline. And since the gasoline tax is a per-gallon tax, not a percentage, if you use less gasoline, there's less revenue. So you're going to have less revenue every year, and inflation is not going to be negative—it's going to be something—how do you maintain your system? You don't. So we either have to raise the gasoline tax, or we have to bring in some other source of revenue or else watch the entire transportation system of this country deteriorate and eventually collapse.

So we cannot stop supplementing the gasoline tax for transportation maintenance unless we raise the gasoline tax. Those are our choices: raise the tax or bring in other revenues, as we have been doing on an ad hoc basis for the last couple of years. We can't stop doing that without raising the gasoline tax or seeing the slow decline and eventual collapse of our transportation system. So we're not going to do that—I hope we're not going to do that. If we don't do that, this motion to instruct is completely meaningless because there's going to be no such thing as a donee State—as a donor State, every State gets more than it puts in.

And by the way, let's talk about what it means to put in. The question is how much gasoline taxes are collected in one State and how much is spent on transportation in that State. There is no principle of equity that says they should match. There is no principle of equity which says that you should get at least as much, or even 95 cents, or any particular percentage of the amount of gasoline taxes collected in your State, because there are a lot of other factors.

It may be that some States, because they are bigger, perhaps, need more money spent on highways because there's more distances. It may be that some States have invested a lot of money in mass transit and therefore are more energy efficient and therefore generate less gasoline tax revenue, but that helps the country. They shouldn't be penalized for that.

There are a lot of different factors that go into this. And to simply say each State should get back the amount that was collected in a gasoline tax is wrong, especially when you consider that there are plenty of—why should this one account be the only one? As I said, New York State annually says—and I'm quoting New York because I happen to know the figure because it's my State—New York State annually sends to the Federal Government between $14 billion and $18 billion more in taxes of all kinds than is spent in New York.

Senator Moynihan used to put out that report every year. Is that a terrible thing? Well, some people think it is, it's unfair—New York ought to pay less taxes, other States ought to pay more taxes. But the fact is we have a Federal Union. Taxes ought to be raised where they can be raised most equitably and efficiently and the spending ought to be done where the spending is necessary. That's what one country means. That's why we're one country and Europe isn't.

So the motion to instruct is wrong theoretically. It does not contribute to equity. And it is totally irrelevant for the foreseeable future because there is no State that would be affected by this in any way as long as the gasoline tax is not supporting the entire transportation system, which it is not now or in the foreseeable future.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FLAKE. I thank the gentleman.

I think we are talking in circles here. The bottom line is those who are receiving more than dollar for dollar, once the general fund revenue is not supplanting or supplementing what is taken in by the gas tax, those who are

receiving more than a dollar are going to argue to keep the current disparity in place. But those of us who represent donor States are going to want a better return. That's the bottom line. That's what this argument is about.

And so the more than 300 Members who represent donor States who will be coming to this floor soon to vote on this motion, that's all they need to remember: let's send a signal to the conferees to give us a better shake and to treat us more fairly.

The gentleman mentions our decaying infrastructure and whatever else around the country, and it is abysmal to look and see what's happening. But you've got to understand from the perspective of a Representative of taxpayers from Arizona who are receiving only 92 cents on the dollar that they kick in, why in the world would they tell me, their Representative, yeah, go raise the Federal gas tax, we enjoy getting 92 cents on the dollar and we'd like to get less of that. Instead, if Arizona was to impose an additional—raise their own gas tax, they get to keep dollar for dollar everything. Plus, it's not encumbered with Davis-Bacon requirements and all the other set-asides which raise the cost of construction projects.

And so if the gentleman is wondering why there is resistance around the country to raising the Federal gas tax, that's it. People look at this disparity and say: Why should we continue to do that? We're funding somebody else, or we're funding these inequities. So this is what this boils down to: if you're from a donor State, then you're going to be saying, hey, let's instruct the conferees to give us a better deal than we've had.

□ 1530

Ninety-two is better than the 89 we were getting a while ago, but let's at least take it to 95. That's pretty reasonable here. That's all we're asking with this.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, the argument sounds reasonable, and I have no doubt it's going to pass because there are a lot more people here from so-called donor States than from donee States, and people are going to vote purely on that basis, many of them are. Many people are. But it's not equitable. If it were equitable, why don't we apply the same principle to other things? Why don't we say that the taxes that some States pay for the agriculture program should be reduced because, after all, not all States get the same amount of money in the wheat subsidy. Some States get a lot more back for agricultural assistance than the applicable part of their taxes.

I remember an argument on the floor a number of years ago in which we were debating, I think, funding for the National Endowment for the Arts, and Mr. BURTON of Indiana was orating against the NEA, and he said it's wrong for this reason and that reason and the other reason. And anyway, he said, all the money goes to New York and Los Angeles.

And I got up and I said, you know, Mr. BURTON, I'm shocked to discover that New York City, with 8.5 million people, doesn't get a penny of the wheat subsidy. How fair is that?

The fact is we don't grow wheat in New York, and the fact is that money should be distributed—and I'm not opposed to the wheat subsidy. It may be—I'm not an expert on the farm program, but it may be that farm States need it, and it may be that other States need other things. But we should spend Federal money where it's needed, and we should tax it where we can tax it efficiently and equitably. And the two may not have the same relationship to each other. And if you start establishing this principle that you have to get at least back as much as you put in on this thing, in this case, transportation, why not on everything else?

And then you'd say, well, it's very unfair that a given State sends more to Washington than it gets back at all. Well, some States do. New York does, other States do. Other States get back more than they send to Washington, but that's the point of a Federal union.

So simply to say on any given area that we send—our State sends more to Washington or more taxes collected than we get back does not demonstrate inequity or equity. There may be good reasons for that. And you may want to make an argument that overall the State has a balance of payments deficit with the Federal Government, but there may be good reasons for that, too.

When many of these formulas were set up, the educational formula, for instance, a lot of States send more money to Washington that gets paid back in education, and then they get it back. Other States are the other way around, because when the allocation formulas were set up, it was deliberately decided that richer States should subsidize poorer States. And I'm not sure that was wrong. But the fact is that's the way a Federal union operates. And if you want to say a Federal union shouldn't operate that way and we should start saying that it's unfair, then you're questioning the entire basis of our Constitution, and frankly, there's no equity in that, especially when you limit it to one subject, to one area.

Again, what we ought to be debating is not this very interesting theory, theoretical thing which has no application in the real world because there is no such thing as a donor State right now and it won't have any real impact at all, because every State will still get the same amount of money under the bill.

But this highway bill has been in conference for 6 weeks. Last Friday, the U.S. Department of Labor reported that more than 2.2 million construction and manufacturing workers remain out of work, and we're in the height of the summer construction season. The highway bill has been in conference for 6 weeks and the conferees, of whom I'm one, are now wasting precious time as House Republicans are working to air-drop poison pill provisions that never passed the House into the conference report. Without further congressional action, highway and transit investments will entirely shut down at the end of the month.

Why are we wasting time here on this theoretical motion to instruct, which has no practical consequences whatsoever, when the conferees are being faced by Republican poison pills eliminating occupational safety and health protection for hazmat workers, eliminating dedicated funding for transportation enhancement projects, expanding truck weights to destroy our highways faster? That's what's holding up a highway and transportation bill that will get 2 million people back to work. That's what we ought to be saying. Let's move this bill instead of wasting our time on entirely theoretical questions like this one.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FLAKE. I thank the gentleman.

Again, we're having an argument from somebody who represents a State that's getting a lot more than they kick in, and that's the bottom line. To relate this highway user fee, and it's not a pure user fee because we're kicking money back in from the general fund. But it was meant to be a user fee. To relate that to funding for the arts or whatever is completely an apples and oranges argument. And the notion that because one State receives more in agriculture subsidies than another, some of us don't like those subsidies at all, and we can have that argument on another day.

But we're talking about the highway trust fund here. It's a trust fund that is theoretically supposed to give the States roughly what they put in. Now, like I said, I haven't made the argument at all that every State gets 100 percent of what they put in. The gentleman may have made that argument, but I haven't. What I'm saying is right now the minimum guarantee is 92 cents on the dollar. Can't we just get it to 95? Is that unreasonable?

If the gentleman says that the whole concept of this Federal union is that States share, I understand that, but does that mean that one State should only get 10 percent of what it kicks in? Of course not.

There's a figure at which, a point at which some States, like my own, say, you know, we've been getting 89 cents or 92 cents for decades here. At some point, let's do a little better. And Arizona's not the only State that feels that way.

So again, I would ask those of us who are coming to vote on this later on, check with your offices if you aren't aware and say, Are we a donor State or not?

Is there a minimum guarantee, 92 cents? Isn't it reasonable that that

should be brought up to 95 cents? Is it reasonable for a State, in perpetuity, to be shorted like that? And I don't think it is.

I don't think there's any constitutional justification or theoretic justification or anything. It's just an issue of fairness here. That's all we're asking.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time, and I am prepared to yield back as soon as the gentleman is.

Mr. NADLER. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I'll just say one thing. I think we've beaten this dead horse about as much as we can.

Is 95 percent reasonable? It's unreasonable, in my opinion; 92 percent is unreasonable; 89 percent is unreasonable. There ought to be no such figure because money should be allocated where needed and should be raised where it can best be raised on the questions of equity, efficiency, et cetera.

And I'll give you one other example. Certain States have coastlines. The gulf coast has a lot of hurricanes. We spend a lot of money there. Should we say, well, gee, we don't have as many hurricanes. We shouldn't spend that percentage of our tax money on hurricane relief in the gulf.

We don't say that because we're one country. We don't say that we shouldn't spend money on relief to States that have other natural disasters because we don't have those kinds of natural disasters.

As a general principle, money should be raised, and there's no difference because you say it's a user fee. All taxes, in some sense, are a user fee. They're the price for civilization, as Mark Twain said.

And maybe you shouldn't have gasoline taxes. You should finance it some other way. That's a whole different discussion.

Yes, as I said before, I'm quite well aware that people are going to come here. They're going to vote, and they're just going to look at are they a theoretical donor State or a theoretical donee State and they're going to vote on that basis, even though no one is, in fact, a donee State right now because everybody gets more than they put in. And this will have no practical effect, but some day it might.

But the fact is that there is no reason to pick the highways as against everything else. Some States contribute a lot more in Federal taxes than they get back in Federal money, others don't. My State does. We don't say it's unfair. We don't say we've got to change the formula.

Maybe specific formulas ought to be changed for various reasons. There are all kinds of reasons for all the formulas. There's a different formula for agriculture, a different formula for education, different formula for everything. They have all kinds of different justifications and different histories. To pick out this one area and say this one area, but no other, has to be 95 percent, why not 75 percent? or 92 percent? It's been going up every time we pass a bill. We think it's beyond fair.

To pick out one particular area and say there's got to be an equivalence or a relationship between how much money comes in and how much goes out or from where it comes in and goes out, whereas we don't do that in the rest of Federal budget, that's not equitable.

And I wish we were spending our time now not on this theoretical discussion—theoretical because it has no practical implication, as I said before, because it will not, in fact, affect any State or any dollars—instead of dealing with the fact that the Republicans are holding up a bill by parachuting poison pills into the conference discussion, that's what we ought to be about.

I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1540

Mr. FLAKE. This has been an interesting discussion. It went about how I thought it would.

Those of us who are donor States want a little fairer shake. That's all we're asking. So, to those coming to the floor, check and see where your State falls. You'll find that most of you coming to the floor to vote are from a donor State, a State that's giving more than it's getting. All we're asking for is a fairer shake here. We're not looking to solve all the world's problems in all other areas. There are a lot of other formulas that should be changed as well, but right now we're dealing with this one. Let's ensure that those who fill up their cars and spend 18 cents every time they put a gallon in get a little more of that back. That's what this is about.

I urge the adoption of the motion, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to instruct.

The question is on the motion to instruct.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion to instruct the conferees on the transportation conference bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Doggett moves that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4348 be instructed to recede from disagreement with the provisions contained in section 100201 of the Senate amendment (relating to stop tax haven abuse—authorizing special measures against foreign jurisdictions, financial institutions, and others that significantly impede United States tax enforcement).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XXII, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. GRIMM) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This transportation conference bill is appropriately focused on the transportation systems, on improving them and sustaining them across our country. But there is one important provision of this measure, as approved by the United States Senate, that deals with transportation networks of a different type. Those are the secret networks that lead to the exporting of jobs and of revenues that ought to be used in the financing of the operations of the essential services and national defense of our country.

This motion is very narrow, very directed. Since that particular provision concerning ''stop tax haven abuse'' was not included in the House bill, it simply instructs the conferees to recede to the version approved by the Senate. This is an important provision. It is a provision that will authorize special measures against foreign governments and financial institutions. Here is the key language of the amendment as adopted by the Senate: ''that significantly impede U.S. tax enforcement.''

This provision will be just one more tool that is available for the Treasury to address what some have estimated is as much as $100 billion a year that is drained from the United States Treasury as a result of offshore tax abuses. These abuses not only undermine public confidence in our tax system from all the many law-abiding taxpayers, both business and individual taxpayers, but the effect of these abuses is that the deficit is raised and that more of the tax burden is shifted to individual taxpayers and to small businesses that don't have the fancy accountants and attorneys and financial institutions to aid them in hiding their revenues.

As we continue debating how best to deal with our debt and our deficits, I believe that a fundamental principle that should apply is that, before we ask individual taxpayers or business taxpayers to pay additional taxes, we ought to ensure, for those who have abused the system and have avoided paying their fair share of taxes, that we have the enforcement tools to see that they fulfill their responsibilities.

I always find it extremely difficult to explain to a mechanic in San Marcos or to a small restaurant owner in San Antonio why it is that they have to pay a greater proportion—a higher rate—on their taxes than some of these multinationals that manage to shift their revenues offshore because some bankers or accountants are able to use these tax haven banks to hide the accounts in some remote jurisdiction.

Over the years, I've fought against this kind of abuse. It took a decade, but finally, a couple of years ago, I was successful in getting the Economic Substance Doctrine included in other legislation and approved in order to strike down phony transactions that were for no purpose other than that of tax avoidance. I have other legislation that I've offered that deals with schemes that other corporations use to siphon off much-needed tax revenue and jobs out of the United States. It is a big problem that does not have any one legislative solution, but the measure before us that would be encouraged by this motion to instruct does provide one tool that would be very useful.

We know that some foreign banks have peddled a wide array of offshore tax shelters, offering to set up paper firms and accounts in places like Switzerland, Panama, and the British Virgin Islands. Indeed, in 2009, the United States sued Swiss Financial Services and the banking firm UBS to force the disclosure of the thousands of undeclared assets of Americans that were being held in secret accounts abroad.

Just to get an inkling of how big this problem is, Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I will note that at this one bank, at this one Swiss bank, it admitted to $18 billion in undeclared assets of American clients that could well be taxable. This has cost the United States Treasury billions of dollars over the years, and this was just one bank in one country. Although a settlement was eventually achieved, I don't think we got all of the tax revenues back that we ought to have gotten back. This is really just an indication of how rampant this problem is and how necessary a provision of this type pending in the conference really is.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIMM. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I appreciate my colleague's passion, and I understand this is a very serious and important matter.

Leaving aside the goals of the underlying section of the Senate version of the bill, I think it's extremely important to say that this effort is a distraction from the job at hand, which is to pass a transportation bill. I say again: the job at hand is to pass a transportation bill that is going to keep this country's vital transportation system resilient, robust, and a future contributor to economic growth.

I think it's unfortunate, but it is too often that in Congress efforts are made to slip in extraneous sections into bills that have nothing to do with the issue at hand, regardless of their merits. In this case, the section in question is a tax bill. I say again: it's a tax bill, and it's written into a section of existing law under the sole jurisdiction of the Financial Services Committee, which in turn is being considered in, of all things, a highway bill.

This is why the American people think that there is insanity going on. This is merely an attempt to paper over spending without actually finding the money to pay for it. This is not how our constituents expect us to do business, Mr. Speaker. This proposal could—and it should come—before both the Ways and Means and Financial Services Committees, where it would get the very serious consideration that it deserves.

The business of this Congress can and must be that of tackling our country's enormous fiscal challenges and getting American workers back into productive jobs. The best way we as Congress can do that is by focusing on the tasks at hand instead of distracting ourselves, and we distract ourselves constantly with issues unrelated to our Nation's pressing infrastructure needs.

□ 1550

When it's time to consider tax law and specifically tax evasion, I'm confident that the Congress will do the right thing. However, this transportation bill is not the right venue for this discussion.

It's important to note that this is a nonbinding procedural vote. A vote for or against this motion does not impact the outcome of the conference negotiations. Therefore, I urge my colleagues to vote ''no'' on this motion to instruct.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 30 seconds.

A distraction? A billion dollar distraction. We get a billion dollars more transportation out of this measure available for all of the States, if we approve this section, which the Senate has adopted.

A distraction? Tell that to the cleaning crew that pays a higher rate of taxes when they clean the corporate board room than the corporation does because of these secret tax havens. I think this goes to the core of our responsibilities. And, yes, these powerful lobby groups that line up their limousines outside the Capitol here, they manage to block consideration in these committees, but this Motion brings this important matter directly to the floor for action.

With that, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. MOORE), who serves on the Financial Services Committee and understands how urgent it is to address this problem.

Ms. MOORE. Thank you, Mr. DOGGETT. I am so pleased to join you here today to support this motion to instruct.

I was, of course, one of the original cosponsors of the Stop Tax Haven Abuse Act, which provides the authority for the Treasury to take action against foreign governments and financial institutions that significantly impede U.S. tax enforcement. Treasury already has similar authority to combat money laundering, so the infrastructure and the know-how already exist.

Congress has an opportunity in this transportation bill to transport this very important debt reduction initiative into our proceedings here today. It will stop sophisticated tax avoidance schemes that add to the national debt and ultimately the burden for that debt that honest taxpayers must bear and are concerned with.

In my home State of Wisconsin, it's estimated that every single honest taxpayer in Wisconsin paid an extra $372 in taxes in 2011 to make up from the revenue lost from corporations, criminals, and wealthy individuals utilizing illegal tax-avoidance schemes. These numbers are even more offensive for Wisconsin small businesses that pay an additional $2,165 due to these abuses of the Tax Code.

That may not seem like a lot of money to anyone—$372—but you multiply that by taxpayers and by 50 States, and according to a GAO study, that turns out to be $100 billion. That's a really nice piece of change.

I have heard this Congress often harp on the percentages and the numbers of United States taxpayers who are so very low income that they have no tax liability, people who make $10,000, $11,000 a year, and are so poor that they have no tax liability. Yet 83 of 100 publicly traded companies have one of these offshore tax havens and avoid $100 billion in tax payments. Compare that with someone trying to get an earned income tax credit.

I've heard from Republicans that this is not germane to the bill. I hope you'll remember that when you put some gun provision in every bill that comes around or some effort to minimize and take away a woman's right to reproductive health in one of your bills, which uses transportation for all of those kind of initiatives.

This is an opportunity to act on the deficit—$100 billion is not small change—and to stand up for taxpayers. It is not spending, as the gentleman has indicated that it is. All it is is not levying a new tax. It's not spending; it's not imposing additional burdens. It just empowers our Treasury to stop tax-avoidance schemes.

Again, thank you so much for this opportunity. I hope my colleagues will stand up for honest taxpayers and support this measure.

Mr. GRIMM. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, how much time remains on each side?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas has 21 minutes remaining, and the gentleman from New York has 27 minutes remaining.

Mr. DOGGETT. I want to even the time, and perhaps there is someone else in the House that actually opposes this motion. I want to allow them time to speak. So I would continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIMM. I am ready to close whenever the gentleman is ready to close, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. DOGGETT. Then, Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 15 seconds.

Apparently, there is no other Member who is willing to come out and defend these abusive tax shelters. That says a whole lot about the merits of this motion and how essential it is to adopt it.

With that, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. PETERS).

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Representative DOGGETT's motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 4348.

This is a commonsense measure that would direct the surface transportation bill conferees to preserve an amendment offered by Senator CARL LEVIN and agreed to by a voice vote. This provision is pulled from the Stop Tax Haven Abuse Act legislation which I'm very proud to have cosponsored and strongly support. The amendment will give the Treasury the power to go after tax cheats by taking action against foreign governments or banks that significantly impede U.S. tax enforcement.

Michigan's working families and small businesses already pay their fair share in taxes, and they deserve a more just Tax Code. That starts with making sure that we close the tax gap and crack down on tax cheats.

It's estimated that corporations and the wealthiest Americans avoid paying $100 billion per year by exploiting offshore tax shelters, and it's time that we closed these loopholes. When multinational corporations and the very wealthy abuse the Tax Code to shelter their funds overseas, hardworking Americans and small business owners are left to pick up the tab. These same multinational companies and wealthy individuals enjoy taking advantage of American infrastructure and markets, but they don't come close to paying their fair share in taxes.

Senator LEVIN's amendment and Representative DOGGETT's motion to instruct represent a significant step in the right direction. This measure has real teeth. And by enabling the Treasury to bar U.S. banks from honoring credit cards issued by institutions harboring tax cheats, we can gain leverage over these institutions and tax havens.

Based on the $100 billion tax gap that we see every year, the average tax filer in Michigan is now paying over $300 in additional taxes each and every year, and the average small Michigan business is paying over $1,500 in additional taxes. This is simply unacceptable, and it must be stopped.

I'm committed to continuing the fight for tax policies that put middle class and working Americans first, and I urge my colleagues to support the Doggett motion to instruct.

Mr. GRIMM. I would like to inquire if the gentleman from Texas has anymore speakers.

Mr. DOGGETT. Yes, we do.

I would like to inquire if the gentleman from New York has anyone to defend opposition to this measure.

Mr. GRIMM. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself an additional 3 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, this is a truly amazing debate. The motion is a narrow one asking that the House simply join with Republicans and Democrats in the United States Senate to include within this transportation bill a provision that will yield about an additional billion dollars for the repair of bridges, for the construction of transportation systems around the country.

□ 1600

It will do so not by raising taxes or the tax rate on anyone, not even by closing one of the many outrageous loopholes that exist in our tax law that allow some to gain advantage because of the power of their lobbyists and their accountants to write special provisions into the law and then exploit those provisions. No, it doesn't do any of that. It simply gives a tool to our law enforcement to enforce existing laws and to say that you cannot violate the law. Here is a way for the Treasury Department to enforce the laws effectively.

As the gentlewoman from Wisconsin pointed out, there is an infrastructure in place upon which this amendment properly builds and which Senator CARL LEVIN, who is the author of this amendment to the Transportation bill, and who has been a national leader in fighting tax abuse, built on by drawing this provision from legislation that he and I have filed independent of this bill, the Stop Tax Haven Abuse Act.

Special law enforcement provisions are granted by the PATRIOT Act with respect to money-laundering concerns. If the Secretary of the Treasury finds that reasonable grounds exist for concluding that a foreign government or a financial institution is involved in money laundering, the Secretary may impose special measures. That's exactly what this provision would do now for those that are involved in substantial tax abuse.

This particular PATRIOT Act provision has been used sparingly by the Treasury. It has not been abused. It was used, for example, against the country of Burma. It has been used to stop financial firms for laundering funds through the United States financial system. Other times, the Treasury has pinpointed its measures against a single problem financial institution to stop laundered funds from entering the United States.

The Stop Tax Haven Abuse provision that is included in this transportation bill and, which is now under consideration by the conference would empower the Secretary of the Treasury to use the same types of tools it currently has to deal with those that significantly impede U.S. tax enforcement.

In addition to the existing measures available, it would also give the Treasury the authority to block U.S. banks from honoring credit or debit cards from foreign entities that are primarily money-laundering concerns or that significantly hamper U.S. tax enforcement. Because of these sanctions, the Treasury will have an added tool needed to end offshore tax abuses that allow tax cheats to profit at the expense of honest taxpayers.

The amendment would confer discretionary authority upon the Treasury. The Treasury does not have to use this authority; but it has a new tool, when needed, to address these abuses. These special measures offer the Treasury necessary flexibility in dealing with tax dodgers.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. GRIMM. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 10 seconds.

I would observe how extraordinary it is that there are those just like these secret accounts held in abusive places abroad, there are those in the wings of the Capitol that oppose this measure and don't want to end tax abuse, but they are unwilling to come to this floor and speak about it. One person who is willing to come to the floor to speak about it is the victorious BILL PASCRELL of New Jersey. I am honored to have him join me. He has worked with me in the House Ways and Means Committee to speak against this type of abuse.

I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL).

Mr. PASCRELL. I think that this is a very important amendment. We talked about reining in tax cheats, and that's what we're talking about here. Given the relationship between offshore tax avoidance—and we've seen chapter and verse of how people avoid taxes—I want everybody in this room to understand when they avoid taxes, that means those who pay taxes have to pay more to make up the difference. We're talking here about a billion dollars to help tackle the Nation's deficit and debt if we follow up on the specifics of this legislation.

We have tax avoidance, and I don't think anybody supports tax avoidance unless you like being taxed more yourself. Tax evasion, the actual attempts to avoid paying specific taxes—in other words, you know what the law is—evasion is a very conscious act, whether it's done by an individual or a business.

Money laundering, we have heard that phrase, which is referred to many practices and activities, that's serious business.

As my brother from Staten Island remembers, the FBI looks into a lot of money laundering. You worked for the FBI and did a stellar job. Money laundering is critical. When money is laundered, the average American gets hurt and the specific connection is very, very ominous.

This is a natural fit, Mr. Speaker, to combat financial crime.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. DOGGETT. I yield the gentleman an additional minute.

Mr. PASCRELL. Treasury could prohibit U.S. banks from accepting wire transfers or honoring credit cards from banks found to significantly hinder U.S. tax enforcement. We all support, I would hope, in this body, enforcement of the tax law. As much as we have derided the IRS and its efficiencies and proficiencies, think if we had fewer people in the IRS overseeing these transfers. I don't recommend that; I don't recommend that at all.

This amendment will give the Treasury greater power to fight against offshore tax havens and tax cheats. The counter-argument, my friend, through the Speaker, from New York, I want you to pay particular attention to this. This is my final point.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has again expired.

Mr. DOGGETT. I yield the gentleman an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. PASCRELL. You can say you're giving the government more power. Why are we so frightened to give oversight to government? This is what got us into a big jam in the last 20 years when there was very little oversight over financial transactions.

We need to have more power for the Federal Government to fight against offshore tax havens and tax cheats because the bottom line is, if we don't, then more of the burden is placed upon us.

Mr. GRIMM. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY).

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. I would hope that everyone would support this motion to instruct because I think you probably know that nothing annoys American taxpayers more than the notion that offshore tax havens is a place for tax cheats to go so that they don't have to pay their taxes that normal Americans, everyday Americans, have to pay to the government.

This amendment will give the Treasury greater power to fight against offshore tax havens and tax cheats, that will allow the Treasury Department to take a range of measures against foreign governments and financial institutions that significantly stand in the way of U.S. tax enforcement.

These special measures already exist for Treasury in combating money laundering by foreign governments and banks, money that could be used to finance terrorist activities. Now Treasury will have greater power to investigate offshore tax abusers and tax abuses and crack down on offenders and banks that aid them.

For example, Treasury could prohibit U.S. banks from accepting wire transfers or honoring credit cards from banks found to significantly hinder U.S. tax enforcement.

□ 1610

Treasury can impose conditions on foreign banks and prohibit them from opening or maintaining bank accounts within the United States that are significantly standing in the way of U.S. tax enforcement. Enacting this amendment makes our tax system fairer and helps reduce the deficit.

This is a commonsense amendment that could raise nearly $1 billion to help tackle the Nation's deficit and debt. The provision ends offshore tax abuses without raising any taxes, without creating any new obligations for Americans, and without amending the Tax Code. We need to crack down on foreign governments and foreign banks that help privileged individuals and corporations dodge taxes while the rest of Americans have to shoulder the extra tax burden. This amendment does that.

Mr. GRIMM. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, how much time remains on each side?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas has 9½ minutes, and the gentleman from New York has 27 minutes.

Mr. DOGGETT. Does the gentleman from New York anticipate that he will have any further speakers this afternoon?

Mr. GRIMM. We have no more speakers. I'm prepared to close.

Mr. DOGGETT. If the gentleman is ready to close, I will use the balance of my time. I believe I have the right to close on the amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIMM. I would like to emphasize my friend from New Jersey mentioned how money laundering is a very serious matter. Everyone here had a lot of passion. There's no question tax evasion and the things we spoke about here today are of the utmost importance and are extremely serious. I agree. And that's why I stand today in opposition, because the committees of jurisdiction should be given the opportunity and the respect to hear these arguments and to look and make sure that everything is done procedurally correct. This is such a serious matter that I believe it warrants being in order.

Again, I want to emphasize that I'm not here to debate the merits. I'm simply here to say that we have two committees of jurisdiction, two very good committees, one of which I sit on: The Financial Services Committee and Ways and Means. They should have the opportunity to do their jobs. And I think that's what the American people and our constituents demand of us. I believe that in this case, because it is so serious and because it involves very serious amounts of money, money laundering and tax evasion and so on, that regular order should be demanded.

With that, again, I would like to urge my colleagues to vote ''no'' on this motion to instruct and stick with the process of regular order and give the committees of jurisdiction the proper respect they deserve so this can have the full hearings necessary and all take place in debate.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, throughout this debate there's only one thing that both sides agree upon, and that is that this transportation bill ought to move forward, and move forward expeditiously.

This transportation bill has not moved forward expeditiously because of obstruction here in the House. It should have become law long ago—months ago, perhaps years ago—so that we could deal with the infrastructure problems in this country and deal with the jobs that could be created by doing the hard work of building things that we need in order to strengthen our economy and improve job growth in the private sector. That's where the agreement begins and that's where the agreement ends, because the basic position of the gentleman in coming to oppose this motion is to present no argument, on the merits, as to why this provision that the Senate has already adopted, with Republican and Democratic Senate support combined, should not become law.

Let me tell you a little of the perspective I bring to this.

About 10 days ago, I went one business to another across San Antonio. I was at a tire shop. They put on wheels, tires, rims on cars and pickups. It's hot, dirty work. They struggle to make a living. They work long hours. They work odd hours. They're not air-conditioned. They've got to deal with local regulations, government at all levels, pay their taxes, meet their payroll, take care of their sick workers.

I was down the street from there at a tamale factory. A woman had a great idea and expanded it so that she's selling tamales all over America, and they're great. It was a good way to begin the day to eat some of her tamales.

Those folks are working hard to make a living and they're like some of the folks with Startup America, the small tech companies that I have represented in Austin, and now increasingly in San Antonio, that have an idea. One group I talked to, their office was at a local coffee shop until they were asked to leave. They sat there with their computers. They came up with an idea, and now they have multiple employees in a new startup.

Why is it that those kind of businesses, whether it's putting on tire rims on a pickup truck or a startup tech company, ought to have to pay a higher rate of taxes than some company that can afford to link up with a foreign bank and a big CPA firm and hide their revenues in a bank in Switzerland or in Panama or in the Cayman Islands?

It cries out that this Congress would correct that injustice. And the fact that that injustice is not being corrected by this Congress tells us so much about the broader problems that we have here in Washington. If you just watched the last hour of this debate, you should be aware of people that linger around this Capitol whispering in

the corridors, hiding in the shadows, coming out only at campaign time, when now, under the campaign rules, they can pour unlimited amounts of secret corporate money into their favorite candidate, and they decide that we haven't had enough process on this issue.

Let me tell you, it took 10 years to get a small provision added through the Ways and Means Committee to simply say you can't go out and do a transaction simply for the purpose of dodging taxes; it has to have some actual ''economic substance.'' Ten years in which some avoided paying their fair share because of an unjustified loophole.

My little company down there in San Antonio that changes tires all day, they've probably never been to Switzerland, much less considered hiring a bank in Switzerland to help them hide their revenues that they worked so hard to earn and which some of these companies involved in these abusive transactions just consider to be rather routine.

You say, well, this is just academic; surely people can't get away with this stuff. Let me tell you what they're getting away with.

I pointed out already that with regard to one bank in Switzerland, UBS, they finally had to disclose $18 billion—that's billion with a B—$18 billion of assets of United States citizens sitting there in hidden accounts in that bank. There were some 50,000 such accounts that UBS had to disclose. Eventually, they had to pay over $700 million in fines. But they're not the only bank that is involved. Currently, the Treasury has under investigation 11 Swiss banks. There's one bank that is under Federal indictment.

This is not an academic problem. It's academic only to those who talk about process instead of solutions. We have a serious problem that undermines the confidence in our government and in our system of tax collection.

Why should somebody who's out there struggling at that tire rim company or that tech startup or just a working family that's out there trying to make ends meet with two people, some working overtime, some working the night shift in order to provide the food and fiber that their family needs to survive, why should they have to comply with our tax laws when you have these kind of companies that could afford the special treatment, that can afford the lobbyists to block measures like this engaged in abuse?

So today I would say to you that there is an opportunity for this House to make itself clear on this issue. Yes, we want to move a transportation bill. And while Republicans have told us we can have transportation without really paying for it, we have a measure adopted by the U.S. Senate on a bipartisan basis, that will provide us a billion dollars more of the transportation we need.

But we not only get that additional transportation, we have an opportunity today to make our position clear to all of the people of America:

Do you stand on the side of preventing abuse, do you stand on the side of equity and fairness to all American taxpayers, or do you want special treatment? Do you want the few, the privileged, to continue to enjoy the privilege of the connivance that goes on between some of these folks and their lobbyists and their accountants and their high-powered lawyers to get advantages that most Americans don't have or want?

□ 1620

As far as I'm concerned, almost no matter what the topic is on this floor of this House, that's the basic issue involved: whether there will be equity and fairness that gives Americans confidence in this system of government, in this democracy, or whether it again and again will be subverted—and in this case, with one Member coming to offer an objection to the motion, not because the matter doesn't have merit, but because it hadn't been studied enough. We have studied this problem to death. It cries out for an answer today, and this motion is a narrow way of answering it.

It won't solve all of the problems. There will still be ways that these special interests will find to dodge and avoid their fair share of taxes. But it will close one abuse. It will give our law enforcement authorities one more tool to deal with criminal tax evasion. I believe we ought to adopt this very narrow measure and write it into the laws of the United States. Send this bill that has been lingering for so long to the President to be signed, and include in it the fact that this Congress did at least one little thing to address the inequities, the special privileges and advantages that the few enjoy here in Washington. Say ''no'' to unjustified privileges, and ''yes'' to prompt action on this transportation bill, and include that $1 billion of additional transportation revenues.

I urge my colleagues to adopt this motion to instruct and to do it promptly today, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to instruct.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to instruct.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

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 New York (Mr. GRIMM) kindly take the chair.

□ 1622

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. GRIMM (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose earlier today, the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) had been disposed of, and the bill had been read through page 56, line 24.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

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

An amendment by Mr. FORTENBERRY of Nebraska.

An amendment by Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas.

An amendment by Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia.

An amendment by Mr. KUCINICH of Ohio.

Amendment No. 9 by Mr. BURGESS of Texas.

An amendment by Mr. REED of New York.

An amendment by Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California.

An amendment by Mr. POLIS of Colorado.

An amendment by Mr. LUJÁN of New Mexico.

An amendment by Mr. CHABOT of Ohio.

An amendment by Mrs. BLACKBURN of Tennessee.

An amendment by Mr. MULVANEY of South Carolina.

An amendment by Mr. FLAKE of Arizona

An amendment by Mr. KING of Iowa.

An amendment by Mrs. LUMMIS of Wyoming.

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

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. FORTENBERRY OF NEBRASKA

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the first amendment offered by the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. FORTENBERRY) 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 vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 328, noes 89, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 325]

AYES—328

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Amash
Amodei
Andrews
Austria
Bachmann
Baldwin
Barletta
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (CA)
Becerra
Benishek
Berkley
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boswell
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Brown (FL)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Castor (FL)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chandler
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Cole
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Davis (CA)
Davis (KY)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (TN)
Ellison
Ellmers
Emerson
Eshoo
Farenthold
Farr
Fattah
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Flake
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garamendi
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Grijalva
Grimm
Guthrie
Gutierrez
Hall
Hanabusa
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Heinrich
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Himes
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hochul
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly
Kildee
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger (IL)
Kucinich
Labrador
Lance
Landry
Langevin
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mack
Maloney
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meehan
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Myrick
Nadler
Neal
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Olver
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Pearce
Pelosi
Pence
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Polis
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Quayle
Quigley
Rahall
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rigell
Rivera
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (AR)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schilling
Schmidt
Schrader
Schwartz
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Southerland
Speier
Stark
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Sutton
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (PA)
Tiberi
Tierney
Tipton
Tonko
Tsongas
Turner (NY)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Waxman
Webster
Welch
West
Westmoreland
Wilson (FL)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Woolsey
Yarmuth
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOES—89

Ackerman
Alexander
Altmire
Bachus
Barrow
Bass (NH)
Berg
Biggert
Bishop (NY)
Blackburn
Boren
Boustany
Canseco
Cassidy
Chu
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Conaway
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (IL)
Doyle
Duncan (SC)
Edwards
Engel
Fleischmann
Fleming
Foxx
Fudge
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Green, Al
Griffith (VA)
Guinta
Hayworth
Heck
Hinchey
Holden
Hunter
Hurt
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Kingston
Kissell
Kline
Lamborn
Larson (CT)
Long
Lucas
Luján
McCollum
Meeks
Mulvaney
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (PA)
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Rangel
Rehberg
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Rooney
Ross (FL)
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Schock
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Simpson
Sires
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Towns
Turner (OH)
Watt
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)

NOT VOTING—14

Baca
Berman
Braley (IA)
Coble
Filner
Hahn
Lewis (CA)
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Napolitano
Paul
Rothman (NJ)
Shuler
Slaughter

□ 1651

Messrs. LONG, TURNER of Ohio, PETERSON, REHBERG, JONES, GOODLATTE, GRIFFITH of Virginia, RANGEL, ROSS of Florida, FLEMING, Ms. EDWARDS and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut changed their vote from ''aye'' to ''no.''

Messrs. SHUSTER, OLVER, Mrs. BONO MACK, Messrs. GENE GREEN of Texas, FARENTHOLD, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. BERKLEY, Messrs. SCHRADER, KING of Iowa, LYNCH, HASTINGS of Florida, CONYERS, WALZ of Minnesota, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. SPEIER and Mr. BUTTERFIELD changed their vote from ''no'' to ''aye.''

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Mr. Chair, on rollcall No. 325, had I been present, I would have voted ''aye.''

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 325, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted ''aye.''

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. JACKSON LEE OF TEXAS

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. PRICE of Georgia). The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the second amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) 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 157, noes 260, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 326]

AYES—157

Ackerman
Baldwin
Bass (CA)
Becerra
Berkley
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)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Courtney
Crowley
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Deutch
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Frank (MA)
Fudge
Garamendi
Gibson
Gonzalez
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hochul
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Kaptur
Keating
Kildee
Kind
Kucinich
Langevin
Larson (CT)
Latham
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lowey
Maloney
Markey
Matsui
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
Meeks
Michaud
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Neal
Olver
Pallone
Pascrell
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Pingree (ME)
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Roybal-Allard
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Sires
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stark
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Woolsey
Yarmuth

NOES—260

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Amash
Amodei
Andrews
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (NH)
Benishek
Berg
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Cardoza
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chandler
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Costa
Costello
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Cuellar
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Emerson
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Heinrich
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Holden
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Kelly
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
LaTourette
Latta
LoBiondo
Lofgren, Zoe
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McIntyre
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meehan
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Owens
Palazzo
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Peterson
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
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
Ruppersberger
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stearns
Stivers
Sullivan
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Webster
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—14

Baca
Berman
Coble
Filner
Hahn
Lewis (CA)
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Napolitano
Paul
Rothman (NJ)
Shuler
Slaughter
Stutzman

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

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

□ 1656

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

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

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 326, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted ''aye.''

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. CONNOLLY OF VIRGINIA

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) 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 is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and a result was announced. The vote was subsequently vacated by order of the Committee and the amendment was disposed of by rollcall No. 327.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. KUCINICH

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KUCINICH) 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 136, noes 282, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 328]

AYES—136

Adams
Amash
Bachmann
Bartlett
Benishek
Berkley
Black
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Carnahan
Chaffetz
Coffman (CO)
Conaway
Conyers
Culberson
DeFazio
DesJarlais
Doggett
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Flake
Fleming
Franks (AZ)
Gardner
Garrett
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Gosar
Gowdy
Graves (GA)
Griffin (AR)
Guinta
Guthrie
Gutierrez
Hall
Harris
Hartzler
Hayworth
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Jackson (IL)
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Jordan
King (IA)
Kline
Kucinich
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Lankford
LoBiondo
Mack
Manzullo
Markey
Matheson
McClintock
McHenry
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Mulvaney
Myrick
Nadler
Neugebauer
Noem
Nunnelee
Olson
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Poe (TX)
Polis
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Quigley
Rangel
Reed
Ribble
Rigell
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ross (FL)
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Sherman
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Southerland
Speier
Stark
Stutzman
Sullivan
Thornberry
Tonko
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
West
Westmoreland
Wilson (FL)
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOES—282

Ackerman
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Amodei
Andrews
Austria
Bachus
Baldwin
Barletta
Barrow
Barton (TX)
Bass (CA)
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Berg
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Butterfield
Calvert
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cassidy
Castor (FL)
Chabot
Chandler
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Connolly (VA)
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
DeGette
DeLauro
Denham
Dent
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dingell
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Dreier
Ellison
Ellmers
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Fleischmann
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gallegly
Garamendi
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Granger
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith (VA)
Grijalva
Grimm
Hanabusa
Hanna
Harper
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Heck
Heinrich
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hochul
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Hurt
Israel
Issa
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly
Kildee
Kind
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Long
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Maloney
Marchant
Marino
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McCollum
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meehan
Meeks
Mica
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (PA)
Neal
Nugent
Nunes

Olver
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pitts
Platts
Price (NC)
Rahall
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Rivera
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (AR)
Roybal-Allard
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schiff
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Stearns
Stivers
Sutton
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiberi
Tierney
Tipton
Towns
Tsongas
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Webster
Welch
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Woolsey
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—13

Baca
Berman
Coble
Filner
Hahn
Lewis (CA)
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Napolitano
Paul
Rothman (NJ)
Shuler
Slaughter

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

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

□ 1703

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. HAYWORTH, and Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER changed their vote from ''no'' to ''aye.''

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 328, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted ''no.''

AMENDMENT NO. 9 OFFERED BY MR. BURGESS

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) 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 is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 168, noes 249, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 329]

AYES—168

Ackerman
Amash
Andrews
Baldwin
Barton (TX)
Bass (CA)
Becerra
Berkley
Bishop (UT)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Brady (PA)
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Burgess
Campbell
Canseco
Capps
Capuano
Carson (IN)
Cassidy
Castor (FL)
Chaffetz
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (NY)
Cohen
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Costello
Courtney
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (CA)
DeFazio
DeGette
Deutch
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Eshoo
Farenthold
Farr
Flake
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Garamendi
Gardner
Garrett
Gohmert
Gosar
Graves (GA)
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hastings (FL)
Heinrich
Hensarling
Herger
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Holt
Honda
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Jones
Keating
Kildee
Kucinich
Labrador
Lance
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Long
Lowey
Luján
Lummis
Lynch
Maloney
Marchant
Markey
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McClintock
McDermott
McGovern
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Mica
Michaud
Miller, George
Moore
Mulvaney
Nadler
Neal
Neugebauer
Pallone
Paulsen
Pearce
Pelosi
Pingree (ME)
Polis
Posey
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Richardson
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Ross (FL)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Rush
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sherman
Shimkus
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stark
Stearns
Stutzman
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (PA)
Tierney
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walberg
Walsh (IL)
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Watt
Waxman
Webster
Welch
Woodall
Woolsey
Young (FL)

NOES—249

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Amodei
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Bass (NH)
Benishek
Berg
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brooks
Brown (FL)
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp
Cantor
Capito
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carter
Chabot
Chandler
Clarke (MI)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Cooper
Costa
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Crowley
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
DeLauro
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Ellmers
Emerson
Engel
Fattah
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gallegly
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Hanabusa
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Herrera Beutler
Hochul
Holden
Hoyer
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Kaptur
Kelly
Kind
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kline
Lamborn
Landry
Langevin
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lee (CA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marino
Matheson
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McCollum
McCotter
McHenry
McIntyre
McKinley
Meehan
Meeks
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Olver
Owens
Palazzo
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Pence
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Price (GA)
Quayle
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Richmond
Rigell
Rivera
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (AR)
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Scalise
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sewell
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stivers
Sullivan
Sutton
Terry
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Van Hollen
Walden
Waters
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Yarmuth
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—14

Baca
Berman
Coble
Filner
Hahn
King (IA)
Lewis (CA)
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Napolitano
Paul
Rothman (NJ)
Shuler
Slaughter

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

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

□ 1707

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 329, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted ''aye.''

Stated against:

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Mr. Chair, on rollcall No. 329 I confused the amendment with another. Had I been correct, I would have voted ''no.''

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. REED

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. REED) 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 223, noes 195, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 330]

AYES—223

Ackerman
Adams
Bachmann
Baldwin
Barrow
Barton (TX)
Bass (CA)
Bass (NH)
Becerra

Benishek
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Boren
Boswell
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Butterfield
Camp
Canseco
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Courtney
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Denham
Dent
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Dold
Doyle
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Edwards
Ellison
Eshoo
Farr
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Flake
Gardner
Gerlach
Gibson
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Green, Al
Griffith (VA)
Grijalva
Guthrie
Hanabusa
Hanna
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heinrich
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hochul
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hunter
Hurt
Israel
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Kind
Kinzinger (IL)
Kucinich
Lance
Landry
Langevin
Larson (CT)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lowey
Luján
Lynch
Maloney
Manzullo
Marchant
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McClintock
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McMorris Rodgers
Meehan
Meeks
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller, George
Moore
Mulvaney
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Neal
Nugent
Olver
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Paulsen
Pearce
Pelosi
Peters
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Platts
Polis
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rangel
Reed
Reichert
Ribble
Richardson
Roe (TN)
Rooney
Roskam
Ross (AR)
Ross (FL)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Ryan (WI)
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sherman
Smith (WA)
Southerland
Speier
Stark
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Tierney
Tipton
Tonko
Tsongas
Turner (NY)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Walden
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Webster
Welch
West
Wilson (SC)
Woolsey
Yarmuth
Yoder
Young (IN)

NOES—195

Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Amash
Amodei
Andrews
Austria
Bachus
Barletta
Bartlett
Berg
Berkley
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boustany
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Campbell
Cantor
Cardoza
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cassidy
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Cole
Conaway
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (KY)
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Donnelly (IN)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Emerson
Engel
Farenthold
Fattah
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gallegly
Garamendi
Garrett
Gibbs
Gingrey (GA)
Gonzalez
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Grimm
Guinta
Gutierrez
Hall
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Heck
Hensarling
Herger
Hirono
Hoyer
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Jenkins
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly
Kildee
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kissell
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lee (CA)
LoBiondo
Lofgren, Zoe
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Marino
Markey
McCaul
McCotter
McKinley
McNerney
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (NC)
Moran
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neugebauer
Noem
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Palazzo
Pastor (AZ)
Pence
Perlmutter
Peterson
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Quayle
Rahall
Rehberg
Renacci
Reyes
Richmond
Rigell
Rivera
Roby
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Ros-Lehtinen
Runyan
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Scalise
Scott, Austin
Sessions
Sewell
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Sullivan
Terry
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Towns
Turner (OH)
Visclosky
Walberg
Walsh (IL)
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (FL)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—13

Baca
Berman
Coble
Filner
Hahn
Lewis (CA)
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Napolitano
Paul
Rothman (NJ)
Shuler
Slaughter

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

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

□ 1711

Messrs. TIERNEY and CLARKE of Michigan changed their vote from ''no'' to ''aye.''

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 330, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. LORETTA SANCHEZ OF CALIFORNIA

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ) 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 182, noes 237, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 331]

AYES—182

Ackerman
Andrews
Baldwin
Barrow
Bass (CA)
Becerra
Berkley
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Boren
Boswell
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costello
Courtney
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Deutch
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Fitzpatrick
Frank (MA)
Fudge
Garamendi
Gibson
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Heinrich
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hochul
Holden
Holt
Honda
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Jones
Kaptur
Keating
Kildee
Kind
Kissell
Kucinich
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Luján
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Maloney
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McDermott
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moore
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Neal
Olver
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Ross (AR)
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Sires
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stark
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Tierney
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Woolsey
Yarmuth

NOES—237

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Amash
Amodei
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (NH)
Benishek
Berg
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Costa
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Culberson
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dold
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Emerson
Farenthold
Fincher
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gingrey (GA)
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris

Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Hoyer
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Kelly
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Lankford
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
LoBiondo
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McCotter
McHenry
McIntyre
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meehan
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Moran
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Palazzo
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
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
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Webster
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—12

Baca
Berman
Coble
Filner
Hahn
Lewis (CA)
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Napolitano
Paul
Shuler
Slaughter

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

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

□ 1714

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 331, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. POLIS

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. POLIS) 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 138, noes 281, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 332]

AYES—138

Ackerman
Amash
Andrews
Baldwin
Bass (CA)
Becerra
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Boswell
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Castor (FL)
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Cohen
Conyers
Cooper
Crowley
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Eshoo
Farr
Frank (MA)
Fudge
Gibson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hochul
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Kaptur
Keating
Kildee
Kind
Kucinich
Lance
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Loebsack
Long
Lowey
Lynch
Maloney
Markey
Matsui
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
Meeks
Michaud
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Neal
Olver
Pallone
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Pingree (ME)
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Reyes
Ribble
Richardson
Richmond
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Rush
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sherman
Speier
Stark
Thompson (CA)
Tierney
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Woolsey
Yarmuth

NOES—281

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

NOT VOTING—12

Baca
Berman
Coble
Filner
Hahn
Lewis (CA)
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Napolitano
Paul
Shuler
Slaughter

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

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

□ 1717

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 332, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. LUJÁN

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) 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 174, noes 244, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 333]

AYES—174

Ackerman
Akin
Baldwin
Barrow
Bass (CA)
Becerra
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Boren
Boswell
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Butterfield
Campbell
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Courtney
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Flake
Frank (MA)
Fudge
Gardner
Gibson
Gohmert
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Heinrich
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Hunter
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Jones
Kaptur
Keating
Kildee
Kind
Kissell
Kucinich
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lowey
Luján
Maloney
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McClintock
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McNerney
Meeks
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Neal
Olver
Pallone
Pascrell
Pearce
Pelosi
Peters
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Polis
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reichert
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Ross (AR)
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Rush
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sherman
Sires
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stark
Stearns
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Tipton
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Walden
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Watt
Waxman
Welch
West
Wilson (FL)
Woolsey
Yarmuth

NOES—244

Adams
Aderholt
Alexander
Altmire
Amash
Amodei
Andrews
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (NH)
Benishek
Berg
Berkley
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cassidy
Castor (FL)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chandler
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Culberson
Davis (CA)
Davis (KY)
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Emerson
Farenthold
Farr
Fattah
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garamendi
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gingrey (GA)
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hayworth
Heck
Hensarling
Herger
Hochul
Holden
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Kelly
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Langevin
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
LoBiondo
Lofgren, Zoe
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McCotter
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meehan
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Owens
Palazzo
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Pence
Perlmutter
Peterson
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Quayle
Reed
Rehberg
Renacci
Ribble
Rigell
Rivera
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (FL)
Runyan
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sessions
Sewell
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Visclosky
Walberg
Walsh (IL)
Waters
Webster
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—13

Baca
Berman
Coble
Filner
Hahn
Lewis (CA)
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Napolitano
Paul
Shuler
Slaughter
Young (IN)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

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

□ 1721

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 333, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

(By unanimous consent, Mr. CANTOR was allowed to speak out of order.)

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Chairman, I would advise the House that at the end of the amendment series is the Lummis amendment. After that amendment, we will be revoting the Connolly amendment. So don't leave. We will need to be revoting the gentleman from Virginia's amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that proceedings on rollcall No. 327 be vacated to the end that the request for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) remain as unfinished business and, further, that the Chair may reduce the time for any electronic vote on that amendment to not less than 2 minutes.

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR. The Chair appreciates the motion and will state that the Chair didn't recognize individuals in the well.

Without objection, 2-minute voting will proceed.

There was no objection.

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

An amendment by Mr. CHABOT of Ohio.

An amendment by Mrs. BLACKBURN of Tennessee.

An amendment by Mr. MULVANEY of South Carolina.

An amendment by Mr. FLAKE of Arizona.

An amendment by Mr. KING of Iowa.

An amendment by Mrs. LUMMIS of Wyoming.

An amendment by Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia.

The Chair would reiterate that he will reduce to 2 minutes the minimum time for all remaining electronic votes in this series.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. CHABOT

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) 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 141, noes 276, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 334]

AYES—141

Adams
Akin
Amash
Amodei
Andrews
Bachmann
Barton (TX)
Benishek
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Brady (TX)
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Chabot
Chaffetz
Coffman (CO)
Conaway
Culberson
Doggett
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Farenthold
Flake
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Gallegly
Gardner
Garrett
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Gosar
Gowdy
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Gene
Hall
Harris
Hartzler
Heck
Heinrich
Hensarling
Herger
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
King (IA)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance

Landry
Lankford
Long
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McMorris Rodgers
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Mulvaney
Myrick
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Olson
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Perlmutter
Petri
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Renacci
Ribble
Rigell
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Roskam
Ross (FL)
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schilling
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Smith (NE)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stearns
Stutzman
Sullivan
Terry
Thornberry
Tipton
Upton
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Webster
Westmoreland
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Woodall
Yoder
Young (FL)

NOES—276

Ackerman
Aderholt
Alexander
Altmire
Austria
Bachus
Baldwin
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Bass (CA)
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Berg
Berkley
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brooks
Brown (FL)
Butterfield
Calvert
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cassidy
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dingell
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Ellmers
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fortenberry
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Garamendi
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Granger
Green, Al
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grijalva
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Gutierrez
Hanabusa
Hanna
Harper
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
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
Kind
King (NY)
Kissell
Kucinich
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Luján
Lynch
Maloney
Marino
Markey
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McKinley
McNerney
Meehan
Meeks
Mica
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Neal
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olver
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi
Peters
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Platts
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Rivera
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross (AR)
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schmidt
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stark
Stivers
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiberi
Tierney
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Welch
West
Whitfield
Wilson (FL)
Wolf
Womack
Woolsey
Yarmuth
Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—14

Baca
Berman
Coble
Fattah
Filner
Hahn
Lewis (CA)
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Napolitano
Paul
Shuler
Slaughter
Young (IN)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

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

□ 1726

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 334, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MRS. BLACKBURN

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the second amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) 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 157, noes 261, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 335]

AYES—157

Adams
Akin
Amash
Amodei
Bachmann
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Biggert
Bilirakis
Black
Blackburn
Bono Mack
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Conaway
Cooper
Cuellar
Davis (KY)
Denham
DesJarlais
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Flake
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Gardner
Garrett
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Harris
Hartzler
Hensarling
Herger
Hochul
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
King (IA)
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Lankford
Latta
Long
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lynch
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McMorris Rodgers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nugent
Nunnelee
Olson
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Price (GA)
Quayle
Reed
Ribble
Rigell
Roe (TN)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ross (FL)
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schilling
Schmidt
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shuster
Smith (NE)
Southerland
Stearns
Stutzman
Sullivan
Terry
Thornberry
Tipton
Upton
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Woodall
Yoder
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOES—261

Ackerman
Aderholt
Alexander
Altmire
Andrews
Austria
Bachus
Baldwin
Barletta
Barrow
Bass (CA)
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Benishek
Berg
Berkley
Bilbray
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bonner
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Bucshon
Butterfield
Calvert
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Cole
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Crowley
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Dent
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Dreier
Edwards
Ellison
Ellmers
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Fleischmann
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gallegly
Garamendi
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gonzalez
Granger
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Grimm
Gutierrez
Hanabusa
Hanna
Harper
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Heinrich
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly
Kildee
Kind
King (NY)
Kingston
Kissell
Kucinich
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Luján
Lungren, Daniel E.
Maloney
Marino
Markey
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McKinley
McNerney
Meehan
Meeks
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Neal
Noem
Nunes
Olver
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Polis
Posey
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Rivera
Roby
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Ros-Lehtinen

Roskam
Ross (AR)
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Runyan
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Shimkus
Simpson
Sires
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stark
Stivers
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiberi
Tierney
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Webster
Welch
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (FL)
Wolf
Womack
Woolsey
Yarmuth
Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—13

Baca
Berman
Coble
Filner
Hahn
Lewis (CA)
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Napolitano
Paul
Ruppersberger
Shuler
Slaughter

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

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

□ 1728

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 335, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. MULVANEY

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. MULVANEY) 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 125, noes 293, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 336]

AYES—125

Adams
Akin
Amash
Amodei
Bachmann
Benishek
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Campbell
Canseco
Chabot
Chaffetz
Conaway
DesJarlais
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Farenthold
Fincher
Flake
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Garrett
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gowdy
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Guinta
Guthrie
Harris
Hartzler
Hensarling
Herger
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
King (IA)
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Lankford
Latta
Long
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McMorris Rodgers
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Mulvaney
Myrick
Neugebauer
Olson
Pence
Petri
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Price (GA)
Quayle
Ribble
Rigell
Roe (TN)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ross (FL)
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schmidt
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Smith (NE)
Southerland
Stearns
Stutzman
Sullivan
Thornberry
Tiberi
Upton
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
West
Westmoreland
Wilson (SC)
Woodall
Yoder
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOES—293

Ackerman
Aderholt
Alexander
Altmire
Andrews
Austria
Bachus
Baldwin
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (CA)
Becerra
Berg
Berkley
Biggert
Bilbray
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Bucshon
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cassidy
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Cole
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Denham
Dent
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Dreier
Edwards
Ellison
Ellmers
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fortenberry
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gallegly
Garamendi
Gardner
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gonzalez
Gosar
Granger
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Grimm
Gutierrez
Hall
Hanabusa
Hanna
Harper
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Heinrich
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hochul
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Hultgren
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly
Kildee
Kind
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kucinich
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Luján
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Maloney
Marino
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McKinley
McNerney
Meehan
Meeks
Mica
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Neal
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olver
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Pearce
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Platts
Polis
Posey
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)
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schilling
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stark
Stivers
Sutton
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tierney
Tipton
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Webster
Welch
Whitfield
Wilson (FL)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woolsey
Yarmuth
Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—13

Baca
Bass (NH)
Berman
Coble
Filner
Hahn
Lewis (CA)
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Napolitano
Paul
Shuler
Slaughter

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

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

□ 1731

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 336, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. FLAKE

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the first amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) 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 144, noes 274, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 337]

AYES—144

Akin
Amash
Amodei
Bachmann
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Benishek
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bono Mack
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Buerkle
Burgess
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Conaway
Cooper
Davis (KY)
DesJarlais
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Farenthold
Fincher
Flake
Fleming
Flores
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Gallegly
Gardner
Garrett
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Guinta
Guthrie
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (FL)
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam

Jones
Jordan
Kind
King (IA)
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Latta
Long
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McMorris Rodgers
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nunes
Olson
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Ribble
Roe (TN)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Roskam
Ross (FL)
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schilling
Schmidt
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Smith (NE)
Southerland
Stearns
Stutzman
Sullivan
Terry
Upton
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Woodall
Yoder
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOES—274

Ackerman
Adams
Aderholt
Alexander
Altmire
Andrews
Austria
Bachus
Baldwin
Barletta
Barrow
Bass (CA)
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Berg
Berkley
Bilbray
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bonner
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Bucshon
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Calvert
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Cole
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Denham
Dent
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Dreier
Edwards
Ellison
Ellmers
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Forbes
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Garamendi
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gonzalez
Granger
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Grimm
Gutierrez
Hall
Hanabusa
Hanna
Harper
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Heinrich
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hochul
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Hultgren
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly
Kildee
King (NY)
Kingston
Kissell
Kucinich
Langevin
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Luján
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Maloney
Marino
Markey
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McKinley
McNerney
Meehan
Meeks
Mica
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Neal
Noem
Nugent
Nunnelee
Olver
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Rigell
Rivera
Roby
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross (AR)
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stark
Stivers
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tierney
Tipton
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Webster
Welch
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (FL)
Wolf
Womack
Woolsey
Yarmuth
Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—13

Baca
Berman
Coble
Filner
Hahn
Lewis (CA)
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Napolitano
Paul
Petri
Shuler
Slaughter

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

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

□ 1735

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 337, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

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 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 184, noes 235, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 338]

AYES—184

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Amash
Amodei
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Benishek
Berg
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Crawford
Crenshaw
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Dreier
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Farenthold
Fincher
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Gardner
Garrett
Gibbs
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
King (IA)
Kingston
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Landry
Lankford
Latham
Latta
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McMorris Rodgers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Mulvaney
Myrick
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Reed
Renacci
Ribble
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ross (FL)
Royce
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stearns
Stutzman
Sullivan
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tipton
Turner (NY)
Walberg
Webster
West
Westmoreland
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOES—235

Ackerman
Alexander
Altmire
Andrews
Baldwin
Barletta
Barrow
Bass (CA)
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Berkley
Biggert
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Boren
Boswell
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Butterfield
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cravaack
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Duffy
Edwards
Ellison
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Fitzpatrick
Frank (MA)
Fudge
Garamendi
Gerlach
Gibson
Gonzalez
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Grimm
Gutierrez
Hanabusa
Hanna
Hastings (FL)
Heck
Heinrich
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hochul
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Hultgren
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly
Kildee
Kind
King (NY)
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kucinich
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
LaTourette
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Luján
Lynch
Maloney
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McKinley
McNerney
Meehan
Meeks
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Neal
Olver
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Rehberg

Reichert
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Rivera
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (AR)
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Sires
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stark
Stivers
Sutton
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tiberi
Tierney
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Turner (OH)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Whitfield
Wilson (FL)
Woolsey
Yarmuth
Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—12

Baca
Berman
Coble
Filner
Hahn
Lewis (CA)
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Napolitano
Paul
Shuler
Slaughter

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

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

□ 1737

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

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 338, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted ''no.''

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MRS. LUMMIS OF WYOMING

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Mrs. LUMMIS) 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 114, noes 302, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 339]

AYES—114

Amodei
Bachmann
Barton (TX)
Benishek
Berkley
Bishop (UT)
Brooks
Buchanan
Burgess
Campbell
Canseco
Carnahan
Cassidy
Chaffetz
Chu
Clay
Coffman (CO)
Costello
Crowley
Cuellar
DeFazio
Denham
Deutch
Dingell
Farenthold
Flake
Fleming
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Gallegly
Gardner
Garrett
Gohmert
Gosar
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Harris
Heck
Heinrich
Hensarling
Herger
Hinojosa
Honda
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (IL)
Kaptur
King (IA)
Kline
Kucinich
Lance
Landry
Lankford
Lewis (GA)
Lofgren, Zoe
Luján
Lummis
Lynch
Maloney
Manzullo
Marchant
Markey
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McMorris Rodgers
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Nadler
Neugebauer
Nunes
Olson
Pallone
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Pearce
Pelosi
Pence
Poe (TX)
Polis
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Reyes
Ribble
Rokita
Rooney
Sanchez, Loretta
Schakowsky
Schrader
Schweikert
Shimkus
Sires
Smith (NE)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Stutzman
Sullivan
Tipton
Walberg
Webster
Welch
West
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)

NOES—302

Ackerman
Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Amash
Andrews
Austria
Bachus
Baldwin
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Bass (CA)
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Berg
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Black
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Broun (GA)
Brown (FL)
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Castor (FL)
Chabot
Chandler
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Courtney
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
DeGette
DeLauro
Dent
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Doggett
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Ellmers
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Garamendi
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Gutierrez
Hall
Hanabusa
Hanna
Harper
Hartzler
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hirono
Hochul
Holden
Holt
Hoyer
Hunter
Hurt
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Keating
Kelly
Kildee
Kind
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Labrador
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Long
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Marino
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McCotter
McIntyre
McKinley
McNerney
Meehan
Meeks
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Moore
Moran
Mulvaney
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neal
Noem
Nugent
Nunnelee
Olver
Owens
Palazzo
Pascrell
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Platts
Pompeo
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Richardson
Richmond
Rigell
Rivera
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (AR)
Ross (FL)
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schiff
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schwartz
Scott (SC)
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NJ)
Southerland
Speier
Stark
Stearns
Stivers
Sutton
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tierney
Tonko
Tsongas
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woolsey
Yarmuth
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—15

Baca
Berman
Brady (TX)
Coble
Filner
Hahn
Lamborn
Lewis (CA)
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Napolitano
Paul
Shuler
Slaughter
Towns

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

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

□ 1740

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 339, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted ''aye.''

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. CONNOLLY OF VIRGINIA

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) 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 is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 208, noes 207, answered ''present'' 1, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 340]

AYES—208

Ackerman
Amash
Amodei
Andrews
Bass (CA)
Becerra
Benishek
Berkley
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Brown (FL)
Buchanan
Burgess
Butterfield
Campbell
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Castor (FL)
Chaffetz
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Costello
Courtney
Crowley
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro

Deutch
Dicks
Doggett
Doyle
Duffy
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Eshoo
Farenthold
Farr
Fattah
Fincher
Flake
Fleming
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Garamendi
Garrett
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Graves (GA)
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Hayworth
Heck
Heinrich
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Keating
Kildee
Kind
Kucinich
Lance
Langevin
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lofgren, Zoe
Long
Lowey
Luján
Lynch
Maloney
Markey
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McClintock
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Mulvaney
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Neal
Neugebauer
Olver
Pallone
Pascrell
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Polis
Pompeo
Posey
Price (NC)
Quayle
Quigley
Rangel
Reyes
Ribble
Richardson
Richmond
Rigell
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (WI)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Sires
Smith (WA)
Southerland
Speier
Stark
Stearns
Stutzman
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Tierney
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walsh (IL)
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Woodall
Woolsey
Yarmuth
Yoder

NOES—207

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Austria
Bachus
Baldwin
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (NH)
Berg
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Cardoza
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chandler
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Cooper
Costa
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Cuellar
Davis (KY)
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Dreier
Duncan (SC)
Ellmers
Emerson
Engel
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gallegly
Gardner
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Hochul
Holden
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jackson Lee (TX)
Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Kaptur
Kelly
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Landry
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McCotter
McHenry
McIntyre
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meehan
Mica
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Owens
Palazzo
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Peterson
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Price (GA)
Rahall
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Rivera
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (AR)
Ross (FL)
Runyan
Ryan (OH)
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Scott, Austin
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Stivers
Sullivan
Terry
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Walberg
Walden
Webster
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

ANSWERED ''PRESENT''—1

Johnson (IL)

NOT VOTING—15

Baca
Bachmann
Berman
Brady (TX)
Coble
Filner
Goodlatte
Hahn
Lewis (CA)
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Napolitano
Paul
Shuler
Slaughter

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote). There are 50 seconds remaining.

□ 1745

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

Ms. BROWN of Florida changed her vote from ''no'' to ''aye.''

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 340, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

This Act may be cited as the ''Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2013''.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Chairman, I move that the committee do now rise and report the bill back to the House with sundry amendments, with the recommendation that the amendments be agreed to and that the bill, as amended, do pass.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WOODALL) having assumed the chair, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, 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, and, directed him to report the bill back to the House with sundry amendments adopted in the Committee of the Whole, with the recommendation that the amendments be agreed to and that the bill, as amended, do pass.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the rule, the previous question is ordered.

Is a separate vote demanded on any amendment reported from the Committee of the Whole? If not, the Chair will put them en gros.

The amendments were agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

□ 1750

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Mr. BOSWELL. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion to recommit at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentleman opposed to the bill?

Mr. BOSWELL. I am.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Boswell moves to recommit the bill H.R. 5325 to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with the following amendment:

Page 6, line 18, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $31,600,000)''.

Page 7, line 4, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $31,600,000)''.

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

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

Mr. BOSWELL (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that we dispense with the reading.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Iowa is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BOSWELL. Mr. Speaker, I want to say, at the onset, that this, again, is perhaps considered the final amendment to the bill, will not kill the bill. If we pass it, it will send it back to committee. If not, the bill will immediately proceed to final passage, as amended.

What this amendment will do is provide $31 million in increased resources for disaster flood protections, as well as $1 million in targeted resources towards nonmilitary energy cooperation assistance with our closest ally in the Middle East, and one of the closest allies across the globe that we have, Israel.

I've noticed, and I've said before, and I think I'll say it again, for more than a year I've waited patiently for the majority to stop the slash-and-burn legislation and revitalize the Nation and empower employers to create jobs. Well, we're still waiting on those millionaire job creators to show us the jobs, and we're still waiting for the majority to pass an actual jobs bill.

But while we sit here and wait, Mother Nature does not. In fact, Mother Nature waits for no one. Mother Nature

did not wait for the majority to pass a bill to send massive amounts of snow and rain to parts of Montana, triggering the Missouri River flood of 2011, leaving homes, businesses, farms, and towns devastated.

Mother Nature did not wait for the majority to pass the jobs bill to send Hurricane Irene barreling across the Eastern Seaboard, causing billions of dollars in damage.

The additional $31 million in funding that my amendment provides for funds planning, training, and other measures that ensure the readiness of the Corps of Engineers to respond to floods, hurricanes, and other natural disasters, and to support emergency operations in response to such disasters, including but not limited to advance measures, flood fighting, and emergency operations.

These additional resources may not seem significant to some people, but to the family farm that is saved because of adequate farm protection relief, or to the small business which is saved, or to the family home that's saved, or the community that is saved, these additional resources are not only significant, but they can mean the difference between living a dream or living in desolation. But these additional resources of flood protection are only but one reason why you should support this amendment.

Another reason that you should support this amendment is that, in supporting this amendment, you vote to support greater cooperation efforts on energy efficiency and renewable energy with Israel.

Israel is our strongest ally in the Middle East, without question, and one of our strongest allies across the globe. And, as such, our ability to work together to advance the interests of both our nations is crucial. One area where I believe we can work even closer together is the realm of energy efficiency and renewable energy.

Coming from my State of Iowa, I know a little bit about renewable energy. Iowa is a national leader in the production of wind power, biodiesel, ethanol, and we take great pride in our ability to advance technology that leads to cleaner, more sustainable energy production.

However, in order to reduce our reliance on foreign oil, we must take an all-of-the-above approach to energy, including greater domestic production of fossil fuels, and yes, renewable, clean green sources of energy. With greater cooperation with our ally, Israel, we can advance the energy security needs of both of our nations, which are vital to greater economic prosperity and growth for years to come.

So therefore, I urge, Mr. Speaker, all my colleagues to vote ''yes.''

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Chairman, I rise to claim the time in opposition to the motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New Jersey is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, let me reassure my colleague that I share his concern for fixing the infrastructure that was damaged in last year's flood events. In fact, we provided, through our committee, $1.7 billion in additional funding to the Corps of Engineers last year for that very purpose.

The bill before us now already funds the Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies account at the President's request of $30 million.

In addition, the motion would increase funding for the U.S.-Israeli cooperative agreement to 50 percent above last year's level. This is a completely unwarranted increase, considering our bill already maintains funding for this very important program at last year's level, even while we've cut so many programs in our bill to stay within the budget.

Mr. Speaker, we put together a strong bipartisan bill which supports a comprehensive energy policy. It maintains a strong national defense, and it maintains the fact that we keep America competitive and keep America open for business.

In that regard, Mr. Speaker, in case there is any question, if Members care about the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund Project, this bill is your best option. It is $158 million above the President's request, and more than $120 million above the Senate. If you want higher funding levels for these important projects, you must vote for our bill.

Mr. Speaker, again, our bill is a commitment to national security, reduced spending, and keeping America open for business.

I urge Members to vote against the motion to recommit and vote for final passage of the bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to recommit.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the noes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. BOSWELL. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 and clause 9 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on the motion to recommit will be followed by 5-minute votes on final passage of the bill and motions to instruct conferees on H.R. 4348 offered by Mr. FLAKE and Mr. DOGGETT.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 185, noes 233, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 341]

AYES—185

Ackerman
Altmire
Andrews
Baldwin
Barrow
Bass (CA)
Becerra
Berkley
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Boren
Boswell
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Deutch
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Frank (MA)
Fudge
Garamendi
Gonzalez
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Heinrich
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hochul
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kildee
Kind
King (IA)
Kissell
Kucinich
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Luján
Lynch
Maloney
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McNerney
Meeks
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Neal
Olver
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Ross (AR)
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Sires
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stark
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Woolsey
Yarmuth

NOES—233

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Amash
Amodei
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (NH)
Benishek
Berg
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dold
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Emerson
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (IL)

Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Kelly
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Lankford
LaTourette
Latta
LoBiondo
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meehan
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
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
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Webster
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—13

Baca
Berman
Coble
Filner
Hahn
Lewis (CA)
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Napolitano
Paul
Shuler
Slaughter
Southerland

□ 1815

So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 341, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

Under clause 10 of rule XX, the yeas and nays are ordered.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 255, nays 165, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 342]

YEAS—255

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Austria
Bachus
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (NH)
Benishek
Berg
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brown (FL)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Cardoza
Carter
Castor (FL)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chandler
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Costa
Costello
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Cuellar
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Ellmers
Emerson
Farenthold
Fattah
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garamendi
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gingrey (GA)
Gonzalez
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heinrich
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Himes
Hinojosa
Holden
Huelskamp
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jackson Lee (TX)
Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Kaptur
Kelly
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McCollum
McCotter
McHenry
McIntyre
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meehan
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Owens
Palazzo
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Peterson
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Rahall
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Reyes
Ribble
Rigell
Rivera
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (AR)
Ross (FL)
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Ryan (WI)
Sanchez, Loretta
Scalise
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Scott (SC)
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Speier
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden
Webster
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NAYS—165

Ackerman
Amash
Amodei
Andrews
Baca
Bachmann
Baldwin
Bass (CA)
Becerra
Berkley
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Boustany
Braley (IA)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buerkle
Burgess
Butterfield
Campbell
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Cassidy
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Courtney
Crowley
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Flake
Frank (MA)
Fudge
Gibson
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Griffith (VA)
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Heck
Higgins
Hinchey
Hirono
Hochul
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Huizenga (MI)
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Keating
Kildee
Kind
Kucinich
Langevin
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lowey
Lummis
Lynch
Maloney
Markey
Matheson
McCarthy (NY)
McClintock
McDermott
McGovern
Meeks
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Mulvaney
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Neal
Olver
Pallone
Pascrell
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Pingree (ME)
Poe (TX)
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rangel
Richardson
Richmond
Rohrabacher
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Schweikert
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Sires
Smith (WA)
Stark
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Walsh (IL)
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Woolsey
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—11

Berman
Coble
Filner
Hahn
Lewis (CA)
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Napolitano
Paul
Shuler
Slaughter

□ 1824

Mr. GOODLATTE changed his vote from "aye" to "no."

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 342, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

MOTIONS TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 4348, SURFACE TRANSPORTATION EXTENSION ACT OF 2012, PART II

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to instruct on H.R. 4348 offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk will redesignate the motion.

The Clerk redesignated the motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to instruct.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 259, nays 154, not voting 18, as follows:

[Roll No. 343]

YEAS—259

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Amash
Amodei
Andrews
Austria
Baca
Bachmann
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Benishek
Berkley
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Calvert
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capps
Cardoza
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chu
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Cooper
Costa
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Denham
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dingell

Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Eshoo
Farenthold
Farr
Fincher
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gallegly
Garamendi
Gardner
Garrett
Gibbs
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grijalva
Guinta
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Heck
Hensarling
Herger
Honda
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jackson Lee (TX)
Jenkins
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Kaptur
Kildee
King (IA)
Kingston
Kissell
Kline
Kucinich
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Lankford
LaTourette
Latta
Levin
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McIntyre
McNerney
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moran
Mulvaney
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Palazzo
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Quayle
Renacci
Ribble
Richardson
Rigell
Rivera
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (AR)
Ross (FL)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Ryan (WI)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schiff
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Sherman
Shimkus
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Speier
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Sutton
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner (OH)
Upton
Visclosky
Walberg
Walsh (IL)
Watt
Webster
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Woolsey
Yoder
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NAYS—154

Ackerman
Altmire
Baldwin
Barletta
Bass (CA)
Berg
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Brady (PA)
Brown (FL)
Camp
Capito
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Costello
Courtney
Critz
Crowley
Davis (KY)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Dent
Deutch
Doyle
Edwards
Ellison
Emerson
Engel
Fattah
Fitzpatrick
Gerlach
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gonzalez
Grimm
Guthrie
Gutierrez
Hall
Hanabusa
Hanna
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heinrich
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hochul
Holden
Holt
Hoyer
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Keating
Kelly
Kind
King (NY)
Kinzinger (IL)
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
Lee (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Lowey
Luján
Lummis
Lynch
Maloney
Marino
Markey
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meehan
Meeks
Michaud
Moore
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Neal
Noem
Olver
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pelosi
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Platts
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Reyes
Richmond
Rogers (KY)
Rothman (NJ)
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Schakowsky
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Smith (WA)
Stark
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tierney
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Turner (NY)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Walden
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth
Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—18

Bachus
Berman
Coble
Conyers
Davis (IL)
Dicks
Doggett
Filner
Frank (MA)
Hahn
Lewis (CA)
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Napolitano
Paul
Polis
Shuler
Slaughter

□ 1830

So the motion to instruct was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 343, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to instruct on H.R. 4348 offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT) on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk will redesignate the motion.

The Clerk redesignated the motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to instruct.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 192, nays 226, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 344]

YEAS—192

Altmire
Andrews
Baca
Baldwin
Barrow
Bass (CA)
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Berkley
Bilbray
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Boswell
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Fortenberry
Fudge
Garamendi
Gardner
Gonzalez
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Heinrich
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hochul
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Kaptur
Keating
Kildee
Kind
Kissell
Kucinich
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Luján
Lynch
Maloney
Markey
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McNerney
Meeks
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Neal
Olver
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Rigell
Rohrabacher
Ross (AR)
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Sires
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stark
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Woolsey
Yarmuth

NAYS—226

Ackerman
Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Amash
Amodei
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Benishek
Berg
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Cole
Conaway
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dold
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Ellmers
Emerson
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Kelly
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Lankford
LaTourette
Latta
LoBiondo
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meehan
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rivera
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (FL)
Runyan
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin

Sessions	Terry	West
Shimkus	Thompson (PA)	Westmoreland
Shuster	Thornberry	Whitfield
Simpson	Tiberi	Wilson (SC)
Smith (NE)	Tipton	Wittman
Smith (NJ)	Turner (NY)	Wolf
Smith (TX)	Turner (OH)	Womack
Southerland	Upton	Woodall
Stearns	Walberg	Yoder
Stivers	Walden	Young (AK)
Stutzman	Walsh (IL)	Young (FL)
Sullivan	Webster	Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—13

Berman	Lewis (CA)	Scott, David
Coble	McKeon	Shuler
Dicks	Miller, Gary	Slaughter
Filner	Napolitano	
Frank (MA)	Paul	

□ 1837

So the motion to instruct was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 344, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, during consideration of H.R. 5325, the FY 2013 Energy and Water Appropriations bill, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents.

Had I been present I would have voted: "yes" on the Fortenberry Amendment; "yes" on the Jackson-Lee Amendment; "yes" on the Connolly Amendment; "no" on the Kucinich Amendment; "yes" on the Burgess Amendment; "no" on the Reed Amendment; "yes" on the Loretta Sanchez Amendment; "yes" on the Polis Amendment; "yes" on the Luján Amendment; "no" on the Chabot Amendment; "no" on the Blackburn Amendment; "no" on the Mulvaney Amendment; "no" on the Flake Amendment; "no" on the King (IA) Amendment; "yes" on the Lummis Amendment; "yes" on the Motion to Recommit; "no" on Final Passage.

In addition, I would have voted: "no" on the Republican Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 4348; "yes" on the Democratic Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 4348.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall Nos. 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, and 344. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote Nos. 320, 321, 325, 327, 329, 330, 331, 340, 341 and 344. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote Nos. 319, 322, 323, 324, 326, 328, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 342, and 343.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 436, HEALTH CARE COST REDUCTION ACT OF 2012, AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5882, LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 112–518) on the resolution (H. Res. 679) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 436) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the excise tax on medical devices, and providing for consideration of 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 House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BISHOP of Utah). 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. 5855.

Will the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WEST) kindly take the chair.

□ 1839

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. 5855) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes, with Mr. WEST (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose earlier today, 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. 5855

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 the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I

DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS

DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY AND EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Secretary of Homeland Security, as authorized by section 102 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 112), and executive management of the Department of Homeland Security, as authorized by law, $121,850,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed $45,000 shall be for official reception and representation expenses, of which $17,000 shall be made available to the Office of Policy for Visa Waiver Program negotiations in Washington, DC, and for other international activities: *Provided further*, That all official costs associated with the use of government aircraft by Department of Homeland Security personnel to support official travel of the Secretary and the Deputy Secretary shall be paid from amounts made available for the Immediate Office of the Secretary and the Immediate Office of the Deputy Secretary: *Provided further*, That $5,000,000 shall not be available for obligation by the Office of General Counsel until a final rule for aircraft repair station security has been published: *Provided further*, That $71,079,000 shall not be available for obligation until the Secretary of Homeland Security submits to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives all statutorily required reports and plans that are due with the submission of the President's budget proposal for fiscal year 2014 pursuant to the requirements of section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit the consolidation plan, as directed under the heading ''Consolidation of Weapons of Mass Destruction Defense Programs'' in the accompanying report, not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. FLAKE

Mr. FLAKE. I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 2, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $50,000)''.

Page 7, line 13, after the first dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $43,000)''.

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

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Chairman, this amendment is straightforward. It would reduce funding for the Office of the Secretary by $50,000 and transfer a revenue neutral amount to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection salaries and expenses.

This is a nominal cut from the Secretary's nearly $122 million in funding, again only slightly more than the committee provided for the Secretary to spend on receptions this year. I offer this amendment as a means of bringing up an important issue both to Congress and to the Secretary's attention.

Let me start by thanking the chairman and the ranking member for their attention to border issues in this bill, as well as the staff's assistance in bringing this amendment to the floor. In the report accompanying last year's Homeland Security appropriations bill, the committee directed the Department to provide a ''resource allocation and staffing model for ports of entry.'' As would appear to be the trend with congressional requests for information, answers to these questions or budget documentation were never provided. The Department either failed to prioritize or simply ignored the request.

The committee report notes:

As the committee has not yet received the CBP workload staffing allocation model, the committee cannot assess CBP's identified needs.

As we are all no doubt aware, funding for border security efforts between the

ports of entry has increased exponentially over recent years—and justifiably so—while the budget for Customs and Border Patrol officers at the ports has not kept pace.

When I travel on the border region, there are often concerns raised at that point that there is insufficient staffing at the ports. Those serving at the ports of entry have a dual role. They have to facilitate commerce across the border and prevent unauthorized people from crossing the border.

I could talk at length about the benefits of cross-border trade for communities along the border, but let me cite just a couple of examples. Focusing on the southern border, Mexico is the third-largest U.S. trading partner and the second-largest U.S. export market, with a reported 6 million U.S. jobs depending on trade with Mexico.

The executive director of the Arizona-Mexico Commission was recently quoted saying:

> Arizona's border is the gateway for some $26 billion worth of imports and exports and some 44 million people each year.

A recent Maricopa Association of Governments release cited that legal Mexican visitors spend roughly $7.3 million a day in Arizona, and Arizona businesses exported nearly $6 billion in goods in 2011. So there are benefits all over for trade of this type.

The Mariposa port of entry in Nogales is one of the largest ports of entry for fruits and vegetables in the U.S. In 2011, the U.S. imported 13.4 billion pounds of fresh produce grown in Mexico, and more than a third of that entered through Nogales.

To summarize, we have to have better staffing at these ports. The Department has been asked to provide us with their needs and they simply won't. We simply haven't been able to get that information.

I'm the last member of the Appropriations Committee that would support writing a blank check to any department, but we have got to make sure that these needs are met, and that's why this amendment is critical, and I am grateful to the chairman and ranking minority member for working with me on it.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

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

Mr. ADERHOLT. I rise in support of the gentleman's amendment. The Secretary has failed to submit critical reports necessary for this committee's oversight, including workload staffing models for CBP officers. Therefore, we do accept the gentleman from Arizona's amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. MOORE

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

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

> Page 2, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $3,000,000)''.
>
> Page 9, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $4,800,000)''.

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

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Chairman, the purpose of my amendment is to restore $3 million to the Department of Homeland Security Office of Civil Rights and Liberties. This amendment would simply level fund this account at the fiscal year 2012 level.

Mr. Chairman, it troubles me to see the continued rollout of Secure Communities and increase in funding for these 287(g) programs in the underlying bill, especially juxtaposed with a 13 percent decrease in funding for the office of Civil Rights and Liberties. Experts and officials across the country have concerns about these programs that shift Federal immigration laws into the hands of local police.

I have a letter from 88 civil rights organizations urging the Federal Bureau of Investigation to ''end its facilitation of the fundamentally flawed Secure Communities deportation program.'' The letter states:

> Secure Communities has caused widespread controversy because it threatens public safety, encourages racial profiling, undermines community policing, and serves as a deportation dragnet, ensnaring anyone who is booked into police custody.

As cochair of the Women's Caucus, I am particularly concerned when I hear stories of the effects this program has on victims across our communities. Women and their children are increasingly afraid to go to local police to get confidential help, to call 911 during an emergency because they are terrified of being caught in this dragnet.

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For many, suffering through an abusive situation is better than watching their families being torn apart. Mr. Chairman, these are real people who are victims or witnesses to domestic violence or other crimes, but they cannot come forward.

According to an October 2011 report by the UC Berkeley Law School's Warren Institute, more than one-third of individuals arrested in this program report that they have a U.S. citizen spouse or child. In other words, an estimated 88,000 families with U.S. citizen members have been impacted by Secure Communities. The same report found that Latinos comprise 93 percent of the individuals arrested in this program, despite only compromising 77 percent of the population.

Mr. Chairman, I suggest that this is not the America we want to create. We should all be able to agree that we don't want to see an America where victims are afraid of the police or an America where racial profiling is encouraged or tolerated.

Now, I understand, Mr. Chairman, that some of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle believe that increasing enforcement policies is the right approach to solve our broken immigration system. With that being said, I appeal to my colleagues to support efforts by the Department of Homeland Security to ensure adequate oversight of this program.

Steps that the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Civil Rights and Liberties have taken and will take to:

Analyze arrest data to make sure that there are no serious indications of racial profiling in any of the participating communities;

Help improve training for local law enforcement officers to reduce confusion and ensure that there are clear guidelines to prevent misuse of the program;

To inform the public about options they have and recourses they can use if their civil liberties are violated by department action; and, finally,

To help investigate and resolve cases where an individual alleges that their rights were violated.

I support these important efforts towards promoting accountability and oversight over these enforcement programs, and I urge my colleagues to support this amendment. It is fully offset, as is required of this appropriations process, and it is not an increase in this program, but it simply level funds it at 2012 levels.

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

MARCH 8, 2012.

R. SCOTT TRENT,

CJIS Designated Federal Officer, Criminal Justice Information Services Division, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. TRENT: We, the undersigned, call on the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to end its facilitation of the fundamentally flawed Secure Communities deportation program. We urge the FBI's Criminal Justice Information Services Advisory Policy Board (APB) to adopt the attached proposal to mitigate the damage this program has done to public safety and community policing. The proposal would respect the wishes of states and localities that chose not to participate in ''Secure Communities'' and would prevent the implementation of the program in jurisdictions with a documented pattern of civil rights abuses.

Secure Communities is a wide-sweeping deportation program launched in 2008 by the Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency. It has been sharply criticized by the governors and state legislators of Illinois, New York, and Massachusetts; local officials from numerous cities and counties, including the District of Columbia, Los Angeles, Chicago, and San Francisco; dozens of Congressional representatives; many prominent law enforcement officials; hundreds of immigrant rights, criminal justice, and privacy advocates; religious leaders; and community members.

As described in more detail in the attached proposal, Secure Communities has caused widespread controversy because it threatens public safety, encourages racial profiling, undermines community policing, and serves

as a deportation dragnet, ensnaring anyone who is booked into police custody.

The FBI plays a large role in Secure Communities by automatically initiating the immigration background check that sets the deportation process in motion for anyone booked into police custody. The CJIS APB approved this process almost two years ago, well before the problems caused by Secure Communities came to light. It is urgent that in the upcoming August 2012 meeting, the APB Working Groups consider the newly disclosed information regarding the fatal flaws in this program, and adopt the attached proposal to mitigate the damage.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please contact Jessica Karp at 213–380–2214 or jkarp@ndlon.org with any questions or information about the status of this request.

Sincerely,

Alliance for a Just Society; American Friends Service Committee; Angels For Action; Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund; Asian Law Caucus; Bill of Rights Defense Committee; Black Alliance for Just Immigration; Blauvelt Dominican Sisters Social Justice Committee; Bronx Defenders; CAAAV Organizing Asian Communities; Casa Esperanza; Casa Freehold; CATA The Farmworker's Support Committee; Center for Constitutional Rights; Central American Refugee Center—New York; Central American Resource Center—Houston; CHIRLA, Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles; Coalicion de Organizaciones Latino-Americanas (COLA); Community Service Organization; Creating Law Enforcement Accountability and Responsibility; Defending Dissent Foundation; Detention Watch Network; Disciples Justice Action Network; Drug Policy Alliance.

El Comite de Apoyo a los Trabajadores Agricolas; Franciscan Action Network; Grassroots Leadership; Graton Day Labor Center; Hayward Day Labor Center; Hispanic Resource Center of Mamaroneck; Houston's America for All; Houston Peace and Justice Center; Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights; Immigrant Defense Project; Immigrant Legal Resource Center; Immigration Circle of Justice, Sisters of St. Dominic, Blauvelt, NY; Immigration Justice Clinic of John Jay Legal Services, Inc.; inMotion; IRATE & First Friends; Ironbound Community Corporation; Junta for Progressive Action; Kathryn O. Greenberg Immigration Justice Clinic, Cardozo School of Law; Labor Council For Latin American Advancement Central Florida Chapter; Labor Justice Committee; Latino Foundation; Legal Aid Justice Center's Immigrant Advocacy Program; Make the Road by Walking New York; Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition.

Mennonite Central Committee East Coast; Mennonite Central Committee U.S. Washington Office; Muslim Legal Fund of America; National Day Labor Organizing Network; National Employment Law Project; National Guestworker Alliance; National Immigration Law Center; National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild; National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights; Neighbors in Support of Immigrants; New Orleans Workers Center for Racial Justice; New Sanctuary Coalition NYC; New York Immigration Coalition; Passaic County Coalition for Immigrant Rights; Presente.org; Prison Activist Resource Center; Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada; Progressive States Network; Pueblo Sin Fronteras; Puente Arizona; Queer Women of Color Media Arts Project (QWOCMAP); Rights Working Group; Rockland immigration coalition; Restaurant Opportunities Center of New York; Services, Immigrant Rights & Education Network; South Asian Americans Leading Together (SAALT); Tenants and Workers United; The Reformed Church of Highland Park Immigration Committee; The Workplace Project; United Methodist Church, General Board of Church and Society; VivirLatino; Voces de la Frontera; Voces Unidas Por los Inmigrantes; WeCount!; Welcome Everybody Organization; Wind of the Spirit, Immigrant Resource Center, NJ; Workers Defense Project; Young Workers United.

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

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

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I'm going to have to rise to oppose the gentlelady's amendment.

The problem with the amendment is it guts the immigration enforcement and it demoralizes the frontline law enforcement personnel. This amendment would actually empower more bureaucrats from Washington to look over the shoulders of the hardworking officers in the field that are trying to keep us safe.

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

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

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

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this amendment to restore funding for the Office of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties in order to ensure that both the 287(g) program and the Secure Communities program are not illegally profiling individuals.

The bill before us funds the Office of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties at a level that is $2.2 million below the budget request and $3 million below current year funding. Now, we're in a tight fiscal environment, we all know that, but surely we can meet the needs of our frontline personnel without jeopardizing the proper and robust and careful oversight of the activities provided by the Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Office.

In fact, at the same time this bill is reducing funding for oversight, it's actually increasing funding for the controversial and all-too-often mismanaged 287(g) program. Three different audits by the DHS inspector general have found serious concerns about the 287(g) program, and ICE has had to terminate some 287(g) task forces, notably in Maricopa County, Arizona, after the Justice Department documented clear racial profiling and other programmatic abuses. So we need to make sure this authority is being exercised properly, and that's exactly the task of the Office of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties.

So I thank the gentlewoman for offering this amendment. It's a good amendment, and I urge colleagues to support it.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

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

Ms. MOORE. 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 Wisconsin will be postponed.

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 2, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $3,655,500)''.

Page 3, line 23, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $6,393,840)''.

Page 5, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $1,492,290)''.

Page 5, lines 22 and 23, after each dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $7,246,290)''.

Page 6, line 8, after the first dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $9,522,000)''.

Page 6, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $3,277,920)''.

Page 11, line 21, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $157,089,930)''.

Page 15, line 23, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $151,236,900)''.

Page 19, line 4, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $3,792,540)''.

Page 19, line 11, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $5,772,720)''.

Page 19, line 18, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $27,859,890)''.

Page 20, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $26,388,000)''.

Page 29, line 14, after the first dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $46,681,650)''.

Page 32, line 9, after the first dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $1,359,630)''.

Page 33, line 8, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $5,741,400)''.

Page 35, line 10, after each dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $3,960,090)''.

Page 36, line 4, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $21,376,950)''.

Page 51, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $3,357,720)''.

Page 52, line 20, after the first dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $6,854,010)''.

Page 54, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $3,900,000)''.

Page 55, line 19, after the first dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $1,140,000)''.

Page 99, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $498,099,270)''.

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

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, this amendment would reduce the administrative salaries in the expense accounts in the underlying bill by just 3 percent, with the exception of the U.S. Coast Guard. It does not affect their expenses.

Our Nation is facing a total economic meltdown, and now more than ever it is apparent that we have to stop the outrageous spending that's going on here in Washington, D.C.

Over the last 2 years, House Members have voted to reduce their own administrative accounts—their Members' Representational Allowances—by more than 11 percent. Yet over that same period of time, many agencies have seen minimal reductions and, in some cases, even increases in their accounts.

For a good example, the TSA has only experienced a 3.5 percent cut over the last 2 years. I know many of my colleagues can agree that the TSA has not only been a complete and utter failure, but it also has been a colossal waste of taxpayer money, amounting to almost $60 billion.

Moreover, TSA personnel have not prevented the first terrorist attack from happening on American soil. In fact, at least 17 known terrorists have flown in the United States more than 24 different times. Yet this year, TSA screener personnel will receive increased funding for their compensation and benefits that totals more than $30 million above fiscal year 2012. This is totally unacceptable.

Another example I'd like to point to in the underlying bill is funding for a brand new agency called the Office of Biometric Identity Management. This new office will receive almost $200 million for their administrative salaries and expense accounts. Mr. Chairman, we need to be looking for areas where we can make cuts, not for opportunities to grow the size and scope of the Federal Government.

Now, certainly we can all agree that many of the offices, agencies, and individuals employed by the Department of Homeland Security are very deserving of the pay for which they receive but, Mr. Chairman, let's be realistic. If we are serious about reducing spending and reducing our deficit, we have to ask every agency to follow Congress' lead and take a small reduction in their administrative funding instead of asking for increases or trying to create new programs.

To be clear, a 3 percent reduction in these accounts would, in many cases, still result in less than a 10 percent reduction in funding from FY11 levels.

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While this amount is small, it would pay dividends, huge dividends, resulting in nearly a half a billion dollars in savings in this bill alone.

It is long past time to get serious about spending, Mr. Chairman, and this amendment represents a balanced way to achieve significant savings. I urge my colleagues to support my amendment and to reduce spending in these accounts by just a mere 3 percent.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

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

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I rise to reluctantly oppose my good friend from Georgia's amendment. I think he makes some very good points, but one thing, as I had mentioned in the debate this afternoon and the general debate, this is the third fiscal year in a row that the bill has tried to work at cutting already.

Fiscal discipline and funding for homeland needs are the two most important things. And as I said earlier, that fiscal discipline is something that is a very important aspect of this bill. The bill actually has a decrease of $484 million below last year's bill, and it is $394 million below the President's request.

As I had mentioned earlier this afternoon, we do think that we need to be very much mindful of the situation we find ourselves in in this country. But bear in mind that we have cut, we have reached a delicate balance to make sure that we make sure frontline operations are secure, that they are operating at a level that we can make sure that our Nation is secure.

The Office of the Secretary, for example, has been cut 9 percent below the President's request, and it's 8 percent below the FY 2012 act.

This is the 10th year anniversary of the establishment of the Department of Homeland Security, and certainly we've got to make sure that our Department is strong, it has strong management. My concern is that this amendment would undermine that goal. And so I would ask Members to oppose this amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

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

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I want to second the remarks of our chairman. I think this is an amendment that, while well-intentioned in certain respects, is not one that we can or should accept.

I know it's easy to target management and administrative costs. They sometimes lack concreteness. They lack a consistency. But, as a matter of fact, we depend on these management and administrative functions to run the Department. And at the end of the day, cutting those functions will, indeed, affect frontline operations. We should make no mistake about that.

In my opinion, this bill already cuts administrative functions by imprudent amounts. It already slashes funding for offices at the departmental level, for example, by 21 percent below the administration's request.

So while this amendment may be appealing to some, I believe it's unwise, and I urge colleagues to oppose it.

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

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. 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 Georgia 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 2, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $10,000,000)''.

Page 6, line 8, after the first dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $25,000,000)''.

Page 15, line 23, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $15,000,000)''.

Page 16, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $15,000,000)''.

Page 37, line 18, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $50,000,000)''.

Mr. HOLT (during the reading). Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading of this amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Chairman, I thank the chair of this subcommittee and the ranking member for the work they've put into this.

I rise with an amendment that is designed to ensure that our rail and transit systems have the additional resources, or at least some of the additional resources, that they need to help thwart any potential terrorist attacks on buses and trains.

Now, just over a year ago, when our forces raided Osama bin Laden's compound, they discovered materials in his hideout indicating that he was planning attacks on rail and transit systems, and we have no reason to believe that al Qaeda's remnants have abandoned any such plans. As we've seen repeatedly, the threat is very real.

Since 2004, terrorist cells have conducted successful and deadly bombings on major passenger rail systems in Spain, the United Kingdom, India, Belarus, with over 600 people killed, thousands wounded. And despite this threat, over the last few years, our country has been backsliding in providing our rail and transit systems the resources they need.

In years past, rail and transit security funding had its own line item in the budget. But a couple of years ago, it was rolled into the overall State and local grant programs, and it's funding has been slashed, and slashed is not an overstatement, from a previous high of $300 million, down to only about $88 million this past year.

The large reduction was made in the face of an existing $6 billion in rail and transit security funding needs identified by rail and transit operators around the Nation, as reported by the American Public Transportation Association.

My amendment addresses part of this shortfall by moving a total of $50 million from three accounts—Overall Management and Administration, Intelligence and Analysis, and the Transportation Security Administration—to the State and Local Programs Grant Account for the express purpose of increasing funding available for rail and transit security grants. I propose these moves reluctantly, but we need the funding in the transit security. This would bring to $138 million the account for rail security, well above the $88 million currently there, but well below the $300 million that only a few years ago was the funding level.

This amendment actually saves the taxpayer $36 million because of the difference in the account spend-down rates. It's a responsible amendment, I believe, that addresses a crucial vulnerability in our rail and transit security posture, and I ask support for this amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

AMERICAN PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION,
June 6, 2012.

Hon. RUSH HOLT,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE HOLT: On behalf of the 1,500 members of the American Public Transportation Association, I am writing to express our support for your amendment to H.R. 5855, the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2013. The amendment aims to restore critical funding for the public transportation security grant program.

Sharp decreases in public transportation security grant funding over the past several federal budget cycles have hampered the ability of transit agencies to make needed capital security improvements throughout their systems. Decreases in transit security funding could not be more ill timed as transit ridership continues to soar. In 2011, more than 10.4 billion trips were taken on public transportation as Americans commuted to work, school, medical appointments and their houses of worship. This trend has continued as dozens of transit agencies across the country have set ridership records over the first quarter of 2012. We must do all we can to ensure the safety and security of our riders and transit workers. We urge Congress to support your amendment and increase vital funding for the public transportation security grant program.

Thank you for your continued support of public transportation, and we look forward to working with you on this and future legislation. If you have any questions, please have your staff contact Brian Tynan of APTA's Government Affairs Department at (202) 496–4897 or email btynan@apta.com. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

MICHAEL P. MELANIPHY,
President & CEO.

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

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

Mr. ADERHOLT. The bill that we have before us that we have brought to the floor is something that has already cut programs substantially across the board. But the way that we have cut it, we feel, is responsible and manageable.

Some of the cuts that we have had in here—the Office of Secretary, as I had mentioned earlier, has been cut by 9 percent below the request, 8 percent below FY 2012, and it is 18 percent below the FY 2010 level. The bill has reduced management to a bare minimum, with decrease in most offices, including General Counsel.

The bill has already cut TSA management by $60 million, and $20 million is cut in the Aviation Security Account.

This amendment that the gentleman from New Jersey is bringing up, by taking $15 million more from this account, will impair TSA's ability to manage its aviation security missions and is also simply not responsible. The amendment would slash funding for the Department's intelligence programs, which represent a core homeland security capability.

For grants, the bill provides $2.8 billion for Homeland Security first responder grants, $400 million more than provided in FY 2012. Of that, the bill provides $1.8 billion for the Secretary to provide to programs that address the highest need, based on the threat and based on risk.

Breaking out specific grants, as this amendment does, funds projects for various programs without an overreaching lens. The consolidation of this bill forces the Secretary to examine the intelligence and risk and put scarce dollars where they are needed most. I would urge my colleagues to vote ''no'' on this amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

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

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. I want to commend our colleague from New Jersey for offering an amendment that takes explicit account of the need for robust funding for State and local grant programs, including those aimed at rail and transit security.

As I noted as this debate began, we are indebted to Chairman ADERHOLT and to the majority for increasing the funding for these grants in this fiscal year 2013 bill over the 2012 levels; but as the gentleman from New Jersey has noted, this funding is against a baseline that has been significantly reduced in the previous 2 fiscal years.

I was privileged to serve as the chairman of this subcommittee in the years 2007–2010. We worked very hard in those years to provide robust funding for important grant programs, and we increased the funding for FEMA first responder grants by $1 billion between fiscal '07 and fiscal '10. Unfortunately, these programs are now under threat. Since 2010, funding for FEMA grants has been cut by nearly 50 percent to a total level of $1.3 billion for fiscal 2012. Those cuts are shortsighted and they're dangerous, and I have said so repeatedly.

After all, local governments are the first responders to terrorist attacks, natural disasters, and other major emergencies. Local law enforcement, fire, emergency, medical, as well as county public health and other publicity safety personnel, are responsible for the on-the-ground response and recovery action. Local communities or public entities own, operate, and secure essential aspects of our Nation's infrastructure, of our ports and transit systems, of our water supplies, and of our schools and hospitals. So, plainly put, these grants protect our communities and are vitally important in our ability to detect, deter, and respond to a variety of threats and disasters.

As the gentleman from New Jersey has stressed, our rail and transit systems are an important part of this network, and they are in many cases very much in need of the kind of funding that this bill has provided and should provide. I reluctantly add, though, Mr. Chairman, that there are problems with these offsets, and I will repeat what the chairman has said about some of the cuts that are included in these bills, these important accounts:

The Secretary's office, that may seem an easy thing to cut, but this bill already reduces the Secretary's office by 9 percent. Analysis and Intelligence, this bill already cuts this by 8 percent. Then TSA aviation security has one of the largest cuts in this bill. It's $212 million below the 2012 levels.

There are very few good places to turn, I realize. We're so often in a position of trading off worthwhile objectives, but I do feel bound both to commend the gentleman for calling our attention to these grant programs and the need for robust funding, but also to highlight some of the problems with the offsets in this particular amendment.

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

Mr. HOLT. 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 New Jersey will be postponed.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR MANAGEMENT

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Management, as authorized by sections 701 through 705 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 341 through 345), $213,128,000, of which not to exceed $2,500 shall be for official reception and

representation expenses: *Provided*, That of the total amount made available under this heading, $5,448,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2017, solely for the alteration and improvement of facilities, tenant improvements, and relocation costs to consolidate Department headquarters operations at the Nebraska Avenue Complex; and $9,689,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2015, for the Human Resources Information Technology program: *Provided further*, That $124,325,000 shall not be available for obligation until the Secretary of Homeland Security submits to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives all statutorily required reports and plans that are due with the submission of the President's budget proposal for fiscal year 2014 pursuant to the requirements of section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code: *Provided further*, That the Under Secretary for Management shall, pursuant to the requirements contained in House Report 112–331, submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives a Comprehensive Acquisition Status Report, including the information required under the heading ''Office of the Under Secretary for Management'' under title I of division D of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2012 (Public Law 112–74), with the President's budget proposal for fiscal year 2014 submitted pursuant to the requirements of section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, and quarterly updates to such report not later than 45 days after the completion of each quarter.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. GRIMM

Mr. GRIMM. 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 23, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $7,667,000)''.

Page 36, line 4, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $7,667,000)''.

Page 37, line 3, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $7,667,000)''.

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

Mr. GRIMM. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of my amendment that would fund the National Urban Search and Rescue Response System at $35.18 million, which is level with the Senate bill; but it still reflects a reduction of, roughly, $6 million from fiscal year 2012.

The National Urban Search and Rescue Response System provides a significant national resource for search and rescue assistance in the wake of major disasters and structural collapses. A typical US&R task force will conduct physical search and rescue operations, provide emergency medical care to trapped victims, assess and control hazards such as ruptured gas and electric lines, and evaluate and stabilize damaged structures.

Due to the critical life-saving nature of their missions, US&R task forces must be prepared to deploy within 6 hours of notification and must be self-sufficient for the first 72 hours. These teams have been deployed in response to the Joplin, Missouri, tornado, the Japanese tsunami, the Haiti earthquake, Hurricane Katrina, the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, the Oklahoma City bombing, the Turkey earthquakes, the grain elevator explosion in Wichita, Kansas, and many other foreign and domestic disasters.

In 2006, FEMA estimated the annual and recurring cost for each task force to be approximately $1.7 million. Today, in many jurisdictions, the cost exceeds $2 million. In addition to program management costs, this estimate includes expenses for training, for exercises, the medical monitoring of personnel, and equipment maintenance and storage. Current Federal funding for the Nation's US&R teams only provides a fraction of the funds necessary to maintain each task force, leaving local government sponsors to pick up the remainder of the cost and diverting much-needed funding away from local first responders' budgets.

The recent tornado in Joplin, Missouri, and the subsequent response underscored the importance of the national search and rescue capability. Providing proper funding for the National Urban Search and Rescue Response System will help ensure that these highly skilled teams are available to respond to major emergencies without jeopardizing the budget priorities for local first responders.

Therefore, I urge you to vote ''yes'' on my amendment and to properly fund this critical program.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. GRIMM. I yield to the gentleman from Alabama.

Mr. ADERHOLT. We will accept the amendment of the gentleman of New York.

Mr. GRIMM. If I can reclaim my time, I just want to thank a friend and colleague, Mr. CONNOLLY, for all of his work in joining me in this effort. I just wanted to say thank you very much.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. I move to strike the last word.

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

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. I want to thank the distinguished chairman and the ranking member and my colleague Mr. GRIMM from New York for this thoughtful amendment and for accepting it.

Fairfax County, which I represent, has one of the outstanding US&R teams in the world. As my colleague from New York indicated, they have served both here in the United States in many, many manmade and natural tragedies, as well as around the world in saving lives. This is a great partnership between local governments and the Federal Government, and it's one that we desperately need to be enhanced.

So I very much thank the majority and the minority leaders for accepting this thoughtful amendment. I am proud to join with my colleague, Mr. GRIMM, in cosponsoring this amendment as an original cosponsor, and I am delighted it's going to be adopted.

I yield back the balance of my time.

I am pleased to join my colleague, Congressman GRIMM, in sponsoring this amendment to restore funding for our nation's elite Urban Search and Rescue, USAR, Teams. Our simple common sense amendment would restore about half of the reduction proposed by the Committee, matching the level of the Senate markup, and it has the support of the International Association of Fire Fighters and the National Association of Police Organizations.

When earthquake survivors are trapped in the rubble of a collapsed building, the window of survivability is measured in hours. Without highly-trained responders, rescue attempts can imperil victims and rescuers alike. Thankfully, we have made strategic investments in specialized USAR teams. These elite firefighters and emergency medical technicians are not just first responders. For people awaiting rescue, they are the last hope.

Prior to coming to Congress, I served 14 year on the Fairfax County, Virginia, Board of Supervisors, and for 9 of those years, I shared my office with a fire station. I saw daily the selfless dedication of the men and women who put their lives at risk every day in service to others.

Fairfax County is home to one of nation's outstanding USAR teams. In partnership with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the U.S. Agency for International Development, and the local county government, the Fairfax team serves U.S. interests at home and abroad. It is comprised of highly-skilled career and volunteer fire and rescue personnel, whose daily duties are to serve the Fairfax community by responding to local fire and medical emergencies.

When called into service by DHS, the Fairfax team, designated as Virginia Task Force One, is mobilized for quick response to domestic disasters, natural or manmade, with special expertise in collapsed building rescue. Our team was deployed to Oklahoma City in the wake of the 1995 bombing, and it was among the first on the scene at the Pentagon on September 11, 2001. It also was dispatched to Mississippi and Louisiana in response to Hurricane Katrina in 2005. The team has answered the call for help in multiple states, including California, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, North Carolina, Texas, Florida, Kansas, Georgia, Massachusetts, New York, and New Jersey. In addition, the Fairfax Team deployed and was on call during the Presidential Inauguration in 2009, the Republican National Convention in Minnesota in 2008, the Democratic National Convention in Massachusetts in 2004, and the Olympic Games in Utah in 2002 and Georgia in 1996.

Fairfax and other USAR teams also have answered the call to respond to disasters abroad under the direction of USAID. In the past 2 years alone, the Fairfax Team, designated as USAR Team One, has deployed to offer rescue and recovery assistance following the devastating earthquake in Haiti and Japan. In 1998, the Team deployed to Kenya in response to the bombings at the U.S. embassy. Throughout its more than 20 years of operation, USAR Team One has carried the banner for America's diplomatic efforts in response to disasters in Armenia, the Philippines, Italy, Turkey, Taiwan, Mozambique, the Czech Republic, Iran, Morocco, Pakistan, Bolivia, Peru, Honduras, Burma, China, Panama, and Chile.

When disaster strikes—whether natural or manmade, domestically or internationally—Fairfax and the other select USAR teams have rushed to the scene saving countless lives and property. Their heroic efforts have shown this to be a wise investment and one that ought to be maintained.

I urge my colleague to support the Grimm-Connolly amendment to ensure that this successful partnership with our local partners and first responders continues, so that when the next alarm is called, we can take comfort in knowing they are on the job.

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

The amendment was agreed to.

□ 1920

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. CLARKE OF MICHIGAN

Mr. CLARKE of Michigan. 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 23, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $10,000,000)''.

Page 37, line 18, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $10,000,000)''.

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

Mr. CLARKE of Michigan. Mr. Chairman, this amendment would add $10 million to State and local grant programs under this budget, and the offset would be from the management account.

I'm offering this amendment because our State and local units of government don't have the revenue to adequately protect our citizens in the event of a natural disaster or another emergency. The housing crisis has depressed housing values throughout this country and, as a result, has lowered the tax base from which State and local governments depend on raising their revenue.

I urge this House to approve this amendment to better prepare our State and local units of government for emergencies and other natural disasters and terrorist attacks which could occur.

I appreciate your support, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the gentleman's amendment.

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

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, as I have stated earlier, this bill provides $2.8 billion for Homeland Security first responder grants, $400 million more than provided in FY12. Of that, the bill provides $1.8 billion for the Secretary to provide to programs that address the highest need based on threat and based on risk.

The funding for grants has been a high priority for our bill this year, and we believe there's adequate funding for grants. Like I said, I would reluctantly have to oppose the gentleman's amendment.

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

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

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

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I rise to commend the gentleman from Michigan for his attention to the need for robust grant programs, FEMA grant programs for State and local governments and their various emergency preparedness functions.

As we said earlier with respect to Mr. HOLT's amendment, these programs have been underfunded in recent years. We're doing better this year in this bill, but we're building on a depleted base. So I commend him for his attention to this.

At the same time, I feel bound to say that the offset is problematic. The Under Secretary for Management—I know that sounds like an easy target. But with the Grimm-Connolly amendment that we just adopted, by my calculation, that brings the Under Secretary for Management $30 million below the 2012 level. That's 12 percent. It is a cut that, in my opinion, we can ill afford. That's already what we've done with this bill.

Eventually, management and administrative cuts do affect frontline operations. So I feel bound to say that, as we balance the equities here, the need for robust grant programs and for making them more robust wherever we can, but at the same time to preserve essential departmental functions.

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

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

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

Mr. CLARKE of Michigan. 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 Michigan will be postponed.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. POE OF TEXAS

Mr. POE of Texas. 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 23, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $10,000,000)''.

Page 9, line 14, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $10,000,000)''.

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I offer this amendment along with my friend from Pennsylvania, Mr. ALTMIRE.

This amendment takes $10 million from the Office of the Under Secretary of Management of DHS and moves it to the border security, fencing infrastructure, and technology account with the purpose of being used for border cell phone communication infrastructure to help border residents disseminate border security-related information to the Border Patrol and law enforcement for their protection and the security of the border.

Mr. Chairman, the history goes back to March 27, 2010, when, in Arizona, Rob Krentz was murdered 20 miles north of the border in an isolated area in Arizona. The lack of communications capability made Krentz more vulnerable than he would have been otherwise and complicated the search for the assailant. His wife, Sue—who I've talked to on numerous occasions—believes that he was in a cell phone dead zone when he was killed and that he was trying to call for help at the time of his murder.

Before leaving office, Congresswoman Giffords had been working diligently on this specific issue. I became involved with her staff when they took the time to show me around the Arizona border and introduced me to the Krentz widow, Sue. I thank Gabby Giffords for her work on this issue, bringing it to my attention and other Members of Congress, and wish her well.

Mr. Chairman, these dead zones are so common that oftentimes border ranchers in Arizona and in Texas rely on shortwave radios to communicate or call for help.

The inability of the U.S. Government to secure the U.S.-Mexico border creates public safety hazards for residents who live on the border and the law enforcement agents who patrol them. Many border areas are rural and lack wireless communication capabilities like cellular phone service, making border security a public safety issue.

Last year, I worked with Congresswoman Giffords and Representative ALTMIRE to pass a similar amendment to the Department of Homeland Security bill. We received overwhelming support in this House with a vote of 327–93, and I urge the House to support this initiative again.

However, the omnibus bill passed later that year weakened this provision to make it a mere suggestion for DHS to solve this problem. Despite that language, the Department of Homeland Security has done very little if anything to address this issue. More work needs to be done, and there is a large number of dead zones along our southern border. That's why this amendment is offered again this year.

Rural areas along the border present a unique public safety challenge that can be addressed through the extension of wireless communications into those areas. An additional $10 million can be used to enhance wireless communication capabilities that would allow residents to report threats against them and instances of illegal activities to law enforcement. Such capabilities would enhance communications among our law enforcement and our border protectors.

Richard Stana, Director of Homeland Security Issues at the Government Accountability Office, recently told the

Senate Homeland Security Committee that, as it stands right now, we have the ability to prevent or stop illegal entries into the U.S. for only 129 miles of the 1,954-mile U.S. border with Mexico. He continued to say that we have achieved, ''an acceptable level of control'' on 873 miles of the border. Whatever ''acceptable level of control'' means, I'm not sure.

In any event, that means 1,081 miles of the United States' border is a wide-open space, Mr. Chairman, and we simply cannot stop illegal crossings of any kind in those areas. The United States doesn't control that area of the border. Mexico does not either. I suspect it's the drug cartels that control that area of our sovereignty.

If the Federal Government is not going to secure the border, the least we can do is give the border residents a chance to call for help when they need help. Ten million dollars will go a long way in helping American citizens have a safer place to live and also allow them to communicate with law enforcement.

The Office of the Under Secretary of Management for DHS is funded at $213 million in the bill, and $10 million is a 4.5 percent reduction in that account. I think, as the ranking member said, to balance the equities, we need public safety as opposed to more funding for the Under Secretary for Management.

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

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

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

Mr. ALTMIRE. Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank my friend, Congressman POE, for his strong leadership on this issue and for again working with me this year to highlight the critical importance of expanded mobile communications along our southern border.

□ 1930

Last year I had the opportunity to visit the district of our former colleague, Gabrielle Giffords, in southwestern Arizona, where I met with customs and Border Patrol agents, examined construction of the border fence and spoke with ranchers and residents who live and work in the remote areas along the U.S.-Mexico border. In rural areas along that border, cell phone service is virtually nonexistent, and where service does exist, it's often unreliable. Some ranchers even have to resort to communicating through the use of two-way radios.

The lack of cell phone service presents an obvious safety issue for ranchers, as my friend, Congressman POE outlined, and it's a safety issue for residents and the National Guard troops who patrol that protected area. If a rancher feels threatened, he cannot currently call for help or alert law enforcement to the situation.

To address this issue, our amendment adds $10 million to the general account for border security fencing, infrastructure, and technology to expand mobile communications in remote areas along our southern border. These funds may be used by the Department of Homeland Security to enter into public-private partnerships which will provide a more reliable communications link between law enforcement officials and citizens who live and work in our border areas.

Last year, Congressman POE and I offered a similar amendment that passed with a strong bipartisan vote of 327–93. Despite its inclusion in last year's omnibus funding measure, little action to date has been taken by DHS to implement stronger cell coverage along the U.S.-Mexico border. I urge support of our amendment to show DHS that the safety of our southern border is a priority for this Congress.

This is a problem we can and must fix. Supporting this amendment will not increase spending, but what it will do is protect the public and increase the effectiveness of law enforcement in rural border areas.

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

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

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

Mr. ADERHOLT. I do commend the gentlemen from Texas and Pennsylvania for their attention to border security. Border security is a top priority with this subcommittee and with this chairman, but the amendment that is before us at this time proposes to cut the Department of Homeland Security to pay for cell towers to provide phone service, actually to the general public.

I am very sympathetic to the needs of rural communities. I represent a rural community and am certainly sympathetic to remote ranchers, but this is simply not a cost currently with the situation in this country that Homeland Security can bear.

This proposal would cut the Department's management functions below what is possible for our Nation's security. The bill already cuts the Office of Under Secretary for Management 4 percent below the request of the President and 11 percent below the FY12 level. It should be noted that this bill fully funds the Department's tactical communications.

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

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

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

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I rise also to oppose this amendment. I do so reluctantly, because I know that the need that Representative POE and Representative ALTMIRE are addressing is a real one. There are vast expanses of territory, including a lot of territory near the borders, that suffer from a lack of mobile communications.

We do need to work in concert with State and local governments and the private sector to address this need. This is not something, though, that this bill or the Department of Homeland Security can take on. It simply is not feasible. It is not a DHS function.

We need to work on it, but I think this remedy is flawed, and I, once again, say that I know it's an easy target to go after the administrative expenses of the Department, but in this case the Under Secretary for Management is already something like 12 percent below the 2012 level, that is, assuming the passage of the Grimm-Connolly amendment, and I do not think that further cuts can or should be sustained.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

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

Mr. POE of Texas. 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 Texas will be postponed.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. RUNYAN

Mr. RUNYAN. 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 23, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $5,000,000)''.

Page 41, line 22, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $5,000,000)''.

Page 41, line 23, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $2,500,000)''.

Page 41, line 25, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $2,500,000)''.

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

Mr. RUNYAN. Mr. Chairman, my amendment increases funding for the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grant by $2.5 million and Assistance to Firefighters Grants, restoring these programs to FY12 levels.

The funding increase is deficit neutral, as it is offset by a $5 million decrease to the Office of Under Secretary for Management. These grants provide vital funding to our Nation's first responders to help them adequately staff firehouses and to provide the necessary specialized equipment to protect our brave men and women.

With first responder budgets being slashed all around the country, this portion of funding will help ensure fire departments can adequately respond to our constituents' emergency. During this period of budgetary constraints, we must prioritize the programs we need the most.

My amendment clearly shows that our brave first responders are a priority. This amendment is endorsed by

the International Association of Fire Fighters and the International Association of Fire Chiefs.

I thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for helping me support this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CLARKE of Michigan. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

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

Mr. CLARKE of Michigan. I want to thank the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. RUNYAN) for offering this amendment.

I have joined him in a bipartisan fashion because our local units of governments need this money to be able to rehire their firefighters and to get the training equipment that they need to better prepare our firefighters to respond to a natural disaster or a terrorist attack.

I support this amendment. This will help cities like Detroit and other municipalities in metro Detroit that need to apply for these funds. This provides more money—back to the level in prior years—so that our communities can be safer.

Again, I want to commend the author of this amendment. He has my support. I'm honored to be on this amendment as a cosponsor.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

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

Mr. ADERHOLT. We accept the gentleman from New Jersey's amendment, considering this is only a $5 million cut.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from North Carolina is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. KISSELL. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this amendment. I appreciate my colleague from New Jersey for bringing this forward. With full support, I agree with him.

I would like to point out that, just for example, June 17 through 23, that week is EMS fire safety survival week. It's just one of the many weeks that we recognize our firemen for what they do for us and the importance of what they do for us. There is an image of 9/11, the firemen and what they did for our Nation in New York when we were attacked.

□ 1940

But that image is also recurring throughout the Nation, throughout the communities, when firemen come to our homes or come to our businesses or go to scenes of accidents. Anywhere our communities need them, the firemen go. This restoring of the grant is just something that we should do—and I'm glad that we are going to do it—to secure that bond to allow them the training and equipment that they need to take care of us. So this is an investment in them so they can take care of us.

I appreciate my colleague bringing this amendment forward. I'm very happy and proud to be on this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

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

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of firefighter grant programs. I applaud Chairman ADERHOLT for fully funding the budget request for these programs, that is, providing $670 million for the assistance to the Firefighter Grant Program equally divided between SAFER hiring grants and equipment grants.

I also commend the chairman for accepting the amendment our colleagues have just offered. Although, again, the offset is not what one would wish, this is a case, I think, where the consideration, the balance of values clearly leads us to bring this program to the present funding levels, which is what the amendment does.

We have approved in committee these firefighter grants and we've also approved the continuation of the waivers. That was my amendment in committee and I am pleased that we were able to adopt those—the economic hardship waivers that are currently in place.

The law traditionally permits SAFER grants only to be used to hire new firefighters. That provision makes sense when our economy is booming and local governments are in a position to hire new workers. But when the local budgets are continuing to shrink and some fire stations are closing their doors and others are laying off workers, FEMA needs the flexibility to use these grants to keep firefighters from being laid off in the first place. The administration has requested this, and FEMA Administrator Fugate testified to this need earlier this year during our appropriations hearings.

I believe strongly in the need to assist local fire departments and ensuring they have the personnel and equipment necessary to keep our communities safe. When I was chairman of the subcommittee from 2007–2010, we were able to more than double the funding for the SAFER program, reaching a peak of $410 million in fiscal year 2010.

It's regrettable that we're still not able to maintain that level because any cuts to firefighter grants do result in thousands of fewer firefighters on the job. They leave fewer departments able to maintain safe staffing levels and much less to add needed personnel. So we need to maintain this support.

The real challenge in many communities is not the reluctance of local governments to hire new personnel. It's the potential and actual layoffs of personnel, which would mean reduced levels of safety. So it's very important for us to maintain robust grant funding for these programs. It's going to help preserve public safety and security. In this bill we've provided for this. And this amendment adds to that.

So I urge its adoption, 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. RUNYAN).

The amendment was agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, as authorized by section 103 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 113), $49,743,000, of which $6,700,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2014 for financial systems modernization efforts: *Provided*, That $29,017,000 shall not be available for obligation until the Secretary of Homeland Security submits to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives all statutorily required reports and plans that are due with the submission of the President's budget proposal for fiscal year 2014 pursuant to the requirements of section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Chief Information Officer, as authorized by section 103 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 113), and Department-wide technology investments, $241,543,000; of which $116,870,000 shall be available for salaries and expenses; and of which $124,673,000, to remain available until September 30, 2015, shall be available for development and acquisition of information technology equipment, software, services, and related activities for the Department of Homeland Security.

ANALYSIS AND OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses for intelligence analysis and operations coordination activities, as authorized by title II of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 121 et seq.), $317,400,000; of which not to exceed $4,250 shall be for official reception and representation expenses; and of which $93,764,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2014.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.), $109,264,000, of which not to exceed $300,000 may be used for certain confidential operational expenses, including the payment of informants, to be expended at the direction of the Inspector General.

TITLE II

SECURITY, ENFORCEMENT, AND INVESTIGATIONS

U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for enforcement of laws relating to border security, immigration, customs, agricultural inspections and regulatory activities related to plant and animal imports, and transportation of unaccompanied minor aliens; purchase and lease of up to 7,500 (6,500 for replacement only) police-type vehicles; and contracting with individuals for personal services abroad; $8,366,024,000; of which $3,274,000 shall be derived from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund for administrative expenses related to the collection of the Harbor Maintenance Fee pursuant to section 9505(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C.

9505(c)(3)) and notwithstanding section 1511(e)(1) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 551(e)(1)); of which not to exceed $38,250 shall be for official reception and representation expenses; of which not less than $284,530,000 shall be for Air and Marine Operations; of which such sums as become available in the Customs User Fee Account, except sums subject to section 13031(f)(3) of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (19 U.S.C. 58c(f)(3)), shall be derived from that account; of which not to exceed $150,000 shall be available for payment for rental space in connection with preclearance operations; of which not to exceed $1,000,000 shall be for awards of compensation to informants, to be accounted for solely under the certificate of the Secretary of Homeland Security: *Provided*, That for fiscal year 2013, the overtime limitation prescribed in section 5(c)(1) of the Act of February 13, 1911 (19 U.S.C. 267(c)(1)) shall be $35,000; and notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds appropriated by this Act may be available to compensate any employee of U.S. Customs and Border Protection for overtime, from whatever source, in an amount that exceeds such limitation, except in individual cases determined by the Secretary of Homeland Security, or the designee of the Secretary, to be necessary for national security purposes, to prevent excessive costs, or in cases of immigration emergencies: *Provided further*, That the Border Patrol shall maintain an active duty presence of not less than 21,370 full-time equivalent agents protecting the borders of the United States in the fiscal year: *Provided further*, That $836,600,000 shall not be available for obligation until the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection submits to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives the multi-year investment and management plans that are due with the submission of the President's budget proposal for fiscal year 2014 as submitted pursuant to the requirements of section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. GRIJALVA

Mr. GRIJALVA. 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 13, after the first dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $30,000,000)''.

Page 9, line 14, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $30,000,000)''.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I reserve a point of order on the gentleman's amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The point of order is reserved.

The gentleman from Alabama is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GRIJALVA. I rise today to offer an amendment to the Department of Homeland Security appropriations bill that strengthens our efforts to have a secure and prosperous border. As you know, these issues are foremost in the thoughts of people across this country. As was noted by my friend and colleague from Arizona, Mr. FLAKE, his amendment acknowledged the reality that strengthening the ports of entry should be a national priority. His amendment was accepted as a means to begin to increase and pay attention to that national priority. It's a jobs issue, and it's a security issue.

Land ports of entry are the economic drivers for the U.S. economy and also the front line for facilitating legitimate trade and travel while preventing unauthorized entry and contraband from crossing the border. Along the nearly 2,000-mile border with Mexico, U.S. Customs and Border Protection carry out this mission in 42 land ports of entry located in Arizona, California, New Mexico, and Texas. While significant investments in the border have been made in recent years, including the opening of three new crossings in 2010, more is demanded.

Staffing at our land ports of entry have been severely overlooked, compromising our national and economic security. While a necessary buildup of border enforcement has occurred over the last 10 years, that proportional increase and attention to customs and ports of entry has not occurred.

It is estimated that in Arizona alone, our ports of entry need 500 additional officers to meet a staffing need: 250 at the port of entry in Nogales, 50 in Douglas, and 150 in San Luis. Nationwide there is a need for up to 5,000 additional CBP officers. These shortages are alarming and they have alarming consequences.

A 2008 GAO report said ''weakness in traveler inspections exists at our Nation's ports of entry.'' And according to this report: ''Field office managers said that staffing shortages created vulnerabilities in the inspections process.''

In 2008, the Department of Commerce found that the ''cumulative loss in output due to border delays over the next 10 years is estimated at $86 billion.'' Our economy and indeed our security will continue to be compromised unless we take strong measures.

My amendment seeks to redirect within the account of border infrastructure additional funds for the personnel sorely needed.

Let me just end by indicating some facts and points of reference. U.S.-Mexico bilateral trade reached nearly $400 billion in 2010. Mexico is the third-ranked commercial partner of the U.S. and second largest market for U.S. exports. Mexico spent $163 billion in U.S. goods in 2010. Twenty-two States count on Mexico as their number one or two export market, and it's the top five for 14 other States. One in every 24 workers in the Nation depends on U.S.-Mexico trade for their employment.

This is an issue of the economy. It's an issue about jobs. My amendment merely addresses a reality: from unobligated and enhancement funds within the budget to transfer $30 million to begin that initial step to bring our ports of entry and customs to a full force in terms of staffing and to begin to expedite legitimate trade and end long waiting periods, improve our economy, and, yes indeed, continue to provide the advanced security that we need on those borders.

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

□ 1950

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I insist on my point of order.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Alabama may state his point of order.

Mr. ADERHOLT. 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 outlays 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 be considered en bloc pursuant to clause 2(f) of rule XXI, an amendment must not propose to increase the levels of budget authority or outlays in the bill. Because the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona proposes a net increase in the level of outlays in the bill, as argued by the chairman of the Subcommittee on Appropriations, it may not avail itself of clause 2(f) to address portions of the bill not yet read.

The point of order is sustained.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. HAHN

Ms. HAHN. 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 13, after the first dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $10,000,000)''.

Page 55, line 2, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $24,250,000)''.

Page 55, line 4, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $24,250,000)''.

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

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Chairman, my amendment is simple. It would increase $10 million in funding to the Customs and Border Protection salaries and expense account and decrease funding of the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility by S&T for $24,250,000 in order to increase the staffing of CBP agents in our Nation's airports.

This amendment is intended to strengthen security and improve the American business advantage by putting more CBP agents in our airports so that they can handle the continuously growing number of travelers to this country.

My own district in California is bookended by two great economic engines of the Los Angeles region—the Port of Los Angeles at the southern end and the Los Angeles International Airport at the north. One of the common complaints I hear from LAX airport is that there are simply not enough Customs and Border Protection agents to effectively and efficiently process the amount of foreign visitors that enter this country every year. In fact, the delays at our country's airports have resulted in losing nearly $100 billion in economic output over the last 10 years.

If we want to continue being a top destination for immigrants, foreign

visitors, and businesspeople, we need to establish a welcoming presence to people who wish to visit this country. This means ensuring we have an efficient CBP staff that can continue to handle the growing number of people who visit this country.

In a letter sent from the L.A. World Airports to the United States Customs and Border Protection Commissioner, it states that:

> Insufficient CBP staff has triggered alarming delays for LAX international passengers waiting to be processed through customs and immigration.

And while this shortage referred to LAX airport, delays due to personnel shortages are prevalent throughout our entire country, and I think this is extremely disconcerting. These delays are weakening our competitiveness in the global market, slowing the pace of business, and impeding the commerce we need to fuel our economic recovery. This adds costs to our Nation's airlines and businesspeople.

What's more, we know if we overextend and overwork our already overheroically overperforming CBP personnel guarding the gateways to our Nation, they are more likely to miss things—something or someone is more likely to get through. They deserve support and numbers equal to the scale of the task that we are charging them with.

While I understand the intended purpose of the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility, the reality is that this facility was appropriated $75 million even though the President did not need nor request these funds. Additionally, DHS is still waiting for the recommended design modifications made by the National Academy of Sciences and for the administration to review the cost and scope of the project, which isn't anticipated to be completed until 2020.

I think these funds are better spent on increasing the security and promoting American commerce through our country's airports. The commerce that flows through our international airports powers our economy and keeps the United States a global leader in business. We need to preserve that commerce while protecting our homeland from those who would try to sneak through and do us harm.

I urge my colleagues to support what I think is a very important and crucial amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

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

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Chairman, I rise to join the gentlelady from California in this amendment to increase staffing funding for Customs and Border Protection.

This is a critical issue for our economic competitiveness. If our Nation is going to compete globally, we need to think of ports of entry as strategic assets and real opportunities to expand our economy. Without adequate resources and staffing, wait times at ports of entry grow longer and longer. And every minute, Mr. Chairman, that goods and people sit at the border waiting to cross is an opportunity lost. That's opportunities lost for American businesses, for manufacturers, and workers. In total, these long delays are projected to result in lost output of more than $86 billion over the next 10 years. In this tough economy, I don't think we can afford to lose these precious dollars.

And yet, despite the overwhelming need, increases in staffing in past years represent only a small fraction of what is needed to fully staff our ports of entry, according to the Government Accountability Office. To fully meet this need, we need to ensure that CBP has the resources it needs to get the job done. At a time when we need commerce to be moving full steam ahead to drive an economic recovery, we can't afford understaffing at our ports of entry.

Additional funding provided by this amendment to hire additional CBP officers will allow for faster processing times through ports of entry and allow more goods to flow through our borders. By facilitating trade, we not only support businesses and jobs, but we also add revenue, as CBP is the second largest source of revenue for the Treasury. It is only second to the Internal Revenue Service.

As my colleague has stated, the offset for this provision is a cut in funding for the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility, which was appropriated about $75 million in spite of the fact that the administration did not request these funds. The National Academy of Science is reviewing the security risk of revised design measures right now, and before that risk is fully mitigated, it's premature, I think, premature to appropriate additional funds, especially when funding for FY 2011 and FY 2012 remains unobligated. So this amendment, Mr. Chairman, will put these dollars to better use by promoting our economic growth, and I urge my colleagues to join us in supporting it.

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

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the gentlelady's amendment.

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

Mr. ADERHOLT. This bill already provides robust funding for border security operations. In fact, this year we increase CBP border security inspection and trade facilitation by $85 million above the President's request.

CBP border security is important, I totally agree, but let me mention that the funding that we've increased supports 21,186 CBP officers and other increases in the National Targeting Center and Global Entry, among other programs and initiatives, to increase efficiency in CBP operations.

CBP's budget faces real challenges. Seventy percent of CBP funds go for pay and benefits, up from 65 percent just last year.

□ 2000

This figure does not include costs associated with supporting frontline officers, such as equipment and facilities, much less new technology.

The committee report outlines opportunities for better managing fee funds and innovating CBP processes. Further, the Secretary has not yet submitted the workload staffing allocation model that will justify any additional CBP officer resources. Given these issues, it is not the time to increase CBP officer staffing.

I will say that it must be noted that the facility that would be cut, we have an immediate need to build up our capacity for research into pathogens that afflict animals and our food chain and, by extension, human beings. The Under Secretary for the Department for Science and Technology herself testified before our subcommittee that the threat of a biological attack through a large and vulnerable food chain is a top priority. She has confirmed that the NBAF facility is required to meet this threat. So the administration itself has said that this is very important.

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

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

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman will suspend. Does the gentlewoman ask unanimous consent to strike the last word?

Mr. HAHN. Yes.

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

Mr. ADERHOLT. I object.

The Acting CHAIR. Objection is heard.

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

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

Ms. JENKINS. Mr. Chairman, after an exhaustive review, the Department of Homeland Security chose Manhattan, Kansas, as the site for the new BSL–4 National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility. This will be the only such facility capable of researching large animals in the United States. The construction of this cutting-edge facility must move forward quickly so we can safely conduct critical research to develop vaccines and countermeasures in order to protect the public and our livestock from the threats of devastating diseases.

But not only will the NBAF accelerate America's ability to protect ourselves, our food supply, and the ag economy from biological threats; it will also be the world's premier animal health research facility and further solidify our Nation's place as the international leader in animal health.

The NBAF is needed to replace the obsolete and increasingly expensive Plum Island Animal Disease Center. This lab was built in the 1950s and has reached the end of its life. The facility does not contain the necessary biosafety level to meet the NBAF research requirements, and it never will. Any attempts to upgrade Plum Island would cost more than building the NBAF as planned. Currently, we do not have the ability to research the effects of these diseases on large animals at any facility in the United States, nor can we rely on international partners for our own security needs.

The NBAF project has a history of broad-based support. DHS, under both the Bush and Obama administrations, and the House Appropriations Committee under both Democrat and Republican leadership have made it clear time and time again that our country needs the NBAF, and the best place for the NBAF is in Manhattan, Kansas.

Congress has already appropriated $90 million, and the State of Kansas and the city of Manhattan have already committed more than $200 million towards this project.

In this age of uncertainty and global threats, conducting vital research to protect our Nation could not be more crucial. We cannot just wish away these threats or rely on others for our own security. And the truth of the matter is we are dangerously underprotected from the threat of a biological attack against our people and our food.

While the gentlelady's amendment to increase salaries for the Custom and Border Patrol has merit, it shouldn't be done by cutting 29 percent of the funding for construction of this important lab. The result of this amendment will be stopping or delaying construction of this nationally important NBAF facility, and our Nation's food supply cannot afford another delay.

We need to protect our food and our families from danger. We need to stay on the cutting edge of this research field. Our security is at risk, and delaying this project further should not be an option. We need NBAF.

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

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

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

Mr. POMPEO. Mr. Chairman, just as Congresswoman JENKINS opposed this amendment, I urge my colleagues to vote against this amendment as well.

The facility at NBAF is a facility that is not just about Kansas. It's important that it's in Kansas. I'm happy that Kansas went through an incredible competition against businesses all across the State and facilities all across the country to make sure that we had the best facility, the facility that was right not for Kansas, but right for America. After that competition, Manhattan, Kansas, was chosen for the site of the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility, and now Kansas and the United States have already invested heavily in this facility. It's a facility that creates a biosafety lab level four. It's like no other asset, no other national security asset in America. It's incredibly important. It's important for our food supply and safety for human health.

It's not a partisan issue. It was supported by both the Bush and Obama administrations and was passed through both a Republican- and a Democrat-controlled Congress. So there's no partisan nature to what's going on at the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility. It's simply about national security.

There have now been multiple reports and commissions indicating that this kind of threat is one of the most imminent threats to our Nation's entire homeland security. It's been for that reason that DHS has been very supportive of NBAF and NBAF being built in Kansas.

The State is uniquely qualified. It has exactly the right kind of scientific experts and precisely the expertise to be applied immediately and for the facility to be built in a way that it can operate safely.

We've got to protect animals and people from disease and make sure that when we do that our communities are safe and secure. This is a challenge that our country is ready and able to undertake at the facility in Kansas.

I urge my colleagues to reject this effort to delay this critical development essential to the health and safety of our food supply, and ultimately the safety of the American people.

With that, Mr. Chairman, 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. 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 California will be postponed.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

AUTOMATION MODERNIZATION

For expenses for U.S. Customs and Border Protection automated systems, $700,242,000 to remain available until September 30, 2015, of which not less than $138,794,000 shall be for the development of the Automated Commercial Environment.

BORDER SECURITY FENCING, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND TECHNOLOGY

For expenses for border security fencing, infrastructure, and technology, $327,099,000, to remain available until September 30, 2015.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. BISHOP OF UTAH

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 9, line 14, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $3,000,000)''.

Page 10, line 5, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $624,000)''.

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

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Chairman, the Border Patrol does a great job when they are allowed to do a great job. Unfortunately, one of the ironies we have is there are certain areas of access into this country by those who are illegal that seem to be an area of choice, especially of the drug cartels and the human traffickers. There is also an unusual correlation between these areas of access and Federal property which has been designated as wilderness area or endangered species habitat. In fact, in the last year's figures that I have, over half of the illegal entries into this country went through one sector in Arizona. Only a portion of the State of Arizona is 80 percent federally controlled, much of that in wilderness area and endangered species habitat.

Ironically, the Border Patrol is restricted in these areas from the way they can enforce their purpose of patrolling the border. I find that one of the things that's very strange is the Border Patrol, on private property, has almost unlimited ability to do their job in enforcing border security.

□ 2010

It's only on Federal property that the Federal Border Patrol is restricted on how it fulfills its Federal purpose.

Fortunately, the drug cartels and the human trafficking, they don't necessarily care about that restriction. They, for some reason, don't necessarily respect the environmental laws that we have, and the destruction to our environment is caused by them. The trampling of those sensitive areas, pictures of endangered cacti that have been cut down and used by the drug cartels as blockades on the roads, the amount of trash that is left behind is not only destroying the environment, but also an amazingly expensive effort to try and clean it up. I have often flippantly said that the drug cartel would rather eat an endangered species than protect it.

Nonetheless, the Border Patrol is required to pay for environmental mitigation damages. Since 2007, the Department of Homeland Security has used the money we think we are appropriating to Homeland Security, to the amount of $7 million, to go to the Department of the Interior for this proposed mitigation of environmental damages.

Let me give you a couple of examples of what this has bought us in the past. At the Arizona border they had to reposition their surveillance towers, which, of course, did lead to some security gaps in those areas, but it also caused a problem with the lesser long-nosed

bat, which has the nasty habit in evenings of flying into the towers.

So one of the mitigations that was insisted upon by the Department of the Interior is that the Border Patrol had to pay for a bat patrol, costing thousands of dollars, to monitor and track a bat who may, indeed, sometimes fly into a tower.

On the Sonoran pronghorn sheep, over $5 million has been paid in the last decade for the Border Patrol to create another Sonoran pronghorn herd, and to make sure that they have people there to monitor, feed, and avoid the pronghorn. And if they ever come across it, they have to stand really, really still.

Even though this provision has been revoked in recent years, at times some of this money was used by the Department of the Interior to buy land that had nothing to do with border security whatsoever.

My amendment, therefore, takes what is in this proposal, $3 million that has been earmarked for environmental mitigation, and moves it to a more legitimate and deserving use of that activity by taking it to the Air and Marine Interdiction Account to provide money for the Border Patrol to recapitalize their aging fleet.

Almost half of all the airplanes that the Border Patrol has are 33 years or older. This has impeded their operational readiness. These obsolete planes that they have make it unable for them to assist in properly securing the border. GAO, in its report, said in 2010 only 73 percent of the over 38,000 requests for air support could be granted simply because the fleet was aging at that particular time.

What it's simply trying to do here is a very simple concept. The better the Border Patrol is at controlling the border, the better the environment will be on the border. It's not the Border Patrol that causes environmental havoc; it is the drugs cartels and the human traffickers coming across. To take this money, which would go to mitigation, and put it where it is desperately needed, to try and help the infrastructure so the Border Patrol can better do their job, simply means we'll actually have a better environment by doing it.

It's the right thing to do. It would be an appropriate and intelligent thing for us to put the money where it would do the most good, in giving the Border Patrol the infrastructure they need to do their jobs along our borders, both in the North and in the South.

I urge adoption of this amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this amendment.

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

Mr. ADERHOLT. The funds are included in support of border security, albeit to facilitate only the most necessary environmental mitigation activities directly related to border security construction, operation, and maintenance. However, I do understand the gentleman's position and concerns and, for that reason, we accept the amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

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

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to this amendment, which would eliminate $3 million funding for environmental mitigation in our border security efforts, and add that money to air and marine assets, which is already greatly, greatly increased in this bill.

First a bit of context. Since 2006, this subcommittee has increased funding for border security by over $2 billion annually. We invested well over $1 billion for fencing and other tactical infrastructure alone during that period.

Responding to concerns about possible environmental problems associated with such a massive construction undertaking, much of which has taken place on environmentally sensitive lands, Congress provided very modest amounts to mitigate these potential environmental consequences.

Now, as a government, we have many responsibilities and priorities, and these include both securing our borders and protecting our natural and cultural resources. The sort of interagency agreement that Homeland Security and Interior have entered into for environmental mitigation is what we should be encouraging and supporting, especially because this arrangement is explicit, in that Interior cannot take any action that CBP does not first agree to.

So we've got to keep that commitment to protecting and preserving our environment. We have to maintain that commitment. And I urge colleagues to defeat this amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

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

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. Chairman, the Bishop amendment strikes environmental mitigation funding that has no place in this bill. This is a Homeland Security bill. We spend this money to protect the homeland and secure our borders. These are some of the most important responsibilities we have as a Congress under our Constitution.

But this money won't go to border security. This money will go to pay off Federal agencies just so the Border Patrol can access public lands.

Our Border Patrol is locked out of huge swaths of public lands along our border unless they fork over tax dollars for environmental mitigation. So we, the Congress, under the auspices of border security, are spending the people's hard-earned money on a slush fund for land managers.

Just to name a few examples, agencies have demanded this money to monitor bats, to monitor pronghorn antelope—my State of Wyoming has three times more antelope than people—and in one case, to protect the endangered ocelot, which hasn't even been seen in the area for 20 years.

This is madness. If you want to protect the species and ecosystems along the border, then secure the border. Rampant border crossings across wilderness do more damage than our Border Patrol ever could.

We need to eliminate restrictions on the Border Patrol's access to Federal land, not enable them. If you want to stop this extortion of border security dollars, vote for the Bishop amendment. This puts money toward air and marine interdiction.

And if you want environmental mitigation, put it in the Interior bill where it belongs, and where Congress can keep track of where the money goes, and where land managers have to justify it.

Let our Border Patrol do its job. Vote for the Bishop amendment.

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

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

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

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. 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 Utah will be postponed.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

AIR AND MARINE INTERDICTION, OPERATIONS, MAINTENANCE, AND PROCUREMENT

For necessary expenses for the operations, maintenance, and procurement of marine vessels, aircraft, unmanned aircraft systems, and other related equipment of the air and marine program, including operational training and mission-related travel, the operations of which include the following: the interdiction of narcotics and other goods; the provision of support to Federal, State, and local agencies in the enforcement or administration of laws enforced by the Department of Homeland Security; and, at the discretion of the Secretary of Homeland Security, the provision of assistance to Federal, State, and local agencies in other law enforcement and emergency humanitarian efforts, $518,469,000, to remain available until September 30, 2015: *Provided*, That no aircraft or other related equipment, with the exception of aircraft that are one of a kind and have been identified as excess to U.S. Customs and Border Protection requirements and aircraft that have been damaged beyond repair, shall be transferred to any other Federal agency, department, or office outside of the Department of Homeland Security during fiscal year 2013 without the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Homeland Security shall report to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, on any changes to the 5-year strategic plan for the air and marine program required under this heading in Public Law 112–74.

CONSTRUCTION AND FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

For necessary expenses to plan, acquire, construct, renovate, equip, furnish, operate, manage, and maintain buildings, facilities, and related infrastructure necessary for the administration and enforcement of the laws relating to customs, immigration, and border security, $252,567,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives, at the time that the President's budget proposal is submitted pursuant to the requirements of section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, an inventory of the real property of U.S. Customs and Border Protection and a plan for each activity and project proposed for funding under this heading that includes the full cost by fiscal year of each activity and project proposed and underway in fiscal year 2014.

IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for enforcement of immigration and customs laws, detention and removals, and investigations, including overseas vetted units operations; and purchase and lease of up to 3,790 (2,350 for replacement only) police-type vehicles; $5,236,331,000; of which not to exceed $10,000,000 shall be available until expended for conducting special operations under section 3131 of the Customs Enforcement Act of 1986 (19 U.S.C. 2081); of which not to exceed $12,750 shall be for official reception and representation expenses; of which not to exceed $2,000,000 shall be for awards of compensation to informants, to be accounted for solely under the certificate of the Secretary of Homeland Security; of which not less than $305,000 shall be for promotion of public awareness of the child pornography tipline and activities to counter child exploitation; of which not less than $68,321,000 shall be used to facilitate agreements consistent with section 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1357(g)); and of which not to exceed $11,216,000 shall be available to fund or reimburse other Federal agencies for the costs associated with the care, maintenance, and repatriation of smuggled aliens unlawfully present in the United States: *Provided*, That none of the funds made available under this heading shall be available to compensate any employee for overtime in an annual amount in excess of $35,000, except that the Secretary of Homeland Security, or the designee of the Secretary, may waive that amount as necessary for national security purposes and in cases of immigration emergencies: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided, $15,770,000 shall be for activities to enforce laws against forced child labor, of which not to exceed $6,000,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That not less than $10,000,000 shall be available for investigation of intellectual property rights violations, including the National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center: *Provided further*, That not less than $134,626,000 shall be for worksite enforcement investigations, audits, and activities: *Provided further*, That of the total amount available, not less than $1,600,000,000 shall be available to identify aliens convicted of a crime who may be deportable, and to remove them from the United States once they are judged deportable, of which $138,249,000 shall be for completion of Secure Communities deployment: *Provided further*, That the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement shall report to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than 45 days after the end of each quarter of the fiscal year, on progress in implementing the preceding proviso and the funds obligated during that quarter to make such progress: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Homeland Security shall prioritize the identification and removal of aliens convicted of a crime by the severity of that crime: *Provided further*, That funding made available under this heading shall maintain a level of not less than 34,000 detention beds through September 30, 2013: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided, not less than $2,749,840,000 is for detention and removal operations, including transportation of unaccompanied minor aliens, of which not less than $91,460,000 shall be for alternatives to detention: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided, $10,300,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2014, for the Visa Security Program: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided under this heading may be used to continue a delegation of law enforcement authority authorized under section 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1357(g)) if the Department of Homeland Security Inspector General determines that the terms of the agreement governing the delegation of authority have been violated: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided under this heading may be used to continue any contract for the provision of detention services if the two most recent overall performance evaluations received by the contracted facility are less than ''adequate'' or the equivalent median score in any subsequent performance evaluation system: *Provided further*, That nothing under this heading shall prevent U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement from exercising those authorities provided under immigration laws (as defined in section 101(a)(17) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(17))) during priority operations pertaining to aliens convicted of a crime.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. LORETTA SANCHEZ OF CALIFORNIA

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 11, line 21, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $40,000,000) (increased by $40,000,000)''.

Page 13, line 24, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $40,000,000)''.

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

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Chairman, my amendment is simple. Let us combat human trafficking and child exploitation.

□ 2020

My amendment would take $40 million from the Detention and Removal Operations and transfer those funds to the Office of Investigations to support antichild exploitation and trafficking initiatives.

ICE is one of the key global partners aimed at dismantling criminal infrastructures engaged in child exploitation. These special agents are in many countries throughout the world and in the United States, and I have had the opportunity to meet with them overseas where child exploitation is rampant, such as in Thailand and Cambodia.

That is why I would like to increase the funding to combat child exploitation, and I am requesting $40 million be transferred to them. The funds are coming from an account that is $70 million over the President's budget. I didn't even take all of that excess. I'm just asking for $40 million, leaving roughly $30 million over the President's budget in ICE Detention and Removal Operations.

With women and girls accounting for over 80 percent of the people trafficked throughout the world, including within the United States, this issue is something that is very close to my heart, and I have been a vocal advocate to stop and combat sex exploitation trafficking.

My district represents the largest Vietnamese population in the world outside of Vietnam. The fact is that most of the human trafficking victims originate from Asia. I have a responsibility to the people I represent to seek out ways to ensure that ICE can combat child exploitation globally since it impacts us locally. In fact, in Cambodia, brothel owners pay traffickers anywhere from $350 to $450 for each attractive Vietnamese virgin 16 years or younger. Nonvirgins and those considered less beautiful are trafficked for about $150 apiece.

I am asking the chairman to join me in this outrage that these things still happen in our modern world, and more often than not, they occur in our own districts here in the United States. The only way to eradicate child exploitation is to stand together to protect every child's right to be free from victimization. We can all work towards eliminating child exploitation by ensuring that we have people who combat this and by putting this money into this account. We need to give those people on the front line the tools to stop this. I thank the chairman for the time, and I ask him to support my amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the gentlelady's amendment.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. BISHOP of Utah). The gentleman from Alabama is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ADERHOLT. The concern is that the amendment seeks to gut detention operations just as the administration has tried to do; whereas, this bill holds the administration's feet to the fire and provides the resources to force them to actually enforce the law. The committee recommends $2.75 billion for ICE Detention and Removal Operations, $71 million above the request to sustain a minimum of 34,000 detention beds. Detention beds are a necessary resource to support robust immigration enforcement.

Make no mistake. There is a need for these resources. First, by the administration's own estimate, there are at least 1.9 million removable criminal aliens in the United States. There is the general acknowledgment of an illegal alien population of approximately

11 million. With the expansion of Secure Communities and ICE's prior utilization, there is no doubt they need at least 34,000 beds. Despite the fact that Congress has funded every request that ICE has provided for bed spaces, we have gotten excuses that they do not have the resources needed. Now the resources are being provided, and the committee insists that ICE intensify its enforcement efforts and fully utilize these resources.

Let me say that countering child exploitation is a critical effort in this bill for which we already have provided increases for ICE and Secret Service activities. The Wasserman Schultz amendment, which will be brought up shortly, provides an additional 25 percent to the child exploitation center. We have been working with Congresswoman WASSERMAN SCHULTZ on this amendment. We are accepting that 25 percent increase for the child exploitation center, so I would urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

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

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of my colleague's amendment, that of the Congresswoman from California, Ms. SANCHEZ.

I think it is a well-designed amendment both in its positive purpose and in the offsets that she has chosen. She proposes that we increase ICE funding for child exploitation, and that is a worthy cause that we do need to fund more generously than is present in the bill as brought to the floor.

Each year, millions of children fall victim to sexual predators. These young victims are left with permanent psychological and physical and emotional scars. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, ICE, targets and investigates child pornographers, child sex tourists and facilitators, the human smugglers and traffickers of minors, criminal aliens convicted of offenses against minors, and those deported for child exploitation offenses who have returned illegally. ICE is at the forefront of these activities and can make good use of the funding that our colleague proposes, so I commend her for bringing this issue to our attention and for putting this amendment before us.

The offsets are particularly well chosen. As I said as we began the debate on this bill, this bill contains some ill-advised funding floors, some mandatory spending that is rigid and is wasteful: an increased minimum of detention beds, for example, and the required floor funding for the 287(g) program, a program that is very problematic and that really needs to be transitioned, in my view, to the Secure Communities Program, which maintains the Federal and local roles much more distinctly. These are offsets that we can afford and offsets that, in fact, would improve the bill, and only rarely can one say that about offsets in these debates.

So I commend the gentlelady for her amendment, and I urge its adoption.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

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

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. 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 California will be postponed.

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

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

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Chairman, I wish to enter into a colloquy with the gentleman from Alabama, Chairman ADERHOLT.

First, I want to commend his leadership on this appropriations bill concerning the security screenings of children by the Transportation Security Administration. The TSA should absolutely have particular sensitivity in the screening process of children and should minimize children's distress and discomfort. I am very thankful to the gentleman for raising this issue in the manager's amendment and for recognizing this need.

But as this process moves forward, I would encourage the chairman to stress the importance of this same sensitivity to the elderly and the infirm. We have all seen too many images in high-profile news stories about the mistreatment of the elderly and the infirm as well as of passengers with religious or conscience objections. No good American should be forced to check his modesty at the airport door—maybe his luggage but not his modesty.

I also appreciate the fact that the report encourages various alternative screening models that would better preserve the civil liberties and privacy of all passengers by moving toward a more risk-based approach, using intelligence more than relying on technology. I encourage the chairman to continue moving TSA along this path.

□ 2030

Would the chairman be willing to work with me on these issues for the benefit of America's airline passengers?

Mr. ADERHOLT. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. FORTENBERRY. I yield to the gentleman from Alabama.

Mr. ADERHOLT. I thank the gentleman for his support of the House report language on sensitivity for child passenger screenings, and it is certainly reasonable to include other vulnerable individuals like the elderly and the infirm.

I will work with the gentleman going forward on these matters, and thank him for bringing the challenges of screening these other individuals to the floor. I look forward to working with him on this matter.

Mr. FORTENBERRY. I thank the gentleman from Alabama again for his leadership on the overall appropriations bill here and for his particular sensitivity to this issue.

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

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

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

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

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Chairman, first let me just say how much I appreciate the opportunity to work with the chairman, and I appreciate his work both when we worked together in the leadership of the legislative branch appropriations subcommittee and also to express appreciation for his commitment to increasing the amount of funds available to pursue child exploitation in this bill, and for your commitment in protecting children. Both of us being parents of 8- and 13-year-olds, I have a particular appreciation for this.

I rise to ask for my colleagues' support for an amendment to protect what we've been talking about here this evening, our most vulnerable constituents, our children.

My amendment would fence off $20 million in funds through ICE, Homeland Security Investigations, Cyber Crimes Center, for the purposes of child exploitation prevention and interdiction.

There is no question that our children need our support now more than ever. With the proliferation of the Internet and wireless technology, the spread of child pornography on line must be addressed aggressively now. We don't have a moment or an opportunity to waste.

The Department of Justice estimates that at any moment, there are more than 1 million pornographic images of children on the Internet, with an additional 200 images being posted every day. And more than one-third of the world's pedophiles involved in organized pornography rings worldwide live in the United States.

The Internet allows these images to be disseminated indefinitely, victimizing that child victim again and again with each click of the mouse. Because let's not forget that these are not just heinous images—they are crime scene photos. Every face in those photographs is the face of a child who needs our support in order to escape a living hell of constant abuse and exploitation.

Since the 1970s, before we even had a child pornography statute, ICE, which

was then called the U.S. Customs Service, was the leader in the fight to protect our children. That is still true today. As recently as 2009, ICE was responsible for 52 percent of cases prosecuted for receipt or distribution of child pornography and 90 percent of cases prosecuted for child sex tourism.

This is in addition to hundreds of arrests every year and thousands of children rescued to date. Their efforts are second to none, and I know they will put these resources to good use. But for every child rescued, hundreds more remain trapped in a current of abuse, the horrors of which none of us can truly imagine. And we need the absolute best personnel going into the fight to rescue these children.

That's why it's my hope that some of these funds will be used to employ our wounded warriors, in addition to the experienced agents already fighting these battles. Our armed services have already protected us abroad, so naturally our veterans are a perfect choice to protect our most precious resources here at home. In fact, retired Army Master Sergeant Rich Robertson is already fighting child exploitation at the ICE field office in Tennessee. In his words, ''Who better to hunt child predators than someone who's already hunted men?''

I'm enthusiastic about this initiative because I know that the immense skills and motivation returning servicemen and -women possess could be the key to our most successful affront on child exploitation yet. Child predators won't stand a chance.

By harnessing the abilities of our wounded warriors, we not only ensure that their skills, dedication, and drive are put to good use back at home, we give them the most dignified thank you of all, a job that truly makes a difference.

So let me be clear: With the passage of this amendment, we would be putting predators on notice. Their reign of terror is coming to an end. You can bet on it. I urge all of my colleagues to join me in committing to fight until every American child can live free from terror and exploitation, and support this important amendment, which, Mr. Chairman, I have at the desk, which I should have started with. So thank you very much.

I want to also add, Mr. Chairman, that I support my colleague from California's amendment to increase the funds available to ICE for the purpose of fighting child exploitation by reducing the funds available for immigration detention and removal operations, which in this bill is unnecessarily increased above the President's request.

I thank the chairman and my colleagues' indulgence for doing this backwards.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Will the gentlelady yield?

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. I yield to the gentleman from Alabama.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman will suspend.

The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 11, line 21, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $20,000,000) (increased by $20,000,000)''.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Now that the amendment is formally before us, I yield to the gentleman from Alabama.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, we would gladly accept the gentlelady's amendment.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. I thank the gentleman, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

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

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Chairman, I support the amendment offered by my colleague from Florida.

Each year, millions of children fall victim to sexual predators. These young victims are left with permanent psychological, physical, and emotional scars.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement, also known as ICE, targets and investigates child pornographers, child-sex tourists and facilitators, human smugglers and traffickers of minors, criminal aliens convicted of offenses against minors, and those deported for child exploitation offenses who have returned illegally.

The Child Exploitation Center is at the forefront of these investigations. Unfortunately, funding for ICE's Child Exploitation Center has decreased over the past 2 years from $16.7 million in 2011 to a proposed $14.7 million in 2013. This amendment bolsters funds for this center by a modest amount, bringing total funding to $20 million, restoring the budget cuts and providing a small additional amount to make additional headway on ending these heinous crimes.

I appreciate the gentlelady bringing this issue to our attention, and I support the adoption of this amendment. These dollars will be well spent safeguarding our children worldwide.

I appreciate the chairman accepting the amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Chair, I am pleased to support an amendment by my dear colleague and friend, Representative DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, to increase the current level of funding to $20 million for the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, ICE budget for the purpose of investigating child exploitation.

The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency has played a key role in stopping child pornography from entering our country since the 1970's. With today's technology, abusers across the world can instantly trade and share lewd material of children with the greatest ease, unless we do something to stop it. Additionally, ICE is ramping up its efforts to stop traveling child sex offenders who enter and exit this country preying on innocent children. ICE's efforts are leading the way identifying and investigating these criminals and rescuing their victims.

Mr. Chair, this is a modest funding increase with the most important of purposes, protecting the world's most vulnerable citizens, the children. I wholeheartedly support this amendment, and urge my colleagues to do so as well.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ).

The amendment was agreed to.

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

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

Mr. CARTER. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. ADERHOLT. I yield to the gentleman from Texas to talk about an important immigration enforcement program.

Mr. CARTER. I thank the chair for yielding to me.

I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues the recent change made by the Department of Justice to the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program, also known as SCAAP.

While this program is under the jurisdiction of the DOJ, it is a consequence of the Federal Government's failure to secure our borders, which is why I bring it up during this debate.

SCAAP reimburses States and counties for part of the cost of incarcerating undocumented criminal aliens. I want to emphasize that this program does not come close to fully reimbursing our States or our counties for the full cost of incarcerating these individuals.

Recently, DOJ announced that they will offer no reimbursement for what they consider to be unknown documented aliens. Being an unknown documented alien simply means that DHS has no information on that individual, a designation that would apply to a majority of the illegal aliens in this country. For example, when the sheriff in my home county picks up someone for aggravated assault and, in accordance with the Secure Communities Checks, the Federal database, if this person has never been processed by DHS, they will be considered unknown documented aliens and therefore ineligible to be reimbursed for any part of the cost of the incarceration under this new rule.

I would like to point out this change disproportionately affects counties over States, both of which are eligible for reimbursement under SCAAP.

□ 2040

The county jail is the first point of contact with the criminal justice system for many illegal aliens, so there is no background on the individual. These inmates are also typically held for a shorter period of time, making it difficult for them to be processed by the Federal Government before they are transferred to a State institution after

they are convicted. This change has much less impact on the States as they typically hold inmates for a much longer period of time, giving them plenty of opportunity to be processed by ICE agents who are typically located at the State prisons, a luxury the counties do not have.

If these changes were implemented in 2010, Williamson County, my home county, would have received $90,000 less than their full payment for that year, which is only about $150,000, and which is only a small portion of the overall cost of incarcerating these individuals. That's a lot of money for a moderately sized county in Texas. The impact on larger counties would be much greater.

I do not think that our counties should be punished for the Federal Government's failure to secure our borders and process undocumented aliens in an acceptable timeframe.

Now, I would like to commend Chairman ADERHOLT for prioritizing the frontline operations by funding Border Patrol agents and CBP agents at the highest levels in history. I would like to propose to the chairman that we work together with these Agencies to find a solution to this problem.

In the meantime, I will be writing a letter to the Justice Department, along with my friend and colleague, Congressman HONDA of California, to ask the Department to delay this change while we work to find a solution that will not punish our counties for the failures of the Federal Government.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, reclaiming my time, I share the concerns that have been raised by the gentleman from Texas this evening. The Department of Homeland Security needs the support of States and counties in border security, and SCAAP is an important tool to facilitate that support.

I look forward to working with the gentleman to ensure that the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Justice find the right solution. I know that my other distinguished colleague on the Appropriations Committee from the State of Virginia has views on this program within his jurisdiction.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

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

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Chairman, as chairman of the Commerce, Justice and Science Subcommittee, I am very sympathetic to the concerns raised by the gentleman from Texas.

I understand that last year DOJ notified prospective FY11 SCAAP applicants of this coming change and encouraged jurisdictions to work closely with DHS to increase inmate alien status verification. I did not hear of any concerns with this new requirement during the consideration of CJS appropriations for FY12 or 13, but I would be pleased to work with you, as well as the Department of Justice and the Department of Homeland Security, to help ensure that the SCAAP reimbursement methodology is equitable for all types of jurisdictions and maximizes the verification of status for individual aliens.

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

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

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

Mr. HONDA. As a member of the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, I would like to thank our chairman, Mr. WOLF, Chairman ADERHOLT and my friend, Judge CARTER, for speaking on this important issue today.

The State Criminal Alien Assistance Program, SCAAP, is a bipartisan issue and a bipartisan effort to address it.

California jurisdictions already receive 10 percent of the total cost of reimbursement because of the drastic cuts this program has received over the past few years. The recent funding solicitation change that would stop reimbursements for all ''unknowns'' by the Department of Justice has the potential to worsen the situation. It will devastate county budgets at a time when they are already feeling the pinch of State and Federal cuts.

As a former member of the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, I know firsthand how terrible the impact of this change will be on our counties. It is undisputed that the vast majority of the undocumented immigrants residing in the U.S. are unknown to the Federal Government.

Therefore, the unilateral decision by DOJ to only provide SCAAP funds for those criminal undocumented that are known to the Federal Government is deeply troubling and is a back-door attempt to kill the SCAAP program.

As my friend, Judge CARTER, has noted, counties in particular will be hit by this change the hardest because of the inability for ICE agents to be present at all times to process unknowns in county jails. In State jails, prisoners are held longer and ICE agents are on staff, so there is ample time and opportunity for unknowns to be processed in the system.

If the Department would like to make this change, it has to provide clear, timely, and accessible methods to the counties to process unknowns properly, something which they clearly do not have now.

I look forward to working with the appropriate Agencies and subcommittees to ensure that we can find an equitable solution to this issue. I appreciate both Chairman WOLF and Chairman ADERHOLT's time on this.

Until then, however, I will be writing a letter with my good friend, Judge CARTER, to the Department of Justice to delay this change until the appropriate time.

I yield back the balance of my time.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. CLARKE OF MICHIGAN

Mr. CLARKE of Michigan. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 11, line 21, after the dollar amount insert ''(reduced by $10,000,000)''.

Page 12, line 7, after the dollar amount insert ''(reduced by $10,000,000)''.

Page 37, line 18, after the dollar amount insert ''(increased by $10,000,000)''.

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

Mr. CLARKE of Michigan. Mr. Chairman, this amendment would add $10 million to FEMA's State and local grant programs. This will be an additional $10 million that our State governments and our local units of government could have available to them to better protect their citizens in the case of an emergency and also to respond more effectively to such a disaster.

This money can go to high-risk urban areas such as metro Detroit that really need the resources. It can also go to better protect and secure our ports, which would also benefit regions like metropolitan Detroit.

Again, the reason why I come to this Congress, to this budget and ask for these additional resources is because in the past this Congress failed to properly oversee the housing market, which resulted in a crisis that dramatically reduced property values all around this country and, most tragically, reduced the revenues available to States and localities to fund these important services.

That's why I'm asking this Congress, this House, to amend this budget to provide an additional $10 million to our States and local units of government so they can better protect our citizens in case of an emergency.

I look for your support.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the gentleman's amendment.

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

Mr. CARTER. This amendment seeks to cut critical funds for enforcing our Nation's immigration laws. Those laws are important to be enforced.

I urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

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

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the gentleman's amendment.

It adds $10 million to FEMA, State and local grants. As we have said many times this evening, these are grant programs that have been cut severely in recent years. While this year's bill improves on that, we certainly can use more funding in this area, and the gentleman has figured out a way to do it. He has come up with an offset that actually improves the bill.

The proposed offset is to the troubled 287(g) program, reduces it by $10 million, moving it closer to the administration's request.

□ 2050

Mr. Chairman, three Inspector General audits have found serious flaws with this program and ICE has had to terminate some 287(g) agreements because of racial profiling and other abuses. We have no business funding this program at levels above the request, much less having a mandatory funding level, which is included in this bill.

So the gentleman has come up with an amendment that adds needed grant funding and improves the bill and it's offset. I urge its adoption, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

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

Mr. CLARKE of Michigan. Mr. 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 Michigan will be postponed.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. POLIS

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 11, line 21, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $501,331,000)''.

Page 99, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $501,331,000)''.

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

Mr. POLIS. My amendment would bring down funding for ICE to fiscal year 2008 levels. I know that this is a time when it's critical to balance our budget and to cut government spending, and here's an example of a line item where we simply can't afford to continue to reward failure. This bill is a great place to start in making sure that we have a sound policy for our country. We can't afford to continue wasting billions of dollars of hard-earned taxpayer money to fund an Agency that, frankly, isn't producing results.

This bill proposed to appropriate billions of dollars to ICE to enforce our broken immigration laws. That means they spend this money to continue deporting hardworking immigrants, separating families, and kicking out students who have lived in this country their entire lives, all at taxpayer expense.

How much does this cost the American taxpayer? ICE itself has said that each deportation costs $12,500. Outside estimates actually put the number higher—around $23,000. In fact, it costs an average of $112 a night just to detain illegal immigrants. That's right. This country is putting illegal immigrants up, effectively, at hotels. We might as well put them up at a bargain hotel. Let's find a $49 room rather than spending $112 a night to feed and house illegal immigrants every night. My amendment will not end that practice, but it will take it back to 2008 levels.

We simply can't deport our way out of our current immigration problems. One study estimates it would cost $285 billion to deport all the illegal immigrants in the country, not to mention the devastating impact on the economy that that would have.

We need to replace our broken immigration system with one that works. Simply throwing good money after bad at a failed Agency like ICE, which has not stopped illegal immigration, is simply a recipe for continued disaster.

In addition, ICE is responsible for shutting down Web sites. Frequently, they have taken down legitimate Web sites without any due process of the law. The story of the music blog dajazz1 should be a warning to all of us that we need to take a closer look at these efforts. This site was seized by ICE for over a year without any explanation or due process. When the government finally return controlled of the site to its owners, they couldn't even explain why they took control of the Internet site. Imagine if the government had seized a printing press or magazine or a newspaper. We would be outraged on the left and on the right. Why is this any different? Seizing a Web site without any due process of the law is contrary to the principles enshrined in our Constitution, is un-American, and violates our freedom of speech.

Now make no mistake: even if my amendment passes, the bill would still appropriate far too much for a failed agency. It still would appropriate billions of dollars. And I would still oppose that appropriation. But at least let's return that appropriation to 2008 levels to stop putting illegal immigrants up at hotels, stop closing down Web sites that are free press, stop funding enormous amounts of taxpayer money not solving our immigration problem.

It's more important than ever that we balance our budget and end the deficit. We can start that by reducing wasteful government spending instead of increasing wasteful government spending. ICE has failed to stop illegal immigration. Let's not reward failure. ICE has shut down Web sites without any due process. Let's not reward failure.

Obviously, there are Members on both sides of the aisle, myself included, that want to address our broken immigration system, and we should have a country that has zero illegal immigrants—not 10 million, not 12 million, not 15 million. Frankly, the less ICE does, the more likely we can eliminate illegal immigration in this country, because all they do is contribute to it. And my bill will at least reduce their funding to 2008 levels. I think it's a commonsense amendment. Anybody who opposes this amendment is effectively rewarding the continued failure of one of the most poorly performing government Agencies.

I urge my colleagues to vote for my amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the gentleman's amendment.

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

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Chairman, this amendment slashes immigration enforcement and will result in laying off many, many ICE agents and potentially releasing dangerous criminal aliens from custody.

Now, the gentleman's argument is interesting. His argument seems to be that if you fire the enforcing officers and legalize the criminals, you're not going to have a problem. Well, I'm sorry, Mr. Chairman, but that's not the way it operates. When you break the law, you have to face the consequences. And we need the enforcement officers to go out and assist us enforcing the law.

Whether or not the immigration law is broken—I happen to agree that it is broken. We might not necessarily agree on how to fix it, but I agree that it is broken. Because I agree we have porous borders. But I believe the ICE people are doing the very best they can. Quite honestly, I'm shocked that the solution to a criminal problem is fire the law enforcement officers. And that's not good policy under anybody's thinking.

Supposedly, those who object are not thinking straight. Well, I would argue the contrary is the case in this particular argument.

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

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

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

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to this amendment. It cuts ICE salaries and expenses by over $500 million and puts all of that spending in the Spending Reduction Account.

There's some ironies in this amendment. It would actually hinder our efforts to move away from the flawed 287(g) program. It would hinder nationwide deployment of the much more conceptually sound Secure Communities effort. It would greatly reduce funding for alternatives to detention, where we very much need to go. It would lay off thousands of ICE personnel. And what do these personnel do? We've hired them to fight the drug trade, to fight human trafficking, to fight violence along the Southwest border.

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

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

The amendment was rejected.

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

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

Mr. HONDA. I would like to thank the chairman, the ranking member, and members of the subcommittee for recognizing the importance of supporting a path for legal immigrants to become citizens. The United States has a special interest in and draws unique benefits from extending citizenship to immigrants who have met legal residence, character, English, and civics knowledge requirements. I appreciate the chairman's willingness to encourage U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to keep the naturalization application fee affordable so that we don't prevent legal immigrants from pursuing citizenship simply because they cannot afford it. But I am concerned that the way the bill approaches funding for immigrant integration grant programs could undermine this effort to keep fees affordable.

□ 2100

Integrating immigrants strengthens their commitment to the United States and makes us a stronger and more prosperous democracy. Integration grants have proven to be a cost-effective means of encouraging immigrants to integrate. It is unfair that the cost and limited availability of citizenship education and legal assistance is the reason that many of the more than 8 million legal and taxpaying permanent residents are unable to naturalize, despite their eligibility to do so.

This bill only allows funding of immigrant integration programs through fees collected, departing from past practice of providing discretionary funding to support the program. This approach will require fee hikes that push naturalization further out of the reach of people who already struggle to pay costs of up to thousands of dollars for the current application, attorneys' fees, required document collection and preparation for the naturalization examination, defeating the subcommittee's own stated goal of keeping fees affordable.

The future viability of the immigrant integration grant program may depend on Congress's willingness to reinstate discretionary funding to support it, as the Senate has proposed to do in its version of the bill. I support the Senate's approach to provide direct discretionary funding in the amount of $5 million, regardless of the funds deposited into the immigration examination fee account, and I hope that as we move forward to conference with the Senate, we can adopt that approach.

It is in this country's interest to support our future U.S. citizens, and so it is in all of our interest to get support for immigrant integration grants right.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

AUTOMATION MODERNIZATION

For expenses of immigration and customs enforcement automated systems, $232,006,000, to remain available until September 30, 2015: *Provided*, That, subject to section 503 of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security may transfer up to $5,000,000 to the Office of Biometric Identity Management to support the transition of the Arrival and Departure System: *Provided further*, That amounts transferred pursuant to the preceding provision shall remain available until September 30, 2014.

CONSTRUCTION

For necessary expenses to plan, construct, renovate, equip, and maintain buildings and facilities necessary for the administration and enforcement of the laws relating to customs and immigration, $5,450,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016.

TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

AVIATION SECURITY

For necessary expenses of the Transportation Security Administration related to providing civil aviation security services pursuant to the Aviation and Transportation Security Act (Public Law 107–71; 115 Stat. 597; 49 U.S.C. 40101 note), $5,041,230,000, to remain available until September 30, 2014, of which not to exceed $8,500 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided*, That of the total amount made available under this heading, not to exceed $3,969,569,000 shall be for screening operations, of which $409,000,000 shall be available for explosives detection systems; $120,239,000 shall be for checkpoint support; and not to exceed $1,071,661,000 shall be for aviation security direction and enforcement: *Provided further*, That of the amount made available in the preceding proviso for explosives detection systems, $100,000,000 shall be available for the purchase and installation of these systems, of which not less than 9 percent shall be available for the purchase and installation of certified explosives detection systems at medium- and small-sized airports: *Provided further*, That any award to deploy explosives detection systems shall be based on risk, the airport's current reliance on other screening solutions, lobby congestion resulting in increased security concerns, high injury rates, airport readiness, and increased cost effectiveness: *Provided further*, That security service fees authorized under section 44940 of title 49, United States Code, shall be credited to this appropriation as offsetting collections and shall be available only for aviation security: *Provided further*, That the sum appropriated under this heading from the general fund shall be reduced on a dollar-for-dollar basis as such offsetting collections are received during fiscal year 2013 so as to result in a final fiscal year appropriation from the general fund estimated at not more than $2,971,230,000: *Provided further*, That any security service fees collected in excess of the amount made available under this heading shall become available during fiscal year 2014: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 44923 of title 49, United States Code, for fiscal year 2013, any funds in the Aviation Security Capital Fund established by section 44923(h) of title 49, United States Code, may be used for the procurement and installation of explosives detection systems or for the issuance of other transaction agreements for the purpose of funding projects described in section 44923(a) of such title: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available in this Act may be used for any recruiting or hiring of personnel into the Transportation Security Administration that would cause the agency to exceed a staffing level of 46,000 full-time equivalent screeners: *Provided further*, That the preceding proviso shall not apply to personnel hired as part-time employees: *Provided further*, That not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives a detailed report on—

(1) the Department of Homeland Security efforts and resources being devoted to develop more advanced integrated passenger screening technologies for the most effective security of passengers and baggage at the lowest possible operating and acquisition costs;

(2) how the Transportation Security Administration is deploying its existing passenger and baggage screener workforce in the most cost effective manner; and

(3) labor savings from the deployment of improved technologies for passenger and baggage screening and how those savings are being used to offset security costs or reinvested to address security vulnerabilities:

Provided further, That Members of the United States House of Representatives and United States Senate, including the leadership; the heads of Federal agencies and commissions, including the Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Under Secretaries, and Assistant Secretaries of the Department of Homeland Security; the United States Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General, Assistant Attorneys General, and the United States Attorneys; and senior members of the Executive Office of the President, including the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, shall not be exempt from Federal passenger and baggage screening.

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 15, line 23, after the dollar amount insert ''(reduced to $0)''.

Page 99, line 17, after the dollar amount insert ''(increased by $5,041,230,000)''.

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

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, my amendment would completely eliminate funding for the Transportation Security Administration, TSA, and transfer that money into the deficit reduction account, saving taxpayers more than $5 billion.

The fact of the matter is very simple: TSA is not doing the job that it was created to do 10 years ago.

Originally, Congress intended for TSA to be an efficient, cutting-edge, intelligence-based agency responsible for protecting our airports and keeping passengers safe and secure. Today it has grown into one of the largest bureaucracies, bigger than the Departments of Labor, Energy, Education, Housing and Urban Development, and State all combined—larger than all of those. They've had a 400 percent increase in staff over the past 10 years. A good portion of that has gone to headquarter employees making six figures on average.

What's worse is that American passengers aren't getting a good return on the nearly $60 billion that they've invested and spent on TSA. Reports indicate that more than 25,000 security

breaches have occurred at U.S. airports since 2001. Plus, we have evidence today that terrorists that are on the no-fly list have been still able to fly successfully aboard U.S. aircraft.

On top of this startling information, we've all seen the recent news headlines detailing the lack of professionalism, unreliable training, and even alleged corruption in the TSA ranks. Just about the only thing that TSA is good at is using its extensive power to violate American travelers' civil liberties. The stories range from embarrassing near-strip searches all the way to agents being hired without background checks. This is all evidence that TSA has veered dangerously off course from what it was intended to do.

I've repeatedly asked that we use our resources to focus on intelligence and technologies that can be more effective when it comes to catching terrorists—instead of patting down grandmas and children. I've demanded Administrator Pistole's resignation, and I've called for the privatization of TSA, along with some of my other colleagues here in the House. But we have still yet to see the necessary changes made to the TSA personnel or procedures that will ensure the safety and security of our airports and passengers.

Mr. Chairman, this amendment to zero out funding for TSA forces Congress and the Department of Homeland Security to start all over again, start from scratch on a better, more effective, more progressive system for protecting our airlines without violating the person and liberties of our citizens.

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

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the gentleman's amendment.

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

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Chairman, again, it's never been a solution for failed enforcement to fire all the police officers and get rid of them and then hope it will all work out. Without speaking to the criticisms of the gentleman, the terrorist threat is still real. This is an agency that has that duty and responsibility. To zero them out and lay them all off would not be productive in stopping criminal activity in the United States, and for that reason I oppose the gentleman's amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

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

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I, too, rise to oppose this amendment.

Aviation continues to be the main focus for terrorists seeking to do us harm. I would think we all realize that. This amendment would prohibit all of the screening, all of the scanning, all of the protective measures that we have undertaken for our protection. It's indiscriminate, it's excessive, and it should be rejected.

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:

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION SECURITY

For necessary expenses of the Transportation Security Administration related to surface transportation security activities, $126,418,000, to remain available until September 30, 2014.

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

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

Mr. MICA. Mr. Chairman and my colleagues, I had intended to offer an amendment at this stage in the proceedings, but I'm not going to do it at this time because I have received some cooperation from the Appropriations Committee, and I want to thank Chairman ADERHOLT and the staff and others for including in this DHS bill some reforms of TSA that are long overdue.

The gentleman from Georgia just mentioned that this is an agency that is out of control, and it is important that we as Members of Congress try to get agencies that spin out of control under control, and that's, I think, what we're attempting to do here.

Let me say about this process, this is an incredible process and it's an open process, and so I thank our side of the aisle for allowing Members to have these opportunities.

□ 2110

We were closed off from many opportunities in the past to make these changes that are necessary in reforming agencies like TSA.

Well, let me say what they have done in this bill that is important, and one reason I'm going to support the bill—they need to go a lot further than they've gone, but one reason I'm going to support the bill is they have taken some opportunity to cut some of the administrative overhead.

Listen to this: TSA has grown to 65,000 employees. Of that, there are 14,000 administrative personnel—4,000 in Washington, D.C., not very far from us, 4,000 making on average—and they've got the statistics right here, the staff will give them to you—$104,000 on average per administrative person. Ten thousand administrative people out in the field. So this bill does reduce—I believe it's by about $60 million—some of that administrative overhead. That's only the beginning, but at least it's a beginning.

This bill also cuts out programs that have failed, like the Behavior Detection Program. It reduces some of the spending there—another program that doesn't work that we need to cut funds on. It does redirect some money. And I must congratulate the committee for restoring the flight deck officer cuts.

The Obama administration proposed disarming our pilots, 50 percent of that program—volunteer pilots who pay their own way to learn how to arm themselves to protect their aircraft, themselves, and their passengers; one of the most cost-effective programs we had. I guess that would be the way that the Obama administration goes. You want to keep the bureaucracy but do away with cost-effective programs. But thank you, committee members and staff, for restoring that.

So almost every proposal we made from the Transportation Committee for cuts and reassignment of funds have been made here—not to the degree I would like, but at least I will say it's a beginning.

Finally, let me say that we've got to do something to further get this agency under control. Last week, we learned a little bit about a meltdown in security at one of my Florida airports, Fort Myers. We got some information because we get tips all the time. Everybody tells us what's going on at TSA—except the TSA bureaucrats that are trying to protect their positions. You know, they waited until Friday afternoon and released a one-paragraph statement pooh-poohing what had taken place at Fort Myers and keeping our committee in the dark, trying to keep it from the public and the press and from Congress.

I took the opportunity to let the press and the public know what I knew—which wasn't much. And thank goodness for a free and open press because they went after TSA. We found out Monday morning, along with everyone else, what they had done in not providing accurate information, not telling us it was one of the most serious of meltdowns of TSA personnel. And we've had them before in Newark and Charlotte, we've had them in New York City and others. So this is an agency that's out of control. We need to cut the bureaucracy, as they've begun to do here. We need to realign where the moneys need to be spent.

I have no problem with spending money for security and making certain that terrorists don't take advantage of our most vulnerable Achilles' heel in the transportation network, and for the American public, that's aviation. We've seen them go after it again and again. But you need to spend the money where it makes the most sense and does the most as far as true aviation security. Expensive aviation theater security is not the way we're going to go.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

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

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Chairman, I had intended to or had considered offering an amendment again this year concerning the Federal Air Marshal Program. I offered an amendment last year to simply keep

the Federal air marshals at level funding. They were approaching almost $1 billion spending each year, and they've been given 10 straight years of increases.

This program, though, was called to my attention by an article that I read in USA Today in which they said that more air marshals had been arrested than had been arrests made by air marshals, and that they were spending approximately $200 million per arrest each year. I became convinced, because of that report and other reports, that this really was probably one of the most useless, needless agencies in the entire Federal Government. But I offered the amendment knowing that it's almost impossible to cut a law enforcement agency or an agency that can claim it's doing something toward aviation safety and security. So my amendment received a lot more votes than I expected but did not pass.

But at that time, Chairman ROGERS and Ranking Member PRICE assured me that they would look a little more closely at this program, and I feel that they have done so. So I rise to commend them and tell them that I appreciate the fact that they have taken an $86.5 million cut to this program. That is, frankly, more than I had planned to cut in the amendment that I offered last year.

I want to say that I am a really strong supporter of law enforcement—always have been and always will be—but when you take scarce law enforcement dollars that are especially needed for our local law enforcement people, who are the ones out there fighting the real crime that needs to be fought, then you're depriving the agencies that really need it when you give it to an agency like the Federal Air Marshal Program that is doing almost no good whatsoever for this country. Almost every Member in this Congress flies a couple of times each week; thus, we're doing the same thing that these Federal air marshals are doing. It's one of the softest, easiest jobs in the Federal Government just to fly back and forth, back and forth, back and forth.

So I want to say that I appreciate the fact that Chairman ROGERS and Ranking Member PRICE have agreed to this $86.5 million cut. I wish it was a lot more, and I still think this agency needs to be eliminated, but I do appreciate the progress that's being made thus far. So I will not offer an amendment this year because I think at least we've started in the right direction on this program.

I yield back the balance of my time.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. CRAVAACK

Mr. CRAVAACK. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to consider my amendment at this point in the reading.

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Minnesota?

There was no objection.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 15, line 23, after the dollar amount insert ''(increased by $10,000,000) (reduced by $10,000,000)''.

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

Mr. CRAVAACK. Mr. Chairman, I rise to offer an amendment to the fiscal year 2013 Homeland Security appropriations bill to increase the funding for the Federal Flight Deck Officer—or the FFDO—program. This amendment is fully offset, costing the taxpayers no additional money. This amendment is also supported by the National Rifle Association.

Mr. Chairman, 9/11 woke us up. The reality is that we live in a very dangerous world with varied and morphing threats. While screening can reduce some threats, terrorists are constantly probing and exploiting our weaknesses. FFDOs, along with Federal air marshals, act as a chief deterrent, but ultimately the last line of defense is the Federal flight deck officer.

Reinforced doors are an important step to slow an attacker and buy time, but ultimately the armed pilot is the last line of defense in someone taking over the aircraft to be used as a weapon of mass destruction. Let me say that again. The last line of defense is not the secured cockpit door, but the armed pilot behind it.

According to estimates by the Air Line Pilots Association, Federal flight deck officers only cost $15 per flight segment. Currently, FFDOs defend over 100,000 flight segments per month and 1.5 million flight segments per year. Thousands of Federal flight deck officers have been certified for the program, despite a budget that hasn't grown since this program's inception. Federal flight deck officers pay many of the expenses out of their own pockets for the privilege and the honor to defend our country from terrorist attack.

This year, the Obama administration proposed to half the program, effectively shutting it down. With their proposal of only $12.5 million in funding, the program would not be able to recertify all of the pilots in the program or even maintain its current management structure, and it certainly would not be able to train any new Federal flight deck officers.

I'm thankful that Chairman ADERHOLT and Ranking Member PRICE have restored the funding levels to the same as they were last year at $25.5 million, but level funding means that over a thousand pilots who have expressed interest in becoming FFDOs cannot be vetted or trained. Also, at this funding level, the program could only train a limited number of pilots who have been vetted and would take almost 10 years to process the current backlog, to say nothing of future pilots who may volunteer for the program.

□ 2120

With the coming mandatory retirement of many pilots at the age 65 and with the combination of fewer new FFDOs coming online, the program will not provide the same level of deterrence.

I'd like to reiterate that the increased funding for the program will not come at a greater expense to taxpayers, and the increase in this amendment of $10 million is fully offset.

For only $15 per flight, Federal flight deck officers provide the most cost-effective aviation security program in existence. As a former Federal flight deck officer myself, I can personally testify about the sacrifices and expenses pilots undergo to participate in the program. They actually pay to protect and defend the Nation.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

Mr. CARTER. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. CRAVAACK. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. CARTER. We accept the amendment.

Mr. CRAVAACK. I thank the gentleman, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

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

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to this amendment. It increases funding for the Federal Flight Deck Officers program. But the bill already greatly increases this program above the request, 50 percent above the request, returning the program to its 2012 level.

And it's not a harmless offset. On the contrary, aviation management is already cut by $20 million in this bill, and we can ill afford to cut it further. So this is an unnecessary and unwise trade-off, and I urge rejection of the amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Chair, I move to strike the last word.

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

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. I yield to the gentleman from Minnesota.

Mr. CRAVAACK. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Chairman, over 700 pilots have been vetted and not trained; 1,500 pilots have applied for the program but have not yet been vetted. It costs about $6,000 per pilot to put them through the backlog for check and training. At current funding at $25.5 million, they're only able to bring about 250 new pilots per year on board, which leaves them in less than a status quo status, probably declining once the age of 65 hits many of the pilots in backlog.

Funding is the bottleneck, rather than the training center capacity. $10 million would not clear the backlog that currently exists. It would be a good start, though.

The proposal to reduce the funding for screening and maintenance and screener PC&B by $5 million each, we

have strong approval of many organizations for this program, including the Airline Pilots Association.

Mr. Chairman, this is one of the most valuable programs and deterrents that is in the air at the current time. It costs again, once again, $15 per flight to protect the American traveling public. To me, Mr. Chairman, this is a no-brainer.

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. I would like to commend my friend, my freshman colleague from Minnesota, for offering this amendment, and commend him for his service to our country in the military and then what he's been doing. I think it's a valuable lesson, having been there in that cockpit yourself, dealing with this program. And I support this amendment as well.

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

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

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. JACKSON LEE OF TEXAS

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk, and I would ask unanimous consent that my amendment be considered out of order.

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 15, line 23, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $61,000,000)''.

Page 20, line 6, after the dollar amount, inser ''(increased by $50,000,000)''.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. I thank the chairman of the subcommittee and the ranking member for their courtesies.

I am the ranking member on the Transportation Security Committee and have had the privilege of serving as the chairperson of that committee. I now work with the chairperson, and I appreciate the opportunity to speak to the issues of our committee as relates to the present appropriations.

I think we can all be reminded of a number of incidents, starting with 9/11 and the attack on the Nation's aviation and the Nation's soul. During that time, we did not have the structure of Federal Air Marshals that we have today.

We can be reminded of the shoe bomber, the Christmas Day bomber, the issue of the pilot that caused a disturbance some weeks and months ago. We know that the idea of aviation security is crucial. In the course of that, we have developed a very important system called the Federal Air Marshal system.

If you would query much of the traveling public, whether domestic or international, they would say yes to more Federal Air Marshals, and I agree. I've offered amendments and legislation to require more Federal Air Marshals on international trips and certainly have encouraged the training and utilization of FAMs on domestic trips.

I have visited their offices. I've sat down and spoken to them. They are committed and dedicated public servants.

My amendment will restore the Federal Air Marshals, FAMs, budget by $50 million.

As you're aware, FAMs is an integral program to the homeland security mission. I believe that this recommendation takes into consideration the crucial operational challenges FAMs will face as a result of a reduction.

The FAMs risk-based concept of operations, CONOPS, outlines the two constraints that impact its optimal allocation of flight coverage:

First, FAMs is, of course, dependent on the number of Federal Air Marshals available;

Secondly, FAMs' flight coverage is reliant on the mission travel budget which covers all FAM travel expenses, including hotel and per diem costs.

With the large cost difference between domestic and international flight operations, CONOPS must be used to conduct the most optimal mission allocation that can be maintained within those limitations.

In deciding the FAMS appropriation, the House must take into consideration FAMS' plan to extend its current hiring freeze in FY 2013, as mandated by the President's budget. It plans to be cooperative.

With limited employees, if the proposed $50 million reduction were to be implemented, FAMS' operation would be severely undermined. I would venture to say they would be shut down to a great extent. The program would be forced to extend the hiring freeze to include civilian personnel, implement a furlough of all FAMS personnel for a minimum of 4 days, reduce mission coverage, assess which offices can be shut down, and consider a reduction in force, or RIF, to strategically reduce onboard staffing levels. This is not the time to do this in the course of franchise terrorism.

In addition, FAMS would suffer a significant decline in critical operational programs, including travel, information technology, and logistical support. A reduction would be an obstruction to the good work and progress of this program.

For these reasons, I encourage my colleagues to look closely at the devastation and the loss of these dollars and ask you to restore the $50 million to the FAMS budget.

I would ask my colleagues to consider this amendment, and I would ask that we include or recognize FAMS as an integral part of a homeland security, Nation security, frontline security, and an important point and program to consider funding necessary to ensure the security of the traveling public and the Nation's homeland.

With that, I ask support of the Jackson Lee amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. Chair, I rise today to offer my amendment to H.R. 5855, Making Appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the Fiscal Year ending September 2012. My amendment will restore The Federal Air Marshalls (FAMS) budget by $50 million. As you are aware, FAMS is an integral program to the homeland security mission. I believe that this recommendation takes into consideration the crucial operational challenges FAMS will face as a result as of a reduction.

The FAMS risk-based concept of operations (CONOPS) outlines the two constraints that impact its optimal allocation of flight coverage. First, FAMS is of course, dependent on the number of Federal Air Marshals available. Secondly, FAMS flight coverage is reliant on the mission travel budget which covers all FAM travel expenses including hotel and per diem costs. With the large cost difference between domestic and international flight missions, CONOPS must be utilized to conduct the most optimal mission allocation that can be maintained within these limitations.

In deciding the FAMS appropriation, the House must take into consideration FAMS' plan to extend its current hiring freeze into FY 2013 as mandated by the President's Budget. With limited employees, if the proposed $50 million reduction were to be implemented, FAMS' operations would be severely undermined.

The program would be forced to extend the hiring freeze to include civilian personnel, implement a furlough of all FAMS personnel for a minimum of four days, reduce mission coverage, assess which offices can be shut down and consider a reduction in force (RIF) to strategically reduce on-board staffing levels. In addition, FAMS would suffer a significant decline in critical operational programs including travel, information technology and logistical support. A reduction would be an obstruction to the good work and progress of this program. For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to restore the $50 million to the FAMS budget.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I rise to reluctantly oppose the amendment.

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

Mr. ADERHOLT. While the Federal Air Marshals Service, known as FAMS, does and certainly will continue to provide an additional layer in aviation security, the committee saw an opportunity in this bill to strike a balance and achieve some savings in a program that, before this year, had been growing rapidly.

FAMS deployment surged following the 9/11 attacks and again following the 2009 Christmas Day bombing attempts. Exactly how they are deployed, and how many there are cannot be discussed in open session. However, it is possible to note that many other security measures have been put into place since both of those events took place.

Intensified screening, new and more capable intelligence, information sharing, a more secure cockpit, and the expansion of the Federal Flight Deck Officer program are examples of steps

taken to secure aviation that reduce the need to rely on FAMS on routes that do not represent the highest threat potential.

□ 2130

The bill takes these security improvements into account and focuses on funding to cover the top priority routes based on threat, whether domestic or whether international. The bill also fully funds the FFDO program, which complements FAMs, and in some cases it is the only security element on board. In addition, the report directs the TSA and the FAMs to look again at how to include other Federal law enforcement agents working with them.

This amendment, while I believe it is well-intentioned, would sustain funding to lower priority flights at the expense of other security measures that offer more immediate security impacts. The committee report calls for FAMs to brief the committee within 60 days on its optimal mix of staffing, scheduling, and recommendations for any regulatory or legislative actions needed to improve the FAMs operation.

I believe the bill will support a robust and targeted FAMs mission, and I look forward to moving forward with a more focused and effective posture in aviation security. Therefore, I urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. I move to strike the last word.

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

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I am happy to yield to the gentlelady from Texas for a response.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. I thank the distinguished ranking member, and I really thank the chairman for his comments.

I don't want to give a whole historical perspective, but I've certainly been on the Homeland Security authorizing committee since 9/11. I am quite familiar with the technologies and various changes in aviation travel in particular, and we've made great strides. We have certainly made great strides, but here is my point that I think is crucial: How long are we going to continue to count on heroic, if you will, passengers and continue to cite them as great heroes until the day of some tragic and horrific incident?

We thank the American traveling public for what it has done to thwart a number of incidences, some of which, obviously, are not terrorist-directed but which do impact on the traveling public's security while airborne.

Air marshals are the frontline support and defense in a vessel, if you will, in an aircraft that, if tampered with airborne, can be a catastrophe of enormous proportions. Air marshals are, in essence, a crucial part of the security of this Nation. If we are to literally obliterate them by the $50 million reduction, you will see a reduction in mission, what offices will be ultimately shut down, FAMs personnel being furloughed for a minimum of 4 days, and civilian personnel gone.

I don't deny that we can look to be responsible fiscally and that we can find ways that will streamline. I happen to believe that $50 million is too drastic a cut and should be restored. So I would ask my colleagues, in spite of what changes may have been made, that they do not act superior to that human resource on that aircraft that is standing in the gap for a dastardly devastating terrorist act or some other altercation that needs the resources and expertise of the Federal Air Marshals.

Let me conclude by saying for a very long time I've introduced legislation to give flight attendants the kind of security training that would help them in the course of a potential terrorist incident on the aircraft. We'd hoped that that would have already occurred. I believe the other front-liners are TSO officers. That flight training has not yet occurred, so Federal Air Marshals act in the capacity of that standing in the gap to secure the crew and as well to secure the traveling public.

Who wants to subject the traveling public, domestic or international, to that kind of gaping hole of the reduction of cost or dollars that would ultimately result in this huge reduction of mission, furloughs, loss of civilians, closed offices?

I think that we need to reconsider, and I would ask my colleagues to support this amendment of adding back the $50 million reduction that has taken place.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. 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 Texas will be postponed.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

TRANSPORTATION THREAT ASSESSMENT AND CREDENTIALING

For necessary expenses for the development and implementation of screening programs of the Office of Transportation Threat Assessment and Credentialing, $192,424,000, to remain available until September 30, 2014.

TRANSPORTATION SECURITY SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Transportation Security Administration related to transportation security support and intelligence pursuant to the Aviation and Transportation Security Act (Public Law 107–71; 115 Stat. 597; 49 U.S.C. 40101 note), $928,663,000, to remain available until September 30, 2014: *Provided*, That the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives detailed expenditure plans for air cargo security; checkpoint support; and explosives detection systems refurbishment, procurement, and installations; on an airport-by-airport basis for fiscal year 2013: *Provided further*, That these plans shall be submitted not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

FEDERAL AIR MARSHALS

For necessary expenses of the Federal Air Marshals, $879,600,000: *Provided*, That the Director, Federal Air Marshal Service, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act a detailed, classified expenditure and staffing plan for ensuring optimal coverage of high risk flights.

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

OPERATING EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the operation and maintenance of the Coast Guard, not otherwise provided for; purchase or lease of not to exceed 25 passenger motor vehicles, which shall be for replacement only; purchase or lease of small boats for contingent and emergent requirements (at a unit cost of no more than $700,000) and repairs and service-life replacements, not to exceed a total of $31,000,000; purchase or lease of boats necessary for overseas deployments and activities; minor shore construction projects not exceeding $1,000,000 in total cost at any location; payments pursuant to section 156 of Public Law 97–377 (42 U.S.C. 402 note; 96 Stat. 1920); and recreation and welfare; $6,759,627,000; of which $340,000,000 shall be for defense-related activities; of which $24,500,000 shall be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to carry out the purposes of section 1012(a)(5) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2712(a)(5)); and of which not to exceed $17,000 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided*, That none of the funds made available by this Act shall be for expenses incurred for recreational vessels under section 12114 of title 46, United States Code, except to the extent fees are collected from owners of yachts and credited to this appropriation: *Provided further*, That the Coast Guard shall comply with the requirements of section 527 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2004 (10 U.S.C. 4331 note) with respect to the Coast Guard Academy: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided under this heading, $75,000,000 shall be withheld from obligation for Coast Guard Headquarters Directorates until a revised future-years capital investment plan for fiscal years 2014 through 2018, as specified under the heading Coast Guard ''Acquisition, Construction, and Improvements'' of this Act, is submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. DOLD

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

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 21, line 1, after the first dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $5,200,000)''.

Page 22, line 14, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $5,200,000)''.

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

Mr. DOLD. I certainly want to thank the chairman and the ranking member for their leadership on this legislation, and I want to thank the staff for working with me on this amendment.

Mr. Chairman, my amendment increases the Coast Guard operating expenses by $5.2 million to address search

and rescue capabilities in the Great Lakes Region. Search and rescue is one of the Coast Guard's oldest missions, dating back to the U.S. Revenue Cutter Service that was founded in 1790.

Today, Coast Guard search and rescue response involves multimission stations, cutters, aircraft, and boats linked by communication networks. It also includes over 5,000 commercial vessels that provide a voluntary global response force. Using these assets in the past year, the Coast Guard has responded to over 6,468 search and rescue cases, assisting over 10,000 people and saving over 1,400 lives. Just last week, Mr. Chairman, two young women were saved by the Coast Guard's air assets on Lake Michigan.

Unlike the President's budget, which makes dramatic cuts to critical search and rescue operations, this amendment would increase our Nation's search and rescue capabilities by adding funding for needed assets, assets vital to lifesaving capabilities.

Mr. Chairman, these investments build on previous investments that specifically increase capability in the Great Lakes to include the installation of Rescue 21 this past December. Rescue 21 is now standing watch on over 42,000 miles of coastline, improving the Coast Guard's ability to assist mariners in distress and saving lives and property. Further, by the end of this fiscal year, the Coast Guard will have delivered the last of three new long-range response boats to the Great Lakes area, which will enhance response capabilities.

Mr. Chairman, the Great Lakes is one of the most popular recreation areas in our country, and the Coast Guard is a vital part of making it safe for thousands each year. We can't stand by and allow the administration to eliminate lifesaving efforts on our Great Lakes, so I certainly urge support for this amendment.

I do want to yield the remaining time I have to my good friend who has been instrumental in assisting me on this amendment, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HUIZENGA).

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. I thank my good friend from Illinois for yielding.

Mr. Chairman, we not only serve on the Financial Services Committee together, we also share a Great Lake.

Michigan is uniquely situated, literally bordering all five of the Great Lakes—Lake Superior, Lake Huron, Lake Michigan, Lake Saint Clair, Lake Ontario. Four of those are actually international boundary waters with thousands of miles of shoreline that are on there, and there are dozens of ports throughout the Great Lakes. I might add that they are aptly served by the District Nine commander out of Cleveland as he is juggling all of the various assets that the Coast Guard has.

□ 2140

But I do reject the plans by this administration to decrease the search and rescue capabilities in the Great Lakes. This vital amendment restores funding in order to maintain a level of capability that has been present in the Great Lakes for many years, and it has been much needed, Mr. Chairman.

As the gentleman noted, these funds, combined with offsets in this bill, address shortfalls that this administration has actually advocated for. So Coast Guard search and rescue in all of the Great Lakes cannot be shortchanged. As we see in example after example, whether it be by boat or by helicopter in Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, Lake Huron, Lake St. Clair, Lake Ontario, some of the busiest boating traffic—recreational, as well as commercial traffic—that we see anywhere in the world concentrated in that area.

I urge a ''yes'' vote on this amendment.

Mr. DOLD. I thank the gentleman for his help.

I do urge my colleagues to support this amendment. It is commonsense legislation. We cannot afford to have search and rescue capabilities be diminished. As we look at the number of recreational boaters, it's a vital part of making sure that we're saving lives in the Great Lake's region.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. DOLD. I yield to the gentleman from Alabama.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I want to commend the gentlemen from Illinois and from Michigan for their commitment for search and rescue, and we would gladly accept their amendment.

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

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

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

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

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. At this time, I would like to engage the distinguished chairman in a colloquy regarding the *Polar Sea*, the Coast Guard's second heavy icebreaker. It has been decommissioned and will soon be put in dry dock to prepare it for scrapping. However, I believe that before the resale of the *Polar Sea* is significantly reduced by removing its propellers and shafts that the Coast Guard must consider another option.

To date, the Coast Guard has not yet officially surveyed the private sector for interest in the *Polar Sea* in its current condition. Private sector interest in the *Polar Sea* may increase after the summer's Arctic drilling season, when permitted drilling is expected to be shortened due to heavier than usual ice.

My good friend from Washington (Mr. DICKS) and I are offering this colloquy to delay the scrapping. Our goal is to specifically instruct the Coast Guard to provide a survey of whether or not there is a better use for this vessel.

I was prepared to offer an amendment today that would direct the Coast Guard to report back to Congress on the condition of the *Polar Sea*, the costs associated with reactivating the vessel for service, and the interest of private or public entities in purchasing and operating the *Polar Sea*.

This amendment would have prevented the Coast Guard from moving any major equipment or systems from the *Polar Sea* until the Coast Guard submitted its report to Congress. Unfortunately, this amendment is subject to a point of order, but I would ask the chairman for his support and commitment to work with me and Mr. DICKS on this important issue as we pursue an alternative legislative fix in the Transportation Committee. Time is of the essence.

Mr. DICKS. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. I yield to my good friend from Washington.

Mr. DICKS. I thank my good friend from Alaska for yielding, and I thank the gentleman for raising this important issue.

The dramatic reduction in the Arctic sea ice that is happening at the North Pole is leading to substantial growth in activity in the Arctic region.

The Coast Guard in the High Latitude Study determined that it needs a minimum of three heavy and three medium icebreakers to meet its statutory mission. This bill includes funding to start the design phase of a new heavy icebreaker; however, it will not enter service until 2020 at the earliest. Until then, there will be only one heavy icebreaker, the *Polar Star*, and one medium icebreaker in operation. This is clearly not enough for the Coast Guard to accomplish its mission. And given the age of the *Polar Star*, which entered service in the 1970s, the possibility of a breakdown or extended maintenance period is significant, which would leave us without any serviceable heavy icebreaker at all.

As my friend has noted, the *Polar Sea*, the Coast Guard's second heavy icebreaker, has been decommissioned and is awaiting the final orders to scrap it. Given our rapidly growing need in the polar region, I worry that the Coast Guard is not considering other options for the *Polar Sea*.

Personally, I think a compelling case can be made for directing the Coast Guard to make the investment and put it back into service. But, at the very least, the Coast Guard needs to take time to review alternatives. In my judgment, it would be a shame to scrap such a potentially useful asset when there is so much evidence before us that we need more immediate icebreaking capacity.

My friend from Alaska has noted that he and I had been considering working on language that would direct the Coast Guard to consider alternatives but that such an amendment would be subject to a point of order.

I am glad the gentleman will be able to work on the issue on a bill pending

before the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. I want to indicate to him that I share his commitment to ensuring that the Nation's icebreaking needs are met and will continue to work with him to ensure that the Coast Guard considers all available options for the *Polar Sea*.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. I yield to the gentleman from Alabama.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I understand the concerns of my colleagues from the State of Washington and from the State of Alaska. It is important to keep the vessel intact. My subcommittee agrees with this important goal.

I urge the Coast Guard to work with the authorizing committee to accomplish this assessment.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. I am thankful for the understanding of the chairman and the ranking member of the full committee. This is important to our Nation and especially Alaska, and I do appreciate your consideration.

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

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. GARDNER

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

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 21, line 24, insert before the period at the end the following:

: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, such sums as may be necessary shall be available to the Secretary of Homeland Security to comply with the Coast Guard's energy management requirements under section 543(f)(7) of the National Energy Conservation Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 8253(f)(7))

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

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Chairman, this amendment which I'm offering along with my colleague, Mr. WELCH from Vermont, addresses an important issue relating to Coast Guard facilities.

We've offered this same amendment to the two other appropriations bills this week, and they've passed by a voice vote. And while my colleague from Vermont is not here this evening, I want to commend him for his hard work on these amendments, and energy savings performance contracts in general.

I think the passage of these amendments sends a clear signal that Congress understands the importance of saving energy and, therefore, saving costs for the Federal Government.

This amendment does one simple thing. It says that the Coast Guard should provide an inventory of ways to improve efficiencies in their buildings, which is already a directive under current law.

Under current law, energy savings performance contracts, or ESPCs, are provided as a mechanism for private companies to come into Federal buildings and make energy efficiency upgrades. ESPCs result in savings for the Federal Government and create well-paying private sector jobs at no cost to taxpayers. It creates a win-win situation of reducing debt and creating jobs. The private sector company must guarantee the project improvements will produce energy savings sufficient to pay for the project.

In this fiscal climate, there is no reason we shouldn't be helping the Federal buildings find ways to save money and upgrade Federal buildings with cleaner and more efficient facilities.

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

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

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

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, we accept the gentleman from Colorado's amendment, and we appreciate him bringing this to the subcommittee's attention.

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

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

The amendment was agreed to.

□ 2150

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AND RESTORATION

For necessary expenses to carry out the environmental compliance and restoration functions of the Coast Guard under chapter 19 of title 14, United States Code, $12,151,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017.

RESERVE TRAINING

For necessary expenses of the Coast Guard Reserve, as authorized by law; operations and maintenance of the Coast Guard reserve program; personnel and training costs; and equipment and services; $115,528,000.

AUTOMATION MODERNIZATION

For expenses of the Coast Guard automated systems, $50,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2015.

ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of acquisition, construction, renovation, and improvement of aids to navigation, shore facilities, vessels, and aircraft, including equipment related thereto; and maintenance, rehabilitation, lease, and operation of facilities and equipment; as authorized by law; $1,428,593,000, of which $20,000,000 shall be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to carry out the purposes of section 1012(a)(5) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2712(a)(5)); of which $938,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2017, to acquire, effect major repairs to, renovate, or improve vessels, small boats, and related equipment; of which $204,500,000 shall be available until September 30, 2017, to acquire, effect major repairs to, renovate, or improve aircraft or increase aviation capability; of which $59,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2017, for other acquisition programs; of which $109,911,000 shall be available until September 30, 2017, for shore facilities and aids to navigation, including waterfront facilities at Navy installations used by the Coast Guard; of which $117,182,000 shall be available for personnel compensation and benefits and related costs: *Provided*, That of the funds provided under this heading, $66,000,000 shall be immediately apportioned for contract for long lead-time materials, components, and designs for the seventh National Security Cutter notwithstanding the availability of funds for production costs or post-production costs: *Provided further*, That $10,000,000 shall be available for infrastructure construction, to include design, engineering, and oversight required to support the continued development of the Department of Homeland Security consolidated headquarters; and all projects using this funding, with all related obligations and expenditures, shall be subject to the management review, approval, and oversight of the Department of Homeland Security, Office of the Under Secretary for Management: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives, at the time that the President's budget proposal is submitted pursuant to the requirements of section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, a future-years capital investment plan for the Coast Guard that identifies for each requested capital asset—

(1) the proposed appropriations included in that budget;

(2) the total estimated cost of completion, including and clearly delineating the costs of associated major acquisition systems infrastructure and transition to operations;

(3) projected funding levels for each fiscal year for the next 5 fiscal years or until acquisition program baseline or project completion, whichever is earlier;

(4) an estimated completion date at the projected funding levels; and

(5) a current acquisition program baseline for each capital asset, as applicable, that—

(A) includes the total acquisition cost of each asset, subdivided by fiscal year and including a detailed description of the purpose of the proposed funding levels for each fiscal year, including for each fiscal year funds requested for design, pre-acquisition activities, production, structural modifications, missionization, post-delivery, and transition to operations costs;

(B) includes a detailed project schedule through completion, subdivided by fiscal year, that details—

(i) quantities planned for each fiscal year; and

(ii) major acquisition and project events, including development of operational requirements, contracting actions, design reviews, production, delivery, test and evaluation, and transition to operations, including necessary training, shore infrastructure, and logistics;

(C) notes and explains any deviations in cost, performance parameters, schedule, or estimated date of completion from the original acquisition program baseline and the most recent baseline approved by the Department of Homeland Security's Investment Review Board, if applicable;

(D) aligns the acquisition of each asset to mission requirements by defining existing capabilities of comparable legacy assets, identifying known capability gaps between such existing capabilities and stated mission requirements, and explaining how the acquisition of each asset will address such known capability gaps;

(E) defines life-cycle costs for each asset and the date of the estimate on which such costs are based, including all associated

costs of major acquisitions systems infrastructure and transition to operations, delineated by purpose and fiscal year for the projected service life of the asset;

(F) includes the earned value management system summary schedule performance index and cost performance index for each asset, if applicable; and

(G) includes a phase-out and decommissioning schedule delineated by fiscal year for each existing legacy asset that each asset is intended to replace or recapitalize:

Provided further, That the Secretary of Homeland Security shall ensure that amounts specified in the future-years capital investment plan are consistent, to the maximum extent practicable, with proposed appropriations necessary to support the programs, projects, and activities of the Coast Guard in the President's budget proposal as submitted pursuant to the requirements of section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, for that fiscal year: *Provided further*, That any inconsistencies between the capital investment plan and proposed appropriations shall be identified and justified: *Provided further*, That subsections (a) and (b) of section 6402 of Public Law 110–28 shall apply with respect to the amounts made available under this heading.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST, AND EVALUATION

For necessary expenses for applied scientific research, development, test, and evaluation; and for maintenance, rehabilitation, lease, and operation of facilities and equipment; as authorized by law; $19,690,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017, of which $500,000 shall be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to carry out the purposes of section 1012(a)(5) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2712(a)(5)): *Provided*, That there may be credited to and used for the purposes of this appropriation funds received from State and local governments, other public authorities, private sources, and foreign countries for expenses incurred for research, development, testing, and evaluation.

RETIRED PAY

For retired pay, including the payment of obligations otherwise chargeable to lapsed appropriations for this purpose, payments under the Retired Serviceman's Family Protection and Survivor Benefits Plans, payment for career status bonuses, concurrent receipts and combat-related special compensation under the National Defense Authorization Act, and payments for medical care of retired personnel and their dependents under chapter 55 of title 10, United States Code, $1,423,000,000 to remain available until expended.

UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the United States Secret Service, including purchase of not to exceed 652 vehicles for police-type use for replacement only; hire of passenger motor vehicles; purchase of motorcycles made in the United States; hire of aircraft; services of expert witnesses at such rates as may be determined by the Director of the Secret Service; rental of buildings in the District of Columbia, and fencing, lighting, guard booths, and other facilities on private or other property not in Government ownership or control, as may be necessary to perform protective functions; payment of per diem or subsistence allowances to employees in cases in which a protective assignment on the actual day or days of the visit of a protectee requires an employee to work 16 hours per day or to remain overnight at a post of duty; conduct of and participation in firearms matches; presentation of awards; travel of United States Secret Service employees on protective missions without regard to the limitations on such expenditures in this or any other Act if approval is obtained in advance from the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives; research and development; grants to conduct behavioral research in support of protective research and operations; and payment in advance for commercial accommodations as may be necessary to perform protective functions; $1,556,055,000, of which not to exceed $21,250 shall be for official reception and representation expenses; of which not to exceed $100,000 shall be to provide technical assistance and equipment to foreign law enforcement organizations in counterfeit investigations; of which $2,366,000 shall be for forensic and related support of investigations of missing and exploited children; and of which $6,000,000 shall be for a grant for activities related to investigations of missing and exploited children and shall remain available until September 30, 2014: *Provided*, That up to $18,000,000 for protective travel shall remain available until September 30, 2014: *Provided further*, That up to $4,500,000 for National Special Security Events shall remain available until September 30, 2014: *Provided further*, That the United States Secret Service is authorized to obligate funds in anticipation of reimbursements from Federal agencies and entities, as defined in section 105 of title 5, United States Code, for personnel receiving training sponsored by the James J. Rowley Training Center, except that total obligations at the end of the fiscal year shall not exceed total budgetary resources available under this heading at the end of the fiscal year: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available under this heading shall be available to compensate any employee for overtime in an annual amount in excess of $35,000, except that the Secretary of Homeland Security, or the designee of the Secretary, may waive that amount as necessary for national security purposes: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available to the United States Secret Service by this Act or by previous appropriations Acts may be made available for the protection of the head of a Federal agency other than the Secretary of Homeland Security: *Provided further*, That the Director of the United States Secret Service may enter into an agreement to provide such protection on a fully reimbursable basis: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available to the United States Secret Service by this Act or by previous appropriations Acts may be obligated for the purpose of opening a new permanent domestic or overseas office or location unless the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives are notified 15 days in advance of such obligation.

ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses for acquisition, construction, and improvement of physical and technological infrastructure, $56,750,000, of which $4,430,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017, shall be for acquisition, construction, improvement, and maintenance of facilities, and of which $52,320,000, to remain available until September 30, 2015, shall be for information integration and technology transformation project execution: *Provided*, That the Director of the United States Secret Service shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives at the time that the President's budget proposal for fiscal year 2014 is submitted pursuant to the requirements of section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, a multi-year investment and management plan for its Information Integration and Technology Transformation program that describes funding for the current fiscal year and the following 3 fiscal years, with associated plans for systems acquisition and technology deployment.

TITLE III

PROTECTION, PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE, AND RECOVERY

NATIONAL PROTECTION AND PROGRAMS DIRECTORATE

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

For salaries and expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for the National Protection and Programs Directorate, support for operations, and information technology, $45,321,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed $4,250 shall be for official reception and representation expenses.

INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION AND INFORMATION SECURITY

For necessary expenses for infrastructure protection and information security programs and activities, as authorized by title II of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 121 et seq.), $1,110,430,000, of which $200,000,000, shall remain available until September 30, 2014.

FEDERAL PROTECTIVE SERVICE

The revenues and collections of security fees credited to this account shall be available until expended for necessary expenses related to the protection of federally owned and leased buildings and for the operations of the Federal Protective Service: *Provided*, That the Director of the Federal Protective Service shall include with the submission of the President's fiscal year 2014 budget a strategic human capital plan that aligns fee collections to personnel requirements based on a current threat assessment.

OFFICE OF BIOMETRIC IDENTITY MANAGEMENT

For necessary expenses for the Office of Biometric Identity Management, as authorized by section 7208 of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (8 U.S.C. 1365b), $191,380,000: *Provided*, That of the total amount made available under this heading, $156,486,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2015: *Provided further*, That, subject to section 503 of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security may transfer up to $5,000,000 to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement to support the transition of the Arrival and Departure Information System: *Provided further*, That amounts transferred pursuant to the preceding proviso shall remain available until September 30, 2014: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, an expenditure plan for the Office of Biometric Identity Management: *Provided further*, That of the total amount made available under this heading, $25,000,000 may not be obligated for the Office of Biometric Identity Management until the Secretary of Homeland Security submits to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives, at the time that the President's budget proposal for fiscal year 2014 is submitted pursuant to the requirements of section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, a multi-year investment and management plan for the Office of Biometric Identity Management: *Provided further*, That such multi-year investment and management plan shall include, for the current fiscal year and the following 3 fiscal years, for the Office of Biometric Identity Management program, the following—

(1) the proposed appropriations for each activity tied to mission requirements and outcomes, program management capabilities,

performance levels, and specific capabilities and services to be delivered, noting any deviations in cost or performance from the prior fiscal year expenditure or investment and management plan;

(2) the total estimated cost, projected funding by fiscal year, and projected timeline of completion for all enhancements, modernizations, and new capabilities proposed in such budget and underway, including and clearly delineating associated efforts and funds requested by other agencies within the Department of Homeland Security and in the Federal Government, and detailing any deviations in cost, performance, schedule, or estimated date of completion provided in the prior fiscal year expenditure or investment and management plan; and

(3) a detailed accounting of operations and maintenance, contractor services, and program costs associated with the management of identity services.

OFFICE OF HEALTH AFFAIRS

For necessary expenses of the Office of Health Affairs, $132,003,000; of which $27,702,000 is for salaries and expenses and $85,394,000 is for BioWatch operations: *Provided*, That $18,907,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2014, for biosurveillance, chemical defense, medical and health planning and coordination, and workforce health protection: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $2,500 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That the Assistant Secretary for the Office of Health Affairs shall submit an expenditure plan for fiscal year 2013 to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives not later than 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, $712,565,000, including activities authorized by the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.), the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.), the Cerro Grande Fire Assistance Act of 2000 (division C, title I, 114 Stat. 583), the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7701 et seq.), the Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. App. 2061 et seq.), sections 107 and 303 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 404, 405), Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.), the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101 et seq.), and the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–295; 120 Stat. 1394): *Provided*, That not to exceed $2,500 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That for purposes of planning, coordination, execution, and decision making related to mass evacuation during a disaster, the Governors of the State of West Virginia and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, or their designees, shall be incorporated into efforts to integrate the activities of Federal, State, and local governments in the National Capital Region, as defined in section 882 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002: *Provided further*, That of the total amount made available under this heading, $27,513,000 shall be for the Urban Search and Rescue Response System, of which no funds may be used for administrative costs: *Provided further*, That, of the total amount made available under this heading, $22,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2014, for capital improvements and other expenses related to continuity of operations at the Mount Weather Emergency Operations Center.

AUTOMATION MODERNIZATION

For necessary expenses for automated systems of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, $58,048,000 to remain available until September 30, 2015.

STATE AND LOCAL PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other activities, $1,762,589,000, which shall be distributed, according to threat, vulnerability, and consequence, at the discretion of the Secretary of Homeland Security based on the following authorities:

(1) The State Homeland Security Grant Program under section 2004 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 605): *Provided*, That notwithstanding subsection (c)(4) of such section 2004, for fiscal year 2012, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico shall make available to local and tribal governments amounts provided to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico under this paragraph in accordance with subsection (c)(1) of such section 2004.

(2) The Urban Area Security Initiative under section 2003 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 604).

(3) The Metropolitan Medical Response System under section 635 of the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006 (6 U.S.C. 723).

(4) The Citizen Corps Program.

(5) Public Transportation Security Assistance and Railroad Security Assistance, under sections 1406 and 1513 of the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (6 U.S.C. 1135 and 1163), including Amtrak security: *Provided*, That such public transportation security assistance shall be provided directly to public transportation agencies.

(6) Over-the-Road Bus Security Assistance under section 1532 of the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (6 U.S.C. 1182).

(7) Port Security Grants in accordance with section 70107 of title 46, United States Code.

(8) The Driver's License Security Grants Program in accordance with section 204 of the REAL ID Act of 2005 (49 U.S.C. 30301 note).

(9) The Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program under section 1809 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 579).

(10) Emergency Operations Centers under section 614 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5196c).

(11) Buffer Zone Protection Program grants.

(12) Organizations (as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from tax section 501(a) of such code) determined by the Secretary to be at high risk of a terrorist attack:

Provided, That of the amount provided under this heading, $55,000,000 shall be for Operation Stonegarden and no less than $150,000,000 shall be for areas at the highest threat of a terrorist attack: *Provided further*, That $231,681,000 shall be to sustain current operations for training, exercises, technical assistance, and other programs, of which $155,500,000 shall be for training of State, local, and tribal emergency response providers: *Provided further*, That for grants under paragraphs (1) through (12), applications for grants shall be made available to eligible applicants not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, that eligible applicants shall submit applications not later than 80 days after the grant announcement, and the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall act within 65 days after the receipt of an application: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 2008(a)(11) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 609(a)(11)), or any other provision of law, a grantee may use not more than 5 percent of the amount of a grant made available under this heading for expenses directly related to administration of the grant: *Provided further*, That 7.02 percent of the amounts provided under this heading shall be transferred to the Federal Emergency Management Agency ''Salaries and Expenses'' account for program administration: *Provided further*, That for grants under paragraphs (1) and (2), the installation of communication towers is not considered construction of a building or other physical facility: *Provided further*, That grantees shall provide reports on their use of funds, as determined necessary by the Secretary of Homeland Security: *Provided further*, That in fiscal year 2013: (a) the Center for Domestic Preparedness may provide training to emergency response providers from the Federal Government, foreign governments, or private entities, if the Center for Domestic Preparedness is reimbursed for the cost of such training, and any reimbursement under this subsection shall be credited to the account from which the expenditure being reimbursed was made and shall be available, without fiscal year limitation, for the purposes for which amounts in the account may be expended; (b) the head of the Center for Domestic Preparedness shall ensure that any training provided under (a) does not interfere with the primary mission of the Center to train state and local emergency response providers; and (c) subject to (b), nothing in (a) prohibits the Center for Domestic Preparedness from providing training to employees of the Federal Emergency Management Agency in existing chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, explosives, mass casualty, and medical surge courses pursuant to section 4103 of title 5, United States Code, without reimbursement for the cost of such training.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. FLAKE

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk designated as No. 2.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 37, line 18, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $412,908,000)''.

Page 99, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $412,908,000)''.

Mr. FLAKE (during the reading). Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that the reading be dispensed with.

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Yes, Mr. Chairman, I object. We do not have a copy of the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. Objection is heard.

The Clerk will continue to report the amendment.

The Clerk continued to read.

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

Mr. FLAKE. I apologize that my objecting to the reading took longer than the reading, but we will try to get through this quickly.

This amendment is straightforward and would simply reduce the amount appropriated for State and local programs in the bill by $412 million, making the amount available for the Homeland Security grants consistent with FY 2012 levels. I understand that some

of these are popular programs, and I'm under no illusions about the prospect of this amendment.

But I also understand that these programs were cut heavily last year within the fiscal year 2012 Homeland Security appropriations bill, but it was reported out of the committee with $1.3 billion cut from the previous year and a funding level $2.8 billion less than the President's request.

By comparison, this $412 million cut looks a bit chintzy. There are good reasons for this. Setting aside the steep financial precipice that we find ourselves on, and we're still on, there are some problems with these programs that led to them being cut last year. According to the House appropriations report from 2012:

''These reductions are due to the persistent lack of quantifiable metrics that measure the additional capability that our Nation has gained for the billions of dollars that have been invested'' in these grant programs.

In other words, we don't have good metrics actually to determine if this money is being spent well or not.

The report continues:

''Based on the latest estimates, the Department currently has almost $13 billion in previously appropriated funds that remain unspent dating back to FY 2005. This level of unexpended balances is unacceptable.''

That's what the report reads.

Mr. Chairman, the House Committee on Appropriations approved this bill and the report which accompanies it just less than 1 year ago. When it did, it appropriated only $1 billion for these programs.

While the conference report increased that to $1.34 billion today, we are preparing to approve a bill that appropriates more than 750,000 more than the House thought appropriate last year.

These programs, I should mention, were heavily criticized last year, and here we are with this massive increase. What dent has been made in the $13 billion in unspent funds that existed less than 1 year ago? The criticisms levied by the House against these programs have been echoed by GAO as well.

In 2009 GAO found that:

''FEMA's assessments do not provide a means to measure the effective UASI region's projects that they have had on building regional preparedness capabilities, which is the goal of the program. Taxpayers have footed the bill for tens of billions of dollars in grants to States and localities with no clear way of telling how the money has improved readiness or national security. In fact, it remains difficult for any Member of Congress to even know what these funds are being spent on.''

We've got to do better than this. When we don't get good reports back as to how the money is being spent, how can we ensure that additional monies like this are going to be spent in an appropriate manner?

I'm certain that my colleagues want to ensure that money is spent well. That's why I think we should simply forego spending this additional amount. That's what this amendment is intended to do. This amendment would simply reduce the amount appropriated by $412 million, making it level with 2012 funding levels.

Again, we have got to start cutting spending somewhere, and when we increase spending on programs like this, where we don't get good information from the Agencies that spend it as to whether or not it's doing the good that it was intended to do, then I say this is an area that we should cut.

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

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

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

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the gentleman from Arizona's amendment.

In fact, he beat me to the microphone because I had intended to introduce the same amendment that he is presenting to us now.

I would like to say that this amendment of Mr. FLAKE's will keep funding the State and local programs that fall under FEMA set at those 2012 levels. It does not affect disaster assistance, only State and local programs.

Mr. Chairman, our Nation is broke and many Agencies, along with entire branches of the Federal Government, are experiencing drastic cutbacks. As it stands, the underlying bill increases funding for State and local FEMA programs by more than $400 million. While I'm well aware that FEMA provides necessary support for various grant training programs, I'm also a firm believer that these would be better regulated solely by State and local governments, not by the Federal Government.

Therefore, I feel it is more than reasonable to ask that, for right now, particularly while we are in such a crisis economically as a Nation, that we simply freeze funding for these programs at the 2012 level.

□ 2200

I congratulate my friend from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) for his amendment and I heartily support it. I congratulate him on his longstanding efforts to bring the Federal Government into fiscal sanity. I urge support of this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. I move to strike the last word.

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

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to this amendment. This amendment would decimate the funding for our FEMA Homeland Security grants. By that I mean the State and local grants on which our communities depend. I mean the transit and rail grants that we've heard so much about in this evening's debate; I mean the port security grants; I mean the UASI grants—the urban area grants that are risk based and targeted to the areas in this country that are under the greatest risk; and other programs of smaller size. These programs have helped keep our communities safe. After all, our first responders are not at the Federal level. Our first responders are at home. And our States and our communities are on the frontlines of responding and preparing to respond, mitigating, and then dealing with disasters—disasters of terrorist attacks, natural disasters, and other major emergencies.

This amendment would return to the 2012 funding levels, which were greatly reduced from previous-year funding levels. In fact, the levels in 2012 were at an all-time low and were widely decried by our States and localities. So this year we've begun in this bill to build those funding levels where they need to be, and this amendment would wipe all that out in a single stroke.

The author of this amendment has made a great deal of the pace of the spending on these grant programs. I have to say that the figures cited tonight are misleading in the sense that these are multiyear programs. They're often dealing with large construction projects. All of this money except the money for the current year is obligated. It's not just sitting there. The money is obligated. Of course, after the projects are completed, the full amount will be registered as spent.

And so we need to oversee these programs carefully. We need to make sure that they're being administered in a responsible way. We need to exercise careful oversight. But the notion that we would come in and wipe it out with a single amendment the progress we've made in getting these funds back to a level that will give our communities and States the support they need, I think, is unthinkable.

I hope this body will reject this amendment.

Mr. DICKS. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. I am happy to yield to the gentleman from Washington.

Mr. DICKS. I would just like to associate myself with the gentleman's remarks. I feel these programs are very important and that there have been major cuts made in the last 2 years, as I understand it, and that this would just be another major cut on top of this.

To my friend from Georgia, austerity isn't helping England, it isn't helping France, it isn't helping Greece, and it's not going to help the United States. We need the recovery here at home. That's what we need—not mindless cutting and slashing of the budget that will throw people out of work and not create jobs for the American people.

Austerity has failed. I think it's time for the majority to wake up and recognize that.

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. I would be happy to yield to the gentleman.

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. I thank my friend from North Carolina for yielding.

I would just remark about, Mr. Chairman, my friend from Washington State's remark. The countries in Europe are failing because they spend too much money. The government does not make jobs. It's the private sector that makes jobs. Republicans have passed bill after bill after bill here in the House that HARRY REID throws in the trash can as soon as they get over to the Senate.

We've passed bills here that would lower the cost of gasoline and oil. Natural gas, of course, is very low because of the amount that we have, and it's gone down because the marketplace works. We need to develop our God-given resources.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Reclaiming my time, Mr. Chairman, we are talking here about State and local grant programs whereby the Federal Government shares in emergency preparedness and response. It is virtually without dissent in our communities that this funding is needed.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

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

Mr. ADERHOLT. We rise to oppose the amendment as well. We have concerns about the cuts in funding as well. I want to go on record that we do have concerns about this amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The amendment was rejected.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. HAHN

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

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 37, line 18, after the dollar amount insert ''(increased by $75,000,000)''.

Page 55, line 2, after the dollar amount insert ''(reduced by $75,000,000)''.

Page 55, line 4, after the dollar amount insert ''(reduced by $75,000,000)''.

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

Ms. HAHN. My amendment would increase funding for port security grants by $75 million.

I came to Congress to really bring the issue of our ports into our national dialogue and how important they are to our economy, to our jobs, to our national security. I've been the cofounder, with my friend TED POE, of the Congressional Ports Caucus. As a Representative of a district that borders one of the largest ports in the country, this issue is very important to me.

The lessons of 9/11 have taught us that we must continuously be vigilant in proactively seeking out and preventing our country's most pressing threats. The Port Security Grant Program helps address these threats by providing key funding to port areas for enhancing maritime security.

We have millions of tons of cargo shipments coming into ports across this country, and they provide viable entry points for terrorists who seek to use weapons of mass destruction. When people ask me what keeps me up at night, it's the thought of what could happen at one of our ports and what that would mean not only to our national economy but to the global economy. An attack at our Nation's ports could severely damage our own fragile economy right now and cause a ripple effect across the global supply chain. This requires us to take proactive steps and invest in critical detection and response operations and equipment.

Each year, port security officials attempt to address these many threats that exist at our Nation's ports by applying for these port security grants. Unfortunately, the irresponsible cuts to preparing these grants this last year resulted in huge gaps being left unaddressed and security officials unable to build and sustain capabilities needed to prevent, detect, respond to, and recover from a potential attack.

While I commend the chairman and ranking member's efforts in bolstering funding for State and local homeland security programs this year, this amendment will ensure that the ports receive the funding they need in order to address the lingering gaps in port security of which there are many.

And even though I understand the intended purpose of the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility, the reality is that this facility was appropriated $75 million even though President did not need or request these funds.

□ 2210

Additionally, Department of Homeland Security is still waiting for the recommended design modifications made by the National Academy of Sciences and for the administration to review the cost and scope of this project which isn't anticipated to be completed until 2020. I think this money could be better spent on providing critical support for our American ports and inland waterway system which is provided through this Port Security Grant Program.

I have no doubt that all of us recognize the urgency of this threat and the importance of having safe and secure maritime facilities in order to protect our critical borders, moving goods, and our American citizens. Therefore, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

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

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

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

Mr. ADERHOLT. As I mentioned earlier in the evening, our Nation does have an immediate need to build up our research capacity into pathogens that afflict animals and our food chain and, by extension, human beings. This amendment would put that at risk, and therefore, I would oppose the amendment.

I now yield to the gentlelady from Kansas to have her speak on this amendment as well.

Ms. JENKINS. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

DHS, under both the Bush and Obama administrations, has made it clear that a BSL–4 lab is essential to our national security, and building a new structure to host the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility is both responsible and cost effective. Manhattan, Kansas, was selected as the new site for the NBAF after an exhaustive study by the Bush administration's DHS, and then reconfirmed by the current administration's 2012 budget. We need NBAF, and Manhattan is the best place to build it, a fact that Secretary Napolitano confirmed earlier this year in a hearing with the Appropriations Committee.

While FEMA's State and local grants are important, increasing them by eliminating the funding for construction of this lab is simply irresponsible. Make no mistake about it; if we had a surplus, it might be nice to increase these grants. But the result of this amendment will be stopping or delaying construction of the nationally important NBAF facility and jeopardizing the security of our Nation's food supply.

I urge the body to reject this amendment.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, we oppose the amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

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

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I hope we've established in the course of this discussion tonight that I and our side of the aisle are strongly in favor of the FEMA grants, and that most certainly includes the port grants. And so I commend our colleague for calling our attention to the importance of these port security grants and the need for more funding. Although in this bill we have begun the way back in terms of restoring funding for the State and local grants and the port grants and the rail and transit grants and the UASI high risk area grants, we're not there yet. And so our colleague has made a constructive suggestion as to how we might augment this funding.

I do feel obligated, though, to make a comment about the proposed offset. Our colleague has made some very cogent points about the NBAF project. I believe that with the funding that's already in the pipeline and the National Academy of Sciences reviews that are underway, that we do not need to include money in this year's bill for

NBAF construction. But this is part of the science and technology account, and we're going to have later this evening an amendment from our colleague from New York that will suggest taking the NBAF-designated funding and restoring it to the science and technology account. And I have to say that that science and technology account is very much in need of that funding.

Science and technology research activities have been drastically and unwisely cut in recent years. They were cut by 60 percent over the past 2 years. There's a $158 million increase in this bill that restores some of these cuts, but that's taking place against a baseline that was simply too low to meet the needs of the different homeland security components and the needs of our Nation.

So in weighing the equities here, as we said earlier, we have one compelling need and we also have an offset that raises some serious issues. We will have an occasion later this evening to talk about the science and technology account and the place of NBAF within that account.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

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

Mr. YODER. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the Hahn amendment, which strikes a dagger in our efforts to protect our country, our homeland security, from threats to our food system, our agriculture system, and threats to the American people.

As horrific as it is to imagine, reports show that one of our greatest vulnerabilities is threats to our food supply, to agriculture. One doesn't have to stretch too far to think how mad cow disease or some other viral spread could grind our economy to a halt and strike fear in the hearts of all Americans. This simply cannot happen.

The Hahn amendment, which completely defunds 100 percent of the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility in this year's appropriations bill, would completely set us back, would make us very vulnerable to threats to our agricultural system from foreign-borne illness and those terrorists who would seek to injure and strike fear in the hearts of Americans.

Currently, our country lacks a biosafety level 4 lab needed to keep our food supply safe. Both Secretary Vilsack and Secretary Napolitano have stated that this is a priority, and it has bipartisan support within the administration. Both President Bush and President Obama have supported it. Homeland security is not a partisan issue. We're here today to do what we can to protect the American people.

I want to commend the chairman and the committee for their work in ensuring that the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility was properly funded and that we can move forward and continue to protect ourselves from terrorists around the world. I can assure us here today that terrorists are not sleeping. They are not waiting for this committee to debate. They're not waiting for conference committees. They're doing everything they can to strike fear in the hearts of Americans and disrupt our food supply.

This weakness is something that we can not continue to let go by. That's why I stand strongly against the Hahn amendment. It's dangerous for our national security. It's dangerous for the American people, and I ask the body to reject it this evening.

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. 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. HIGGINS

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

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 37, line 18, after the dollar amount insert ''(increased by $58,000,000)''.

Page 55, line 2, after the dollar amount insert ''(reduced by $58,000,000)''.

Page 55, line 4, after the dollar amount insert ''(reduced by $58,000,000)''.

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Chairman, my amendment, which is cosponsored by Representative STIVERS, is a bipartisan effort to provide essential public safety funding to communities across the country that have been determined to be at high risk of a terrorist threat.

This amendment would provide for an additional $58 million to State and local grant programs that the Secretary of Homeland Security should use to increase eligibility for the Urban Areas Security Initiatives to all communities at high risk, including Buffalo, which I represent. The intent is to restore the eligibility of these communities to again participate in the UASI program after being unfortunately cut out in the past.

The Buffalo-Niagara region was made ineligible without merit. The area includes four international border crossings and the busiest passenger crossing along the northern border with Canada, the largest electricity producer in New York State, and the area was home to the al Qaeda terrorist cell, the Lackawanna Six. It sits along two Great Lakes, which contain the largest freshwater supply in the world, and is within a 500-mile radius of 55 percent of the American population and 62 percent of the Canadian population.

□ 2220

Buffalo is not alone either. Border communities like El Paso, San Antonio, and Austin were cut as well. Cities in close proximity to large ports, refineries, and utilities like Columbus, New Orleans, Memphis, Nashville, and Oklahoma City were cut as well. Thirty-six communities in total were cut from all across the country. Now, as we are only beginning to realize the threats posed by these places, is it penny-wise and pound-foolish to leave them without the resources to maintain the capacity gains they developed throughout this program?

Mr. Chairman, the 9/11 Commission made it clear that protecting the homeland from terrorist threats can and should be a Federal priority. Yet the Department has hedged on this commitment by excluding too many vulnerable communities that need to participate in this Department of Homeland Security program. We know that the threats to these areas are real, and we should be doing everything possible to provide law enforcement with the tools to prevent and to respond to them.

Again, Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan amendment because the terrorist threat to these communities is real and it is dynamic. We should be doing everything that we can to empower these communities to protect themselves from these threats.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

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

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I would strongly urge my colleagues to support fiscal discipline as well as critical research and development. Therefore, with the concerns we have about the gentleman's amendment, we ask for a ''no'' vote on this amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

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

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, here we have another amendment dealing with FEMA grants. And once again, we've come to appreciate the need for more robust support for urban area grants, for State and local grants, for transit and port grants, rail grants, the kind of protective efforts that our communities require. We are reminded again that those grants have been cut very drastically in recent years, and in this bill we are only beginning to bring them back to the levels required.

So I want to commend our colleague for this amendment, which proposes $58 million, I believe, in increased funding for these grants. This is money that could be well spent, wisely spent, prudently spent by our States and local communities.

Again, I simply call attention to the problems posed by the offset. Members will have to make their own judgments about this. The money is taken out of the Science and Technology Directorate at the Department of Homeland Security, taken out of the labs accounts, as I understand it, which does include the NBAF item discussed earlier, but isn't limited to NBAF.

I just remind colleagues that science and technology research activities have been cut 60 percent over the last 2 years. And so there's an increase in this bill. We fought our way back in this area, too, in this bill, restoring some of these cuts against the baseline that was way too low. And so these science and technology—this is not free money. This is related just as surely as anything in the bill to this country's security, and its underinvested in at the moment. So we do have to weigh competing values here, and certainly in the balance the science and technology priorities deserve serious consideration.

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. HIGGINS).

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

Mr. HIGGINS. 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 New York will be postponed.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

FIREFIGHTER ASSISTANCE GRANTS

For necessary expenses for programs authorized by the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2201 et seq.), $670,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2014, of which $335,000,000 shall be available to carry out section 33 of that Act (15 U.S.C. 2229) and $335,000,000 shall be available to carry out section 34 of that Act (15 U.S.C. 2229a): *Provided*, That in addition to the purposes otherwise authorized for SAFER grants in section 34 of that Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall make such grants available for the retention of firefighters: *Provided further*, That subsections (a)(1)(A), (a)(1)(B), (a)(1)(E), (c)(1), (c)(2), and (c)(4)(A) of section 34 of that Act shall not apply to amounts made available under this heading: *Provided further*, That not to exceed 4.7 percent of the amount available under this heading shall be available for program administration.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE GRANTS

For necessary expenses for emergency management performance grants, as authorized by the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.), the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.), the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7701 et seq.), and Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.), $350,000,000: *Provided*, That total administrative costs shall not exceed 2.7 percent of the total amount appropriated under this heading.

RADIOLOGICAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM

The aggregate charges assessed during fiscal year 2013, as authorized in title III of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999 (42 U.S.C. 5196e), shall not be less than 100 percent of the amounts anticipated by the Department of Homeland Security necessary for its radiological emergency preparedness program for the next fiscal year: *Provided*, That the methodology for assessment and collection of fees shall be fair and equitable and shall reflect costs of providing such services, including administrative costs of collecting such fees: *Provided further*, That fees received under this heading shall be deposited in this account as offsetting collections and will become available for authorized purposes on October 1, 2013, and remain available until September 30, 2015.

UNITED STATES FIRE ADMINISTRATION

For necessary expenses of the United States Fire Administration and for other purposes, as authorized by the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2201 et seq.) and the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101 et seq.), $42,460,000.

DISASTER RELIEF FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses in carrying out the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.), $6,088,926,000, to remain available until expended, of which $5,481,000,000 is for major disasters declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.): *Provided*, That the latter amount is designated by the Congress as being for disaster relief pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (Public Law 99–177, 2 U.S.C. 901(b)(2)(D)): *Provided further*, That of which $24,000,000 shall be transferred to the Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General for audits and investigations related to disasters: *Provided further*, That the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall submit an expenditure plan to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives detailing the use of the funds made available in this or any other Act for disaster readiness and support not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall submit to such Committees a quarterly report detailing obligations against the expenditure plan and a justification for any changes from the initial plan: *Provided further*, That the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives the following reports, including a specific description of the methodology and the source data used in developing such reports:

(1) an estimate of the following amounts shall be submitted for the budget year at the time that the President's budget is submitted each year under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code:

(A) the unobligated balance of funds to be carried over from the prior fiscal year to the budget year;

(B) the unobligated balance of funds to be carried over from the budget year to the budget year plus 1;

(C) the amount of obligations for non-catastrophic events for the budget year;

(D) the amount of obligations for the budget year for catastrophic events delineated by event and by State;

(E) the total amount that has been previously obligated or will be required for catastrophic events delineated by event and by State for all prior years, the current year, the budget year, the budget year plus 1, the budget year plus 2, and the budget year plus 3 and beyond;

(F) the amount of previously obligated funds that will be recovered for the budget year;

(G) the amount that will be required for obligations for emergencies, as described in section 102(1) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122(1)), major disasters, as described in section 102(2) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122(2)), fire management assistance grants, as described in section 420 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5187), surge activities, and disaster readiness and support activities; and

(H) the amount required for activities not covered under section 251(b)(2)(D)(iii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(b)(2)(D)(iii); Public Law 99–177);

(2) an estimate or actual amounts, if available, of the following for the current fiscal year shall be submitted not later than the fifth day of each month beginning with the first full month after the date of enactment of this Act:

(A) a summary of the amount of appropriations made available by source, the transfers executed, the previously allocated funds recovered, and the commitments, allocations, and obligations made;

(B) a table of disaster relief activity delineated by month, including—

(i) the beginning and ending balances;

(ii) the total obligations to include amounts obligated for fire assistance, emergencies, surge, and disaster support activities;

(iii) the obligations for catastrophic events delineated by event and by State; and

(iv) the amount of previously obligated funds that are recovered;

(C) a summary of allocations, obligations, and expenditures for catastrophic events delineated by event; and

(D) the date on which funds appropriated will be exhausted.

DISASTER ASSISTANCE DIRECT LOAN PROGRAM ACCOUNT

Subject to section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans shall not exceed $25,000,000.

FLOOD HAZARD MAPPING AND RISK ANALYSIS PROGRAM

For necessary expenses, including administrative costs, under section 1360 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4101), $92,145,000, and such additional sums as may be provided by State and local governments or other political subdivisions for cost-shared mapping activities under section 1360(f)(2) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 4101(f)(2)), to remain available until expended.

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE FUND

For activities under the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.) and the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.), $171,000,000, which shall remain available until September 30, 2014, shall be derived from offsetting collections assessed and collected under section 1308(d) of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4015(d)), and shall be available for salaries and expenses associated with flood mitigation and flood insurance operations; and floodplain management and flood mapping: *Provided*, That not to exceed $22,000,000 shall be available for salaries and expenses associated with flood mitigation and flood insurance operations; and not less than $149,000,000 shall be available for flood plain

management and flood mapping, which shall remain available until September 30, 2014: *Provided further*, That any additional fees collected pursuant to section 1308(d) of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4015(d)) shall be credited as an offsetting collection to this account, to be available for flood plain management and flood mapping: *Provided further*, That in fiscal year 2013, no funds shall be available from the National Flood Insurance Fund under section 1310 of that Act (42 U.S.C. 4017) in excess of:

(1) $132,000,000 for operating expenses;

(2) $1,056,602,000 for commissions and taxes of agents;

(3) such sums as are necessary for interest on Treasury borrowings; and

(4) $120,000,000, which shall remain available until expended, for flood mitigation actions; for repetitive insurance claims properties under section 1323 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4030); and for flood mitigation assistance under section 1366 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4104c), notwithstanding subparagraphs (B) and (C) of subsection (b)(3) and subsection (f) of section 1366 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4104c) and notwithstanding subsection (a)(7) of section 1310 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4017):

Provided further, That the amounts collected under section 102 of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 4012a) and section 1366(i) of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 shall be deposited in the National Flood Insurance Fund to supplement other amounts specified as available for section 1366 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, notwithstanding subsection (f)(8) of such section 102 (42 U.S.C. 4012a(f)(8), and section 1366(i) and paragraphs (2) and (3) of section 1367(b) of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4104c(i), 4104d(b)(2)–(3)): *Provided further*, That total administrative costs shall not exceed 4 percent of the total appropriation.

NATIONAL PREDISASTER MITIGATION FUND

For the predisaster mitigation grant program under section 203 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5133), $14,331,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the total administrative costs associated with such grants shall not exceed 3 percent of the total amount made available under this heading.

EMERGENCY FOOD AND SHELTER

To carry out the emergency food and shelter program pursuant to title III of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11331 et seq.), $120,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That total administrative costs shall not exceed 3.5 percent of the total amount made available under this heading.

TITLE IV

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, TRAINING, AND SERVICES

UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES

For necessary expenses for citizenship and immigration services, $111,924,000 for the E-Verify Program, as described in section 403(a) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1324a note), to assist United States employers with maintaining a legal workforce: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds otherwise made available to United States Citizenship and Immigration Services may be used to acquire, operate, equip, and dispose of up to 5 vehicles, for replacement only, for areas where the Administrator of General Services does not provide vehicles for lease: *Provided further*, That the Director of United States Citizenship and Immigration Services may authorize employees who are assigned to those areas to use such vehicles to travel between the employees' residences and places of employment.

FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTER

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, including materials and support costs of Federal law enforcement basic training; the purchase of not to exceed 117 vehicles for police-type use and hire of passenger motor vehicles; expenses for student athletic and related activities; the conduct of and participation in firearms matches and presentation of awards; public awareness and enhancement of community support of law enforcement training; room and board for student interns; a flat monthly reimbursement to employees authorized to use personal mobile phones for official duties; and services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code; $228,467,000; of which up to $44,758,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2014, for materials and support costs of Federal law enforcement basic training; of which $300,000 shall remain available until expended to be distributed to Federal law enforcement agencies for expenses incurred participating in training accreditation; and of which not to exceed $10,200 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided*, That the Center is authorized to obligate funds in anticipation of reimbursements from agencies receiving training sponsored by the Center, except that total obligations at the end of the fiscal year shall not exceed total budgetary resources available at the end of the fiscal year: *Provided further*, That the Director of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center shall schedule basic or advanced law enforcement training, or both, at all four training facilities under the control of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center to ensure that such training facilities are operated at the highest capacity throughout the fiscal year: *Provided further*, That the Federal Law Enforcement Training Accreditation Board, including representatives from the Federal law enforcement community and non-Federal accreditation experts involved in law enforcement training, shall lead the Federal law enforcement training accreditation process to continue the implementation of measuring and assessing the quality and effectiveness of Federal law enforcement training programs, facilities, and instructors.

ACQUISITIONS, CONSTRUCTION, IMPROVEMENTS, AND RELATED EXPENSES

For acquisition of necessary additional real property and facilities, construction, and ongoing maintenance, facility improvements, and related expenses of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, $27,385,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That the Center is authorized to accept reimbursement to this appropriation from government agencies requesting the construction of special use facilities.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

For salaries and expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Science and Technology and for management and administration of programs and activities, as authorized by title III of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 181 et seq.), $130,000,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed $8,500 shall be for official reception and representation expenses.

Mr. ADERHOLT (during the reading). Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that the remainder of the bill through page 54, line 19, be considered as read, printed in the RECORD, and open to amendment at any point.

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alabama?

There was no objection.

The Acting CHAIR. Are there any amendments to that portion of the bill?

If not, the Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, ACQUISITION, AND OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses for science and technology research, including advanced research projects, development, test and evaluation, acquisition, and operations as authorized by title III of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 181 et seq.), and the purchase or lease of not to exceed 5 vehicles, $695,971,000, of which $493,539,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2015; and of which $202,432,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2017, solely for operation and construction of laboratory facilities: *Provided*, That $20,000,000 shall not be available for obligation until the Secretary of Homeland Security submits to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives an updated plan for the expenditure of funds for construction of the National Bio- and Agro-defense Facility.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. BISHOP OF NEW YORK

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 55, line 3, after the dollar amount insert ''(increased by $75,000,000)''.

Page 55, line 4, after the dollar amount insert ''(reduced by $75,000,000)''.

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

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Chairman, my amendment is simple: It reduces by $75 million the amount that DHS can spend on construction of laboratory facilities—specifically, the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility, or NBAF, planned for Manhattan, Kansas—and returns those funds to the research, development, acquisitions, and operations account. This unnecessary government spending is little more than an attempt to earmark funds for a project that the Obama administration zeroed out in its FY13 budget proposal, that the DHS acknowledges will cost over $1 billion to construct, that the National Academy of Sciences has raised real concerns about the possibility of foot and mouth disease release, and that many in the agricultural community are asking, why take the chance?

When the National Academy of Sciences last reviewed the NBAF proposal, they indicated that the risk of foot and mouth disease in the Nation's Heartland was a 70 percent risk over a 50-year period. The academy also estimated the cost of a potential release of foot and mouth disease at $9 billion to $50 billion.

While it is correct that earlier this year DHS indicated this risk had been mitigated with additional design features, the National Academy of Sciences is still revising the Revised Risk Assessment. Common sense requires that until the Revised Risk Assessment is complete, we should not be entertaining the idea of appropriating precious taxpayer dollars for construction of this project.

NBAF has also become a financial boondoggle. The estimated cost of construction has skyrocketed from an original estimate of $451 million only a few years ago to well over $1 billion today. At this time, it is a colossal risk to the American taxpayer to advance a project the cost of which has doubled in less than 5 years, and when funding for fiscal years 2011 and 2012 remain unobligated.

At a time when my Republican colleagues continually argue that our Nation's debt is out of control and the deficit must be reined in, it is both hypocritical and unwise to spend taxpayer dollars that the President has not requested for a project that is still under design review, to be placed in a region that is acutely sensitive to the horrible diseases that will be studied at the facility. The only logical, responsible thing to do while the many questions surrounding NBAF remain unanswered is to wait to invest taxpayers' hard-earned money and continue to utilize existing DHS assets to study the various animal diseases that face our agricultural community.

Mr. Chairman, funding for the construction of NBAF is tantamount to a $75 million earmark for the Kansas delegation. Funds were not included in the President's budget, and the project has yet to spend the money that has already been appropriated. DHS has other important research and more pressing construction projects than NBAF.

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

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

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

Mr. ADERHOLT. I oppose the amendment because of concerns that we had noted earlier about the importance of the NBAF program that the administration has stressed, and also the need that was stressed in our hearings earlier in the spring.

At this time I'd like to yield to the lady from Kansas to speak on this amendment as well.

Ms. JENKINS. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

The first priority of the Federal Government is to protect the American people, and the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility has been declared necessary to provide that protection.

The Department of Homeland Security, under both the Bush and Obama administrations, and the House Appropriations Committee under both Democrat and Republican leadership, have made it quite clear time and time again that the country needs the NBAF, and the best place to do that research is in Manhattan, Kansas.

Congress has already appropriated $90 million, and the State of Kansas and the city of Manhattan have already committed more than $200 million towards the project. For the record, the calculations performed in this updated SSRA that were previously mentioned indicated that the estimated probability that an accident happening at this facility was less than 11 percent.

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While again, this proposal might be nice if we had a surplus, the result of this amendment will be stopping or delaying construction of this vital NBAF facility, jeopardizing our security and our Nation's food supply. I urge the body to reject this amendment.

Mr. ADERHOLT. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

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

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the amendment offered by my friend from New York (Mr. BISHOP), an amendment that will increase funding for research and development activities within the Science and Technology Directorate by $75 million, and it will dictate that no new appropriated funds will be available in fiscal year 2013 for the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility, NBAF. I stress, no new funds.

The administration did not request funds for NBAF in 2013, and I simply cannot support inclusion of the $75 million contained in this bill until two National Academy of Sciences reviews are completed on the security of this new facility to prevent the accidental release of foot-and-mouth virus or other harmful pathogens.

Members may recall that the GAO, the National Academy of Sciences, and Congress itself have had longstanding concerns about the decision to relocate the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility to the mainland unless we have a comprehensive and validated strategy to prevent the release of foot-and-mouth virus and other harmful pathogens into the community.

In 2011, the National Academy of Sciences found that, based on preliminary designs of the facility, there would be a 70 percent risk of a release of foot-and-mouth disease leading to infection outside the laboratory. The economic cost was estimated to be between $9 billion and $50 billion over the next 50 years as the life span of NBAF would be projected.

DHS has redone its site security risk assessment now that the NBAF design is further along, adding additional protective measures suggested by the original National Academy study. As required by statute, the National Academy is reviewing the site security risks again to take into account these new mitigation strategies.

Now, even if we assume that the National Academy gives a positive review to NBAF, and I very much hope such a review will be warranted, the facility has 2 years of previously appropriated funds that remain unobligated. Science and Technology has told us that these funds will permit construction to begin and fund all necessary activities through fiscal year 2013, so the $75 million included in the bill before us is not needed at this time and will not be needed in the new fiscal year.

This $75 million set-aside in the bill for NBAF has some serious consequences for the science and technology function. It will eliminate most, if not all, funding for new research projects at the Department that they plan to begin in 2013. These projects focus on critical homeland security capabilities and would do the following:

Improve maritime transit security, improve explosive detection capability for mass transit, bulk cargo and suicide bombers, provide building security and checkpoint security with a standoff ability to detect trace explosives on people and personal items, would improve TSA's capability to identify threats to aviation security, would integrate passenger screening at airports to improve security and the travelers' overall screening experience, would increase government security when using cloud-based computing systems, would improve Federal, State and local and animal health officials' emergency response to control the spread of foreign animal diseases and mitigate any impact on the livestock industry, develop countermeasures against high-priority diseases that threaten U.S. livestock, provide building and facility operators a rapid warning and response capability to protect occupants in the event of a chemical or biological attack, and would improve the national, State and local ability to respond to and recover from the effects of a nuclear radiological attack.

Mr. Chairman, that is an impressive list of research priorities. We should take very, very seriously any budget proposal that would displace or move aside these research priorities.

So, under this amendment, this $75 million will be returned to this critical research and development function, restoring these efforts, taking them back to their requested level. These funds will permit S&T to resume research and development work on 22 projects not funded in fiscal 2012, and would increase funding for 34 projects in the important Homeland Security missions such as border security, bio security, chemical security, explosives detection, hostile behavior detection and disaster resiliency.

There's a lot at stake in this amendment, my colleagues. I urge you to adopt it.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

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

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Mr. Chairman, as a farmer and rancher myself, I am very concerned by this amendment. One might be led to believe that with the adoption of this amendment, somehow important research would continue. Actually the opposite is true, Mr. Chairman.

We have billions and billions of dollars in this country that are based on our livestock industries, and unless this Congress and this President continue forward with a plan to build a BSL level 4 security research facility, we will not do the necessary research to protect critical industries, livestock industries in particular, in this Nation. Let me identify two diseases, the Hendra virus and the Nipah virus, that research is not occurring on right now. The Hendra virus' first outbreak was in Australia in 1994. It killed 13 horses. But more importantly, it killed a number of humans. It's a zoonotic disease, and the research is not occurring now.

Secondly, how about the Nipah virus? First identified in Malaysia in 1999, the outbreak resulted in the killing of more than 1 million hogs and 257 cases in humans, killing 105 of them.

Without this type of research, Mr. Chairman, these are the kinds of viruses we have no protection for. Folks might say, well, don't worry, if we would have this type of virus in America, we can outsource the research to friendly countries, Australia and Canada, that will do the research for us.

But, Mr. Chairman, I'm not willing to rely on outsourcing the protection of very important industries. And these are just accidental outbreaks. There are numerous other viruses, numerous other diseases that are in the hands, I believe—and research will show—in the hands potentially of enemies of our country. And we need to oppose this amendment and protect our key vital food and agriculture industries from accidental, as well as potential bioterrorist, attacks.

So I urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment and defend our critical industries.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. BASS of New Hampshire). The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. BISHOP).

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

Mr. BISHOP of New York. 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 New York will be postponed.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

DOMESTIC NUCLEAR DETECTION OFFICE

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

For salaries and expenses of the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office, as authorized by title XIX of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 591 et seq.), for management and administration of programs and activities, $38,000,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed $2,500 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives at the time of the submission of the President's budget proposal for fiscal year 2014 pursuant to the requirements of section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, a strategic plan of investments necessary to implement the Department of Homeland Security's responsibilities under the domestic component of the global nuclear detection architecture that shall—

(1) define each departmental entity's roles and responsibilities in support of the domestic detection architecture, including any existing or planned programs to pre-screen cargo or conveyances overseas;

(2) identify and describe the specific investments being made by departmental components in fiscal year 2013, and planned for fiscal year 2014, to support the domestic architecture and the security of sea, land, and air pathways into the United States;

(3) describe the investments necessary to close known vulnerabilities and gaps, including associated costs and timeframes, and estimates of feasibility and cost effectiveness; and

(4) explain how the Department's research and development funding is furthering the implementation of the domestic nuclear detection architecture, including specific investments planned for each of fiscal years 2013 and 2014.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses for radiological and nuclear research, development, testing, evaluation, and operations, $226,830,000, to remain available until September 30, 2014.

SYSTEMS ACQUISITION

For expenses for the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office acquisition and deployment of radiological detection systems in accordance with the global nuclear detection architecture, $51,455,000, to remain available until September 30, 2015.

TITLE V

GENERAL PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 501. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 502. Subject to the requirements of section 503 of this Act, the unexpended balances of prior appropriations provided for activities in this Act may be transferred to appropriation accounts for such activities established pursuant to this Act, may be merged with funds in the applicable established accounts, and thereafter may be accounted for as one fund for the same time period as originally enacted.

SEC. 503. (a) None of the funds provided by this Act, provided by previous appropriations Acts to the agencies in or transferred to the Department of Homeland Security that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2013, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that—

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

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

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

(4) proposes to use funds directed for a specific activity by either of the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate or the House of Representatives for a different purpose; or

(5) contracts out any function or activity for which funding levels were requested for Federal full-time equivalents in the object classification tables contained in the fiscal year 2013 Budget Appendix for the Department of Homeland Security, as modified by the joint explanatory statement accompanying this Act, unless the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives are notified 15 days in advance of such reprogramming of funds.

(b) None of the funds provided by this Act, provided by previous appropriations Acts to the agencies in or transferred to the Department of Homeland Security that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2013, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees or proceeds available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure for programs, projects, or activities through a reprogramming of funds in excess of $5,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, that:

(1) augments existing programs, projects, or activities;

(2) reduces by 10 percent funding for any existing program, project, or activity, or reduces the numbers of personnel by 10 percent as approved by the Congress; or

(3) results from any general savings from a reduction in personnel that would result in a change in existing programs, projects, or activities as approved by the Congress, unless the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives are notified 15 days in advance of such reprogramming of funds.

(c) Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the Department of Homeland Security by this Act or provided by previous appropriations Acts may be transferred between such appropriations, but no such appropriation, except as otherwise specifically provided, shall be increased by more than 10 percent by such transfers: *Provided*, That any transfer under this section shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under subsection (b) and shall not be available for obligation unless the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives are notified 15 days in advance of such transfer.

(d) Notwithstanding subsections (a), (b), and (c) of this section, no funds shall be reprogrammed within or transferred between appropriations after June 30, except in extraordinary circumstances that imminently threaten the safety of human life or the protection of property.

(e) The notification thresholds and procedures set forth in this section shall apply to any use of deobligated balances of funds provided in previous Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Acts.

SEC. 504. The Department of Homeland Security Working Capital Fund, established pursuant to section 403 of Public Law 103–356 (31 U.S.C. 501 note), shall continue operations as a permanent working capital fund for fiscal year 2013: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the Department of Homeland Security may be used to make payments to the Working Capital Fund, except for the activities and amounts allowed in the President's fiscal year 2013 budget: *Provided further*, That funds provided to the Working

Capital Fund shall be available for obligation until expended to carry out the purposes of the Working Capital Fund: *Provided further*, That all departmental components shall be charged only for direct usage of each Working Capital Fund service: *Provided further*, That funds provided to the Working Capital Fund shall be used only for purposes consistent with the contributing component: *Provided further*, That the Working Capital Fund shall be paid in advance or reimbursed at rates which will return the full cost of each service: *Provided further*, That the Working Capital Fund shall be subject to the requirements of section 503 of this Act.

SEC. 505. Except as otherwise specifically provided by law, not to exceed 50 percent of unobligated balances remaining available at the end of fiscal year 2013 from appropriations for salaries and expenses and operating expenses for fiscal year 2013 in this Act shall remain available through September 30, 2014, in the account and for the purposes for which the appropriations were provided: *Provided*, That prior to the obligation of such funds, a request shall be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives for approval in accordance with section 503 of this Act.

SEC. 506. Funds made available by this Act for intelligence activities are deemed to be specifically authorized by the Congress for purposes of section 504 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 414) during fiscal year 2013 until the enactment of an Act authorizing intelligence activities for fiscal year 2013.

SEC. 507. (a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c), none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to—

(1) make or award a grant allocation, grant, contract, other transaction agreement, task or delivery order on a Department of Homeland Security multiple award contract, or to issue a letter of intent totaling in excess of $1,000,000;

(2) award a task or delivery order requiring an obligation of funds in an amount greater than $10,000,000 from multi-year Department of Homeland Security funds or a task or delivery order that would cause cumulative obligations of multi-year funds in a single account to exceed 50 percent of the total amount appropriated;

(3) make a sole-source grant award; or

(4) announce publicly the intention to make or award items under paragraph (1), (2), or (3) including a contract covered by the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

(b) The Secretary of Homeland Security may waive the prohibition under subsection (a) if the Secretary notifies the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives at least 3 full business days in advance of making an award or issuing a letter as described in that subsection.

(c) If the Secretary of Homeland Security determines that compliance with this section would pose a substantial risk to human life, health, or safety, an award may be made without notification, and the Secretary shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives not later than 5 full business days after such an award is made or letter issued.

(d) A notification under this section—

(1) may not involve funds that are not available for obligation; and

(2) shall include the amount of the award, the fiscal year for which the funds for the award were appropriated, and the account from which the funds are being drawn.

(e) The Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall brief the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives 5 full business days in advance of announcing publicly the intention of making an award under ''State and Local Programs''.

SEC. 508. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no agency shall purchase, construct, or lease any additional facilities, except within or contiguous to existing locations, to be used for the purpose of conducting Federal law enforcement training without the advance approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives, except that the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center is authorized to obtain the temporary use of additional facilities by lease, contract, or other agreement for training that cannot be accommodated in existing Center facilities.

SEC. 509. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used for expenses for any construction, repair, alteration, or acquisition project for which a prospectus otherwise required under chapter 33 of title 40, United States Code, has not been approved, except that necessary funds may be expended for each project for required expenses for the development of a proposed prospectus.

SEC. 510. (a) Sections 520, 522, and 530, of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2008 (division E of Public Law 110-161; 121 Stat. 2073 and 2074) shall apply with respect to funds made available in this Act in the same manner as such sections applied to funds made available in that Act.

(b) The third proviso of section 537 of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2006 (6 U.S.C. 114), shall not apply with respect to funds made available in this Act.

SEC. 511. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used in contravention of the applicable provisions of the Buy American Act. For purposes of the preceding sentence, the term ''Buy American Act'' means chapter 83 of title 41, United States Code.

SEC. 512. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by any person other than the Privacy Officer appointed under subsection (a) of section 222 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 142(a)) to alter, direct that changes be made to, delay, or prohibit the transmission to Congress of any report prepared under paragraph (6) of such subsection.

SEC. 513. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to amend the oath of allegiance required by section 337 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1448).

SEC. 514. Within 45 days after the end of each month, the Chief Financial Officer of the Department of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives a monthly budget and staffing report for that month that includes total obligations, on-board versus funded full-time equivalent staffing levels, and the number of contract employees for each office of the Department.

SEC. 515. Except as provided in section 44945 of title 49, United States Code, funds appropriated or transferred to Transportation Security Administration ''Aviation Security'', ''Administration'', and ''Transportation Security Support'' for fiscal years 2004 and 2005 that are recovered or deobligated shall be available only for the procurement or installation of explosives detection systems, air cargo, baggage, and checkpoint screening systems, subject to notification: *Provided*, That quarterly reports shall be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives on any funds that are recovered or deobligated.

SEC. 516. Any funds appropriated to Coast Guard ''Acquisition, Construction, and Improvements'' for fiscal years 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, and 2006 for the 110–123 foot patrol boat conversion that are recovered, collected, or otherwise received as the result of negotiation, mediation, or litigation, shall be available until expended for the Fast Response Cutter program.

SEC. 517. Section 532(a) of Public Law 109–295 (120 Stat. 1384) is amended by striking ''2012'' and inserting ''2013''.

SEC. 518. The functions of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center instructor staff shall be classified as inherently governmental for the purpose of the Federal Activities Inventory Reform Act of 1998 (31 U.S.C. 501 note).

SEC. 519. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), none of the funds appropriated in this or any other Act to the ''Office of the Secretary and Executive Management'', the ''Office of the Under Secretary for Management'', or the ''Office of the Chief Financial Officer'', may be obligated for a grant or contract funded under such headings by any means other than full and open competition.

(b) Subsection (a) does not apply to obligation of funds for a contract awarded—

(1) by a means that is required by a Federal statute, including obligation for a purchase made under a mandated preferential program, including the AbilityOne Program, that is authorized under chapter 85 of title 41, United States Code;

(2) pursuant to the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 et seq.);

(3) in an amount less than the simplified acquisition threshold described under section 3101 (b) of title 41, United States Code; or

(4) by another Federal agency using funds provided through an interagency agreement.

(c)(1) Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary of Homeland Security may waive the application of this section for the award of a contract in the interest of national security or if failure to do so would pose a substantial risk to human health or welfare.

(2) Not later than 5 days after the date on which the Secretary of Homeland Security issues a waiver under this subsection, the Secretary shall submit notification of that waiver to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives, including a description of the applicable contract to which the waiver applies and an explanation of why the waiver authority was used: *Provided*, That the Secretary may not delegate the authority to grant such a waiver.

(d) In addition to the requirements established by subsections (a), (b), and (c) of this section, the Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security shall review departmental contracts awarded through means other than a full and open competition to assess departmental compliance with applicable laws and regulations: *Provided*, That the Inspector General shall review selected contracts awarded in the previous fiscal year through means other than a full and open competition: *Provided further*, That in selecting which contracts to review, the Inspector General shall consider the cost and complexity of the goods and services to be provided under the contract, the criticality of the contract to fulfilling Department missions, past performance problems on similar contracts or by the selected vendor, complaints received about the award process or contractor performance, and such other factors as the Inspector General deems relevant: *Provided further*, That the Inspector General shall report the results of the reviews to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives no later than February 4, 2013.

SEC. 520. None of the funds provided by this or previous appropriations Acts shall be used

to fund any position designated as a Principal Federal Official (or the successor thereto) for any Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) declared disasters or emergencies unless—

(1) the responsibilities of the Principal Federal Official do not include operational functions related to incident management, including coordination of operations, and are consistent with the requirements of section 509(c) and sections 503(c)(3) and 503(c)(4)(A) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 319(c) and 313(c)(3) and 313(c)(4)(A)) and section 302 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5143);

(2) not later than 10 business days after the latter of the date on which the Secretary of Homeland Security appoints the Principal Federal Official and the date on which the President issues a declaration under section 401 or section 501 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170 and 5191, respectively), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit a notification of the appointment of the Principal Federal Official and a description of the responsibilities of such Official and how such responsibilities are consistent with paragraph (1) to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives, the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee of the House of Representatives, and the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee of the Senate; and

(3) not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall provide a report specifying timeframes and milestones regarding the update of operations, planning and policy documents, and training and exercise protocols, to ensure consistency with paragraph (1) of this section.

SEC. 521. None of the funds provided or otherwise made available in this Act shall be available to carry out section 872 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 452).

SEC. 522. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by United States Citizenship and Immigration Services to grant an immigration benefit unless the results of background checks required by law to be completed prior to the granting of the benefit have been received by United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, and the results do not preclude the granting of the benefit.

SEC. 523. Section 831 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 391) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''September 30, 2012'' and inserting ''September 30, 2013''; and

(2) in subsection (c)(1), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''September 30, 2012'' and inserting ''September 30, 2013''.

SEC. 524. The Secretary of Homeland Security shall require that all contracts of the Department of Homeland Security that provide award fees link such fees to successful acquisition outcomes (which outcomes shall be specified in terms of cost, schedule, and performance).

SEC. 525. None of the funds made available to the Office of the Secretary and Executive Management under this Act may be expended for any new hires by the Department of Homeland Security that are not verified through the E-Verify Program as described in section 403(a) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1324a note).

SEC. 526. None of the funds made available in this Act for U.S. Customs and Border Protection may be used to prevent an individual not in the business of importing a prescription drug (within the meaning of section 801(g) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act) from importing a prescription drug from Canada that complies with the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act: *Provided*, That this section shall apply only to individuals transporting on their person a personal-use quantity of the prescription drug, not to exceed a 90-day supply: *Provided further*, That the prescription drug may not be—

(1) a controlled substance, as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802); or

(2) a biological product, as defined in section 351 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 262).

SEC. 527. The Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives of any proposed transfers of funds available under section 9703.1(g)(4)(B) of title 31, United States Code (as added by Public Law 102–393) from the Department of the Treasury Forfeiture Fund to any agency within the Department of Homeland Security: *Provided*, That none of the funds identified for such a transfer may be obligated until the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives approve the proposed transfers.

SEC. 528. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for planning, testing, piloting, or developing a national identification card.

SEC. 529. If the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration determines that an airport does not need to participate in the E-Verify Program as described in section 403(a) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1324a note), the Administrator shall certify to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives that no security risks will result from such non-participation.

SEC. 530. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law during fiscal year 2013 or any subsequent fiscal year, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall ensure that the Administrator of General Services sells through public sale all real and related personal property and transportation assets which support Plum Island operations, subject to such terms and conditions as may be necessary to protect Government interests and meet program requirements.

(b) The proceeds of the sale described in subsection (a) shall be deposited as offsetting collections into the Department of Homeland Security—Science and Technology—''Research, Development, Acquisition, and Operations'' account and, subject to appropriation, shall be available until expended, for site acquisition, construction, and costs related to the construction of the National Bio- and Agro-defense Facility, including the costs associated with the sale, including due diligence requirements, necessary environmental remediation at Plum Island, and reimbursement of expenses incurred by the General Services Administration.

SEC. 531. Any official that is required by this Act to report or to certify to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives may not delegate such authority to perform that act unless specifically authorized herein.

SEC. 532. Section 550(b) of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2007 (Public Law 109–295; 6 U.S.C. 121 note), as amended by section 550 of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111–83), is further amended by striking ''on October 4, 2012'' and inserting ''on October 4, 2013''.

SEC. 533. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this or any other Act may be used to transfer, release, or assist in the transfer or release to or within the United States, its territories, or possessions Khalid Sheikh Mohammed or any other detainee who—

(1) is not a United States citizen or a member of the Armed Forces of the United States; and

(2) is or was held on or after June 24, 2009, at the United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, by the Department of Defense.

SEC. 534. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for first-class travel by the employees of agencies funded by this Act in contravention of sections 301–10.122 through 301.10–124 of title 41, Code of Federal Regulations.

SEC. 535. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to propose or effect a disciplinary or adverse action, with respect to any Department of Homeland Security employee who engages regularly with the public in the performance of his or her official duties solely because that employee elects to utilize protective equipment or measures, including but not limited to surgical masks, N95 respirators, gloves, or hand-sanitizers, where use of such equipment or measures is in accord with Department of Homeland Security policy, and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Office of Personnel Management guidance.

SEC. 536. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to employ workers described in section 274A(h)(3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1324a(h)(3)).

SEC. 537. (a) Any company that collects or retains personal information directly from any individual who participates in the Registered Traveler or successor program of the Transportation Security Administration shall safeguard and dispose of such information in accordance with the requirements in—

(1) the National Institute for Standards and Technology Special Publication 800–30, entitled ''Risk Management Guide for Information Technology Systems'';

(2) the National Institute for Standards and Technology Special Publication 800–53, Revision 3, entitled ''Recommended Security Controls for Federal Information Systems and Organizations,''; and

(3) any supplemental standards established by the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration (referred to in this section as the ''Administrator'').

(b) The airport authority or air carrier operator that sponsors the company under the Registered Traveler program shall be known as the ''Sponsoring Entity''.

(c) The Administrator shall require any company covered by subsection (a) to provide, not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, to the Sponsoring Entity written certification that the procedures used by the company to safeguard and dispose of information are in compliance with the requirements under subsection (a). Such certification shall include a description of the procedures used by the company to comply with such requirements.

SEC. 538. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to pay award or incentive fees for contractor performance that has been judged to be below satisfactory performance or performance that does not meet the basic requirements of a contract.

SEC. 539. (a) Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the

House of Representatives, a report that either—

(1) certifies that the requirement for screening all air cargo on passenger aircraft by the deadline under section 44901(g) of title 49, United States Code, has been met; or

(2) includes a strategy to comply with the requirements under title 44901(g) of title 49, United States Code, including—

(A) a plan to meet the requirement under section 44901(g) of title 49, United States Code, to screen 100 percent of air cargo transported on passenger aircraft arriving in the United States in foreign air transportation (as that term is defined in section 40102 of that title); and

(B) specification of—

(i) the percentage of such air cargo that is being screened; and

(ii) the schedule for achieving screening of 100 percent of such air cargo.

(b) The Administrator shall continue to submit reports described in subsection (a)(2) every 90 days until the Administrator certifies that the Transportation Security Administration has achieved screening of 100 percent of such air cargo.

SEC. 540. In developing any process to screen aviation passengers and crews for transportation or national security purposes, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall ensure that all such processes take into consideration such passengers' and crews' privacy and civil liberties consistent with applicable laws, regulations, and guidance.

SEC. 541. (a) Notwithstanding section 286(n) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1356(n)), of the funds deposited into the Immigration Examinations Fee Account, $9,200,000 shall be available to United States Citizenship and Immigration Services in fiscal year 2013 for the purpose of providing an immigrant integration grants program.

(b) None of the funds made available to United States Citizenship and Immigration Services for grants for immigrant integration may be used to provide services to aliens who have not been lawfully admitted for permanent residence.

SEC. 542. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used by the Department of Homeland Security to enter into any Federal contract unless such contract is entered into in accordance with the requirements of subtitle I of title 41, United States Code or chapter 137 of title 10, United States Code, and the Federal Acquisition Regulation, unless such contract is otherwise authorized by statute to be entered into without regard to the above referenced statutes.

SEC. 543. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if the Secretary of Homeland Security determines that specific U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Service Processing Centers or other U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement owned detention facilities no longer meet the mission need, the Secretary is authorized to dispose of individual Service Processing Centers or other U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement owned detention facilities by directing the Administrator of General Services to sell all real and related personal property which support Service Processing Centers or other U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement owned detention facilities, subject to such terms and conditions as necessary to protect Government interests and meet program requirements: *Provided*, That the proceeds, net of the costs of sale incurred by the General Services Administration and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, shall be deposited as offsetting collections into a separate account that shall be available, subject to appropriation, until expended for other real property capital asset needs of existing U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement assets, excluding daily operations and maintenance costs, as the Secretary deems appropriate: *Provided further*, That any sale or collocation of federally owned detention facilities shall not result in the maintenance of fewer than 34,000 detention beds: *Provided further*, That the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives shall be notified 15 days prior to the announcement of any proposed sale or collocation.

SEC. 544. None of the funds made available under this Act or any prior appropriations Act may be provided to the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN), or any of its affiliates, subsidiaries, or allied organizations.

SEC. 545. The Department of Homeland Security Chief Information Officer, the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement shall, with respect to fiscal years 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016, submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives, at the time that the President's budget proposal for fiscal year 2014 is submitted pursuant to the requirements of section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, the information required in the multi-year investment and management plans required, respectively, under the headings ''Office of the Chief Information Officer'' under title I of division D of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2012 (Public Law 112–74), ''U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Salaries and Expenses'' under title II of such division, and ''U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Border Security Fencing, Infrastructure, and Technology'' under such title, and section 568 of such Act.

SEC. 546. The Secretary of Homeland Security shall ensure enforcement of immigration laws (as defined in section 101(a)(17) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(17))).

SEC. 547. (a) The Secretary of Homeland Security shall ensure by submitting proposals that the fees collected pursuant to section 13031(b)(1)(A)(i) of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (19 U.S.C. 58c(b)(1)(A)(i)) and described in section 601 of the United States-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement Implementation Act of 2011 (Public Law 112–42) shall be available to U.S. Customs and Border Protection in fiscal year 2014 and subsequent fiscal years.

(b) The President's budget request shall include proposals to completely offset any budgetary cost associated with the provisions of subsection (a).

SEC. 548. Section 401(b) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1324a note) is amended by striking ''September 30, 2012'' and inserting ''September 30, 2013''.

SEC. 549. (a) RESTRICTION.—Except as provided in subsection (b), the Secretary and the Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security and the Commandant and Vice Commandant of the Coast Guard may not travel aboard any Coast Guard owned or operated fixed-wing aircraft after the date of the submission of the President's budget request for fiscal year 2014 if the Secretary has not provided the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate the Comprehensive Acquisition Strategy Report required in title I and the Commandant has not provided the Capital Investment Plan, required in Coast Guard Acquisition, Construction and Improvement of title II.

(b) EXCEPTION.—Subsection (a) shall not apply in the case of travel aboard an aircraft described in such subsection—

(1) to respond to a major disaster or emergency declared under section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170);

(2) to respond to a discharge classified as a spill of national significance under part 300.323 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations;

(3) for evacuation purposes, including for a medical emergency; or

(4) to respond to emergent national security issues as required by the President.

(c) NOTIFICATION.—The Secretary shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate in writing not later than 5 days after engaging in travel prohibited in subsection (a) under an exception provided in subsection (b).

SEC. 550. Notwithstanding Office of Management and Budget Circular A-11, in a budget submission of the Coast Guard for Department of Homeland Security, Coast Guard, ''Acquisition, Construction, and Improvements'' for fiscal year 2014 or any fiscal year thereafter, costs related to the construction or conversion of a cutter shall be requested in accordance with the following guidelines:

(1) Costs of outfitting and post-delivery activities and spare or repair parts shall be requested not earlier than for the first fiscal year in which it is necessary to incur such costs to maintain a planned production schedule, which may be subsequent to the fiscal year for which cutter end costs are requested.

(2) Costs of long lead time items shall be requested for the fiscal year in which it is necessary to incur such costs to maintain a planned production schedule, which may be in advance of the fiscal year for which cutter end costs are requested.

(3) Costs of program management shall be requested for each fiscal year, for the portion of program management costs attributable to such fiscal year.

(4) For purposes of the preceding paragraphs—

(A) the term ''long lead time items'' means components, parts, material, or effort with significantly longer lead times than other elements of an end item;

(B) the term ''outfitting'' means procurement or installation of on board repair parts, other secondary items, equipage, and recreation items; precommissioning crew support; general use consumables furnished to the shipbuilder; the fitting out activity to fill a vessel's initial allowances; and contractor-furnished spares;

(C) the term ''post delivery activities'' includes design, planning, Government furnished material, and related labor for Government-responsible defects and deficiencies identified during builders trials, acceptance trials, and testing during the post-delivery period; costs of all work required to correct defects or deficiencies identified during the post-delivery period; and costs of all work required to correct trial card deficiencies on a vessel of a particular class, as well as on subsequent vessels of that class (whether or not delivered) until the corrective action for that cutter class is completed; and

(D) the term ''cutter end costs'' includes the cost of construction or conversion of a vessel, deferred work identified prior to vessel delivery, and, when unrelated to a specific fix, normal changes authorized prior to completion of fitting out, advanced planning, and travel.

SEC. 551. (a) The President, acting through the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, shall establish new procedures to administer assistance for debris and wreckage removal provided under sections 403(a)(3)(A), 407, and 502(a)(5) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170b(a)(3)(A), 5173, and 5192(a)(5)).

(b) The new procedures established under paragraph (a) may include—

(1) making grants on the basis of fixed estimates to provide financial incentives and disincentives for the timely or cost effective completion of projects under sections 403(a)(3)(A), 407, and 502(a)(5) of such Act if the State, local government, or owner or operator of the private non-profit facility agrees to be responsible to pay for any actual costs that exceed the estimate;

(2) using a sliding scale for the Federal share for removal of debris and wreckage based on the time it takes to complete debris and wreckage removal;

(3) allowing utilization of program income from recycled debris without offset to grant amount;

(4) reimbursing base and overtime wages for employees and extra hires of a State, local government, or owner or operator of a private non-profit facility performing or administering debris and wreckage removal; and

(5) notwithstanding any other provision of law, if the actual costs of projects under subparagraph (b)(1) are less than the estimated costs thereof, the Administrator may permit a grantee or sub grantee to use all or part of the excess funds for any of the following purposes:

(A) Debris management planning.

(B) Acquisition of debris management equipment for current or future use.

(C) Other activities to improve future debris removal operations, as determined by the Administrator.

SEC. 552. (a) Of the amounts made available by this Act for ''Department of Homeland Security—National Protection and Programs Directorate—Infrastructure Protection and Information Security—Federal Network Security'', $202,000,000 shall be used to deploy on Federal systems technology to improve the information security of agency information systems covered by section 3543(a) of title 44, United States Code: *Provided*, That funds made available under this section shall be used to assist and support Government-wide and agency-specific efforts to provide adequate, risk-based, and cost-effective cybersecurity to address escalating and rapidly evolving threats to information security, including the acquisition by the Department of Homeland Security of an automated and continuous monitoring program that includes equipment, software, and Department of Homeland Security-supplied services: *Provided further*, That not later than January 1, 2013, and quarterly thereafter, the Under Secretary of Homeland Security of the National Protection and Programs Directorate shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and House of Representatives a report on the obligation and expenditure of funds made available under this section: *Provided further*, That automated and continuous monitoring software procured by the funds made available by this section shall not collect or store personally identifiable information, nor monitor the content of network traffic: *Provided further*, That such software shall be installed, maintained, and operated in accordance with all applicable privacy laws and agency-specific restrictions and standards on access to personally identifiable information.

(b) Funds made available under this section may not be used to supplant funds provided for any such system within an agency budget.

(c) Not later than April 1, 2013, the heads of all Federal agencies shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and House of Representatives expenditure plans for necessary cybersecurity improvements to address known vulnerabilities to information systems described in subsection (a).

(d) Not later July 1, 2013, and quarterly thereafter, the head of each Federal agency shall submit to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget a report on the execution of the expenditure plan for that agency required by subsection (c): *Provided*, That the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall summarize such execution reports and annually submit such summaries to Congress in conjunction with the annual progress report on implementation of the E-Government Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–347), as required by section 3606 of title 44, United States Code.

(e) This section shall not apply to the legislative and judicial branches of the Federal Government and shall apply to all Federal agencies within the executive branch except for the Department of Defense, the Central Intelligence Agency, and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

SEC. 553. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography.

(b) Nothing in subsection (a) shall limit the use of funds necessary for any Federal, State, tribal, or local law enforcement agency or any other entity carrying out criminal investigations, prosecution, or adjudication activities.

SEC. 554. None of the funds made available under this Act may be used by a Federal law enforcement officer to facilitate the transfer of an operable firearm to an individual if the Federal law enforcement officer knows or suspects that the individual is an agent of a drug cartel unless law enforcement personnel of the United States continuously monitor or control the firearm at all times.

SEC. 555. The Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall instruct any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government receiving funds appropriated in this Act to track undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts and include in its annual performance plan and performance and accountability reports the following:

(1) Details on future action the department, agency, or instrumentality will take to resolve undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts.

(2) The method that the department, agency, or instrumentality uses to track undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts.

(3) Identification of undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts that may be returned to the Treasury of the United States.

(4) In the preceding 3 fiscal years, details on the total number of expired grant accounts with undisbursed balances (on the first day of each fiscal year) for the department, agency, or instrumentality and the total finances that have not been obligated to a specific project remaining in the accounts.

SEC. 556. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to send or otherwise pay for the attendance of more than 50 employees from a Federal department or agency at any single conference occurring outside the United States, unless —

(1) such conference is a law enforcement training or operational conference for law enforcement personnel and the majority of Federal employees in attendance are law enforcement personnel stationed outside the United States; or

(2) such attendance is pursuant to law enforcement, security, or military operations.

SEC. 557. (a) The head of any agency, office, or component funded by this Act shall submit quarterly reports to the Inspector General regarding the costs and contracting procedures relating to each conference, ceremony, and similar event, to include commissioning, de-commissioning, change of command, and other ceremonies, held by the agency during fiscal year 2013 for which the cost to the Government was more than $20,000.

(b) Each report submitted under subsection (a) shall include, for each event described in that subsection held during the applicable quarter—

(1) a description of the subject of and number of participants attending that event;

(2) a detailed statement of the costs to the Government relating to that event, including—

(A) the cost of any food or beverages;

(B) the cost of any audio-visual services; and

(C) a discussion of the methodology used to determine which costs relate to that event; and

(3) a description of the contracting procedures relating to that event, including—

(A) whether contracts were awarded on a competitive basis for that event; and

(B) a discussion of any cost comparison conducted by the agency in evaluating potential contractors for that event.

(c) Not later than 30 days after the end of fiscal year 2013, the Inspector General shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives on Department of Homeland Security spending on conferences, ceremonies, and similar events in fiscal year 2013, as reported pursuant to subsections (a) and (b). The report shall list the relevant events, substantiate that the Department complied with all applicable laws and regulations associated with spending on such events, and describe in detail the total costs to the Government associated with those events, to include the amount of funding obligated and expended by appropriation or other source of funding, including relevant budget accounts.

SEC. 558. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to enter into a contract, memorandum of understanding, or cooperative agreement with, make a grant to, or provide a loan or loan guarantee to, any corporation that was convicted of a felony criminal violation under any Federal law within the preceding 24 months, where the awarding agency is aware of the conviction, unless an agency has considered suspension or debarment of the corporation and has made a determination that this further action is not necessary to protect the interests of the Government.

SEC. 559. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to enter into a contract, memorandum of understanding, or cooperative agreement with, make a grant to, or provide a loan or loan guarantee to, any corporation that has any unpaid Federal tax liability that has been assessed, for which all judicial and administrative remedies have been exhausted or have lapsed, and that is not being paid in a timely manner pursuant to an agreement with the authority responsible for collecting the tax liability, where the awarding agency is aware of the unpaid tax liability, unless an agency has considered suspension or debarment of the corporation and has made a determination that this further action is not necessary to protect the interests of the Government.

(RESCISSIONS)

SEC. 560. The unobligated balance of each amount specified for a project or activity under the heading ''Federal Emergency Management Agency—National Predisaster Mitigation Fund'' in the explanatory statement accompanying Public Law 110–161 where the Federal Emergency Management Agency has received written notification of the intent by

the recipient to not apply for the grant is rescinded, and the overall unobligated balance available under such heading in such Act is reduced accordingly.

(RESCISSIONS)

SEC. 561. Of the funds appropriated in Department of Homeland Security Acts the following funds are hereby rescinded from the following accounts and programs in the specified amounts: *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended:

(1) $42,500,000 from Coast Guard ''Acquisition, Construction, and Improvements,'' 2010/2014.

(2) $91,100,000 from Coast Guard ''Acquisition, Construction, and Improvements,'' 2011/2015.

(3) $40,412,000 from U.S. Customs and Border Protection ''Border Security Fencing, Infrastructure, and Technology,'' 2012/2014.

(4) $48,000,000 from Coast Guard ''Acquisition, Construction, and Improvements,'' 2012/2016.

(RESCISSION)

SEC. 562. From the unobligated balances made available in the Department of the Treasury Forfeiture Fund established by section 9703.1 of title 31, United States Code, which was added to such title by section 638 of Public Law 102–393, $60,000,000 shall be permanently rescinded.

(RESCISSIONS)

SEC. 563. Of the funds transferred to the Department of Homeland Security when it was created in 2003, the following funds are hereby rescinded from the following accounts and programs in the specified amounts:

(1) $1,316,000 from Department of Homeland Security ''Office for Domestic Preparedness''; and

(2) $2,831,000 from Federal Emergency Management Agency ''National Predisaster Mitigation Fund''.

SEC. 564. (a) Section 44945 of Title 49, United States Code, is hereafter repealed.

(b) The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 449 of title 49, United States Code, is hereafter amended by striking the item relating to such section.

SEC. 565. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to require a facility to employ or to not employ a particular security measure for personnel surety if the facility has adopted personnel measures designed to—

(1) verify and validate individuals' identification;

(2) check individuals' criminal history;

(3) verify and validate individuals' legal authorization to work; and

(4) identify people with terrorist ties.

SEC. 566. None of the funds appropriated by this Act for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement shall be available to pay for an abortion, except where the life of the mother would be endangered if the fetus were carried to term, or in the case of rape or incest: *Provided*, That should this prohibition be declared unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, this section shall be null and void.

SEC. 567. None of the funds appropriated by this Act for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement shall be used to require any person to perform, or facilitate in any way the performance of, any abortion.

SEC. 568. Nothing in the preceding section shall remove the obligation of the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement to provide escort services necessary for a female detainee to receive such service outside the detention facility: *Provided*, That nothing in this section in any way diminishes the effect of section 567 intended to address the philosophical beliefs of individual employees of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Mr. ADERHOLT (during the reading). Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that the remainder of the bill through page 99, line 11, be considered as read, printed in the RECORD, and open to amendment at any point.

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alabama?

There was no objection.

The Acting CHAIR. Are there any amendments to that portion of the bill?

If not, the Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

SPENDING REDUCTION ACCOUNT

SEC. 569. The amount by which the applicable allocation of new budget authority made by the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives under section 302(b) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 exceeds the amount of proposed new budget authority is $0.

□ 2240

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

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

An amendment by Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin.

An amendment by Mr. BROUN of Georgia.

An amendment by Mr. HOLT of New Jersey.

First amendment by Mr. CLARKE of Michigan.

Second amendment by Mr. CLARKE of Michigan.

First amendment by Ms. HAHN of California.

Second amendment by Ms. HAHN of California.

An amendment by Mr. POE of Texas.

An amendment by Mr. BISHOP of Utah.

An amendment by Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California.

An amendment by Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas.

An amendment by Mr. HIGGINS of New York.

An amendment by Mr. BISHOP of New York.

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

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. MOORE

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. MOORE) 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 154, noes 260, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 345]

AYES—154

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

NOES—260

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Amash
Amodei
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (NH)
Benishek
Berg
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chandler
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Cuellar
Davis (KY)
Dent
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Emerson
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck

Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Hochul
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Israel
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
LaTourette
Latta
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meehan
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Owens
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Perlmutter
Peterson
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Rahall
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
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Walz (MN)
Webster
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—17

Bass (CA)
Cardoza
Coble
Conyers
Culberson
Denham
Filner
Holden
Lewis (CA)
Myrick
Napolitano
Olver
Paul
Scott, David
Shuler
Slaughter
Stark

□ 2304

Messrs. BISHOP of New York and ISRAEL changed their vote from ''aye'' to ''no.''

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 345, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. BROUN OF GEORGIA

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BROUN) 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 273, not voting 18, as follows:

[Roll No. 346]

AYES—140

Adams
Akin
Amash
Bachmann
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Benishek
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Conaway
Cravaack
DesJarlais
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Engel
Eshoo
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Fortenberry
Franks (AZ)
Gardner
Garrett
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Guthrie
Hall
Harris
Hartzler
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Jenkins
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
King (IA)
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Lankford
Latta
Lofgren, Zoe
Long
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Mulvaney
Neugebauer
Nugent
Nunnelee
Olson
Paulsen
Pence
Petri
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Polis
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Ribble
Roe (TN)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ross (FL)
Royce
Rush
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schmidt
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Smith (NE)
Southerland
Stearns
Stutzman
Sullivan
Terry
Thornberry
Tipton
Upton
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Wilson (SC)
Woodall
Yoder
Young (FL)

NOES—273

Ackerman
Aderholt
Alexander
Altmire
Amodei
Andrews
Austria
Baca
Bachus
Baldwin
Barletta
Barrow
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Berg
Berkley
Berman
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Buchson
Butterfield
Calvert
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Cole
Connolly (VA)
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
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)
Doyle
Dreier
Edwards
Ellison
Ellmers
Emerson
Farr
Fattah
Forbes
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gallegly
Garamendi
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gonzalez
Granger
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grimm
Guinta
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hanna
Harper
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Heinrich
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hochul
Holt
Hoyer
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly
Kildee
Kind
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kucinich
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lowey
Lucas
Luján
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Maloney
Marino
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McKinley
McNerney
Meehan
Meeks
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Neal
Noem
Nunes
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Pearce
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Platts
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Rigell
Rivera
Roby
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (AR)
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schilling
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Stivers
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiberi
Tierney
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Webster
Welch
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (FL)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woolsey
Yarmuth
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—18

Bass (CA)
Cardoza
Coble
Conyers
Culberson
Filner
Grijalva
Holden
Honda
Lewis (CA)
Myrick
Napolitano
Olver
Paul
Shuler
Slaughter
Speier
Stark

□ 2308

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

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 346, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. HOLT

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT) 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 173, noes 240, not voting 18, as follows:

[Roll No. 347]

AYES—173

Ackerman
Andrews
Baca
Baldwin
Barletta
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Buchanan
Burgess
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Chandler
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly (VA)
Cooper
Courtney
Crowley
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Denham
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Fitzpatrick
Frank (MA)
Fudge
Gibson
Goodlatte
Green, Al
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hanna
Hastings (FL)
Hayworth
Heinrich
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Holt
Honda
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Kaptur
Keating
Kildee
Kind
Kissell
Kucinich
Landry
Langevin
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Luján
Lynch
Maloney
Marino
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
Meeks
Mica
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Neal
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pelosi
Pence
Perlmutter
Peters
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Polis
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Rooney
Rothman (NJ)
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Sires
Speier
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Walden
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Woolsey
Yarmuth

NOES—240

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Amash
Amodei
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Benishek
Berg
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Castor (FL)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Costa
Costello
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Cuellar
Davis (KY)
Dent
DesJarlais
Dicks
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Ellmers
Emerson
Farenthold
Fincher
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garamendi
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Heck
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Hochul
Hoyer
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Kelly
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
LoBiondo
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meehan
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Palazzo
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Pearce
Peterson
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Quayle
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rigell
Rivera
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (AR)
Ross (FL)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Runyan
Rush
Ryan (WI)
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Southerland
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walberg
Walsh (IL)
Waxman
Webster
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—18

Bass (CA)
Cardoza
Coble
Conyers
Culberson
Diaz-Balart
Filner
Grijalva
Hirono
Holden
Lewis (CA)
Myrick
Napolitano
Olver
Paul
Shuler
Slaughter
Stark

□ 2312

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 347, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. CLARKE OF MICHIGAN

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the first amendment offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CLARKE) 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 211, noes 202, not voting 18, as follows:

[Roll No. 348]

AYES—211

Ackerman
Aderholt
Andrews
Baca
Bachmann
Baldwin
Barletta
Barrow
Bass (NH)
Benishek
Berkley
Berman
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Boren
Boswell
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Buchanan
Buerkle
Butterfield
Camp
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Castor (FL)
Chabot
Chandler
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly (VA)
Cooper
Costello
Courtney
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Denham
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Edwards
Ellison
Emerson
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Fitzpatrick
Fudge
Garamendi
Gibson
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith (VA)
Grijalva
Guthrie
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Hayworth
Heinrich
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hochul
Holt
Honda
Huizenga (MI)
Hunter
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jordan
Kaptur
Keating
Kildee
Kind
Kissell
Kucinich
Landry
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Maloney
Marino
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McNerney
Meehan
Meeks
Mica
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moore
Mulvaney
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Neal
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Polis
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reichert
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Rigell
Rivera
Rogers (MI)
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross (AR)
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Runyan
Rush
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Sires
Smith (NJ)
Southerland
Speier
Stivers
Stutzman
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Upton
Van Hollen
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Watt
Welch
West
Whitfield
Wilson (FL)
Woolsey
Yarmuth

NOES—202

Adams
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Amash
Amodei
Austria
Bachus
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Becerra
Berg
Bilbray
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Bucshon
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chaffetz
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Costa
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Davis (KY)
Dent
DesJarlais
Dicks
Dold
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Engel
Farenthold
Fincher
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Gardner
Garrett

Gerlach
Gibbs
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Griffin (AR)
Grimm
Guinta
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Heck
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Hoyer
Huelskamp
Hultgren
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Kelly
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Lankford
LaTourette
Latta
Long
Lucas
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Miller (FL)
Miller, Gary
Moran
Murphy (PA)
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Palazzo
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Quayle
Reed
Rehberg
Renacci
Ribble
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Roskam
Ross (FL)
Royce
Ruppersberger
Ryan (WI)
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Stearns
Sullivan
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Waxman
Webster
Westmoreland
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—18

Bass (CA)
Bishop (GA)
Cardoza
Coble
Conyers
Culberson
Filner
Holden
Lewis (CA)
Myrick
Napolitano
Olver
Paul
Ryan (OH)
Shuler
Slaughter
Stark
Waters

□ 2315

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 348, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. CLARKE OF MICHIGAN

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the second amendment offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CLARKE) 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 159, noes 254, not voting 18, as follows:

[Roll No. 349]

AYES—159

Ackerman
Andrews
Baldwin
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Boswell
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Castor (FL)
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Conyers
Costello
Courtney
Critz
Crowley
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeGette
DeLauro
Deutch
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Frank (MA)
Fudge
Garamendi
Gibson
Gonzalez
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Hayworth
Heinrich
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hochul
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kildee
Kind
Kucinich
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Luján
Lynch
Maloney
Manzullo
Markey
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
Meeks
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Neal
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi
Peters
Pingree (ME)
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Sires
Smith (WA)
Speier
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Woolsey
Yarmuth

NOES—254

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Amash
Amodei
Austria
Baca
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Benishek
Berg
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chandler
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Cooper
Costa
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Cuellar
Davis (KY)
DeFazio
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Emerson
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Heck
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
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
LaTourette
Latta
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Marchant
Marino
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meehan
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Owens
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Perlmutter
Peterson
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
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
Ruppersberger
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Webster
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—18

Barton (TX)
Bass (CA)
Butterfield
Cardoza
Clarke (NY)
Coble
Culberson
Filner
Holden
Lewis (CA)
Myrick
Napolitano
Olver
Paul
Shuler
Slaughter
Stark
Waters

□ 2318

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 349, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. HAHN

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the first 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 156, noes 261, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 350]

AYES—156

Ackerman
Altmire
Amash
Baca
Baldwin
Barrow

Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cohen
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Courtney
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Deutch
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Ellison
Engel
Fattah
Frank (MA)
Fudge
Gallegly
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Heinrich
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hochul
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Kaptur
Keating
Kildee
Kind
Kucinich
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lowey
Luján
Lynch
Maloney
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McClintock
McDermott
McGovern
McNerney
Meehan
Meeks
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Neal
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi
Peters
Pingree (ME)
Polis
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Rohrabacher
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Sires
Speier
Sutton
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Wasserman Schultz
Waxman
Wilson (FL)
Woolsey
Yarmuth

NOES—261

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Amodei
Andrews
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (NH)
Benishek
Berg
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Davis (KY)
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dold
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellmers
Emerson
Eshoo
Farenthold
Farr
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Garamendi
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Kelly
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Lankford
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McCollum
McCotter
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Perlmutter
Peterson
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Quayle
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rigell
Rivera
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (AR)
Ross (FL)
Rothman (NJ)
Runyan
Ryan (WI)
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Southerland
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Walz (MN)
Waters
Watt
Webster
Welch
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—14

Bass (CA)
Cardoza
Coble
Culberson
Filner
Holden
Lewis (CA)
Myrick
Napolitano
Olver
Paul
Shuler
Slaughter
Stark

□ 2321

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 350, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. HAHN

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the second 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 144, noes 273, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 351]

AYES—144

Altmire
Baca
Baldwin
Barrow
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Castor (FL)
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clay
Cohen
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Courtney
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Dent
Deutch
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Ellison
Fattah
Fitzpatrick
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Gonzalez
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hochul
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Israel
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Keating
Kildee
Kind
Kucinich
Lance
Langevin
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Loebsack
Lowey
Maloney
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McDermott
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Neal
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi
Peters
Pingree (ME)
Quigley
Rahall
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Sires
Smith (WA)
Sutton
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Waxman
West
Wilson (FL)
Woolsey
Yarmuth

NOES—273

Ackerman
Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Amash
Amodei
Andrews
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (NH)
Benishek
Berg
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Brown (FL)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chandler
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Crowley
Davis (KY)
Denham
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dold
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellmers
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Farenthold
Farr
Fincher
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Fudge
Gallegly
Garamendi
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Heinrich
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jenkins
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Kaptur
Kelly
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Landry
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Lofgren, Zoe
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino

McCarthy (CA)
McClintock
McCollum
McCotter
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meehan
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller, Gary
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Perlmutter
Peterson
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Polis
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Quayle
Rangel
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
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Speier
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Walz (MN)
Watt
Webster
Welch
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—14

Bass (CA)
Cardoza
Coble
Culberson
Filner
Holden
Lewis (CA)
Myrick
Napolitano
Olver
Paul
Shuler
Slaughter
Stark

□ 2324

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia changed his vote from ''no'' to ''aye.''

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 351, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted ''aye.''

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. POE OF TEXAS

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) 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 302, noes 113, not voting 16, as follows:

[Roll No. 352]

AYES—302

Adams
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Amodei
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Baldwin
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (NH)
Benishek
Berg
Berkley
Biggert
Bilbray
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonamici
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Carney
Carter
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chandler
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Courtney
Cravaack
Crawford
Critz
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (KY)
DeFazio
DeLauro
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Doggett
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Franks (AZ)
Gallegly
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hahn
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Heinrich
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Himes
Hochul
Holt
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Landry
Lankford
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
Markey
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McNerney
Meehan
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Mulvaney
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Owens
Palazzo
Pascrell
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Rahall
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Reyes
Ribble
Richardson
Rigell
Rivera
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (AR)
Ross (FL)
Royce
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schwartz
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Southerland
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Sutton
Terry
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Tonko
Tsongas
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Walz (MN)
Waters
Webster
Welch
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOES—113

Ackerman
Aderholt
Amash
Andrews
Baca
Becerra
Berman
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Brown (FL)
Butterfield
Capuano
Carnahan
Carson (IN)
Cassidy
Castor (FL)
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Costello
Crenshaw
Crowley
Davis (IL)
DeGette
Deutch
Dicks
Dingell
Edwards
Ellison
Farr
Fattah
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Garamendi
Gonzalez
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Honda
Hoyer
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Kildee
Kingston
Kucinich
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Long
Lowey
Maloney
Matsui
McDermott
McGovern
Meeks
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Neal
Pallone
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rangel
Reed
Richmond
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schiff
Schrader
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sewell
Smith (NE)
Speier
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tierney
Towns
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wasserman Schultz
Watt
Waxman
Wilson (FL)
Woolsey
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—16

Bass (CA)
Cardoza
Coble
Culberson
Filner
Holden
Lewis (CA)
McCollum
McMorris Rodgers
Myrick
Napolitano
Olver
Paul
Shuler
Slaughter
Stark

□ 2327

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 352, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted ''no.''

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. BISHOP OF UTAH

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) 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 230, noes 186, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 353]

AYES—230

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Amash
Amodei
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barrow
Bartlett
Benishek
Berg
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boustany
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Brown (FL)
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Cole

Conaway
Costa
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (KY)
Denham
Dent
Diaz-Balart
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellmers
Emerson
Farenthold
Fincher
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Huizenga (MI)
Hurt
Issa
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Kelly
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Lankford
Latham
Latta
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meehan
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Peterson
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Reed
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)
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Ryan (WI)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Schilling
Schock
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Terry
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Webster
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOES—186

Ackerman
Andrews
Baca
Baldwin
Barletta
Barton (TX)
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Boswell
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Buchanan
Burgess
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costello
Courtney
Critz
Crowley
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DesJarlais
Deutch
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Fitzpatrick
Fortenberry
Frank (MA)
Fudge
Garamendi
Gonzalez
Green, Al
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Heck
Heinrich
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hochul
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Huelskamp
Hultgren
Hunter
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kildee
Kind
King (IA)
Kissell
Kucinich
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
LaTourette
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Long
Lowey
Luján
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Maloney
Markey
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Neal
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Pingree (ME)
Poe (TX)
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Rehberg
Richardson
Richmond
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schmidt
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Sires
Smith (WA)
Speier
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tierney
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Woolsey
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—15

Bass (CA)
Cardoza
Coble
Culberson
Filner
Holden
Lewis (CA)
McCaul
Myrick
Napolitano
Olver
Paul
Shuler
Slaughter
Stark

□ 2330

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 353, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. LORETTA SANCHEZ OF CALIFORNIA

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ) 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 167, noes 249, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 354]

AYES—167

Ackerman
Andrews
Baca
Baldwin
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Biggert
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)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeGette
DeLauro
Deutch
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Frank (MA)
Fudge
Garamendi
Gonzalez
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Heinrich
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hochul
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kildee
Kind
Kucinich
Langevin
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Luján
Maloney
Markey
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Neal
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Pingree (ME)
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rangel
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Sires
Smith (WA)
Speier
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Woolsey
Yarmuth

NOES—249

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Amash
Amodei
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (NH)
Benishek
Berg
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chandler
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Davis (KY)
DeFazio
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Emerson
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
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
LaTourette
Latta
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meehan
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson

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 (AR)
Ross (FL)
Royce
Runyan
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Webster
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—15

Bass (CA)
Cardoza
Coble
Culberson
Filner
Holden
Larsen (WA)
Lewis (CA)
Myrick
Napolitano
Olver
Paul
Shuler
Slaughter
Stark

□ 2333

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 354, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. JACKSON LEE OF TEXAS

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) 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 60, noes 355, not voting 16, as follows:

[Roll No. 355]

AYES—60

Ackerman
Amash
Baldwin
Bishop (GA)
Braley (IA)
Carson (IN)
Castor (FL)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Conyers
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Ellison
Engel
Fitzpatrick
Fudge
Garrett
Green, Al
Griffith (VA)
Grijalva
Harris
Hastings (FL)
Heinrich
Hinchey
Hirono
Holt
Honda
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Jordan
Kucinich
Lee (CA)
Levin
Maloney
Markey
Meeks
Mica
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Mulvaney
Nadler
Polis
Price (GA)
Quayle
Quigley
Rangel
Richmond
Sánchez, Linda T.
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Southerland
Stutzman
Sutton
Thompson (MS)
Towns
Walsh (IL)
Welch
Young (FL)

NOES—355

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Amodei
Andrews
Austria
Baca
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Benishek
Berg
Berkley
Berman
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Brown (FL)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chandler
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clyburn
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Davis (KY)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellmers
Emerson
Eshoo
Farenthold
Farr
Fattah
Fincher
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garamendi
Gardner
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hall
Hanabusa
Hanna
Harper
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Himes
Hinojosa
Hochul
Hoyer
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Israel
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly
Kildee
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Langevin
Lankford
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Long
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meehan
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (PA)
Neal
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Pearce
Pelosi
Pence
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (NC)
Rahall
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Reyes
Ribble
Richardson
Rigell
Rivera
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (AR)
Ross (FL)
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stearns
Stivers
Sullivan
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tierney
Tipton
Tonko
Tsongas
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Webster
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Woolsey
Yarmuth
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—16

Bass (CA)
Cardoza
Coble
Culberson
Cummings
Filner
Holden
Larsen (WA)
Lewis (CA)
Myrick
Napolitano
Olver
Paul
Shuler
Slaughter
Stark

□ 2336

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER changed his vote from "aye" to "no."

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 355, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. HIGGINS

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. HIGGINS) 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 150, noes 266, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 356]

AYES—150

Ackerman
Altmire
Andrews
Baca
Baldwin
Barrow
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blackburn
Bonamici
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carson (IN)
Castor (FL)
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Cohen
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Courtney
Cravaack
Critz
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Ellison
Engel
Farr
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Frank (MA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hanna

Hastings (FL)
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hochul
Honda
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Kaptur
Keating
Kildee
Kind
Kline
Kucinich
Langevin
Larson (CT)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lowey
Lynch
Maloney
Manzullo
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCaul
McCollum
McGovern
McIntyre
Meeks
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Moore
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Neal
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Pingree (ME)
Quigley
Rahall
Reed
Reichert
Richardson
Richmond
Rigell
Rothman (NJ)
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schrader
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Sires
Speier
Stivers
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Upton
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NOES—266

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Amash
Amodei
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Benishek
Berg
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blumenauer
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Carney
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chandler
Clyburn
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Costa
Costello
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crowley
Davis (CA)
Davis (KY)
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dold
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellmers
Emerson
Eshoo
Farenthold
Fattah
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gallegly
Garamendi
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Heinrich
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Holt
Hoyer
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Israel
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Kelly
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Lankford
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lee (CA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Marchant
Marino
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McClintock
McCotter
McDermott
McHenry
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meehan
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Moran
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Palazzo
Pearce
Pence
Peterson
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Polis
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Quayle
Rangel
Rehberg
Renacci
Reyes
Ribble
Rivera
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (AR)
Ross (FL)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Runyan
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schiff
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schwartz
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Southerland
Stearns
Stutzman
Sullivan
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Van Hollen
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Waxman
Webster
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Woolsey
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—15

Bass (CA)
Cardoza
Coble
Culberson
Filner
Holden
Larsen (WA)
Lewis (CA)
Myrick
Napolitano
Olver
Paul
Shuler
Slaughter
Stark

□ 2341

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 356, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. BISHOP OF NEW YORK

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. BISHOP) 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 166, noes 245, not voting 20, as follows:

[Roll No. 357]

AYES—166

Ackerman
Amodei
Andrews
Baca
Baldwin
Barrow
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Castor (FL)
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Costello
Courtney
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Deutch
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Fattah
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Fudge
Gonzalez
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Grimm
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hanna
Hastings (FL)
Heinrich
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hochul
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Keating
Kildee
Kind
King (NY)
Kucinich
Langevin
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Luján
Lynch
Maloney
Manzullo
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McNerney
Meeks
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Neal
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi
Peters
Pingree (ME)
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Richmond
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Shimkus
Sires
Smith (WA)
Speier
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Turner (NY)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wasserman Schultz
Waxman
Wilson (FL)
Woolsey
Yarmuth

NOES—245

Adams
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Amash
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (NH)
Benishek
Berg
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Carson (IN)
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chandler
Clay
Cleaver
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Cooper
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Davis (KY)
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dold
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Emerson
Farenthold
Farr
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garamendi
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Kelly
King (IA)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Lankford
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Marchant
Marino
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McCotter
McHenry
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meehan
Mica
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Perlmutter
Peterson
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Richardson
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
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner (OH)
Upton
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Walz (MN)
Watt
Webster
Welch
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—20

Bass (CA)
Cardoza
Carter
Coble
Costa
Culberson
Filner
Holden
Kaptur
Larsen (WA)
Lewis (CA)
Miller (FL)
Myrick
Napolitano
Olver
Paul
Shuler
Slaughter
Stark
Waters

□ 2344

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 357, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Chair, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote Nos. 345, 347, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, and 357. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote Nos. 345, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 354, 356 and 357. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall Nos. 346, 352, 353, and 355.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WESTMORELAND) having assumed the chair, Mr. BASS, 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. 5855) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

EXCHANGE OF NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION PROPERTY IN PASCAGOULA, MISSISSIPPI

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill (S. 363) to authorize the Secretary of Commerce to convey property of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to the City of Pascagoula, Mississippi, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SALMON LAKE LAND SELECTION RESOLUTION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill (S. 292) to resolve the claims of the Bering Straits Native Corporation and the State of Alaska to land adjacent to Salmon Lake in the State of Alaska and to provide for the conveyance to the Bering Straits Native Corporation of certain other public land in partial satisfaction of the land entitlement of the Corporation under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. COBLE (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today and the balance of the week on account of medical reasons.

Mr. CULBERSON (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today after 10 p.m. on account of illness.

PUBLICATION OF BUDGETARY MATERIAL

REVISIONS TO THE AGGREGATES AND ALLOCATIONS OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2013 BUDGET RESOLUTION RELATED TO LEGISLATION REPORTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to section 503 of H. Con. Res. 112, the House-passed budget resolution for fiscal year 2013, deemed to be in force by H. Res. 614 and H. Res. 643, I hereby submit for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD revisions to the budget allocations and aggregates set forth pursuant to the budget for fiscal year 2013. The revision is designated for the Health Care Cost Reduction Act of 2012, H.R. 436. A corresponding table is attached.

This revision represents an adjustment pursuant to sections 302 and 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (Budget Act). For the purposes of the Budget Act, these revised aggregates and allocations are to be considered as aggregates and allocations included in the budget resolution, pursuant to section 101 of H. Con. Res. 112.

BUDGET AGGREGATES

[On-budget amounts, in millions of dollars]

	Fiscal Year		
	2012	2013	2013–2022
Current Aggregates:			
Budget Authority	2,858,503	2,799,329	(1)
Outlays	2,947,662	2,891,863	(1)
Revenues	1,877,839	2,260,625	32,439,140
Change for Health Care Cost Reduction Act (H.R. 436):			
Budget Authority	0	0	(1)
Outlays	0	0	(1)
Revenues	0	−2,103	−22,627
Revised Aggregates:			
Budget Authority	2,858,503	2,799,329	(1)
Outlays	2,947,662	2,891,863	(1)
Revenues	1,877,839	2,258,863	32,416,513

[1] Not applicable because annual appropriations Acts for fiscal years 2013 through 2022 will not be considered until future sessions of Congress.

SENATE BILLS REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 2061. An act to provide for an exchange of land between the Department of Homeland Security and the South Carolina State Ports Authority; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SCHOCK. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 48 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, June 7, 2012, at 10 a.m. 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:

6321. A letter from the Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Commodity Options (RIN: 3038-AD62) received April 30, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6322. A letter from the Administrator, Rural Housing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Community Facility Loans (RIN: 0575-AC78) received May 9, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6323. A letter from the Deputy Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Specification for 15 kV and 25 kV Primary Underground Power Cable received May 1, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6324. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Acequinocyl; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0449; FRL-9346-4] received May 1, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6325. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Thiamethoxam; Pesticide Tolerances; Technical Correction [EPA-HQ-

OPP-2010-1079; FRL-9344-9] received May 1, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6326. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Fluoxastrobin; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2009-0677; FRL-9345-3] received May 1, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6327. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Dimethomorph; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-2011-0388; FRL-9346-6] received May 1, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6328. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Metconazole; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0179; FRL-9345-6] received May 1, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6329. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Carfentrazone-ethyl; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0428; FRL-9346-5] received May 1, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6330. A letter from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — General Provisions; Operating and Strategic Business Planning (RIN: 3052-AC66) received May 9, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6331. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: United States-Korea Free Trade Agreement (DFARS Case 2012-D025) (RIN: 0750-AH69) received May 9, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

6332. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Defense Trade Cooperation Treaty with the United Kingdom (DFARS 2012-D034) (RIN: 0750-AH70) received May 9, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

6333. A letter from the Principal Deputy General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting the Bureau's final rule — Supplemental Standards of Ethical Conduct for Employees of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection [Docket No.: CFPB-2012-0016] (RIN: 3209-AA15) received April 30, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

6334. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Suspension of Community Eligibility (Township of Alexandria, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, et al.) [Docket ID: FEMA-2012-0003] [Internal Agency Docket No.: FEMA-8227] received May 9, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

6335. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule — State Community Development Block Grant Program: Administrative Rule Changes [Docket No.: FR-5181-F-02] (RIN: 2506-AC22) received May 9, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

6336. A letter from the Counsel for Regulatory and External Affairs, Federal Labor Relations Authority, transmitting the Authority's final rule — Unfair Labor Practice Proceedings; Negotiability Proceedings; Review of Arbitration Awards; Miscellaneous and General Requirements received May 14, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

6337. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; North Carolina; Charlotte; Ozone 2002 Base Year Emissions Inventory [EPA-R04-OAR-2012-0355(b); FRL-9666-7] received May 1, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6338. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Effluent Limitation Guidelines and New Source Performance Standards for the Airport Deicing Category [EPA-HQ-OW-2004-0038; FRL-9667-6] (RIN: 2040-AE69) received May 1, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6339. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; Approval of 2011 Consent Decree to Control Emissions from the GenOn Chalk Point Generating Station; Removal of 1978 and 1979 Consent Orders [EPA-R03-OAR-2011-0889; FRL-9666-3] received May 1, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6340. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Divison, Environmental Protetion Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Revisions to Final Response to Petition From New Jersey Regarding SO2 Emissions From the Portland Generating Station [EPA-HQ-OAR-2011-0081; FRL-9660-5] (RIN: 2060-AR42) received May 1, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6341. A letter from the Executive Director, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Annual Update of Filing Fees [Docket No.: RM12-5-000] received May 9, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6342. 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: Revision of U.S. Munitions List Category XIII (RIN: 1400-AD13) received May 16, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

6343. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's final rule — Implementation of the Defense Trade Cooperation Treaty between the United States and the United Kingdom (RIN: 1400-AD95) received May 11, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

6344. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2011-1060; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-015-AD; Amendment 39-16945; AD 2012-03-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 1, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6345. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2010-0585; Directorate Identifier 2010-NM-183-AD; Amendment 39-16974; AD 2012-05-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 1, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6346. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Lockheed Martin Corporation/Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2011-0723; Directorate Identifier 2010-NM-080-AD; Amendment 39-16978; AD 2012-05-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 1, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6347. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0296; Directorate Identifier 2010-NM-106-AD; Amendment 39-17000; AD 2012-06-19] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 1, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6348. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0331; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-119-AD; Amendment 39-17008; AD 2012-07-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 1, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6349. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2011-0303; Directorate Identifier 2010-NM-214-AD; Amendment 39-16939; AD 2012-02-16] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 1, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6350. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0272; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-042-AD; Amendment 39-16989; AD 2012-06-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 1, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6351. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce plc Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2011-0959; Directorate Identifier 2011-NE-25-AD; Amendment 39-16970; AD 2012-04-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 1, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6352. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Mooney Aviation Company, Inc. (Mooney) Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0275; Directorate Identifier 2012-CE-009-AD; Amendment 39-16981; AD 2012-05-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 1, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6353. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Columbia, SC, and Establishment of Class E Airspace; Pelion, SC [Docket No.: FAA-2011-1196; Airspace Docket No. 11-ASO-38] received May 1, 2012, pursuant

to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6354. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class D Airspace; Cocoa Beach, FL [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0099; Airspace Docket No. 12-ASO-11] received May 1, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6355. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Area Navigation (RNAV) Routes; Seattle, WA [Docket No.: FAA-2011-1358; Airspace Docket No. 11-ANM-19] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received May 1, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6356. A letter from the Chief, Publication and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Annual Price Inflation Adjustments for Contribution Limitations Made to a Health Savings Account Pursuant to Section 223 of the Internal Revenue Code (Rev. Proc. 2012-26) received May 3, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6357. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Request for Comments on the Requirement to Report on Health Insurance Coverage [Notice 2012-32] received May 1, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6358. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Request for Comments on Reporting by Applicable Large Employers on Health Insurance Coverage Under Employer-Sponsored Plans[Notice 2012-33] received May 1, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6359. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — 2012 Calendar Year Resident Population Figures [Notice 2012-22] received May 1, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6360. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Minimum Value of an Employer-Sponsored Health Plan [Notice 2012-31] received May 1, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6361. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Summary of Benefits and Coverage and Uniform Glossary [TD 9575] (RIN: 1545-BJ94) received May 1, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES 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. SCOTT of South Carolina: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 679. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 436) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the excise tax on medical devices, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5882) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes (Rept. 112–518). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. UPTON: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 4471. A bill to require analyses of the cumulative impacts of certain rules and actions of the Environmental Protection Agency that impact gasoline, diesel fuel, and natural gas prices, jobs, and the economy, and for other purposes (Rept. 112–519). Referred to the Committee of the whole House on the state of the Union.

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. LANKFORD:

H.R. 5900. A bill to modify the training requirements for certain fire departments applying for Federal grants; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. JACKSON of Illinois (for himself, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. HONDA, Ms. BASS of California, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. RUSH, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. WATERS, Ms. MOORE, Ms. FUDGE, Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas, Mr. CLEAVER, and Ms. EDWARDS):

H.R. 5901. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide for an increase in the Federal minimum wage and to index future increases to such wage to increases in the consumer price index; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. ANDREWS:

H.R. 5902. A bill to establish a Congressional Advisory Commission on the Implementation of United States Policy under the Taiwan Relations Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas:

H.R. 5903. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat recipients of the Korea Defense Service Medal as war veterans for purposes of determining whether contributions to posts and organizations of war veterans are charitable contributions; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California (for himself and Mr. NADLER):

H.R. 5904. A bill to deter terrorism, provide justice for victims, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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. LANKFORD:

H.R. 5900.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. JACKSON of Illinois:

H.R. 5901.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments to the Constitution.

By Mr. ANDREWS:

H.R. 5902.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian tribes.

By Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas:

H.R. 5903.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California:

H.R. 5904.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act is authorized under Article 1 Section 8 of the United States Constitution which provides that Congress shall have to power to ''define and punish piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offences against the law of nations''

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 36: Mr. DOLD.
H.R. 104: Mr. YOUNG of Indiana.
H.R. 420: Mr. LANCE.
H.R. 456: Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 459: Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. DENT and Mr. CHANDLER.
H.R. 694: Mr. ISRAEL, Ms. BORDALLO, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MCGOVERN and Mr. DOLD.
H.R. 733: Mr. MATHESON.
H.R. 831: Mr. CHANDLER.
H.R. 860: Ms. HOCHUL and Mr. CRITZ.
H.R. 885: Mr. CHANDLER and Mr. CLARKE of Michigan.
H.R. 890: Mrs. LOWEY and Mrs. CHRISTENSEN.
H.R. 904: Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan, Mr. CRITZ, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, and Mr. DONNELLY of Indiana.
H.R. 942: Ms. JENKINS, Mr. HULTGREN, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska and Mr. SCHRADER.
H.R. 1001: Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 1006: Mr. TURNER of New York.
H.R. 1057: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER and Mr. DOLD.
H.R. 1161: Mr. LANDRY.
H.R. 1259: Mr. UPTON, Mr. DENHAM and Mr. MATHESON.
H.R. 1265: Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. ROKITA and Mr. SCHWEIKERT.
H.R. 1321: Mr. POE of Texas and Mrs. MYRICK.
H.R. 1340: Mr. CARDOZA.
H.R. 1356: Mr. CHANDLER.
H.R. 1418: Mr. REYES.
H.R. 1488: Mr. CARNAHAN.
H.R. 1498: Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. MICHAUD and Mr. PETERSON.
H.R. 1511: Mr. PERLMUTTER.
H.R. 1639: Mr. MANZULLO.
H.R. 1681: Mr. CARNAHAN.
H.R. 1700: Mr. POE of Texas.
H.R. 1704: Mrs. BACHMANN.
H.R. 1774: Ms. CASTOR of Florida and Mr. CARNAHAN.
H.R. 1789: Mr. MCINTYRE.
H.R. 1860: Mr. MARINO.
H.R. 1956: Mr. REICHERT.
H.R. 1960: Mr. BILBRAY.
H.R. 1964: Mr. PALAZZO.
H.R. 2077: Mrs. HARTZLER and Mr. GIBBS.
H.R. 2088: Ms. KAPTUR.
H.R. 2194: Mr. STARK and Mr. DOGGETT.
H.R. 2198: Ms. JENKINS, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. KLINE, and Mr. ALTMIRE.
H.R. 2268: Mr. FARR.
H.R. 2466: Mr. FARENTHOLD.
H.R. 2499: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia and Mr. RYAN of Ohio.

H.R. 2655: Mr. YOUNG of Alaska and Mr. OLVER.
H.R. 2700: Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois.
H.R. 2721: Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. FATTAH and Mr. ELLISON.
H.R. 2746: Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California and Mr. ENGEL.
H.R. 2751: Mr. POE of Texas.
H.R. 2770: Mr. PERLMUTTER.
H.R. 2774: Mr. MILLER of Florida.
H.R. 2775: Mr. ELLISON.
H.R. 2787: Mr. CHANDLER.
H.R. 2810: Mr. AKIN.
H.R. 2866: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H.R. 2962: Mr. ALTMIRE and Mr. POE of Texas.
H.R. 2970: Mr. CHANDLER.
H.R. 2978: Mr. GIBBS.
H.R. 3059: Mr. MCDERMOTT.
H.R. 3106: Mr. OLVER.
H.R. 3173: Mr. RIGELL and Mr. PALAZZO.
H.R. 3187: Mr. MEEHAN and Mr. MARKEY.
H.R. 3279: Mr. MICHAUD.
H.R. 3300: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.
H.R. 3341: Mr. MACK and Mr. BUTTERFIELD.
H.R. 3352: Mr. POE of Texas.
H.R. 3506: Mr. ROSKAM.
H.R. 3614: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 3620: Mrs. CHRISTENSEN.
H.R. 3624: Ms. SLAUGHTER.
H.R. 3627: Mr. NUNNELEE, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. CASSIDY and Mr. VISCLOSKY.
H.R. 3643: Mr. CARNEY and Mr. BISHOP of New York.
H.R. 3656: Mr. LATHAM.
H.R. 3849: Mr. LATHAM.
H.R. 3860: Ms. SLAUGHTER.
H.R. 3891: Mr. HONDA and Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey.
H.R. 4070: Mr. CICILLINE and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 4076: Mr. LONG.
H.R. 4100: Mrs. CAPPS.
H.R. 4134: Mr. PALLONE.
H.R. 4169: Mr. CROWLEY.
H.R. 4171: Mrs. SCHMIDT, Mr. POSEY, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. BISHOP of Utah and Mr. PEARCE.
H.R. 4173: Mr. CLAY.
H.R. 4223: Mr. PENCE.
H.R. 4227: Mr. ALTMIRE and Mrs. DAVIS of California.
H.R. 4251: Ms. RICHARDSON.
H.R. 4255: Mr. SHIMKUS.
H.R. 4259: Mr. CLARKE of Michigan.
H.R. 4269: Mr. MICHAUD.
H.R. 4277: Ms. CLARKE of New York.
H.R. 4336: Mr. PAUL.
H.R. 4345: Mr. PALAZZO.
H.R. 4367: Mr. CLARKE of Michigan, Ms. BUERKLE, Mr. SHULER, Mr. HANNA, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. REYES, Mr. TURNER of Ohio and Mr. UPTON.
H.R. 4377: Mrs. ADAMS.
H.R. 4381: Mr. LATHAM, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. REED and Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas.
H.R. 4382: Mr. NUNNELEE, Mr. LATHAM and Mr. REED.
H.R. 4383: Mr. NUNNELEE, Ms. FOXX and Mr. LATHAM.
H.R. 4405: Mr. SIRES and Mr. HARRIS.
H.R. 4408: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
H.R. 4471: Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. REED, Mr. LATHAM, Mr. NUNNELEE, Ms. FOXX and Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina.
H.R. 4480: Mr. REED, Mrs. CAPITO and Ms. JENKINS.
H.R. 4484: Mr. LABRADOR.
H.R. 4965: Mr. KLINE.
H.R. 5050: Mr. ELLISON.
H.R. 5186: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 5630: Mr. KLINE.
H.R. 5707: Mr. CARNEY.
H.R. 5738: Mr. UPTON.
H.R. 5741: Mr. AMODEI.
H.R. 5781: Mr. CLAY.
H.R. 5839: Mr. WEST.
H.R. 5872: Mr. KLINE and Mr. SHUSTER.
H.J. Res. 103: Mr. ADERHOLT.
H.J. Res. 110: Mr. WITTMAN.
H. Con. Res. 114: Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia.
H. Con. Res. 116: Ms. JENKINS.
H. Con. Res. 122: Mr. SESSIONS.
H. Con. Res. 127: Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. LANCE and Mrs. MYRICK.
H. Res. 134: Mr. WITTMAN.
H. Res. 289: Ms. NORTON, Mr. SIRES and Mr. ENGEL.
H. Res. 397: Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California.
H. Res. 506: Mr. GARRETT.
H. Res. 609: Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey and Mr. LANKFORD.
H. Res. 613: Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. VISCLOSKY, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. HONDA, Mr. PASTOR of Arizona, Mr. FARR, Mr. OLVER, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. SIMPSON and Mr. DICKS.
H. Res. 618: Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. POMPEO, Mr. TURNER of Ohio, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. REYES, Mr. CARNAHAN and Mr. CRITZ.
H. Res. 651: Ms. LEE of California and Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.
H. Res. 660: Mr. STARK and Mr. GRIJALVA.
H. Res. 662: Mrs. ELLMERS and Mr. CANSECO.
H. Res. 663: Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. SCHOCK, Mr. HEINRICH and Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts.

AMENDMENTS

Under clause 8 of rule XVIII, proposed amendments were submitted as follows:

H.R. 5855

OFFERED BY: MR. POE OF TEXAS

AMENDMENT NO. 2: Page 3, line 23, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $10,000,000)''.

Page 9, line 14, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $10,000,000)''.

H.R. 5855

OFFERED BY: MR. GARDNER

AMENDMENT NO. 3: Page 21, line 24, insert before the period at the end the following:

: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, such sums as may be necessary shall be available to the Secretary of Homeland Security to comply with the Coast Guard's energy management requirements under section 543(f)(7) of the National Energy Conservation Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 8253(f)(7))

H.R. 5855

OFFERED BY: MR. WALSH OF ILLINOIS

AMENDMENT NO. 4: At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. ____. None of the funds made available under title I may be used by the Chief Financial Officer of the Department of Homeland Security to purchase any new software licenses for applications that have been identified as exceeding the number of existing and unused software licenses held by the Department.

H.R. 5855

OFFERED BY: MR. BROUN OF GEORGIA

AMENDMENT NO. 5: Page 2, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $3,655,500)''.

Page 3, line 23, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $6,393,840)''.

Page 5, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $1,492,290)''.

Page 5, lines 22 and 23, after each dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $7,246,290)''.

Page 6, line 8, after the first dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $9,522,000)''.

Page 6, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $3,277,920)''.

Page 11, line 21, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $157,089,930)''.

Page 15, line 23, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $151,236,900)''.

Page 19, line 4, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $3,792,540)''.

Page 19, line 11, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $5,772,720)''.

Page 19, line 18, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $27,859,890)''.

Page 20, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $26,388,000)''.

Page 29, line 14, after the first dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $46,681,650)''.

Page 32, line 9, after the first dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $1,359,630)''.

Page 33, line 8, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $5,741,400)''.

Page 35, line 10, after each dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $3,960,090)''.

Page 36, line 4, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $21,376,950)''.

Page 51, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $3,357,720)''.

Page 52, line 20, after the first dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $6,854,010)''.

Page 54, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $3,900,000)''.

Page 55, line 19, after the first dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $1,140,000)''.

Page 99, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $498,099,270)''.

H.R. 5855

OFFERED BY: MR. BROUN OF GEORGIA

AMENDMENT NO. 6: Page 15, line 23, after the dollar amount insert ''(reduced to $0)''.

Page 99, line 17, after the dollar amount insert ''(increased by $5,041,230,000)''.

H.R. 5855

OFFERED BY: MR. BROUN OF GEORGIA

AMENDMENT NO. 7: Page 37, line 18, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $412,908,000)''.

Page 99, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $412,908,000)''.

H.R. 5855

OFFERED BY: MR. BROUN OF GEORGIA

AMENDMENT NO. 8: None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for Behavior Detection Officers or the SPOT program.

H.R. 5855

OFFERED BY: MR. BROUN OF GEORGIA

AMENDMENT NO. 9: None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to cancel or decline to renew any contract with a person under the Screening Partnership Program of the Transportation Security Administration, unless the Secretary of Homeland Security—

(1) certifies that the company is not performing up to Transportation Security Administration standards; and

(2) obtains the approval for such cancellation from the airport at which the person participates in the program.

H.R. 5855

OFFERED BY: MR. BROUN OF GEORGIA

AMENDMENT NO. 10: None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to hire new airport or airline employees for whom the Transportation Security Administration has not completed a full background check, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

H.R. 5855

OFFERED BY: MR. BROUN OF GEORGIA

AMENDMENT NO. 11: None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to carry out 100 percent cargo screening goals or directives.

H.R. 5855

OFFERED BY: MR. BROUN OF GEORGIA

AMENDMENT NO. 12: None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to limit

the scope of, or restrict access to, the Screening Partnership Program of the Transportation Security Administration.

H.R. 5855

OFFERED BY: MR. CRAVAACK

AMENDMENT NO. 13: Page 15, line 23, after the dollar amount insert ''(increased by $10,000,000) (reduced by $10,000,000)''.

H.R. 5855

OFFERED BY: MR. MURPHY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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 to close the Federal Air Marshal Service office located at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, or to relocate air marshals stationed at that office.

H.R. 5855

OFFERED BY: MR. WALSH OF ILLINOIS

AMENDMENT NO. 15: Page 2, line 17, after the dollar amount insert ''(reduced by $13,400,000)''.

Page 15, line 23, after the dollar amount insert ''(increased by $13,400,000)''.

H.R. 5855

OFFERED BY: MR. PIERLUISI

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 to implement, administer, or enforce section 1301(a) of title 31, United States Code (31 U.S.C. 1301(a)), with respect to the use of amounts made available by this Act for ''Customs and Border Protection—Salaries and Expenses'' for the expenses authorized to be paid in section 9 of the Jones Act (48 U.S.C. 795) and for the collection of duties and taxes authorized to be levied, collected, and paid in Puerto Rico, as authorized in section 4 of the Foraker Act (48 U.S.C. 740), in addition to the more specific amounts available for such purposes in the Puerto Rico Trust Fund pursuant to such provisions of law.

United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 112th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 158 WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6, 2012 No. 84

Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND, a Senator from the State of New York.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, help our lawmakers to remember today the great unseen cloud of witnesses who compass them about. May the memories of those who, in every age and generation, sacrificed for freedom inspire our Senators to do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with You. Lord, give the Members of this body the integrity to walk worthily of those in whose unseen presence they live. As they labor on Capitol Hill, infuse them with courage in danger, steadfastness in trials, and perseverance in difficulties.

Remembering those who have gone before, help us all to dare more boldly, to venture on wider seas where storms will show Your mastery, where, losing sight of land, we will find Your stars.

We pray in Your faithful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND 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.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. INOUYE).

The bill clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, June 6, 2012.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND, a Senator from the State of New York, to perform the duties of the Chair.

DANIEL K. INOUYE,
President pro tempore.

Mrs. GILLIBRAND thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

AGRICULTURE REFORM, FOOD, AND JOBS ACT—MOTION TO PROCEED—Resumed

Mr. REID. Madam President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 415, S. 3240.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 415, S. 3240, a bill to reauthorize agriculture programs through 2017, and for other purposes.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. Madam President, we are now on the motion to proceed to the farm bill.

I now ask unanimous consent that today at 4 p.m. the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 610; that there be 90 minutes for debate, which will be equally divided in the usual form; that upon the use or yielding back of time, the Senate proceed to vote on the nomination; that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order; that any related statements be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Madam President, following my remarks and those of my esteemed colleague, the first hour will be equally divided, with the Republicans controlling the first half and the majority controlling the final half. We hope to reach an agreement to begin consideration of the farm bill today.

Madam President, in a time when too many of the products we buy are made overseas, America can be satisfied that most of the food we eat is grown right here at home. The American agricultural industry boasted a $42 billion trade surplus last year—greater than any other sector in our economy. Our farmers are the most productive in the world, exporting $136 billion worth of their yield last year.

It is amazing how States produce agricultural products. The State of New York isn't considered by most people to be an agricultural State, but it is. The State of Michigan is not considered by most people to be an agricultural State, but it is. Even some of the States in the western part of the United States produce products that are exported. For example, in Nevada, alfalfa is exported. It is very high in protein. It is made into pellets, and it is a needed commodity overseas. So all over America the farm bill is important.

Our farmers are the most productive in the world, exporting $136 billion worth of their yield last year. At a time of economic uncertainty, America's agricultural industry supports 16 million much needed jobs. So Congress must give farmers the certainty they need to keep this industry thriving.

I commend Senators STABENOW and ROBERTS, the managers of this bill, for crafting a strong bipartisan bill. This

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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measure will create jobs and cut subsidies. It includes important reforms that make farm and food stamp programs more accountable and more defensible.

With more farmers seeking global markets for their product more than ever before, this bill supports rural farm jobs as well as urban manufacturing jobs. It will help new farmers—especially those who served their country in the Armed Forces—to build successful businesses. This legislation helps local farmers sell their products where they grow them—connecting farms, schools, and communities. And it saves $23 billion, which we will use to reduce this deficit we have.

I know there are a number of Democratic and Republican Senators who wish to offer amendments to this legislation. I have confidence in the leadership of Senators STABENOW and ROBERTS and look forward to working quickly and cooperatively to pass the bill that creates jobs, cuts subsidies, and reduces the deficit, while protecting American farmers.

CAPITOL POLICE CHIEF PHILLIP MORSE

Madam President, every day the dedicated officers of the U.S. Capitol Police keep members of Congress, our staffs, and millions of visitors from around the world who visit the Capitol grounds each year safe. For the last 6 years, this department has been led and run by Chief of Police Phillip Morse. He spent more than half of his life on the Capitol Police Force, and I think it is time for a little down time. Today Chief Morse retires after 28 years serving and protecting the U.S. Capitol. I thank him for his service and congratulate him on a job well done.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The minority leader is recognized.

68TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY AND HONOR FLIGHT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, today, on the 68th anniversary of D-day, I am honored to recognize a distinguished group of World War II veterans from my State of Kentucky who have come to the Nation's Capital to visit the World War II Memorial on the Mall that they helped to inspire.

Thanks to the noble work of the Honor Flight Program and the leaders of the Bluegrass Chapter, including Brian Duffy, these brave patriots, along with their brothers-in-arms from the Korean war, will see the national memorials built in their honor today. Over the years, the Honor Flight Bluegrass Chapter has brought some 1,100 veterans—most from Kentucky—to Washington, DC, for this purpose. This program provides transportation, lodging, and food for the veterans. Without Honor Flight, most of these veterans would never be able to visit the Capital or see the World War II Memorial.

I have been privileged to visit with groups of Honor Flight veterans before, and I am pleased to report that I will be meeting with today's group at their memorial as well. My father served in World War II, and it is an honor to shake hands with his contemporaries, hear their stories, and thank them for their service.

America is forever indebted to the heroic members of the U.S. military who defended this great Nation and fought for freedom and against tyranny in World War II. They have truly earned the title of ''the greatest generation.''

I also thank the Honor Flight Program and Brian Duffy for their continued commitment to bring Kentucky's World War II and Korean veterans to see their memorials. Brian and the Bluegrass Chapter do what they do because they have great admiration and respect for our military veterans. I know my colleagues join me in saying that this Senate shares that admiration and respect, be it for members of ''the greatest generation'' or for the current generation of brave volunteers who have served in Afghanistan and/or Iraq or are serving today elsewhere across the world.

I wish to recognize each and every World War II and Korean war veteran from Kentucky who is visiting the memorial in our Nation's Capital today, and I ask unanimous consent that their names be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

LIST OF WORLD WAR II AND KOREAN WAR VETERANS BROUGHT BY HONOR FLIGHT TO VISIT THE NATIONAL MEMORIALS ON JUNE 6, 2012—THE 68TH ANNIVERSARY OF D DAY

Sam Adams; Louisville, KY
Clifford Barker; Morehead, KY
David Braun; Jamestown, KY
Harry Hughes Bush; Richmond, KY
Edgar Lewis Casada; Highland, IN
Herman Combs; Bronston, KY
Franklin Delano Coovert; Lexington, KY
Thomas Alton Curtsinger; Owensboro, KY
Guy Moorman Deane Jr.; Owensboro, KY
Earl E. Fort, Owensboro, KY
Wilburn Gerald Fort; Owensboro, KY
Sheldon Woodrow Franks; Corydon, IN
Alfred Stephen Freyling; Evansville, IN
Ira Wilson Guffey; Owensboro, KY
John Patrick Lawler; Louisville, KY
Robert A. Lawton; Central City, KY
Chester D. Miller; Owensboro, KY
Alberton Peace; Magnolia, KY
Kenneth Leonard Pearl; New Albany, IN
Wilmer Leroy Peck; Franklin, KY
Walter John Points; Falmouth, KY
Kenneth Lee Reynolds; Owensboro, KY
George Thomas Snyder; Owensboro, KY
William Daniel Stephens; Newburgh, IN
Murrel Ray Trapp; Seymour, IN
John Harold Tucker; Evansville, IN
John Hugh Vaughn; Glasgow, KY
James Clarence Vaught; Evansville, IN
Merton Lee Weisert; Louisville, KY

(The remarks of Mr. MCCONNELL pertaining to the submission of S. Res. 482 are printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

Mr. MCCONNELL. I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore.

Under the previous order, the following hour will be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees, with the Republicans controlling the first half and the majority controlling the final half.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I ask to speak as in morning business.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SEQUESTRATION TRANSPARENCY ACT

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I come to the floor today to talk about the significant uncertainty surrounding sequestration and its threat to our economy. The Congressional Budget Office forecasted that the pending fiscal cliff facing this country; that is, the scheduled tax increases and across-the-board spending cuts that will result from the expiration of current tax policy and the enactment of sequestration, could lead to recession. In fact, the Congressional Budget Office said repeatedly that if the tax increases and sequestration occur at the end of this year, there will be a 1.3-percent economic contraction during the first quarter of 2013. I believe that would argue for extending the existing tax rates. I think the uncertainty associated with the tax rates perhaps expiring at the end of the year and businesses not knowing what is going to happen is creating a real problem and a real cloud out there in the economy.

I believe it is important that there be economic certainty for people in this country, particularly for investors and small businesses. So it seems to me, at least, that getting those tax rates extended would be a very important part of the solution.

Having said that, I also believe we need tax reform for this country. We need comprehensive tax reform that will fuel economic growth. I think there is enormous potential for economic growth and job creation if, in fact, we could get to overhauling our Tax Code in this country, making it more simple, more fair, more clear, and obviously lowering the rates and broadening the tax base. But until that happens, we need certainty, which means we need to get the existing tax rates extended. I hope we can do that sooner rather than later because I think the longer we wait, the greater we put at risk our economy and what could happen if we don't act.

So that is one component of the fiscal cliff. Obviously, there are other components.

Under the Budget Control Act, the spending authority of most Federal departments and agencies is going to be reduced on January 2, 2013, as a result of the sequestration. Now, the triggered reduction in spending is $1.2 trillion. After accounting for 18 percent in debt service savings, the required reductions amount to $984 billion to be distributed evenly over 9 years—in other words, $109.3 billion per year. So if we look at it year by year, that is $54.7 billion in reductions that will be necessary in both the defense and nondefense categories of the budget starting on January 2, 2013. It is expected that those cuts will range between 7 and 9 percent, but we believe the administration needs a plan for implementing sequestration, after a number of conflicting statements about how and if it will be carried out.

As one example of the conflicting statements coming out of the Obama administration, Defense Secretary Leon Panetta sent a letter to Senator MCCAIN last November saying that the sequestration would not impact war funding. In April the OMB Controller testified before the House Budget Committee that the issue of whether war funding would be reduced by the sequester was still being evaluated. Just last week another official from the Office of Management and Budget said that war funding would, in fact, be impacted by the sequester.

It has been almost a full year since the Budget Control Act was passed, and Congress needs a precise understanding from this administration as to the full effects of sequestration on all programs and accounts across the Federal Government, including national security funding. That is why I have introduced a bill, along with Budget Committee ranking member JEFF SESSIONS, that would require the administration to bring some much needed transparency to the scheduled across-the-board spending cuts. Our legislation, S. 3228, the Sequestration Transparency Act, would require the administration to submit to Congress a detailed preview of the sequestration required by the Budget Control Act. Specifically, this bill would require the President to submit a report to Congress by July 9—next month—of 2012 that includes an estimate of the sequestration percentages and amounts necessary to achieve the required reduction for each spending category on an account level. The administration's report would also be required to include any other data and explanations that enhance the public's understanding of a sequester and actions to be taken under it.

This report will assist Congress in its yearend legislative business, including fiscal year 2013 appropriations and addressing the deep and unbalanced defense budget cuts that are expected under sequestration, which are in addition—in addition—to the $487 billion in reductions that were carried out last August.

Of course, we would not be in this situation had the Senate passed a serious budget over the last 3 years that addressed tax and entitlement reform. The Senate's failure to produce a budget year after year has left us with the Budget Control Act. Now the Budget Control Act is the law of the land.

While I am certainly disappointed that the President and the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction failed to reach an agreement to bring down our deficits in the long term, the cuts to national defense that are scheduled to go into effect are particularly troubling. The President's own Defense Secretary warned that the sequester would ''hollow out the force and inflict serious damage to our national defense.'' That is from the President's own Defense Secretary. Yet, after repeated requests from both the House and the Senate, the administration has refused to provide even the most basic details about the cuts required by the sequester.

There is a great deal of uncertainty regarding sequestration and the tax increases that would occur the first of next year. At a time when our economy continues to grow at a very sluggish pace and unemployment remains above 8 percent, the last thing we need coming out of Washington is more uncertainty. Job creators are concerned about the pending fiscal cliff, and if Congress does not act before the election to deal with these issues, the economy will suffer from this uncertainty in the coming months.

The legislation I have introduced, along with Senator SESSIONS, requires the administration to share with Congress and with the American people their plan for exactly how the sequestration will be carried out. This is straightforward legislation. It is about transparency, and it is something where I hope my colleagues on both sides of the aisle will work to ensure that these numbers—this sequestration plan—are shared with the Congress and with the American people.

We have, as everybody knows, a big pileup occurring at the end of the year with sequestration. The pileup includes tax rate increases which will occur on marginal income tax rates, capital gains rates, dividend rates, the death taxes, the debt limit increase. All of these things happen at a time that will create incredible amounts of uncertainty in our economy. The best we can do for the American people, for our job creators, for investors, and for our small businesses is to provide as much certainty as is possible going into the end of this year. It seems to me, at least, that starts with ensuring that we have a plan coming out of the administration that specifically clarifies how this sequestration would be implemented so that Congress can react accordingly, hopefully before the end of the year and hopefully sometime in the next few months, perhaps as a part of our appropriations process this year.

With regard to the tax increases, I would make the same argument that former President Bill Clinton has been making, which is that we need to extend these tax rates. We create too much economic uncertainty out there by having this cloud on the horizon, which I think is a real warning sign to us, and it is a reminder that we get on a regular basis—frankly, for the most part, on a daily basis—when we talk to small businesses in our home States about the importance of addressing the tax, the regulatory, the spending, and debt issues before the end of the year when this big pileup would occur.

So I would argue for and plead with my colleagues to work together on the sequestration issue to ensure that it doesn't have the devastating impacts on our national security budget and that, combined with the tax increases, it doesn't have the devastating impact on our economy that is being predicted by the Congressional Budget Office. They have pointed out that if these things all happen at the end of the year, it could cost us 1.3 percent of economic growth, which, according to the President's own economic advisers, means about 1.3 million jobs for American workers. We already have chronic high unemployment now—40 consecutive months of unemployment above 8 percent. We have a sluggish, anemic economy. We shouldn't pile on top of that all this uncertainty with regard to taxes, with regard to regulations, with regard to what is going to happen regarding sequestration at the end of the year.

Again, this bill simply does not address in substance how we would change that, but it merely requests and requires the administration to provide to the Congress and the American people a clear plan about how they intend to implement sequestration in hopes that we might be able to make some necessary changes to ensure that the defense budget isn't gutted and that these adverse impacts on the economy are not felt by the American people and by our small businesses. I hope my colleagues will support this legislation and that we can get a vote on it very soon; that we can get the administration acting in a way that will inform not only us as Members of Congress but also the American public.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

A SECOND OPINION

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, yesterday, Vice President BIDEN and other Obama administration officials hosted presidents and leaders from colleges and universities at the White House. Officials promoted this event as an opportunity, they said, to highlight the transparency of college costs. They

said these schools were committed to providing key financial information to all of their incoming students starting next year.

Well, once again, transparency took a back seat to politics. In fact, the White House failed—failed—to level with college students about important financial information, including how the President's health care law is going to make it harder for many students in terms of their ability to get health insurance through their universities.

Earlier this week, the real story came out, and I will tell you it is discouraging. I continue to come to the floor week after week with a doctor's second opinion about the health care law because I think the health care law is bad for patients, it is bad for providers—the nurses and the doctors who take care of those patients—it is terrible for our taxpayers. I do not think I realized at the time I started doing these second opinions that it was going to be terrible for students going to college.

Take a look at these unintended consequences that have come out of this health care law. But I will tell you, on Monday, national news reports showed that the coverage requirements in the President's health care law—the mandated requirements in the health care law of a certain level of government-approved coverage—well, it is causing colleges all across the country to drop insurance coverage for their students. I would like to explain exactly how this works.

As Members of this body who voted for this on the other side of the aisle will recall, the health care law eliminates annual and lifetime benefits for insurance plans. Many colleges offer their students an opportunity for limited benefit policies to give students access to affordable health insurance coverage that actually is something that a college student might need, might benefit from, may be helped with.

These are the same benefit plans that have been popular with many unions across the country. The plans were so popular that the administration issued over 1,700 waivers which impacted over 4 million Americans. These Washington waivers ensured that people who got their insurance through certain corporations and unions would not lose the coverage they had in the lead-up to the full implementation of the health care law.

Well, over half of these waivers were granted to individuals who received their insurance through their unions so these individuals would not lose their coverage during the time when the unions were saying: This health care law is too expensive for us. We don't want to live under these mandates. We can't afford it.

Well, the colleges are finding the same situation. But unlike the unions, the colleges are not eligible to apply for these special administration waivers from the health care law. So students across the country are suffering the consequences.

This year, because of the President's health care law, these students are not going to be able to purchase or afford coverage through their schools. Schools are faced with two options: One is raise premiums dramatically, drastically, or just don't offer the health insurance programs students like, parents like, and the universities like to provide. The President of the United States and the Democrats who voted for this health care law essentially have said: Too bad.

So let's give an example from New York State. The State University of New York in Plattsburgh offered students coverage in the past for $440 per year. Next year policies will cost anywhere between $1,300 and $1,600 per student per year. That is an increase of four times, 400 percent. Why? Because the students are going to end up paying for a lot of insurance they do not need, they do not want, and they possibly cannot afford. But yet the President mandates they get this high level of insurance coverage even though it is something the people at the university think their students do not need. The universities do not have a choice. The President makes those decisions, not the president of the university but the President of the United States.

The University of Puget Sound in Washington was able to offer its students insurance last year for $165—insurance they believed was helpful to the students. Next year, to comply with the President's health care law—the mandated high levels of coverage—they estimate a policy will now cost between $1,500 and $2,000.

Since the Obama administration's mandates were so expensive, what is the University of Puget Sound going to do? Well, they announced they will not be offering any insurance coverage to any students next year—a decision made by the university.

It is clear the President's health care law leaves many students with two bad choices: They can either be forced to pay vastly increased premiums or basically lose access to coverage altogether. This new development flies completely in the face of the President's promise. The President said: If you like what you have, you can keep it. But let's specifically go to the President's exact promise:

> No matter how we reform health care—

The President of the United States said—

> we will keep this promise: If you like your doctor, you will be able to keep your doctor. Period.

He went on to say:

> If you like your health care plan, you will be able to keep your health care plan. Period.

He then said:

> No one will take it away. No matter what.

He said:

> My view is that health care reform should be guided by a simple principle: fix what's broken and build on what works.

Here we are, over 2 years later, and we continue to witness the Obama administration breaking this very specific promise. Now we can add college students to the long list of people who found out the reality does not match President Obama's rhetoric. At a time when students across the Nation face increasing tuition costs and a bleak job market, now they have to deal with losing their health insurance.

Each day it becomes more obvious that the Obama economy, which includes the President's health care law, has made life worse for millions of Americans. It cannot continue. If the Supreme Court does not completely repeal this health care law, Congress needs to do it. Republicans are committed to repealing this law and replacing it with step-by-step reforms. We will continue to help Americans of all ages work to get the care they want from a doctor they choose at a lower cost.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

STUDENT LOANS

Mr. DURBIN. I just left a meeting a few feet away from here with the leaders of some of the American colleges and universities. They came to brief us on a challenge we face across America that we had better be aware of. It is the growing student loan debt.

Just in October 1 year ago, student loan debt in America surpassed credit card debt. It is now $1 trillion. More and more students are going more deeply into debt, which many of them can never repay. Student loan debt is different than other debt. It is different because one cannot discharge it in bankruptcy, which means it is a debt they will carry for a lifetime.

Imagine someone who is 19, 20 years old, that they have been told as long as they have been on this Earth education is the key to the future, and they are sitting across the table from a financial counselor who says they have been accepted at this college. All they need to do is sign up right here for a loan.

What is the natural instinct? Of course, it is to sign on the dotted line: I am doing what I was told to do; I am going to the best school I can get into; I am going to borrow the money and make it happen and my life will be successful and I will pay the money back.

The formula is right, but there are problems. If they drop out of school,

they end up with no diploma, just debt. If they go to a bad school, they end up with a worthless diploma and debt. If they end up, unfortunately, in some aspects of life, occupations and professions, it may take decades to pay off a debt. The average student loan debt is about $25,000 once someone has completed 4 years of education.

We have asked students across Illinois and across the Nation to tell us their stories and the student loan debts go as high as $100,000 and more for 4 years of education. Many of these students are finding themselves in an impossible predicament, where they literally cannot get on with their lives, cannot find a job and, unfortunately, are still stuck with the debt.

They are lucky, incidentally, if they are dealing with a Federal student loan guaranteed debt, so-called Stafford loans, because that is 3.4 percent interest. There are ways they can have that debt forgiven and consolidated. It is a flexible type of debt guaranteed by the Federal Government.

But if they step over that line of Federal Government debt and get into a private student loan, hang on tight. The interest rates go from 3.4 percent to the heavens, 18-percent credit card rate debts. Interest rates are not uncommon when it comes to these private loans. Students find themselves being swallowed by debt they cannot repay that is unfortunately compounded and just goes from bad to worse, to even worse.

Students I have run into thought they were doing the right thing. They went to some of these worthless for-profit schools. They can hardly avoid them. If one gets on the Internet and punches in the search engine for ''college'' or ''universities,'' hang on tight. They are about to be inundated with ads from for-profit schools that tell just how easy it is to get a college diploma. All you have to do is sign up. They used to run an ad here on one of the television stations in Washington. It showed a pretty young girl and she was lounging on her bed with her laptop computer and she said: I am going to college in my pajamas. That kind of come-on—to suggest you can get a worthy college diploma through a for-profit school—unfortunately lures many of these kids into a mountain of debt and worthless diplomas from this for-profit industry—the most heavily subsidized private business in America.

Ninety percent of the money that for-profit schools have in revenue comes right from the Federal Government. Heck, they ought to have their employees join a Federal employees union for that matter because 90 percent of their revenue comes right out of the Federal Treasury. Students end up with the debt and a worthless diploma.

Last week, the quarterly report on household debt of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York found that student loan debt hit $904 billion in the first quarter of 2012, up from $241 billion just 10 years ago. That is a 275-percent increase since the same period in 2003. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau—which many people on the other side of the aisle would like to put out of business—the only leading consumer protection bureau in the Federal Government, estimates that outstanding student loan debt may be even higher, up to $1 trillion.

Students continue to pile on the debt, even as America—most Americans—cut back on other forms of credit, such as mortgage and credit cards. According to a senior economist at the New York Federal Reserve Bank:

> It remains the only form of consumer debt to substantially increase since the peak of household debt in 2008.

The hole just gets deeper for students and the families borrowing money for higher education. Students are graduating with massive amounts of debt and having a very difficult time paying it back. Delinquency rates for student loans are higher than rates for mortgages or automobile loans.

Every week, I hear from students drowning in debt, and I don't mean just recent graduates. Some of the borrowers are in their thirties and forties, even older, and still paying off student loans or paying off private student loans they cosigned for their children or grandchildren. Student loan debt has serious consequences for families and for our economy. In a recent survey of college graduates by Rutgers University, 40 percent of the participants said they delayed making a major purchase, such as a home or car, because of student debt. More than one-quarter of those surveyed put off continuing their education or had moved in with relatives to save money to pay their student loans.

Private student loans don't come with the same consumer protections and payment plans Federal loans offer. Senator TOM HARKIN of Iowa, chairman of our Senate education committee, introduced a bill with me to help families understand the difference between the Federal student loan and private student loans. We call it the Know Before You Owe Private Student Loan Act. It would require private student loan lenders to confirm the potential borrower's enrollment status and cost of attendance. The bill would also require institutions to counsel students about the difference between Federal and private student loans. Many students just don't know the difference.

The come-on is, listen, we have only one sheet of paper you have to fill out and you will get a private loan or do you want to go through five sheets of paper over here for the Federal Government? This is easier. Easier, yes, but a debt that is going to be much more serious for you in years to come.

Last week, the attorneys general from 22 States wrote to Members of the House and Senate asking that Congress fix the so-called 90 10 loophole. The 90 10 rule, as it is currently written, requires for-profit colleges to receive at least 10 percent of their revenue from something other than the Federal Government—10 percent. But current law considers Federal sources only those funds from the Department of Education's title IV Federal financial aid programs, which includes Pell grants and federally guaranteed student loans. Other Federal subsidies for students, such as GI bill funds and the Department of Defense tuition assistance, aren't counted.

The attorneys general across America once again are ahead of Congress. They recognize that including GI bill and DOD funds will eliminate the powerful incentive the for-profit colleges have to recruit veterans and Active military in order to comply with the 90 10 rule.

Holly Petraeus is the wife of General Petraeus. Her husband is a true American hero. She has stood by his side through all his military assignments, dearly loves the military and their families. She works for the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. Her specialty is to find those rip-off institutions that are going after veterans to try to soak up their GI bill benefits for a worthless education.

How did we reach this point? Why are we, at this moment in time, where we are—facing this student loan debt bomb. Years ago, with widespread reports of waste, fraud, and abuse in the for-profit college sector, Congress created the 85 15 rule to weed out fraudulent fly-by-night schools that relied almost entirely on taxpayer dollars. The 85 15 rule said a school could take in no more than 85 percent of its revenue from the Federal Government. The other 15 had to come from other sources. It worked, and many of the worst schools, fortunately, closed.

In 1998, the rule was loosened to 90 10—90 percent Federal subsidy. Now we see we need to return to the original intent of the law and crack down on these for-profit schools that are taking advantage of veterans, servicemembers, and students across the board.

In January, Senator HARKIN and I introduced the Protect Our Students and Taxpayers Act—the POST Act—that will make several changes to the 90 10 rule. To better protect the students and our taxpayer dollars, the POST Act would reinstate the original 85 15 ratio, and the bill would change the definition of what is considered Federal revenue.

This may sound like bureaucratic gobbledygook, but let's get to the bottom line. If an institution needs to rely on the Federal Treasury for 90 percent of their revenue to exist as a school, there is a serious question about whether they are a real school. If the students make no contribution—or only 10 percent toward their education—then, frankly, what they are doing is just milking the Federal Treasury to keep the lights on at their school. I might add, these for-profit schools are highly profitable. Some of the biggest investment counselors and

managers in America invest in these schools because they are money machines. They bring their money directly from the Federal Government, with no guarantee that students will end up with an education.

The numbers I return to time and again tell the story. Ten percent of students finishing high school—10 percent—end up in for-profit schools—10 percent. Yet these for-profit schools eat up to 25 percent of all Federal aid to education. They are sucking in the Pell grants and the Stafford loans and then—hang on—they have a student loan default rate almost twice the level of other colleges and universities. What does that tell us? They have come up with an economic model which reaches deep in the Treasury to bring in money to keep the lights on and to pay their CEOs very generous salaries. They are also, of course, loaning money to students, and those students are defaulting, unable to repay their student loans at twice the rate of other colleges and universities.

You might say to yourself: Well, Senator, if that is the case, why don't you do something about it? The problem is the for-profit school industry in America is one of the most politically wired industries in this country. They have friends in high places, and it is very difficult to get reform legislation through the House or the Senate when they are so politically connected. Yet Senator HARKIN and I believe it is worth the effort, and we are going to ask our colleagues to join us in that effort.

What is worse is that students are aggressively recruited to attend these colleges, lured into taking out massive amounts of debt and may not even graduate. Think about that. A study published earlier this year by the Education Sector shows that the borrowers who drop out are more than four times more likely than those who graduate to default on their college loans because they are more likely to be unemployed and earn less when they do get a job. The dropout rates rose across all kinds of colleges, but the biggest increases were found in the for-profit 4-year institutions, where a staggering 54 percent of those who had borrowed to pursue a bachelor's degree dropped out of school—more than half. The study showed 16.8 percent of dropouts defaulted on their loans compared with 3.7 percent of those who graduated.

What difference does it make to these for-profit universities? They got their money.

Alexander Brooks recently contacted my office about his student debt. Alexander is from Normal, IL, and graduated in 2006 with a degree in computer networking from ITT, a for-profit institution. Alex never got a job in his field. He drives a schoolbus to pay his rent, even though he has this so-called degree in computer networking. He said he would like to get married to his long-time girlfriend, but he doesn't want to have her share in the burden of his student loan debt.

When asked about the quality of education he received from ITT—what we will hear being advertised on the television every time we turn it on—here is what he said:

> ITT fell short of preparing me for what happens after graduation. Although the school provided me with a degree, the program did not provide any of the necessary certifications needed to get a job in the computer field.

Alex would like to go back to school, but he can't borrow any more money. When he graduated 6 years ago from ITT, a for-profit school, his total loan balance was $40,000. That was when he graduated. Six years later, his balance is $50,000. Six years of payments, falling further and further behind. His private student loans have interest rates up to 9.25 percent, almost double the Federal student loan rate.

Alex isn't alone. Many of his fellow students from ITT have the same trouble repaying their loan. ITT's 3-year cohort default rate is over 29 percent. That means that within 3 years of entering repayment status, almost one-third of students have already defaulted. In 2009, ITT received 85.8 percent of all its revenue—this for-profit school—from the Federal student aid programs. It was the third largest recipient of GI bill funds, receiving $99 million in the school year 2010 2011. If GI bill funds and other Federal aid were counted, ITT would likely be at or close to receiving 100 percent of its revenue from the Federal Government—totally federally subsidized.

Federal student aid money is just about all that keeps this institution alive, running, generating profits, and paying handsome salaries to those who own it. What do the taxpayers get in return for this investment? More Americans with student loan debt they will never be able to pay off. That is not a good deal for taxpayers or students.

High student loan debt is not limited to for-profit college students. Students at private nonprofit institutions graduate with an average of about $26,000 in debt. Students who graduate from public institutions graduated with an average debt of $15,600.

What I say back home in Illinois I hope some will listen to carefully. Education is critical for a student or person to succeed. I encourage people to pursue it but go to the low-cost alternative if they haven't made up their mind or don't have a clear goal in front of them that is reasonable. Go to their community college. Start there. Learn to what it means to go to college. They can do it at an affordable cost in their neighborhood, in their town, and then progress from the community college level to the right place for them. The students who sign up for these worthless for-profit schools or sign up for a heavy load of debt may find themselves in a terrible situation, and it is impossible for them to pursue a higher education.

We have to do something to control the cost of postsecondary education, ease the burden of student debt, and crack down on the aggressive recruiting practices used by these for-profit colleges by closing the 90 10 loophole. Congress should start by coming to an agreement on the student loan interest rate hike that will prevent the interest rates on subsidized Federal student loans from doubling.

Let me close with this because I see my colleague from Rhode Island is here. On July 1, the interest rate on Federal loans—Stafford loans—will double from 3.4 percent to 6.8 percent. For a student borrowing $20,000 over the course of a 4-year education, it means at 6.8 percent as opposed to 3.4 they will be paying back $24,000 instead of $20,000. Why do we want to dig this hole any deeper for students across America?

We have put together an alternative on the floor to keep the interest rate low. Unfortunately, the other side has objected. I hope we can work out a reasonable bipartisan way to keep interest rates on student loans at a lower level. We owe it to these families and to these students.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Madam President, let me first thank the distinguished Senator from Illinois for his determined efforts, as well as my senior colleague in this body, Senator JACK REED, for his determined efforts in trying to get to a resolution that will prevent the student loan interest rates from doubling.

THE HIGHWAY BILL

I am here to speak about another problem—something very important to ordinary Americans that is also being jammed up as a result of obstruction and intransigence—and that is the highway bill.

We had a March 31 deadline, the House and the Senate, to get a highway bill done. The Senate did its job; we got a highway bill done by March 31. The House did not do its job; they failed to get a highway bill done.

Let me point out that we have been doing highway bills in Congress back since the Eisenhower administration, and this is not rocket science. So it is telling that the body at the other end of this building could not get a highway and bridge bill done by the March 31 deadline. So what did they do? They extended it and took us to conference on the Senate bill.

Now, let's say a word about the Senate bill. The Senate bill is very hard to criticize. People sometimes criticize bills around here because they get jammed through; there isn't enough time; there aren't enough amendments; it is not bipartisan. None of those criticisms apply to the Senate bill.

The Senate highway bill came out of my Environment and Public Works Committee—thanks to the leadership of Chairman BOXER and Ranking Member INHOFE with the unanimous support of every Republican and every Democrat. It came to the floor. We had a

wide-open process here on the floor. I think nearly 40 amendments were accepted either in floor votes or by agreement. Everybody had their chance, everybody had their day, and the net result was that the bill cleared out of the Senate with 75 Senators on record supporting it. That is a pretty impressive majority around here.

So we have a 75-to-22 Senate bill that has the support of the chamber of commerce, the Association of Manufacturers, and it has the support of labor unions and the environmental community. There is really nothing to criticize about it either substantively or in terms of the process by which it was adopted, and yet our colleagues on the House side won't accept the bipartisan Senate bill. They have it bottled up in this conference. And the reason that I am on the floor today is that we are being told now that the House is going to ask for another extension past the end of June to continue to dawdle and stall the bipartisan highway bill. What is the effect of that? What is the effect of dawdling and stalling the bipartisan Senate highway bill? The effect is loss of jobs.

The Presiding Officer is from New York, I am from Rhode Island, and the distinguished Senator from Utah is here on the floor. All of us have a common situation in our State, which is winter. In winter, it is really hard to build and repair highways and bridges.

There is a summer construction season, and as we dawdle and delay and as the House jams up the bipartisan Senate highway bill, that summer season gets whittled away. We are now to the point where my director of transportation in Rhode Island, Mike Lewis, says that he had 97 jobs on his roster to be done in this summer construction season, and if we can't get this done earlier than when we anticipate doing it now, at the end of this month, at the end of June, 40 of those projects will drop off the roster and all of the jobs associated with them will be lost.

Rhode Island is a small State. Those numbers are going to echo eastward and northward across the country in job losses this summer because of the delay of a bipartisan Senate highway bill by the House. These are real jobs.

It is not just me making this observation and it is not just the Rhode Island director of transportation. Standard & Poor's Global Credit Portal RatingsDirect service has put out a publication: ''Increasingly Unpredictable Federal Funding Could Stall U.S. Transportation Infrastructure Projects.'' They say the following:

> With the March 31st expiration looming, Congress passed on March 29th yet another extension to fund U.S. highway programs. This latest continuing resolution, the ninth, provides funding through June 30, 2012. As construction season begins in the northern half of the country, this continuing uncertainty in funding could force states to delay projects rather than risk funding changes or political gridlock come July.

That is exactly what we are seeing.

They said:

> In addition, the political gridlock in Washington, D.C., and the doubt surrounding federal funding are making it difficult for issuers throughout the infrastructure sector to define long-term plans for funding necessary capital projects.

If we get this turned around, then what happens? Well, according to Standard & Poor's, ''Once a long-term authorization is approved, we believe it will provide an impetus for transportation agencies to reconsider high-priority projects that had been shelved because of lack of funding.'' So we can put people to work in this country. We can put people to work in this country on roads and bridges and highways—something every American understands. We can do it under a bipartisan Senate bill that has the support of everybody, from the business community, to the labor community, to the environmental community, to, perhaps obviously, the highway construction community. But the House of Representatives, which couldn't pass a highway bill, is jamming us in this endless conference. I don't know if it is their intention to knock out these jobs in this preelection period. I don't know if they just can't get their house in order over there to do the basic legwork of passing a highway bill. But as we approach the end of this month, as we approach this second deadline—which it looks like they are going to miss again—I will urge my colleagues, let's hold their feet to the fire. There is no excuse for not passing the bipartisan Senate highway bill that is widely supported and that will create or defend nearly 3 million jobs in this country—2.9 million, to use the exact number that has been identified with this bill.

So I think it is very important that we stick to our guns on this one. In Rhode Island, we have projects such as Highway 95, where it comes through the city of Providence, it comes through as a bridge. It is a raised highway. If you go underneath that bridge to, say, drive into the back entrance of the Providence Place Mall or to look where the highway goes over the Amtrak rails that connect the Northeast Corridor, what do you see? You see wooden planks that have been laid between the I-beams so that the highway falling in doesn't land on cars underneath, doesn't land on Amtrak trains or train tracks underneath. This is a project that needs to be rebuilt. It needs to be rebuilt now. It is connected to where State Routes 6 and 10 come in and connect to 95. If you go under State Route 6 and State Route 10—as Senator REED and I did recently with the mayor of Providence and with the transportation director—you see that those highways are propped up by wooden supports. You see that pieces of the metal infrastructure have crumbled and fallen off onto the ground. This is highway work that needs to be done. These are not bridges to nowhere.

Every American driving across our bumpy roads knows we have work to do, and I call on my colleagues in the House to quit dawdling, to let this conference go. If they don't have an answer, if they can't pass a highway bill, if they can't do the basic legwork of governance to do something as simple as a highway bill, then get out of the way. At least get out of the way and let the bipartisan, widely supported Senate highway bill go.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Utah.

EXTENDING TAX RELIEF

Mr. HATCH. Madam President, the bad news keeps coming. Europe is in dire straits, with the debt-riddled economies of Greece and now Spain threatening the future of the continent's economic union. There is real concern that this debt-fueled contagion in Europe will undermine our economy as well, and our economy cannot take too many more hits.

The unemployment rate went back up to 8.2 percent last month. Only 69,000 net new payroll jobs were created. That is barely keeping up with population growth and is hardly the type of robust job growth that will be the foundation of a lasting and meaningful economic recovery. Now, we should have seen this coming. The minutes of the Federal Reserve's most recent monetary policymaking meeting make numerous mention of uncertainties surrounding fiscal policy and that those uncertainties are a risk to the economic outlook.

Fed policymakers noted that ''they generally saw the U.S. fiscal situation also as a risk to the economic outlook; if agreement is not reached on a plan for the federal budget, a sharp fiscal tightening could occur at the start of 2013.'' They concluded that ''uncertainty about the trajectory of future fiscal policy could lead businesses to defer hiring and investing'' and ''uncertainty about the fiscal environment could hold back both household spending on durable goods and business capital expenditures.''

Yesterday the Congressional Budget Office reminded us yet again what the consequences will be to our economy if we fail to get our debt under control. According to one of their analyses, absent serious reform of entitlement spending programs, ''Federal debt would grow rapidly from its already high level, exceeding 90 percent of GDP in 2022. After that . . . [d]ebt as a share of GDP would exceed its historical peak of 109 percent by 2026, and it would approach 200 percent in 2037.'' And that is an optimistic view. The impact of this multiplying debt will be a gross national product that is reduced by 4.5 percent in 2027 and 13.5 percent in 2037.

In other words, unless President Obama and his allies in the Senate get to work, Americans face a future of fewer jobs, flat or shrinking incomes, and loss of opportunity. And the sad truth is, as this chart shows, the President's allies have not gotten to work.

We have had a hearing on tax extenders but none on the AMT patch—the alternative minimum tax patch—and none on tax reform. We did have a hearing on the 2013 tax cuts. But we have had no markups on any of those, and we have had no floor consideration of any of those. Yet these are all extremely important matters.

It was no surprise, therefore, when former President Clinton stated yesterday that we are still in a recession. Economists might say that is not technically accurate, but it is certainly how most Americans feel. What did come as a surprise, however, was President Clinton's remarks on taxmageddon, the fiscal cliff the Nation faces at the end of this year. At least yesterday, it sounded as though his view was that we should do a complete 180 and race away from this cliff, extending in full the tax relief enacted by President Bush and extended by President Obama in 2010. Several weeks ago, 41 Senate Republicans made a similar request of the Senate's majority leader, Senator REID. This fiscal cliff is unquestionably contributing to our fiscal crisis and slowing the economy by creating enormous uncertainty for taxpayers and businesses.

Absent action to extend this tax relief, Americans will be hit with a $310 billion tax increase next year alone; 26 million middle-income families will owe $92 billion in alternative minimum tax when filing their returns 1 year from now; a family of four earning $50,000 will get hit with a $2,183 tax hike; a small business owner will face a top marginal tax rate hike of 17 percent. That is catastrophic. The number of farmers who will face the death tax will rise by 2,220 percent. The number of small business owners who will face the death tax will rise by 900 percent. There should be no higher priority for the President and the Congress than addressing these tax increases.

Yesterday, President Clinton seemed to agree, arguing that we should act now, not after the elections, to avoid the fiscal cliff. At a minimum, he concluded that a temporary extension of current tax relief is in order. To quote former President Clinton:

> They will probably have to put everything off until early next year. That's probably the best thing to do right now.

I understand that the minority leader of the Senate and the Speaker of the House have now called for a 1-year extension, during which time we should do tax reform. That makes sense. And I am committed, as the ranking member on the Senate Finance Committee, to do tax reform and hopefully bring both sides together, for once in a long time, to do what is in the best interest of this country.

President Clinton further argued:

> What I think we need to do is to find some way to avoid the fiscal cliff, to avoid doing anything that would contract the economy now, and then deal with what's necessary in the long-term debt-reduction plan as soon as they can, which presumably will be after the election.

Now, channeling Gilda Radner, and presumably following a dressing down by President Obama's campaign team, President Clinton tells us, ''Never mind.''

But President Clinton knew what he was saying. One thing I can say, knowing him as well as I do, President Clinton is a very smart man. He was making an elementary point, one that the President, President Obama, seemed to agree with when he was not running for election on a platform that single-mindedly obsesses over raising taxes on families with incomes over $250,000.

President Clinton, not wanting to further undermine our economy, recommended a short-term extension of all the tax relief. That is precisely what President Obama agreed to at the end of 2010. Given our tepid economic growth and job creation and the threat from Europe, common sense would dictate a similar course today—certainly, if the alternative is a $310 billion tax increase.

But today President Obama is running for reelection, and tax relief for the so-called rich would undermine his message of wealth redistribution. Failure to extend this tax relief, though, is not an option.

Just this morning another Obama supporter, a former Director for the National Economic Council, Larry Summers, said:

> The real risk to this economy is on the side of slowdown . . . and that means we've got to make sure that we don't take gasoline out of the tank at the end of this year. That's gotta be the top priority.

The former Director of President Obama's Office of Management and Budget concluded that what he estimates to be a $500 billion tax increase would be so large that ''the economy could be thrown back into a recession.''

According to the magazine, The Economist, the Congressional Budget Office has found that the combined effects of the sequester and the expiring tax relief would add up to 3.6 percent of GDP in fiscal year 2013. In a $15 trillion economy, that would be a hit to GDP of $540 billion, which would surely tip us toward recession and even more job losses.

The question the people of Utah and citizens around the country are asking themselves is, What is the holdup? If extending this tax relief is essential to providing families and businesses with the certainty and security necessary for economic growth, why are Senate Democrats refusing to take it up? Why is the President not pushing for immediate action to avoid this fiscal cliff?

Let me suggest an answer. The President wants to drag this out until after this election. Even if that means months of additional pain for America's families and a real hit to our economy, it will serve his long-term goal, a goal that he dares not announce until after the election. President Obama does not want the precedent of extending this tax relief for everyone because, ultimately, his liberal base does not want it extended for anyone.

The President and his advisers know our debt is unsustainable. Their base will not allow for any serious changes to spending policy, and tax increases on the wealthy alone are not adequate to get our fiscal house in order. The only solution, one that Hyde Park and Pennsylvania Avenue are loathe to discuss openly, are tax increases on everybody.

This is Matt Bai, writing last year in the New York Times:

> If Democrats are serious about reversing the policy of the Bush years, then they will probably have to be willing to make a case for eliminating all the tax cuts, not just those for the wealthiest Americans. And they may have to come up with some kind of more comprehensive plan for modernizing the entire tax code, in order to persuade voters that even if some taxes go up, they might still come out ahead.

Ezra Klein, the liberal blogger at the Washington Post, put it this way:

> We cannot fund anything close to the government's commitments if we don't raise taxes, or if we let only the Bush tax cuts for income over $250,000 expire.

Though he is now persona non grata in President Obama's camp, just a few weeks ago President Clinton was echoing this recommendation of tax increases for all.

This is President Clinton:

> This is just me now, I'm not speaking for the White House—I think you could tax me at 100 percent and you wouldn't balance the budget. We are all going to have to contribute to this, and if middle class people's wages were going up again, and we had some growth to the economy, I don't think they would object to going back to tax rates [from] when I was president.

With due respect to our former President, I do think he was speaking for the White House, and I do think most Americans would object to a tax hike. That is why President Obama has decided to lay low rather than lead. The American people are not going to accept this. We live in a republic, and it is fundamentally illegitimate, on an issue of this magnitude, for a person running for President of the United States to put these decisions off until a lameduck session of Congress when he can no longer be held to account by the American people.

It is not only an economic imperative that we extend this tax relief, it is demanded by our constitutional commitment to representative democracy. To borrow from Justice Scalia:

> The American people love democracy and the American people are not fools.

If the President and his campaign team think they can punt this issue into the fall, they are sorely mistaken. The American people will voice their displeasure with this failure to lead in November. President Clinton got it right the first time yesterday. The fiscal cliff must be addressed now. We cannot wait until later in the year. Our economy is struggling. American families are treading water. We have tried it their way for almost 4 years.

We have tried a $850 billion stimulus. We have tried ObamaCare, which was

also supposed to be a jobs program. We have tried Dodd-Frank. It is time to try something else.

There is no greater jobs program that Congress and the President could pursue than a permanent extension of the tax relief signed by Presidents Bush and Obama. It would provide enormous confidence to America's businesses and families at a time when confidence is sorely needed. This issue is not going away. I look forward to working with my colleagues to pass tax relief for all Americans sometime this summer.

We all realize we are in election mode. Maybe I realize that more than most. The fact is, we cannot punt this anymore. We cannot kick it down the road. We are going to have to find a means and a way whereby we extend this tax relief and then spend the next year working on tax reform and hopefully a bipartisan tax reform bill that everybody here can support.

So far this year just about everything the majority leader has brought up for and on behalf of Democrats is to protect the sitting 23 Democrats who are up for reelection this year. I don't blame the leader for wanting to protect his fellow Democrats. That is, after all, maybe part of the job of the leader. On the other hand, there are things that are even more important, such as the future welfare of our country, such as jobs that are not being created. They are not being created because we have no creators in the White House. It takes a President to lead on these issues.

I suggest to President Obama he would have a much better chance of reelection if he would lead on some of these issues and if he would go along with putting off these tax increases and committing Democrats and Republicans to coming up with a bipartisan reform of this awful, despicable, unworkable Tax Code. It might be one of the few ways we can bring people together. It might be one of the few ways we can turn this country around in the short term.

I think the minority leader and the Speaker of the House have something here. We ought to do this and make it the main focal point of our existence as Members of the Senate and Members of the House of Representatives. If we do this, we might even find that we can get along again. We might even find that we can work together. And we might even find the President can lead for a change, which would be a pleasant change from what I have seen over the last number of years.

I happen to like the President. I do not agree with him. Yes, I would like to replace him. But I like him personally. I believe if the President would lead here and would make this a focal point he would have a better chance in this election. Not that I want him to be successful, but at least he would have a better chance.

Deep down the American people believe nothing is being done by the White House, by this body, and throughout the country. I yearn for the day when Democrats and Republicans can get along with each other again, when we really put the country first rather than reelection first, when we really look at each other and say: You know, I like him or her. I think I can work with them. It would be wonderful if we would do that.

This is a pretty fair suggestion: Keep the tax cuts alive until we reform the tax system—this bloated, unworkable, stupid Tax Code. I actually believe it could be a way of making us all work together and making us all do so in the best interests of our country. Wouldn't that be wonderful?

I hope my colleagues on both sides will go along with doing something that makes sense—like this. I believe in these suggestions we have the makings of something that would not only help our country but help all of us to get along with each other and work in the best interests of our country.

But I will make a final point; that is, it takes Presidential leadership to make major changes like this, and we do not have that right now.

Mr. President, in remarks a few minutes ago, I stated the following:

> If extending this tax relief is essential to providing families and businesses with the certainty and security necessary for economic growth, why are Senate Democrats refusing to take it up? And why is the President not pushing for immediate action to avoid this fiscal cliff?
>
> Let me suggest an answer.
>
> The President wants to drag this out until after the elections. Even if that means months of additional pain for America's families and a real hit to our economy, it will serve his long-term goal—a goal that he dare not announce until after the election.
>
> President Obama does not want the precedent of extending this tax relief for everyone, because ultimately his liberal base does not want it extended for anyone.
>
> The President and his advisers know that our debt is unsustainable. Their base will not allow for any serious changes to spending policy, and tax increases on the wealthy alone are not adequate to get our fiscal house in order.

As support for my theory that the President could be dragging out this tax hike fight, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD an article from the blog, ''Talking Points Memo,'' dated November 22, 2011. That blog's authors certainly are allies of President Obama and rarely does ''Talking Points Memo'' contain anything sympathetic to Republican policy positions. When it is critical of President Obama, the blog's criticisms tend to spring from the far left of the political spectrum. I ask my colleagues to ask themselves the question above: ''Why is the President not pushing for immediate action to avoid this fiscal cliff?'' and then read the article.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

OBAMA ISSUES VETO THREAT ON BUSH TAX CUTS

(By Brian Beutler)

> President Obama has threatened to veto any legislation that attempts to eliminate the automatic penalties for Super Committee failure. But on January 1, 2013—the same day the automatic, across the board spending cuts are scheduled to take effect—all of the Bush tax cuts are set to expire. And the White House plans to use the threat of full expiration the exact same way they're using the threat of sequestration—to force Republicans to accept a higher tax burden on wealthy Americans.
>
> ''He won't sign a full extension,'' said one Senior Administration Official at a White House background briefing for reporters on the Super Committee.
>
> ''I think if you look at everything that happens in January 2013, it is a compelling argument that there's a need to make real policy,'' said another Senior Administration Official. ''And I think the fact the sequester will hit in January 2013 and the expiration of the tax cuts hits in 2013, the right thing to do is tax reform that has both positive impact on the economy and is fair in terms of distribution of the tax burden, and then balanced savings that share the burden amongst all the different parts of the budget from the very rich to people on Medicare and Medicaid.''
>
> If you despise government indiscriminately, the Super Committee's inaction doesn't really matter on it's own—it just means more spending cuts. ''Super Committee could not agree how to cut $1.2 Trillion,'' tweeted anti-tax crusader Grover Norquist. ''So now we 'sequester' (french for ''cut'') $1.2 Trillion. This is failing, how?''
>
> True enough. But unless the White House changes its tune, members of Congress won't just have a choice between lower spending and higher taxes. If Republicans dig in their heels and refuse to raise taxes on the wealthy, then taxes will go up automatically. Democrats proved in the Super Committee negotiations that they have the nerve to hold out on spending cuts until Republicans toss Norquist and his fellow conservative activists under the bus. Unless that changes, it's a powerful incentive for Republicans to change their strategy—and their orthodoxy.

Mr. HATCH. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Would the Senator withhold the request.

Mr. HATCH. I withhold. I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Madam President, I yield to the Senator from Ohio.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Ohio.

WORLD WAR II PRAYER ACT OF 2012

Mr. PORTMAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to enter into a colloquy for 15 minutes with my colleague from Connecticut, Senator LIEBERMAN, about the new legislation we just introduced, S. 3078, the World War II Prayer Act of 2012.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. PORTMAN. Madam Portman, this bill will lead to the placement of a plaque or inscription at the National World War II Memorial in Washington, DC, with a prayer that Franklin Delano Roosevelt shared with the Nation by radio address 68 years ago today. The occasion was D-day, June 6, 1944.

On D-day American troops, joined by allied forces, carried out an amphibious and airborne landing on five

beaches on the heavily fortified coast of France's Normandy region. Some have termed those Normandy landings as the beginning of the end of the war in Europe. I believe that is true because courageous Americans were willing to risk their lives on the coast of France that day. Thousands made the ultimate sacrifice that day.

With the invasion underway, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt asked our Nation to come together in prayer for the men who were engaged in this dangerous but very important battle. His powerful and ecumenical prayer, drawing on our Nation's rich Judeo-Christian heritage and values, brought strength and inspiration to many during what was a challenging time for our country.

Today I have the honor, along with Senator LIEBERMAN, to introduce this legislation to commemorate that prayer and that day. His words, of course, brought comfort to the many families and friends of the brave men who were killed in action. Those words of Franklin Roosevelt are etched in our history and in our minds, and we hope soon in stone. Our bill ensures that the prayer becomes a permanent reminder of the sacrifice of those who fought in World War II and in the power of prayer through difficult times.

We worked closely with the National Park Service to ensure that the plaque or inscription does not disrupt the World War II Memorial or bypass the Commemorative Works Act process, which governs monuments in Washington. The placement and design of the plaque would be assigned to a commemorative works approval and review process, which makes it consistent with legislation that was passed by previous Congresses.

It is adding some historical context to this beautiful memorial—adding a layer of commemoration, not taking anything away from the memorial that is already in place.

My friend in the House of Representatives, Congressman BILL JOHNSON of Ohio, introduced a House companion bill to this legislation, which has passed the House earlier this year with an overwhelming bipartisan vote of 386 to 26.

Today, on the 68th anniversary of this historic battle known as D-day, we hope to inspire the Senate to follow suit and tell the story of this powerful prayer that moved the Nation in honor of heroes by placing a marker with the prayer at the World War II Memorial.

Madam President, I would like to now turn things over to Senator LIEBERMAN, my cosponsor of this legislation, and a leader in the Senate and in our country for his thoughts. After that we will join to recite parts of this incredibly powerful extraordinary Presidential prayer from World War II.

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Madam President, I thank my friend from Ohio for taking the lead on what I call a noble project, and I am confident that all of our colleagues will join us in this to include FDR's national prayer at the World War II Memorial.

It is very important to remember that D-day, which was 68 years ago today, turned out to be a pivotal moment in the war in Europe. FDR chose not to give a speech announcing the landing at Normandy but to offer a national prayer. I think in doing so, he went to a very proud, not only tradition in America but one of our great assets where we have had the ability to bring faith and God in a very inclusive and nondiscriminatory way into our public life to the great benefit of our Nation.

As he delivered these words of prayer in a historic radio broadcast, which of course is the way it was done in those days, the success of the bold and dangerous D-day plan was far from assured. But with the eloquent faithfulness of his words and with his steady Presidential leadership, I believe the brave American men and women in uniform who landed at Normandy were strengthened by the conviction of our national values, the virtue and righteousness of their cause, and, of course, with confidence that they would benefit from the guiding grace of God.

I remember words by President Reagan on another Normandy anniversary when he said:

> The men of Normandy had faith that what they were doing was right, faith that they fought for all humanity, faith that a just God would grant them mercy on this beachhead, or on the next.

Indeed, I think adding FDR'S prayer to the grandness of the World War II Memorial will even elevate it, and it will rightly remind all who visit of the essential role that faith in God played at that pivotal moment of world history. It will also remind us that faith in God has played a pivotal role in American history every day since the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, when our Founders declared that they were forming our new government to secure the rights of life, liberty, and happiness that each of us receive as an endowment from our creator.

All of this is expressed in the wonderful idea that Senator PORTMAN has had and would be accomplished by this project.

I yield back to my friend from Ohio for the beginning of President Roosevelt's prayer.

Mr. PORTMAN. I thank my colleague from Connecticut. As he said so well, the power of prayer in this case, as was true in our Nation's great history, is a comfort and inspiration to the country.

As I noted earlier, we would like to recite the prayer. I would ask those in the gallery and on the floor today to join us in this prayer. I will start by reading the first half, including some words that President Roosevelt said prior to the prayer, and then Senator LIEBERMAN will read the second half.

Franklin Roosevelt started off by saying:

> My fellow Americans: Last night when I spoke with you about the fall of Rome, I knew at that moment that troops of the United States and our allies were crossing the Channel in another and greater operation. It has come to pass with success thus far.
>
> And so in this poignant hour, I ask you to join me in prayer.
>
> Almighty God: Our sons, pride of our Nation, this day have set upon a mighty endeavor, a struggle to preserve our Republic, our religion, and our civilization, and to set free a suffering humanity.
>
> Lead them straight and true; give strength to their arms, stoutness to their hearts, steadfastness in their faith.
>
> They will need Thy blessings. Their road will be long and hard. For the enemy is strong. He may hurl back our forces. Success may not come with rushing speed, but we shall return again and again; and we know that by Thy grace, and by the righteousness of our cause, our sons will triumph.
>
> They will be sore tried, by night and by day, without rest—until the victory is won. The darkness will be rent by noise and flame. Men's souls will be shaken with the violences of war.
>
> For these men are lately drawn from the ways of peace. They fight not for the lust of conquest. They fight to end conquest. They fight to liberate. They fight to let justice arise, and tolerance and goodwill among all Thy people. They yearn but for the end of battle, for their return to the haven of home.
>
> Some will never return. Embrace these, Father, and receive them, Thy heroic servants, into Thy kingdom.

I would now like to turn to Senator LIEBERMAN to read the second half of the prayer.

Mr. LIEBERMAN. I continue with Roosevelt's prayer.

> And for us at home—fathers, mothers, children, wives, sisters, and brothers of brave men overseas—whose thoughts and prayers are ever with them—help us, Almighty God, to rededicate ourselves in renewed faith in Thee in this hour of great sacrifice.
>
> Many people have urged that I call the Nation into a single day of special prayer. But because the road is long and the desire is great, I ask that our people devote themselves in a continuance of prayer. As we rise to each new day, and again when each day is spent, let words of prayer be on our lips, invoking Thy help to our efforts.
>
> Give us strength, too—strength in our daily tasks, to redouble the contributions we make in the physical and the material support of our armed forces.
>
> And let our hearts be stout, to wait out the long travail, to bear sorrows that may come, to impart our courage unto our sons wheresoever they may be.
>
> And, O Lord, give us faith. Give us faith in Thee. Faith in our sons; Faith in each other; Faith in our united crusade. Let not the keenness of our spirit ever be dulled. Let not the impacts of temporary events, of temporal matters of but fleeting moment let not these deter us in our unconquerable purpose.
>
> With Thy blessing, we shall prevail over the unholy forces of our enemy. Help us to conquer the apostles of greed and racial arrogances. Lead us to the saving of our country, and with our sister Nations into a world unity that will spell a sure peace a peace invulnerable to the schemings of unworthy men. And a peace that will let all of men live in freedom, reaping the just rewards of their honest toil.
>
> Thy will be done, Almighty God.
>
> Amen.

Madam President, as we know, many lives were lost on D-day and what followed, but it led to the defeat of—if I

may use President Roosevelt's words—''the unholy forces of our enemy,'' and of a remarkable period of peace and prosperity in America and certainly in Europe.

If I might add briefly, although the circumstances and challenges we face at this moment in our Nation's history are much less greater than America faced on June 6, 1944, nonetheless, there is a certain absence of hopefulness and confidence today. I would respectfully suggest that one of the great sources of hopefulness and confidence that we all could benefit from today is exactly the faith in God in a very inclusive way such as President Roosevelt spoke on that fateful day of June 6, 1944.

Again, with thanks to my friend from Ohio for this idea and for his generosity of spirit in inviting me to join both in sponsoring this proposal and in reading this prayer today, I yield the floor back to the Senator from Ohio.

Mr. PORTMAN. Madam President, I thank my friend. I tell the Senator that I am proud to stand by his side in this small effort to commemorate what happened 68 years ago today, which was the President calling the Nation in prayer and invoking the Almighty to help protect our sons and daughters in battle.

I just came back from Afghanistan yesterday morning, and I would agree with my friend from Connecticut that so much of what we are facing today would also be relevant to these words. I think, particularly, these words in the prayer:

> For these men are lately drawn from the ways of peace. They fight not for the lust of conquest. They fight to end conquest. They fight to liberate. They fight for tolerance and goodwill among all Thy people. They yearn but for the end of battle, for their return to the haven of home.

That certainly describes our great young men and women in uniform who are in Afghanistan protecting us and encouraging tolerance, goodwill, and justice not just for us but for that country and, indeed, for the world.

I thank my colleague again for his being willing to join me in this effort. I hope my other colleagues will join us in encouraging that this important, extraordinary prayer and this example of the power of faith in our Nation's history be added to the World War II Memorial.

With that, I yield the floor, and I note the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. FRANKEN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, today we have before us the Agriculture Reform, Food and Jobs Act of 2012. It is more commonly known as the farm bill. It is critically important for America's farmers and ranchers. But it might also be known as the conservation bill, as the food bill, and, even better, the kitchen table bill because this bill affects every one of us.

The Agriculture Committee is different from most other committees in Congress. Our committee room does not have a raised dais. Instead, we sit around a table just like families across the country do and just like farmers and ranchers do after a long day of work in the fields. To write this farm bill, we sat down around our table and we talked to each other and we listened to each other and we worked in a bipartisan way to craft a bill that creates jobs while cutting subsidies and reducing the deficit.

The result of that effort is what is before us in the Senate. It is a bill that affects every family across the country. The farm bill makes it possible for many families to come together around their own kitchen tables to enjoy the bounty of the world's safest, most abundant, and most affordable food supply.

We are also aware, especially in this very tough economy, that many of our neighbors, many of our friends, many of our family members are struggling to put food on their own tables. The farm bill is critically important to those families as well. As we begin our debate in the Senate on the farm bill, let us remember the families all across the country who are counting on us to get this right.

I want my colleagues to also remember that the farm bill is a jobs bill—16 million jobs. Sixteen million jobs in this country rely on the continued strength of American agriculture. They are the people doing the work it takes to put the food on our kitchen tables, not just those on the farm but those who manufacture, sell farm equipment, the people who ship the crops from one place to another, the people who have the farmers markets and local food hubs, the people who work in food processing and crop protection and crop fertility, not to mention the researchers and the scientists who worked hard every day to fight pests and diseases that threaten our food supply.

Throughout this recession, as those 16 million people can attest, agriculture has been one of the truly bright spots in our economy. That is why we made such an important effort, such an important bipartisan effort in this farm bill to support beginning farmers as well. We are giving them additional support for training, mentoring, and outreach to ensure the success of our next generation of farmers.

In addition, we are giving opportunities for U.S. veterans who are interested in pursuing a career in agriculture, and we are creating a military veterans agricultural liaison within the Department of Agriculture to educate veterans about farming and connecting them with beginning farmer training programs. I would also remind my colleagues that for those who have served and are serving us in Iraq and Afghanistan, the majority of them—over half of them—are coming from small towns and rural communities and they are coming home. One of the ways to provide opportunities for jobs is to support them coming back to their community by having the opportunity to go into agriculture.

One of the brightest spots in agriculture has been in exports. This chart shows the incredible growth of agricultural exports over the last number of years. In fact, total agricultural exports in 2011 alone reached $136 billion. It is a 270-percent increase just in the last 10 years, an explosion, as we reach out. American agriculture is looked to and depended upon to feed the families of the world.

Our trade surplus is $42.5 billion. Let me repeat that. We have a significant trade surplus in agriculture. We cannot say that in much of any other place in our economy. But in agriculture we are growing it here at home. The jobs are here at home, and we are exporting it overseas, which is what I would like to see in every one of our industries. It is one of the few areas where we have that kind of success.

We know that for every $1 billion in agricultural exports, we are creating 8,400 American jobs—8,400 American jobs for every $1 billion in exports. The investments we make in market development, in access for our agricultural products overseas, will continue to create jobs here at home.

As we were writing the farm bill, we also did something that families all cross the country are doing during these very hard times. We went through everything we are spending, everything we are spending money on, and we looked at how we could do more for less. We literally went through every page of farm policy and agriculture spending through USDA. This bill represents major reforms that will allow us to focus fewer resources on the things that create jobs and make the biggest difference. In other words, we are refocusing. We are cutting the things that are not important and refocusing on the things that are and the things that create jobs.

The Agriculture Reform Food and Jobs Act is about cutting subsidies and creating jobs in America. The reforms in this bill start on page 1 with the repeal of direct payments, countercyclical payments, and the Average Crop Revenue Election, which has been called the ACRE Program.

We are creating a new approach, a new program that only helps farmers when there is a loss and only for crops they have actually planted, and we are strengthening payment limits. We are ending more than 100 programs and authorizations that are no longer needed, and we are doing all of this in order to be able to cut the deficit by $23 billion.

The most fundamental reform in the Agriculture Reform Food and Jobs Act is the shift away from direct payments

and toward risk management for farmers. Throughout this process, we have been focused on principles, not programs, and the No. 1 principle is risk management. So we are repealing direct payments. We know farmers face unique risks unlike those in other businesses.

Let me stress that again. I do not know of any business that has the same kind of risks in market volatility, in weather volatility than our farmers and ranchers do. It is very fortunate we still have people who want to stay in that business, given all the risks, weather and market conditions, which are out of producers' control. They can have devastating effects. We know that. But the current system focused around direct and countercyclical payments does not focus on actual risk and it is no longer defensible or sustainable.

In this current fiscal and political environment, these programs actually jeopardize our ability to have a real safety net for farmers and the jobs that depend on them. That is why we are eliminating those programs and instead strengthening crop insurance as the centerpiece of risk management in the farm bill.

This is the No. 1 issue we heard from every farmer who has testified before the committee, whether it was in Michigan or in Kansas or across the country. Every region of the country we have heard the same thing loudly and clearly.

The basic foundation of support for producers is crop insurance. We are expanding crop insurance in the bill to include specialty crops and others as well. Because while we know crop insurance is the foundation, it does not work the same. It is not available for every commodity. That is a commitment we have made to expand crop insurance, including specialty crops, which are essentially the kinds of crops we are likely to find in the produce aisle of our supermarket or at the local farmers market: nuts, vegetables, fruits, and other products.

This is an extremely diverse group of crops, and the bill recognizes the unique crop insurance needs of specialty crop growers. We are also taking strides to help young and beginning farmers get started and succeed in farming. We have made revisions to crop insurance to better help those new farmers by reducing their crop insurance premiums and providing additional support when disasters strike.

Supplement crop insurance. This bill creates a simple market-oriented and risk-based program we are calling ARC, Agricultural Risk Coverage. ARC represents a significant and historic reform in agriculture policy. For years, Congress has struggled to balance the needs of different commodities, different programs. This is solved with the new ARC Program, which uses the market as a guide and treats every commodity the same.

The current system essentially amounts to an income transfer from the Federal Treasury to only certain people, certain farmers, because payments are made every year without regard to whether the farmer had a successful year or whether the individual is farming. I say ''certain people'' because many farmers do not qualify for the help today as well.

Direct and countercyclical payments are made using what is called base acres. That is the current system to determine the payments. Base acres were set using what was planted on the farms back in 1980s. So these base acres have little relevance to what is actually happening on many farms today. This change is also very important for new farmers. We have told beginning farmers this is a very important way to support them.

Our ARC, on the other hand, the program we have developed in this bill, uses only the acres a farmer actually plants. It is able to adapt to free market forces and the decisions made being made on the farm without interference from those business decisions a farmer makes. We want the marketplace making the decisions, not the government.

ARC is market oriented. Farmers only get help when the market moves in the opposite direction from historic price trends farmers use to plan their business and make planning decisions. The payment amount is based on actual historic numbers from the marketplace, not from the Halls of Congress.

Finally, too many current program payments are being made to people who do not actually farm or already have large incomes. The farm bill fixes this. Under current law, we say farm payments can only go to people who are actively engaged in farming. This requirement contained a loophole, however, known as the management loophole that lets a farm operation designate managers who are not actually farming, but because they are listed as managers, they can still get a payment from the government, and it can allow them to get around the payment limits.

That does not make any sense. Thanks to Senator GRASSLEY, Senator TIM JOHNSON, who has legislation in this area—and Senator GRASSLEY is a member of our committee who has been such a champion on this issue—we have eliminated that loophole and made sure the payments are going to people who are actually farming.

This farm bill also reforms the adjusted gross income eligibility requirement, lowers it substantially, eliminating any payment to millionaires. Current law includes two AGI calculations, one for farm income, one for nonfarm income, which is confusing and difficult to administer. It may allow some people to split their income in a way that they are eligible for payments they otherwise would not be eligible for. We close this loophole. We use a single, simple AGI calculation and restrict the eligibility to those who have less than $750,000 in AGI.

Finally, the farm bill caps payments at $50,000, less than half of what a farmer can currently receive. Coupled with closing the management loophole, the farm bill contains the tightest and strongest payment limit reforms ever, while maintaining and strengthening the farm safety net for farmers who really need it. And this is very important. This is not about eliminating options, it is about focusing on those who have the most risk and have the most need.

In dairy, we also reform our Nation's dairy policies, replacing the dairy programs with new, market-oriented programs that allow farmers to manage their own risk in a manner that works best for them. The dairy industry suffered serious hardship in 2009, as many of us know—and certainly the Presiding Officer knows we in Michigan have the same thing—when milk prices dropped substantially, wiping out many small and medium-sized dairies. Despite spending $1.3 billion that year, our current dairy programs weren't able to help many of the farmers in crisis. In some cases, dairy farms that had been passed down from generation to generation went bankrupt and, sadly, some farmers even took their own lives.

Dairy operations across the country are extremely diverse, and the dairy policies we are setting in this bill recognize that diversity. We created programs that can be customized by each dairy, and we allow individual dairies to determine whether to participate in the programs at all. Two programs will now comprise the dairy risk management system: the Dairy Production Margin Protection Program and the Dairy Market Stabilization Program.

The first provides support based on margin—that is, the difference between the milk price and the feed input costs. This is important because rising grain prices, coupled with dropping milk prices, can have a devastating impact on America's dairies. Producers will have to share in the program's costs—and this is important—but it will allow them to manage their risk on more of their production at higher protection levels. We are providing a discounted premium for the first 4 million pounds of milk marketed for each producer—which is somewhere around 200 to 250 cows—to make sure that small and medium-sized operations will be able to participate and that all farms will be eligible.

The second program, the Market Stabilization Program, sends clear market signals to producers that indicate when they are oversupplying the market. Dairy is a unique commodity in that it is produced 365 days a year, cows must be milked daily, the raw product requires further handling and processing, and there are significant regional differences in management and marketing. By temporarily reducing a participating operation's payment for milk marketed by a small percentage when there is too much supply, the

margin program removes the incentive for dairies to overproduce during times of low margins. The program also includes a suspension trigger based on world prices that ensures U.S. dairies are competitive in the global market.

Conservation. Throughout this farm bill, we took the same approach as a family sitting around the table would when they are trying to figure out cuts in their own budget. We went through every program, again looked at what was working, what wasn't, looked for duplication and waste, and we focused on principles, not programs. An excellent example of that really is conservation.

Farming is measured in generations. Farms are passed down from children to grandchildren. But a farm can only be successful if it has quality soil and clean water. One of the farmers who testified before our committee told us that conservation programs which ''enhance and protect our natural resource base is a crop insurance program for the nation.'' I would agree. With a growing global population, it is even more important than ever that we conserve water and conserve soil resources. Advances in technology and farm practices have helped our farmers be more productive than ever before, but no amount of technology can overcome degraded soils, poor water quality, or a lack of water.

The farm bill is actually our Nation's single biggest investment in land and water conservation on private lands in our country. As we went through every program, we focused on making them more flexible and easier to use. We have been able to focus 23 different programs into 13. We have reduced it to 13 and put them in 4 primary functions, with a lot more flexibility for the users.

The first function is working lands—giving farmers and ranchers the tools they need to be better stewards of the land. The Environmental Quality Incentive Program—or EQIP—is one of the most important conservation programs for working lands, providing technical and financial assistance to farmers, ranchers, and private forest owners to help them conserve soil and water. This function also includes the Conservation Stewardship Program, which encourages higher levels of conservation and the adoption of emerging conservation technologies.

We also continued the conservation innovation grants and the Voluntary Public Access and Habitat Incentive Program, which allows private landowners to get added benefits from their lands by opening them up to hunting, fishing, bird watching, and other kinds of outdoor recreation. We made these programs more flexible—and this is very important—and we added a focus on wildlife habitats and made them easier for farmers to take advantage of.

The second area is the Conservation Reserve Program—very important. It removes highly erodible land from production to benefit soil and water quality as well as wildlife habitat. Parts of the Southwest—certainly my friend and colleague from Kansas knows this—have experienced record droughts this year. It is stunning what has happened, and it is the worst since the Dust Bowl era of the 1930s. But the soil, while it was dry, stayed on the ground because the Conservation Reserve Program was a part of that change protecting the soil and air. Our conservation efforts are actually working, and we are seeing changes even in the worst of times as it relates to the droughts.

CRP has also been critical in our efforts to rebuild wildlife populations and to reduce pollution in our streams, our rivers, and our lakes. We also continued an important transition incentives program to help older farmers transition their land to beginning farmers.

Third, we focused on regional partnerships. We consolidated four different programs into one that will provide competitive, merit-based grants to regional partnerships comprised of conservation groups, universities, farmers, ranchers, and private landowners to support improvements to soil health, water quality and quantity, and wildlife habitat. That is certainly important to me for the Great Lakes—and I know the Presiding Officer cares about that as well—but it is also critical for the Chesapeake Bay. And I want to thank our colleagues from the bay area, certainly Senator CARDIN and Senator CASEY, who are on the committee, but also Senator WARNER and Members all across the bay who have been deeply involved in making sure we get this right. It is also there for other critical areas around the country that have large-scale regional challenges around conservation.

Finally, I am really proud of the work that was done around easements. Easements allow landowners to voluntarily enter into an agreement to preserve wetlands and farmland to protect against development and sprawl. This year, funding for both the Wetlands Reserve Program and the Grasslands Reserve Program were was out. So we streamlined and consolidated to establish an easement program with a permanent baseline going forward to protect agricultural lands from development.

This bill also includes a bipartisan sodsaver provision, and I wish to thank Senators THUNE, JOHANNS, and SHERROD BROWN for bringing it forward, authoring it, and working with us. This provision helps prevent the plowing up of native prairie. Sodsaver is aimed at protecting grasslands at high risk of being converted to cropland. This is not only good for conservation, it saves taxpayers $200 million over 10 years, and it is tied to crop insurance.

I should also say that while the conservation title in the farm bill is a big win for conservation of our environment, I am proud to say we have continued to link the commodity title, which I described earlier, to conservation.

In crop insurance, the sodsaver program creates a penalty if, in fact, someone is plowing up native prairie. They would lose part of their discount under crop insurance if they did that. So it is tied there, and that is very important.

I am very proud of the fact that we received support for our approach from 643 different conservation and environmental groups in all 50 States. I think that says loudly and clearly that it is possible to make smart cuts that increase flexibility without sacrificing effectiveness.

Another area in which we have made significant strides is nutrition and healthy foods. For too long our Nation's farm bill ignored the diversity of agriculture and the kinds of healthy foods, such as fruits and vegetables, that families in America want to put on their kitchen tables as well. We made significant progress on this front in the 2008 farm bill, with the first-ever specialty crops title, and we have continued the progress in the Agriculture Reform, Food and Jobs Act.

As I said earlier, as I go to every part of Michigan, I meet people who have worked all their lives, paid taxes, and never imagined they would be put in a position where they would need help putting food on the table for their families. Because of this recession, which has been way too long in Michigan—it is getting better, but we have been hit harder, deeper, and longer than anywhere—a lot of families have had to ask for temporary help. And when they need it, whether it is food assistance from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, which used to be called food stamps and is now called SNAP, or whether it is help from a food bank, those families are grateful, and we should be there when they need that temporary help.

We all expect those programs to have integrity. And as someone whose State has been hit harder than anyone else's, I want to make absolutely sure these programs are in place for families who need it, and that means making absolutely sure every dollar goes to only the families who need it. That is why we are closing loopholes that allowed lottery winners—and, unbelievably, we have had at least two instances of this in Michigan, where someone won the lottery and was able to continue on food assistance. It is shameful that so many American children go to bed hungry at night and outrageous that people who have won millions of dollars in the lottery would be able to continue food assistance. So we made it absolutely clear that those individuals would be removed from SNAP immediately.

We are also cracking down on the trafficking of food assistance benefits. Right now, thanks to the efforts of the last farm bill, fraud is at an alltime low, but we can do even more. We are

giving additional resources to monitor and prevent benefit trafficking, as well as cracking down on liquor and tobacco stores that are currently allowed to participate in the program.

We are making sure that only people returning to school for career and technical training are eligible for food assistance, not college students who are currently at home or being supported by their parents.

Again, with so many families and so many children in need, we can't afford to divert funds in a way that just shouldn't be there.

We must also ensure that the standards Congress created for SNAP are followed by the States. We are eliminating a gap in standards that has allowed 16 States, including Michigan, to give just $1 to people in the form of energy assistance to help them automatically qualify for additional SNAP benefits. We know families in parts of the country with high energy bills are often those who are most food insecure, and that is why we created the link between food assistance and LIHEAP. But it is clear Congress never intended for State governments to use this in a way that could jeopardize additional assistance for families with the highest utility bills.

Just like with commodity programs, we need to make sure the work we are doing has integrity and is defensible in our current budget climate, and we do this in a very careful way to make sure we do not inadvertently hurt families who truly do have significant energy costs.

In addition to increasing accountability, we are building on the success of programs that reduce hunger and improve access to healthy fruits and vegetables. We increase assistance for food banks through the Emergency Food Assistance Program. In 2010 more than 5 million people visited a food bank, and as we recover from this recession, it is absolutely critical that these organizations have food in stock to help those in need.

We are streamlining the Commodity Supplemental Food Program, which provides food to low-income individuals, to focus on seniors, and we are moving women and children into the WIC Program, where they can be better served.

We are continuing the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, which was authored originally by Senator HARKIN when he was chairing the committee, and I was very proud to work with him on that. It provides free and healthy snacks to schools with a high number of low-income children, and it has been incredibly successful.

This bill triples our support for farmers markets and gives them resources to develop local infrastructure such as food hubs. And we are continuing an effort to give low-income seniors access to healthy fruits and vegetables at farmers markets and roadside stands.

We are increasing funding for innovative projects such as community gardens and urban greenhouse initiatives and protecting funding for programs that improve people's health.

I should say that all of these are done with small amounts of dollars, but they are very effective.

We are creating a national pilot modeled after Michigan's successful Double Up Food Bucks, which gives families relying on SNAP the opportunity to truly be able to buy fresh fruits and vegetables for their families. We are also authorizing the Healthy Food Financing Initiative to offer loans and grants to help address the problem of food deserts in underserved communities.

We increased funding for several organic programs, which, by the way, is the fastest growing segment of American agriculture. We increased support for organic research and extension, and we nearly doubled funding for the organic cost-share program that supports farmers.

This farm bill is a jobs bill, but it is also a food bill, and the 2012 farm bill goes a long way toward making sure every mom and dad can put healthy, nutritious food on the table for their children.

As we worked through the farm bill around our table in the Agriculture Committee, we focused on streamlining and consolidating programs to get the best possible results. I think that is what people want us to do. I certainly know that is what people in Michigan want us to do. We certainly see that in conservation, but we also approached this in every part of the farm bill.

In farm credit and rural development, we are streamlining the existing laws, removing unused provisions, and making authorizations more effective and the administration more effective so that when we have a part-time mayor who is trying to figure out rural development programs, they can actually do it and they actually use what have been extremely effective programs for rural communities.

In our research title, we eliminated dozens of unused or indefensible authorizations but continued the most important research components and functions, while streamlining operations, improving accountability in the use of Federal research funds, and creating an innovative, new research foundation that matches private dollars and leverages Federal research dollars to get more innovative food and agricultural research. And I wish to thank my friend from Kansas, Senator ROBERTS, for his important leadership in this as well.

We funded important energy programs, invested in specialty crops and organic farming, as I mentioned, and we have done all of this while saving the Federal taxpayers $23 billion. We did it around our table in the ag room, in a bipartisan fashion, working out differences and arriving at real solutions.

In the coming days, as we get to debate on the farm bill, we will talk more about specifics, and I will join my colleagues from the committee in further explaining various aspects of the bill, and we will continue to work with all of our colleagues to find additional solutions and to improve the bill so that our farm programs work best for all of our regions and all of our States.

While I will do everything I can to work out issues with our colleagues, I wish to stress the important balance we have struck in a bipartisan effort, the reforms we have undertaken, and the work we put into making real reforms without hurting families and without hurting farmers, who are so important to our economic recovery.

I am very proud of the work we have been able to accomplish—it has been a lot of hard work—and the way we saved American taxpayers $23 billion through these reforms. I would encourage colleagues to look closely at the work we have done in the bill, to find a way to support it, to help us send a strong message to all Americans that this Congress, this Senate can make tough, smart decisions that cut spending, invest in America, and that we can do it together.

Speaking of doing it together, I could not have done this without my friend and my partner, Senator ROBERTS, the ranking member from Kansas. This has been a long and difficult process, but frankly there is nobody I would rather have had sitting across the table from me as we worked out this bill. Too many people look at Washington and only see dysfunction and partisanship and divisiveness. Yet we on the Agriculture Committee have found a way to work together for the good of the country, for 16 million people who depend on agriculture for their livelihood. That couldn't have happened without Senator ROBERTS' leadership and support, and I thank him as we move forward on this bill.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, first, I would like to thank the distinguished Senator from Michigan for her very kind remarks. This has been a team effort. She has been a very strong leader to try to put together a bill. I thank her for her very detailed summary, title by title, of the farm bill—something a lot of us probably couldn't do, but at any rate, she has done that, and it is in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. I urge my colleagues to really take a look at what the distinguished chairwoman has said today because she has literally gone down every title in the farm bill. So if anybody has any questions, it is right there, and, as she has indicated, if anybody has questions of either of us, please be in contact with either us or our very able staff.

I rise today in strong support of the Agriculture Reform, Food and Jobs Act of 2012, the farm bill, and I am privileged to stand here today with Chairwoman STABENOW, who led this reform legislation through the Agriculture

Committee. It has truly been a bipartisan and a team effort. It represents the final product of numerous hearings and months of discussions as we worked to write a new farm bill during the most difficult budget climate in our Nation's recent history.

I am proud to say that we have put together a bipartisan bill that strengthens and preserves the safety net for our farmers and ranchers in rural America, while providing $23.6 billion—$24 billion, as a politician's counting—in deficit reduction under this bill reported by the committee on a bipartisan vote of 16 to 5.

Let me repeat that. The Senate Agriculture Committee voluntarily wrote and reported a bill that provides $23.6 billion in deficit reduction. It is a bill that represents real reform. We are the first authorizing committee to produce those kinds of mandatory budget savings, and it was voluntary.

We all remember the supercommittee that tried very hard to achieve deficit reduction. The supercommittee was really not that super—not because of those people individually but because of the circumstances. Well, we are a supercommittee. We came up with $23.6 billion. I don't know of anybody over on the House side—perhaps I am wrong, but in the Senate we are the only folks who have really come up with real budget savings.

It also represents, as I have indicated and as the chairwoman indicated, real reform. Just listen to this. We have eliminated four commodity programs that caused farmers untold hours of preparation—go down to the Farm Service Agency and talk to the folks down there, who are hard-pressed anyway, and ask: ''Which program do I sign up for? How can I plan down the road?'' We rolled all of these commodity programs into one, while saving approximately $15 billion from the farm safety net programs. That is truly remarkable.

Twenty-three conservation programs are streamlined into 13, while saving nearly $6.4 billion. Approximately $4 billion is saved in the nutrition title, while at the same time expanding our efforts to root out fraud and abuse. Sixteen program authorizations are eliminated in the rural development title, eliminating over $1 billion of authorized spending over 10 years on top of the mandatory. Two programs are combined and another two eliminated in specialty crops. Over $200 million less in mandatory money is provided in the energy title compared to the 2008 farm bill. Five programs are eliminated in the forestry title, reducing authorizations by at least $20 million. Over 60 authorizations are eliminated from the research title, reducing authorizations by at least $770 million over 5 years. Again, that is $23.6 billion in tough mandatory savings, at least $1.8 billion in reduced discretionary authorizations, and at least 100 programs or authorizations that have been eliminated.

This is a reform bill. No other committee in the House or Senate has voluntarily undertaken programmatic and funding reforms at this level in this budget climate—no other committee. Believe me, it would have been much easier to write a baseline bill with no change in CBO spending projections. We could have fulfilled everyone's request on the committee and in the Senate, but we would not have performed the duty that we were elected to perform and that our constituents expect in this budget climate and that farmers and ranchers expect and their lenders expect and all up and down Main Street throughout rural and smalltown America or, for that matter, any taxpayer or any citizen of the United States. We have reduced spending, and we have reformed programs. That is what they want, and they want us to work together, and that is what we have done. At the same time, it is a bill that strengthens and preserves our farm risk management, conservation, research, and rural community programs.

We have strengthened and preserved the Crop Insurance Program—as pointed out by the distinguished chairwoman, the No. 1 priority of virtually every producer who testified before our committee. Why? Because their banker or their lenders say: You have to have crop insurance, and you have to strengthen it, and you have to improve it. In the past, we have been using crop insurance as a bank. No, we are not going to do that anymore given the circumstances our farmers face even today in Kansas as we go through another dry spell, and also in Texas, Oklahoma, and the High Plains.

We have streamlined our commodity programs, while reducing the complexity for the producers. We have updated the acreage upon which support is based to reflect more recent cropping patterns. That is a point I wish to discuss just a little bit more.

In recent days and weeks, it has seemed there has been just a little bit of confusion here in the Capitol region. It seems that some think we should write a farm safety net program and allocate their funding by commodity group or organization, sort of like a pie chart. If all you did was listen to these groups, you would think we were robbing Peter to pay Paul.

I understand that the elimination of direct payments is a big deal to many commodities. If anybody should understand that, it should be me. As a key feature of the 1996 act, I originally authored the program at that time. One of the biggest beneficiaries of the program has been wheat, especially in Kansas. But the taxpayers have been clear in this budget climate: Why should Congress continue and defend a program based on planting acreages established over 25 years ago? That doesn't make any sense.

Yes, the elimination of direct payments means the end of many wheat payments in Kansas, but that does not mean Kansas producers will no longer have a farm safety net—quite the contrary. They will have a strong risk management program. It will just be for different crops. Why? Because when base acres were established over 25 years ago, Kansas planted over 2.8 million acres of corn, 4.2 million acres of sorghum, 1.6 million acres of soybeans, and 12.1 million acres of wheat.

Now, in the most recent 3-year period, Kansas farmers planted 4.6 million acres of corn, 2.6 million acres of sorghum, 4 million acres of soybeans, and 8.8 million acres of wheat. Why? That is 4.9 million fewer acres of wheat and sorghum and 4.2 million more acres of corn and soybeans.

Why did that happen? Why did these acreage shifts in Kansas and all over the country change like that? It occurred because farmers made those decisions, not Washington. Our producers have planted for the domestic and international market, and we have done so in a way that we do not encourage a WTO challenge. The cropping changes are much the same all throughout the Nation, especially among States represented on the Agriculture Committee.

Money is shifting among commodities because farmers are farming differently. They are becoming much more diversified throughout the States on this committee and the Nation. It is not shifting because we in Washington are intentionally picking winners and losers.

I understand some are frustrated with the decisions and changes we have in this bill. That takes place in any farm bill. Quite honestly, there are things that, if we had the funds available, the chairwoman and I both would have preferred to have done differently. But let's be blunt. This is not the 2002 or 2008 farm bill, and we do not have extra funds available.

This is not my first trip to the farm bill rodeo. I have written bills in times of budget surpluses and extra spending, and I have written farm bills in the middle of deficit cutting exercises—seven of them. Make no mistake about it, it is much easier to write a bill when we are adding money to the baseline—a whole heck-of-a-lot easier.

Nutrition groups, conservation organizations, our commodity groups, our Members of Congress want to stand by you and take the bows when you are adding money to the programs. But when it comes time to make difficult decisions and do what is right for the country by reducing spending and reforming programs, sometimes they are just not even in the same room. They are hiding in the weeds.

American agriculture today is a modern-day miracle. Every American farmer feeds you, Mr. President, and 150 other people. In America today our consumers spend less of their disposable income on food—and their market basket, OK?—than any other Nation in the world. America's farmers and ranchers provide us with the most

abundant and affordable and safest food supply on the planet. That is a speech every farm organization and commodity group and farmers and ranchers have heard over and over, but it is a speech that deserves repeating to all my colleagues over and over so they get it.

They feed our Nation. Our producers feed our country. They feed the world, a troubled and hungry world. They provide food for the food aid programs that help countries around the world send young girls to school. Sending those girls to school helps feed hope and a belief in our American ideals rather than hatred and radicalism toward our Nation. The American farmer and rancher do provide stability in a chaotic world, and in doing so national security as well.

Show me a country that can't sustain itself in terms of food supply, I will show you chaos. Read about the Mideast, Syria, Libya and what is going on over in that part of the world. So the farm program is not only a farm program, it is a program to achieve stability in the world because of the productivity of the American farmer, and our ability to do it is also a national security program.

Every year America's farmers produce more on less land using less water and fewer inputs with ever-stronger conservation practices. It is truly a modern-day miracle what the agricultural sector in America does today.

I understand some are unhappy with some of the proposals put forward in this bill. It is a farm bill. I wouldn't expect it to be any different. But I can assure you, however, if I thought we were in any way writing a bill that would make it more difficult for my State of Kansas or for the State of Michigan or any American producer to feed this Nation and this world, a bill that eliminated their safety net which destroyed their ability to protect our natural resources while also feeding the most needy in our country, I would not be standing here today supporting it. I would not do that.

If I thought it in any way could keep us from feeding 9 billion people—note that, 9 billion people who will walk this Earth in just a couple of short decades—I would oppose this bill. We are going to have to double our agricultural production to help in a humanitarian way and prevent chaos all around the world, 9 billion people.

Agriculture is the backbone of the Kansas economy, employing more than one in five Kansans. More than 65,000 farms dot the Kansas landscape with an average land size of 705 acres. These farmers and ranchers do a tremendous job of feeding a troubled and hungry world. In fact, Kansas ranks No. 1 in the Nation in the production of wheat and grain sorghum, second in cattle farms, and third in sunflowers produced. We expect that, being the Sunflower State. Cash receipts from farm marketings were greater than $12 billion, and farm product exports were in excess of $4.8 billion.

Farmers and ranchers in my State truly help feed—what we have said again and again—a troubled and hungry world, which is why I am proud of this legislation. We have worked hard to put this together. It may not be the best possible bill, but it is the best bill possible given the circumstances we face. We have performed our duty to taxpayers by cutting deficit spending while at the same time strengthening and preserving the programs so important to agriculture and rural America.

Again, we have cut mandatory spending by $23.6 billion. We have reformed, eliminated, and streamlined USDA programs to the tune of more than 100 programs and authorizations eliminated. And we have done it on a voluntary basis because in rural America you make the tough decisions. When the going gets tough, the tough get going, and you do what is right when it needs to be done. When we have done it in a bipartisan fashion, that is the best way to do it.

How many times have we heard this: What on Earth is wrong back there? Why can't you join together and work together and do what is right for America and for the people? This is what this committee has done under the leadership of the chairwoman.

So I thank the chairwoman for bringing us to this point today, and let's pass this farm bill. It is good for the country, it is good for the world, it is a good bill, and we need to proceed.

I hope every Member could vote for the motion to proceed. If they have amendments they are interested in, please come to us. It is like Bob Barker said: Come on down. Come on down and talk to us. If you have a problem with the bill, we will work with you. Just let us know. OK.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the distinguished Senator from Tennessee, Mr. ALEXANDER, be recognized for 10 minutes when he appears on the floor. I thought he would be here by this time but he is not. At the appropriate time, I ask unanimous consent that he be recognized.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Ms. STABENOW. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. UDALL of New Mexico). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New York.

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. I want to begin by taking this opportunity to thank the chairwoman and ranking member of the Agriculture Committee for their very strong efforts in getting this bill to the floor today. Their steady hand of leadership has made vast improvements for America's agricultural community and our economy as a whole. I know the tireless effort of our chairwoman and her staff undoubtedly leave America's farm policy in a stronger position than when she found it, and I know she has worked with a forward-looking vision for a thriving agricultural economy and rural community.

I also thank the chairwoman and the ranking member for working with me and all the members of our committee throughout the process that got us here today. Because of this strong work, I am urging my colleagues to vote for cloture on the motion to proceed to this bill.

When I first came to the Senate 3 years ago, I became the first member from my State of New York to serve on the Senate Agriculture Committee in almost four decades. It is a responsibility I not only honor but I take incredibly seriously. For those 3 years I traveled all across our great State. I met with our farmers in their communities, listened to their concerns, and I understand their needs and priorities.

New York is not home to the corporate megafarms. We are home to small dairy farms, specialty crops, orchards, and vineyards. As we have been shaping and debating this farm bill, those are the farms, the small businesses I have been fighting for.

I am very grateful this bill will help our specialty crop growers by providing them with a dedicated funding stream as well as a better way to protect against disasters. I am also very proud of the good work with broadband investments to make sure our rural communities have access to the Internet. We also worked hard on trying to guarantee more transparency and accountability on how we price milk in this country.

But we cannot forget this bill is much more than a number of esoteric figures. What this farm bill should be about is how we protect and create a growing economy for small businesses, agricultural businesses, the middle class, and those families who are desperately trying to get there.

The farm bill is about the health of the agriculture industry. It is about the health of our families with nutritious food that is actually within reach of the children who need it.

As a mother, I am very concerned this current farm bill cuts $4.5 billion from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, SNAP—better known as food stamps—over the next 10 years. I am incredibly disappointed, and even troubled, that my Republican colleagues are seeking to cut food stamps even more from those cuts.

Under this bill families in New York who are already struggling will lose $90 a month of food that goes on their tables. Think of food for a family for a long month. It is basically the last week that a family will not have

enough food to feed their children. Now, $90 a month may not seem like a lot of money to some people, but I can say for those parents who are trying to protect their children and feed them good, wholesome, nutritious foods, it means everything in the world.

I don't know for any parents who are watching today whether they personally ever heard their child say: Mommy, I am still hungry. Well, imagine not being able to help your own child or future child. Imagine that your child says this every single day. That is what we are faced with here.

I have heard stories from New Yorkers who never dreamed they would need food stamps in their lifetime, who never imagined they would have no choice but to apply for this kind of Federal assistance. I heard from one single mom in Queens. She had a job in a supermarket, but she still struggled to make ends meet. She broke down in tears one day when her son came home from school with his school lunch in his hand and said: Mommy, I brought this home for us for dinner, and I asked my friend for his sandwich.

Another woman in Brooklyn, incredibly well educated, went to a prestigious university, but lost her job. She said:

> I never thought I would be getting food stamps. But suddenly I was jobless and did not know where my next meal would come from. Food stamps played a big role during make-or-break moments in my life. They are not a handout. I worked all my life, paid my taxes and food stamps helped me get back on my feet again.

As a mother, as a lawmaker, watching a child go hungry is something I will not stand for. In this day and age, in a country as rich as America, it is unacceptable and should not be tolerated and should certainly not be advocated. I know not every State in this country has as many people as we have in New York. We have 20 million people in our great State. So with these cuts, it is going to affect 300,000 families. Imagine 300,000 families in your State or any State going hungry at night. These kinds of cuts hurt children and families. They hurt seniors who are homebound and don't know where their next meal is going to come from.

We are asking these 300,000 families to take a disproportionate amount of the burden. They were not the cause of the financial collapse. They were not the cause of this terrible economy, but we are asking them to bear the burden.

We know food stamps are actually a very effective investment. For every dollar we put into the Food Stamp Program, we get $1.71 of spending back into the economy. World famous economist Mark Zandi said:

> The fastest way to infuse money into the economy is through expanding the SNAP/food stamp program.

This money pays the salary of grocery clerks and truckers who bring food to a store from the farm. The USDA estimates that 16 cents of every one of these food stamp dollars goes right back to our farmers. Despite widespread myths and inaccuracies, there is so little fraud in SNAP. It is less than 1 percent. That is a penny on a dollar.

I take our Nation's debt and deficit as seriously as anyone else in this Chamber. I applaud the chairwoman and the ranking member for being able to curb spending, but families who are living in poverty, who are just trying to figure out how to keep the lights on and put food on the table did not spend this Nation into debt, and we should not be trying to balance the budget on their backs. Subsidies for large corporations that don't need it—including companies based in Bermuda, Australia, Switzerland—is not the right priority for America. We should be helping the most needy among us, our children, our seniors, and our families at risk.

So today I am introducing an amendment to restore the $4.5 billion in cuts because it is the right thing to do. It is the right thing to do for our families, our seniors, and our kids. It is the right thing to do for our economy. It invests $500 million over 10 years in a fresh fruits and vegetables snack program, which connects our kids to our farmers. It gives the authority to the Secretary of Agriculture to make additional purchases as part of the Emergency Food Assistance Program. It is useful when we have an all-time high rate of hunger and unemployment that puts unbelievable demands on these emergency feeding organizations.

To pay for these investments in our children's health and the health of the economy, my amendment makes a modest reduction in government subsidies to some of the most highly profitable companies. My amendment lowers the subsidies to companies from billions per year to hundreds of millions per year. Anyone who argues that these companies will struggle from this shift needs to meet a family who is dependent on food stamps to feed their children.

As I said earlier, this farm bill, like all legislation, is about our priorities. It is a reflection of our values. So I am asking my colleagues, let's agree children deserve healthy meals so they can live healthy lives and learn and grow and reach their God-given potential. Let's agree it is a worthwhile investment in our future to make sure children do not go hungry in this country.

I yield back my time, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, Abraham Lincoln was no stranger to agriculture. He spent most of his early years on farms. Many years later, he signed into law legislation that created the Department of Agriculture, which just recently celebrated its 150th anniversary. President Lincoln understood American agriculture.

He said:

> The man who produces a good full crop will scarcely let any part of it go to waste. He will keep up the enclosure about it, and allow neither man nor beast to trespass upon it. He will gather it in due season and store it in perfect security. Thus he labors with satisfaction, and saves himself the whole fruit of his labor.

Those timeless words ring true today, and they will ring true tomorrow. American farmers and ranchers are the most productive and efficient in the world. Their hard work creates good-paying jobs in Montana and across the Nation. In fact, one in five Montana jobs is tied to agriculture.

But President Lincoln's observations also apply to many other walks of life, including work in the Senate. Under the leadership of Chairwoman STABENOW and Ranking Member ROBERTS, we have cultivated a farm bill for tomorrow. We must not let that hard work go to waste. They have worked very hard, very closely together, cooperating. It is a good farm bill.

This legislation achieves what many thought impossible: It creates a market-oriented safety net that works for American farmers, strengthens crop insurance, and streamlines conservation programs, while still contributing $23.6 billion to deficit reduction. That is right. This reduces the deficit by about $23.6 billion. That is over 10 years.

Direct payments have their place in farm program history, but in light of necessary spending reductions, it was clear we could not continue with the status quo. So the Senate Agriculture Committee worked closely with farmers and ranchers across the country to create a program for a real safety net—one that only pays farmers who actually experience a loss.

Farming is an extremely capital-intensive industry, and our farmers often work with paper-thin profit margins. Even the best farmer is left at the mercy of chance—historic droughts, catastrophic floods, price collapses, and so much more. This new revenue program will make sure there is stability and predictability for our farmers from year to year.

Our comprehensive farm policy contributes to overall security in American agriculture. That is why we spend less on food than any other country in the world. Americans spend less than 7 percent of their disposable income to feed their families—7 percent—compared with almost 25 percent in 1930.

But it is more than just food security. As a net exporter of agricultural products, Montana farmers and ranchers create good-paying jobs and quite literally grow wealth and prosperity from our fertile soils.

The shallow-loss revenue program, combined with the same crop insurance products we have fine-tuned over the decades, creates a fiscally sound safety

net. This is the fruit of our labor, and we must keep this intact.

We improved much more than just the commodity title. We saved $6 billion in the conservation title without compromising the policy. We did this by consolidating 23 existing programs—consolidating them all together—creating a tight network of efficient and streamlined conservation programs.

I made sure we protected the working lands programs, which contribute to substantial conservation improvements but still allow for productive use of the land.

For livestock, I made sure we extended and made permanent the livestock disaster programs that I worked hard to include in the last farm bill. Since they were created in 2008, the three livestock programs have helped over 100,000 ranchers across the country.

Right now, we are experiencing historic droughts in regions of the United States that also produce much of our beef. The livestock disaster programs will help those ranchers stay in business until the rain starts falling again.

In the forestry title, we permanently authorized stewardship contracting. This is very important. This will help the timber industry sustainably harvest more trees. This permanent authority is critical for reducing wildfire risk and maintaining resilient landscapes and communities throughout our country. As I advocated prior to markup, these returns are well worth the small investment. It can keep companies such as F.H. Stoltze, which is celebrating 100 years in operation in Columbia Falls, MT, in business for another 100 years.

I also was pleased with the inclusion of a workable approach to the bark beetle epidemic spreading throughout Montana and the West. My colleague from Montana, Senator TESTER, has also worked to remedy this epidemic.

Our loggers and small timber mills in Montana are facing the second worst beetle kill in the lower 48, a Forest Service tied up in lawsuits, and a housing market that continues to drag. Sawmills such as those owned by R-Y Timber in Townsend and Livingston will benefit from the approach we take in this farm bill.

I was also very proud of the work the committee did for veteran farmers and ranchers. Not only did the committee accept my amendment to expand access to conservation programs to veterans, but it also will direct USDA to set up a military liaison position.

These strides to extend assistance to veteran farmers and ranchers are vital to our returning Iraq and Afghanistan veterans who hope to return to rural America and become involved in agriculture. Forty-five percent of those who serve in the military come from rural communities.

The farm bill provision makes it clear that both efficient authorities and adequate resources are crucial for this effort, and I am committed to enacting legislation that enables the decisive and responsible action that is urgently needed.

There is a lot of talk on Capitol Hill about creating jobs and cutting debt. The farm bill is our jobs bill. It is also responsible to taxpayers. If we Senators were farmers, I would say we have produced a pretty good crop with this bill. But that is not the final step. All farmers know there is a time for harvest.

Now is harvest time. It is time to pass this farm bill. If we wait too long, we run the risk of compromising the stability of American agriculture and our food supply.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business for up to 12 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMERICA'S FISCAL CLIFF

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, let me speak today about two recent CBO reports and what they portend for the economy and for policy that we might want to make in the Congress. CBO, of course, is the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office, and from time to time it looks at economic conditions and presents studies or issues reports about the state of our economy based upon legislation the Congress has adopted.

There are two recent reports that I think suggest some very dire news for this country unless we in the Congress are willing to take some action. The first was a couple of weeks ago, and it dealt with the so-called fiscal cliff, the problem that will occur with the combination of two things automatically happening unless Congress and the President act.

The first is the automatic across-the-board cuts or sequestration that will affect both defense and nondefense spending to the tune of $109 billion next year, something which the Secretary of Defense has said would be ''devastating'' and ''catastrophic'' for our national security. That is the first problem. The Congressional Budget office said the combination of the sequestration with the second item, which is the automatic tax increase, which is a $4.5 trillion tax increase that begins on January 1, the combination of those two will put this country back into recession.

CBO projected the growth rate next year to be only about one-half of 1 percent. That, of course, is devastating for not just the economy but for job creation, for businesses, for families and the like.

The second recent report of the CBO just came out. It is a report that talks about the surging debt of the United States Government and talks about the probability of sudden fiscal crisis. So we have a combination of the potential for going back into recession, combined with the probability of sudden fiscal crisis because of the amount of debt the Federal Government is taking on.

Because this second report just came out, let me refer to some things that have been said about that, primarily in the Wall Street Journal in a piece on June 5 called ''Obama's Debt Boom.'' I will just quote a few lines from this editorial in the Wall Street Journal. It says:

> The CBO's long-term budget outlook notes that Federal debt held by the public—

That is the part we have to pay back—

> will surge to 70 percent of the economy by the end of this year.

Which is the highest in the history of the country except during World War II.

I think that is about $49,000 or $50,000 for every man, woman, and child in the United States. They point out that under the present trend the debt will hit 90 percent of GDP by 2022. Then it balloons to 109 percent by 2026.

What does this mean in practical terms? Here is a quotation from the Wall Street Journal about the CBO projection:

> We have never been deficit scolds, preferring to focus on the more important policy priorities of economic growth and spending restraint. But the Obama era is taking America to a place it has never been. Inside of a decade the country will have a debt-to-GDP ratio well into the 90 percent to 100 percent danger zone where economists say the economy begins to slow and risks mount.
>
> CBO notes . . . that this level of debt increase increases the probability of a sudden fiscal crisis, during which investors would lose confidence in the government's ability to manage its budget and the government would thereby lose its ability to borrow at affordable rates.
>
> How bad is it? In the absolute worst-case scenario, CBO says debt would exceed 250 percent of GDP in 2035. At that point, CBO's economic model breaks, because so much debt is so far outside ''historical experience'' and the CBO's ''assumptions might no longer be valid.''

That is where we are headed if we don't do something about it.

Interestingly, what CBO assumed in order to reach these conclusions is that tax collections would continue to hold to the post-1972 historical average of 18 percent of GDP. The point is we are not talking about raising taxes in order to effect this. They are assuming we will have revenues of a historical level of 18 percent of GDP. The problem is not the tax collections; in other words, the problem is the excess spending. They point out that, of course, excess spending is primarily a factor of the entitlement programs—Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid. They point out that the biggest of all those is in Medicare.

Then the Wall Street Journal concludes this way:

This is where the tax burden comes in, and on that score CBO admits that ''to the extent that additional tax revenues were generated by boosting marginal tax rates—

This is what President Obama proposed, remember—

those ''higher tax rates would discourage people from working and saving, further reducing output and income.'' So even the Keynesians who dominate CBO admit that there are costs in lower growth . . .

If they raise tax rates as the President has proposed.

This is, in effect, the most predictable crisis in history. So we have the combination of the CBO report talking about the fiscal cliff—what happens if both the sequestration and the automatic tax increases go into effect—combined with the most recent report about the debt, and we can see the United States is headed for a disaster without intervention by the Congress and the President.

Just one thing. The Director of CBO put it this way:

The explosive path of Federal debt . . . underscores the need for large and timely policy changes to put the Federal Government on a sustainable fiscal course.

What has the President and the Democratic majority in the Senate suggested? We turned to Jay Carney, who had a press conference Monday. He is the spokesman for the President. He said that ''the President is continuing to work with his team on potential new ideas.''

I would like for him to work with the Congress because we have had a lot of ideas. The House of Representatives passed almost 30 bills that deal with this, and they range all the way from the Keystone Pipeline, which immediately puts 20,000 people to work, easing environmental regulations, offshore oil exploration, and so on. So we would love to have him work with the Congress, rather than this anemic to-do list he has proposed, which, obviously, would not provide any relief.

The bottom line is that as was reported in a story by the Associated Press, by Andrew Taylor, I think. As he said, after talking about the bills passed by the House of Representatives: ''Democrats will try to stop Republicans from forcing a vote on it in the Senate.''

What he is talking about is the vote the House of Representatives intends to have before long that would extend the current Tax Code, so there is certainty in tax rates, and businesses and families don't have to worry about this $4.5 trillion tax increase. The Democrats will try to stop Republicans from forcing a vote on it in the Senate.

Why would the Democratic leader not want to have a vote on whether to extend the current tax rates as opposed to having an increase in taxes of $4.5 trillion? Actually, there are a lot of folks—leaders in the President's party, people who have worked with him—who have said it would be a good idea to extend those tax cuts. In fact, the President himself said so when he extended them for 2 years, along with the support from Congress, on December 1 year ago. He said not to do so would harm economic growth. He was exactly right then, and he is right now.

As a matter of fact, we had a better GDP growth back then than we do now. If that would have been harmful then, it would be more harmful now. His belief then is adhered to by people who have worked with him and former leaders. For example, former Democratic President Bill Clinton suggested Tuesday—yesterday—that Congress temporarily extend all the Bush-era tax cuts. That includes the tax cuts for the wealthy. Remember, the Bush tax cuts applied across the board. They applied to everybody. The President has said that is fine but not for the wealthy.

What President Clinton said is, no, the best thing would be for all of those tax cuts to be extended. I will quote what the former President said:

What I think we need to do is to find some way to avoid the fiscal cliff, to avoid doing anything that would contract the economy now.

He was asked if that meant extending tax cuts, and he said:

They will probably have to put everything off until early next year. That's probably the best thing to do right now.

Then the President's former adviser, who is an economics professor, Larry Summers, said today that Congress should temporarily extend the Bush-era tax cuts. He said:

The real risk to this economy is on the side of slowdown . . . and that means we've got to make sure that we don't take gasoline out of the tank at the end of this year.

He said that on MSNBC's ''Morning Joe'' program. He said: ''That's gotta be the top priority.''

So here you have Larry Summers, former adviser to President Clinton on economic matters, and former President Bill Clinton, both of whom have said we need to extend these tax policies today in order to avoid further damage to our economy tomorrow—exactly what the President himself said when these tax rates were extended a year and a half ago.

I just note this from another Associated Press story regarding the comments by President Clinton. As they say:

The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office and others have warned that letting both events occur—

That is to say, the sequestration and the automatic tax increases—

would suck so much out of the economy that it could spark a renewed recession next year.

That is when they refer to the statement of President Clinton that we need to find a way to avoid that fiscal cliff and that would include extending the tax cuts.

The reality is we have somewhat of a consensus beginning to develop that it would be a wise thing for the country to retain current tax policies and not allow this big tax increase, to avoid the sequester or the across-the-board cuts that otherwise would affect both defense and nondefense; and if we don't do those things, according to CBO, the nonpartisan office that advises the Congress, we are likely to go back into a recession with growth that would be only one-half of 1 percent of our GDP next year.

Let me conclude by referring to another article in the Wall Street Journal, dated June 5, entitled ''Defense Chiefs Signal Job Cuts.''

Here we are talking about the employers of people in the defense industries that are predicting that if we don't do something about sequester, they are going to have to begin laying off people. The article begins with this quotation:

U.S. defense contractors are preparing to disclose mass job cutbacks ahead of November elections if Congress fails to reach a deficit-reduction deal by then, industry officials said.

One of the people quoted is Robert Stevens, chairman of Lockheed Martin, a big contractor with the Defense Department. He said:

It is quite possible that we will need to notify employees in the September and October timeframe that they may or may not have a job in January, depending upon whether sequestration does or doesn't take effect.

One of the reasons is a Federal law that requires employers to provide this notice—the Worker Adjustment and Retaining and Notification Act, known as the WARN Act, which requires companies to notify employees in advance of mass layoffs or plant closings—if they have more than 50 or more employees, for example. One thing Mr. Stevens said is that it doesn't just affect the big companies such as his but also all these suppliers, people who have to provide the pieces or components of products that they end up putting together. They would have to be notified because they are not going to have subcontracts next year.

One of the industry officials said sequestration is already here. What he meant by that was the reality is that businesses are having to make decisions now. This talk in the Senate about we will somehow be able to deal with this in the lameduck session after the election is simply not true. I suggest to my colleagues in the House and in the Senate that if we try to wait until after the election, I think our constituents, knowing what is happening—some of whom will probably have gotten job notices that they may be subject to termination because of the automatic across-the-board cuts, known as sequester—I think they may be sending a message to us this fall and, therefore, it behooves us to act before rather than after the fact.

There has been talk today about what the Wisconsin recall election meant. I think one thing it must have meant is that people may complain about some of the decisions that are made when there are tough decisions, but they want people who are elected to do something about the problems, to act, have some courage, tackle the

tough problems. Even if they don't totally agree with the solutions, I think they respect political leaders who are willing to do that. Scott Walker, the Governor of Wisconsin, took a lot of heat, but he took the bull by the horns and tried to solve a problem and, as a result of the things they were able to do, the fiscal situation in Wisconsin is much better than had they not taken those actions.

That is what we in Congress need to learn. The people understand we have a big debt crisis facing us, which is confirmed by the Congressional Budget Office. They understand there is a huge risk of another recession because of the twin problems of the biggest tax increase in the history of the country coming our way January 1 and this sequestration that also occurs on January 1. They would like us to do something about that. I think what they resent is politicians saying after the election we will take it up and begin thinking about it. First of all, that is too late for a lot of people whose jobs depend upon it, and it makes for a very inefficient way of running the government.

Secondly, I think political leaders owe their constituents the ideas they would like to put into effect. We don't wait and hide the ball from our constituents, refusing to tell them what we think until after the election. The idea of a democratic republic is people stand for office by saying: This is what I would do to solve our problems. Do you like it or not? If the voters say, yes, we think that is a good idea, they elect us and expect us to follow through on it. If they don't like our ideas, they elect the other person. But if we hide the ball and say we are not going to take votes in the Senate because we don't want to put Members on record because then the voters might know what they are thinking and they might not like it and not elect them, that is obviously a lack of political courage. It also runs counter to what the fundamental concept of elections is all about.

I suggest that what we ought to do is tackle these two issues now, not wait until after the election. Legislation has been introduced in both the House and the Senate to find a way to save the $109 billion that needs to be saved in order to avoid the sequester for next year. This process will have to be undergone, undertaken, every year for the next 10 years because we have promised the voters we would save a total of $1.2 trillion.

So how will we do it next year? Well, there are any number of ways. Senators MCCAIN, AYOTTE, myself, CHAMBLISS, GRAHAM, and CORNYN, and some others have introduced legislation that says, well, here is a way you can save the $109 billion next year: Get half of it by simply extending the President's own pay freeze for many Federal employees through the middle of 2014, and the other half, instead of replacing every single Federal worker who retires or leaves the Federal workforce, only replace two out of the three.

Everybody talks about how wonderful the recommendations of the Simpson-Bowles Commission were. Well, the Simpson-Bowles Commission recommended hiring one new Federal employee for every three who leave the workplace. We double that. We say, well, let's hire two of the three back. The combination of just those two things would result in saving $109 billion.

If you don't like that way to save money, there are many other ways to do so, and there are revenues from the sale of Federal property, for example, that could also be put on the table. So there are many ways to do this. But let's get about it.

Why aren't we doing it? Well, the majority leader and the President say the only way they would consider doing this is if we also raise a bunch of taxes, and their wonderful idea about raising taxes is a tax on millionaires. Here is the problem with that. The very people we want to create the jobs are the businesspeople who pay these taxes.

According to President Obama's Secretary of the Treasury, that Department says 80 percent of the people who would be subject to this millionaires' tax are business owners—the very people who need the money to hire the workers to put the economy back in good shape.

When Senator LINDSEY GRAHAM asked Defense Secretary Panetta: Wouldn't sequestration be like shooting ourselves in the foot, he said: No, Senator, it would be like shooting ourselves in the head.

I submit that raising taxes on the exact people to whom we are looking to create jobs is the same thing. That is the reason Republicans have said that is the wrong way to come up with this $109 billion.

The whole idea of the Budget Control Act was to control spending, not to raise taxes. Since there are so many ways in which this government's $3 trillion-plus budget can save money, I don't think we have to turn to something that would itself have a negative impact on economic growth; namely, raising taxes. So that has been the reason this hasn't been taken up.

One side insists we have to raise taxes in order to deal with this sequestration problem. The other side says: No, we don't have to do that at all. Let's sit down and work together and find a resolution for this problem, and let's get it done before the end of the year. At that point it is too late for a lot of people who will have lost their jobs.

By the way, some of these industry people have told us some of the sole-source suppliers or subcontractors would probably end up taking bankruptcy because their orders could not be filled due to the uncertainty that a contract was there. So we could have a great deal of damage to the economy.

In fact, the estimate is—if sequestration or across-the-board cuts occur—in the Defense industry alone we are talking about 1 million jobs lost. Remember how many jobs were created last month? I think it was 69,000 jobs were created last month. Compare that to losing 1 million jobs, and you can see the significance of what the Congressional Budget Office was talking about. This is a fiscal cliff.

We cannot allow sequestration to occur, and we cannot allow these big tax increases to occur without understanding the damage that will do to the economy. They said it is going to put us back in a recession. That is before the report they just released on the increasing debt burden of this country.

So, Mr. President, I say to my colleagues, the evidence is here. Leaders such as former President Clinton and economist Larry Summers and, of course, many other economists have said the best thing to do is to keep the tax rates where they are. Don't raise them. Resolve this sequestration issue so we don't have that hanging over our heads, and then look for other ways to boost job growth and economic productivity. That is the way to get out of the recession. That is the way to help families. Ironically, at the end of the day, a growing economy, producing more wealth, produces more tax revenues for the Federal Government, and that helps us deal with the big debt we have accumulated.

So I think everybody agrees economic growth is ultimately the best way to get out of the government's fiscal problem. But it also, of course, is precisely the way for businesses and families to prosper.

I hope colleagues in both the House and Senate—both Democrats and Republicans—can see their way clear to respond to this crisis—this utterly predictable crisis—and to deal with this problem sooner rather than later, exercising the courage our constituents would like to have us exercise and thereby representing them in the way they deserve to be represented.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CARDIN). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I am here today to talk about the 2012 farm bill and the importance of moving forward with this important legislation.

First, I wish to acknowledge the incredibly hard work of Chairwoman STABENOW and Ranking Member ROBERTS and their commitment to producing a bipartisan bill that cleared the Agriculture Committee this April with a strong bipartisan vote.

The Agriculture Committee is a successful model of how we can work

across the aisle on tough problems to get work done. It always has been. This cooperative effort was not on a small or merely symbolic issue but on a major piece of legislation that impacts every single American. Throughout the process, this committee has faced unprecedented budget challenges, as has our country, but under Chairwoman STABENOW's leadership, the committee has worked together on a bill that makes tough choices, works within a budget to provide $23 billion in deficit reduction, and preserves the core programs that are important for Minnesota and other States across the country.

I believe this carefully crafted bill finds a good balance between a number of priorities, and I urge Members of the Senate to continue to work together in the same spirit that was exemplified in the Agriculture Committee to complete work on this bill as quickly as possible.

I have spent the last year going all around our State; I have talked to farmers and businesses across Minnesota. No matter where I go, I am always reminded of the critical role farming plays in our State's economy. We are 21st in the country for population, but we are 6th in the country for agriculture. It is our State's leading export, accounting for $75 billion in economic activity and supporting more than 300,000 jobs. It is one of the major reasons our unemployment rate is at 5.6 percent—significantly better than the national average—and that is because we have had consistent farm policy coming out of this Chamber, out of Washington, DC—and you can't say that in every area of industry—consistent policy coming from the government over the last decade. That must continue because it doesn't just help our farmers on the front line, it feeds into many industries, and it certainly feeds into agricultural exports.

Our State is No. 1 in turkeys in the United States of America—a fact you might not have known. We are No. 1 for green peas and sugar beets. We are also home to Jennie-O turkey and Del Monte vegetable processing facilities, just to name a few. We are No. 1 in spring wheat and also home to a rich tradition of milling. We are No. 3 in hogs and soybeans and also home to pork processors and biodiesel plants. We are No. 4 in the country for corn and also home to 21 ethanol plants that produce over 1 billion gallons of ethanol every single year, and that is one of the major reasons our country has reduced our dependency on foreign oil from something like 60 percent 5 years ago to the mid-40s now. That is an incredible record. It has to do with oil drilling in North Dakota, it has to do with better gas mileage in our cars and trucks, but it also has to do with biofuels.

Minnesotans in rural communities and larger cities all benefit from a strong farm economy that provides jobs on the farms, in mills, and processing plants, equipment manufacturers—another key export for the United States of America—and a diverse range of high-tech jobs in today's modern agriculture. That is why there is so much at stake in this 2012 farm bill and why it is so important for us to finish with a strong and effective bill that gets the job done for America's farmers and for our rural economy.

It is no secret that during each step of the process, we have been working within a tough budget climate, but that doesn't mean the goal of maintaining a strong farm safety net or a safe, nutritious, and abundant food supply is any less critical. The last thing we want to do is be dependent on foreign food the way we are dependent on foreign oil—even though we have seen improvement. We do not want that to happen with foreign food.

How have we done this to get $23 billion in cuts? The first thing that is important for people to understand who are not from rural areas, who are from metro areas—my State has both—or States that are more urban focused is that only 14 percent of this farm bill is farm programs. It could have had a different name, but a lot of people call it the farm bill. It is only 14 percent. The rest is conservation, nutrition programs, school lunches—you name it. While only 14 percent of the farm bill is farm programs, nearly two-thirds of the cuts over last year are on that 14 percent. Nearly two-thirds of the $23 billion in cuts—nearly $16 billion—is cut from farm programs, which are only 14 percent of the farm bill.

I heard from many producers in Minnesota as we dealt with how we are going to get rid of direct payments I have long advocated. We had huge floor fights last time on some reform to the farm payment system. I thought we needed to make some changes there and get that number down in terms of the money that can be spent in the income, but now we have actually eliminated direct payments. So that is why the crop insurance part of this bill becomes even more important.

The bill also continues the Sugar Program, which is important to our country—tens of thousands of jobs across the country, tens of thousands of jobs in the Red River Valley in Minnesota and North Dakota—and also helps to ensure that we have a strong domestic sugar industry.

The bill also simplifies the commodity programs by eliminating a number of programs and replacing them with the Agriculture Risk Coverage Program which complements crop insurance by providing protection against multiyear price declines.

The bill also protects the conservation programs we need. It helps our agricultural producers keep our soil healthy and our water clean. Our State is No. 5 in the Conservation Reserve Program, No. 3 in the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, and No. 1 in the Conservation Stewardship Program. Specifically, I have worked to ensure that local communities also have the tools they need to address conservation challenges. Conservation groups, from Ducks Unlimited to Pheasants Forever, know how important the farm bill is, and that is why over 640 conservation groups are supporting the committee's work on the farm bill.

The committee-passed farm bill also preserves the essential nutrition programs that millions of families and children rely on every day. Importantly, this bill avoids the radical cuts to nutrition programs and school lunches that would have been proposed in other budgets.

This bill also includes a number of amendments that I authored, including an amendment that will help beginning farmers and ranchers better manage their risk and access land as they get a start in agriculture. We need to make sure that we have a next generation of farmers and ranchers, that it just does not end here.

Beginning farmers face big obstacles, including limited access to credit and technical assistance and, of course, the high price of land. During committee markup, I introduced an amendment with Senator BAUCUS that helps beginning farmers purchase crop insurance by increasing their help 10 percent for the first 5 years. I believe that people who grow our food deserve to know their livelihoods cannot be swept away in the blink of an eye, either by market failures or by natural disaster. That is why strengthening crop insurance for our beginning farmers is a priority.

I also worked to include an amendment—with Senators JOHANNS, BAUCUS, and HOEVEN—to allow beginning producers to use CRP acres for grazing without a penalty. I believe this will go a long way, again, in building the next generation of farmers.

As an original cosponsor of the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Opportunity Act, which was introduced by Senator HARKIN, I also fought for the mentoring and outreach provisions for new farmers and training in business planning and credit-building—the skills they need to succeed and stay on the land.

Homegrown renewable fuels have helped us reduce our share of dependence on liquid fuels. I believe we can continue this trend. As I mentioned, we have seen an enormous shift in our dependence on foreign oil. Much of that has to do with biofuels, now 10 percent of our fuel supply in this country, as we work to make it more and more fuel efficient, use less water, transition to cellulosic. What we do know is that we should be focusing on the workers and the farmers of the Midwest and not the cartels of the Mideast. That is what helped reduce our foreign oil dependency in the last few years, as well as the drilling I mentioned before.

I also cosponsored the amendment introduced by Senators CONRAD and LUGAR to provide funding for the energy title. This is key in this farm bill.

I know we have all heard from farmers and ranchers in our States about the importance of passing a 5-year farm bill. Think about the work that is done in Congress. Every business says: We need a longer time period, we need consistency for our tax credits, and we need to know what is happening. This is one area where we have actually done it. We have done this with the farm bill over the last decade. The last two farm bills with 5-year windows have been fairly consistent. We have an opportunity to do it again and still save $23 billion on the budget, still make sure those nutrition programs are there for our kids, still make sure the most vulnerable among us can be fed and not go hungry, and still make sure those vital conservation programs are there for this country.

There is a reason agriculture has been able to keep its head above water in these difficult times. A lot of it has to do with consistent policies. That is one of my main messages to my colleagues. We have one of the stars in terms of exports coming out of this farm bill. That is one of the main reasons it is so important, because we not only are growing food for the people of this country, we are feeding the world, and we are keeping the jobs in America.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee is recognized.

U.S. INNOVATION

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, it was a pleasure to hear the Senator from Minnesota speak on the farm bill. I congratulate Senator ROBERTS and Senator STABENOW for their hard work, as well as the Senator from Minnesota. I would like to take 10 minutes to speak on a related matter.

American agriculture is an area where we lead the world with innovation. I want to talk about innovation of a different type, and I want to refer specifically to a May 20 column in the New York Times by Thomas Friedman that caught my attention.

I ask unanimous consent that following my remarks, Mr. Friedman's column be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(See exhibit 1.)

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Friedman said he had just returned from Seattle, where he saw a stunning amount of innovation. He said it filled him both with exhilaration and with dread. The question is, Is the United States prepared to deal with the innovation we may be seeing around the world over the next decade?

Yesterday I heard Robert Zoellick, the retiring President of the World Bank, brief a number of us about the problems we are going to have at the end of the year and whether the U.S. Congress and President can rise to the challenge of governing so we can show the rest of the world we are capable of that. Mr. Zoellick says he travels a lot—that is an understatement given his reputation and the jobs he's held over the last 20 years—and he said that two-thirds of global growth over the last 10 years has come from developing countries and that advanced countries, such as Japan, and Europe and, to some extent, the United States have been stagnant or drifting. Mr. Friedman's column says that we should try to remember the things that made us great and preserve as many of those as we can. He said we need a plan, and then he suggested what he called a magic combination: No. 1, immigration of high-IQ risk-takers, as he called them; No. 2, government-funded research; and No. 3, cutting-edge higher education. That was the plan. That was the magic combination.

He said:

> This is not a call to ignore hard budget choices we have to make. It's a call to make sure that we give education, immigration and research their proper place in the discussion.

My purpose as a Senator, as a Republican Senator, is to say that I believe he is exactly right. No. 1, I believe that is the right plan—or at least the beginning of it; No. 2, I believe there is more going on in the direction that he recommended than most people know; and No. 3, I believe that finishing the work on what needs to be done to implement the plan he outlined is perfectly obvious and well within our grasp. Let's take the ideas one by one.

First, the idea, as he called it, of immigration of high-IQ risk-takers—we call this ''pin the green card on the STEM graduate.'' This idea is supported, I would judge, by most Members of the Senate. Each year 50,000 of the brightest students in the world are attracted to our great universities' graduate programs in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, and then each year we send 17,000 of those graduates in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics back home. We make them go home so they can create jobs in the countries they came from rather than in the United States.

A number of us have introduced legislation to change that. It came from a recommendation from legislation called America COMPETES, which passed first in 2007 and was reauthorized in 2010. This was legislation sponsored by the Democratic and Republican leaders that had 35 Republican sponsors and 35 Democratic sponsors, and it included the 20 things a distinguished group told us we should do as a Congress to help America compete in the next generation. We have done two-thirds of them. One of the priorities was to double the federal funding for general scientific research over 10 years, and we've made some good progress in that direction.

Part of the unfinished agenda is the idea in America COMPETES of pinning a green card on the science, technology, engineering, and management graduate. There are at least six proposals before the Senate today—one sponsored by Senator COONS and myself, one by Senator CORNYN, one by Senator COONS and Senator RUBIO, another by Senators WARNER and MORAN. Senators COONS, RUBIO, WARNER, and MORAN have another one. Senator BENNET has yet another one. Many of us say: Let's go ahead and pin the green card on the high-IQ risk-taker and let those men and women create jobs here in the United States when they graduate.

What should we do about it? Stop insisting that we need to pass every single aspect of the immigration law at one time and go ahead and pass this one bill; realize that we can do some things better in the Senate step by step.

The second idea, advanced research—it is hard to think of a major innovation in the biology or sciences that doesn't have some aspect—has not had some support from government-sponsored research since World War II. Nobel laureate economist Robert Solow tells us that half our economic growth since World War II has come from these technological advances. Maybe one of the best examples is unconventional gas—we call it shale gas. It has been around for a century. A lot of people have been trying to do it, but even Mitchell Energy, the people who stuck it out in advanced shale gas, said it couldn't have happened without the Department of Energy and it could not have happened without the invention of 3 D drilling from Sandia National Laboratory.

Yesterday I visited with the head of what we call ARPA-E. Most of us know about a little organization called DARPA, which has been around for 50 years in the Department of Defense. Out of it has come such things as the Internet, stealth technology—a whole series of major innovations that affect the lives of people every day. So the idea was, let's try that in the Department of Energy. That came out of America COMPETES as well. ARPA-E takes promising ideas, brings them into the government, funds them for 3 years, and then spits them out again into the marketplace to see if they can survive. In other words, it is the kind of government-applied research that most of us can support. It had the support of 35 Democrats and 35 Republicans.

Yesterday I was briefed on just three of their innovations.

One company has doubled the density of a battery, a lithium battery. That means an electric car, for example, could go twice as far with a battery or it could go the same distance with a battery that costs half as much and weighs half as much.

A second idea was a laser drill for geothermal. The laser drilling precedes the normal drill and can do remarkable things, which will probably make a massive difference in exploration for oil and gas over time. Then a third, which I would describe as the holy grail of energy advanced research, is

the idea of taking carbon, such as that which comes from coal plants, and turning it into something that can be used commercially. Think of the difference that could make for our country if we were able to find a way to do that.

There is a promising way to do that in ARPA-E, which is to take what they call ''bugs,'' a biologic solution, apply it to electrodes, and turn it into oil. So this may work or it may not work in a commercial sense, but this is the kind of amazing research they are doing.

What do we do about that? I would suggest that all we have to do is double clean energy research, a sort of Manhattan Project for these kinds of ideas, and pay for it by reducing the permanent subsidies for other energy programs, whether they are Big Oil or Big Wind.

Finally, the third idea of Mr. Friedman is one I have talked about for years, and that has to do with the effect of Medicaid mandates on public higher education. He puts it this way, that the State governments ''medicate, educate, and incarcerate.'' The courts tell the States they have to spend this much on prisons, and we in the Federal Government tell the States they have to spend this much on Medicaid. There is nothing left for education, and the various orders to States today are ruining public higher education by driving up tuition, driving up loans, and hurting what I believe is America's secret weapon in our technological future.

What to do about that? End the Medicaid mandates. Let the Governors and legislators decide how to spend money. I guarantee if they do, they will come closer than when I was Governor of Tennessee and we paid 70 percent of the cost of a student's education and the student paid 30 percent. Today it is the reverse. The State pays 30 percent and the student pays 70 percent.

The students are protesting at the University of California because the State has cut $1 billion from what is probably the greatest public university in the world over the last 3 or 4 years. They probably have no idea the reason for that is Medicaid mandates from Washington that soak up the money that otherwise would go to keep tuition low and the quality high at the University of California.

My purpose in coming to the Senate floor is simply to say, first, that I think Mr. Friedman is right. He is right on the money. Second, I think more is going on than meets eye; and, third, finishing the job is well within our grasp.

We can pass the green card bill and pin the green card on the STEM graduate. There are six different versions before us in the Senate. We can double energy research and pay for it by reducing wasteful subsidies, and we can end Medicaid mandates and give our colleges and universities and community colleges a chance to prosper again and create the kind of future we want. That is the plan for the kind of innovation we need in America.

I salute Mr. Friedman for suggesting it, but I hope the rest of the country will recognize that in all three cases the Senate is headed in exactly that direction with legislation that we have already passed or introduced. I hope that on both sides of the aisle we will work together to finish the job.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that following Mr. Friedman's article, an article I wrote in the Wall Street Journal, which was published on Wednesday, May 16, 2012, and talks about the damaging effects of Washington mandates for Medicaid on State governments and how it is damaging public higher education, be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(See exhibit 2.)

EXHIBIT 1

[From the New York Times, May 19, 2012]

DO YOU WANT THE GOOD NEWS FIRST?

(By Thomas L. Friedman)

I've spent the last week traveling to two of America's greatest innovation hubs—Silicon Valley and Seattle—and the trip left me feeling a combination of exhilaration and dread. The excitement comes from not only seeing the stunning amount of innovation emerging from the ground up, but from seeing the new tools coming on stream that are, as Amazon.com's founder, Jeff Bezos, put it to me, ''eliminating all the gatekeepers''—making it easier and cheaper than ever to publish your own book, start your own company and chase your own dream. Never have individuals been more empowered, and we're still just at the start of this trend.

''I see the elimination of gatekeepers everywhere,'' said Bezos. Thanks to cloud computing for the masses, anyone anywhere can for a tiny hourly fee now rent the most powerful computing and storage facilities on Amazon's ''cloud'' to test any algorithm or start any company or publish any book. Start-ups can even send all their inventory to Amazon, and it will do all the fulfillment and delivery—and even gift wrap your invention before shipping it to your customers.

This is leading to an explosion of new firms and voices. ''Sixteen of the top 100 best sellers on Kindle today were self-published,'' said Bezos. That means no agent, no publisher, no paper—just an author, who gets most of the royalties, and Amazon and the reader. It is why, Bezos adds, the job of the company leader now is changing fast: ''You have to think of yourself not as a designer but as a gardener'' seeding, nurturing, inspiring, cultivating the ideas coming from below, and then making sure people execute them.

The leading companies driving this trend—Amazon, Facebook, Microsoft, Google, Apple, LinkedIn, Zynga and Twitter—are all headquartered and listed in America. Facebook, which didn't exist nine years ago, just went public at a valuation of nearly $105 billion—two weeks after buying a company for $1 billion, Instagram, which didn't exist 18 months ago. So why any dread?

It's because we're leaving an era of some 50 years' duration in which to be a president, a governor, a mayor or a college president was, on balance, to give things away to people; and we're entering an era—no one knows for how long—in which to be a president, a governor, a mayor or a college president will be, on balance, to take things away from people. And if we don't make this transition in a really smart way—by saying, ''Here are the things that made us great, that spawned all these dynamic companies''—and make sure that we're preserving as much of that as we can, this trend will not spread as it should. Maybe we could grow as a country without a plan. But we dare not cut without a plan. We can really do damage. I can lose weight quickly if I cut off both arms, but it will surely reduce my job prospects.

What we must preserve is that magic combination of cutting-edge higher education, government-funded research and immigration of high-I.Q. risk-takers. They are, in combination, America's golden goose, laying all these eggs in Seattle and Silicon Valley. China has it easy right now. It just needs to do the jobs that we have already invented, just more cheaply. America has to invent the new jobs—and that requires preserving the goose.

Microsoft still does more than 80 percent of its research work in America. But that is becoming harder and harder to sustain when deadlock on Capitol Hill prevents it from acquiring sufficient visas for the knowledge workers it needs that America's universities are not producing enough of. The number of filled jobs at Microsoft went up this year from 40,000 to 40,500 at its campus outside Seattle, yet its list of unfilled jobs went from 4,000 to almost 5,000. Eventually, it will have no choice but to shift more research to other countries.

It is terrifying to see how budget-cutting in California is slowly reducing what was once one of the crown jewels of American education—the University of California system—to a shadow of its old self. And I fear the cutting is just beginning. As one community leader in Seattle remarked to me, governments basically do three things: ''Medicate, educate and incarcerate.'' And various federal and state mandates outlaw cuts in medicating and incarcerating, so much of the money is coming out of educating. Unfortunately, even to self-publish, you still need to know how to write. The same is happening to research. A new report just found that federal investment in biomedical research through the National Institutes of Health has decreased almost every year since 2003.

When we shrink investments in higher education and research, ''we shoot ourselves in both feet,'' remarked K.R. Sridhar, founder of Bloom Energy, the Silicon Valley fuel-cell company. ''Our people become less skilled, so you are shooting yourself in one foot. And the smartest people from around the world have less reason to come here for the quality education, so you are shooting yourself in the other foot.''

The Labor Department reported two weeks ago that even with our high national unemployment rate, employers advertised 3.74 million job openings in March. That is, in part, about a skills mismatch. In an effort to overcome that, and help fill in the financing gap for higher education in Washington State, Boeing and Microsoft recently supported a plan whereby the state, which was cutting funding to state universities but also not letting them raise tuition, would allow the colleges to gradually raise rates and the two big companies would each kick in $25 million for scholarships for students wanting to study science and technology or health care to ensure that they have the workers they need.

This is not a call to ignore the hard budget choices we have to make. It's a call to make sure that we give education, immigration and research their proper place in the discussion.

''Empowering the individual and underinvesting in the collective is our great macro danger as a society,'' said the pollster Craig

Charney. Indeed, it is. Investment in our collective institutions and opportunities is the only way to mitigate the staggering income inequalities that can arise from a world where Facebook employees can become billionaires overnight, while the universities that produce them are asked to slash billions overnight. As I've said, nations that don't invest in the future tend not to do well there.

EXHIBIT 2

[From the Wall Street Journal, May 16, 2012]

TIME FOR A MEDICAID-EDUCATION GRAND SWAP

(By Lamar Alexander)

Staring down steep tuition hikes, students at the University of California have taken to carrying picket signs. As far as I can tell, though, none has demanded that President Barack Obama accept a Grand Swap that could protect their education while saving them money. Allow me to explain.

When I was governor of Tennessee in the early 1980s, I traveled to meet with President Ronald Reagan in the Oval Office and offer that Grand Swap: Medicaid for K 12 education. The federal government would take over 100% of Medicaid, the federal healthcare program mainly for low-income Americans, and states would assume all responsibility for the nation's 100,000 public schools. Reagan liked the idea, but it went nowhere.

If we had made that swap in 1981, states would have come out ahead, keeping $13.2 billion in Medicaid spending and giving $8.7 billion in education spending back to Washington. Today, states would have about $92 billion a year in extra funds, as they'd keep the $149 billion they're now spending on Medicaid and give back to Washington the $57 billion that the federal government spends per year on schools.

This trade would get at the heart of the problem with today's rising cost of college education: the policies that Washington has dreamed up and then handed off to the states to implement, costs and all. Chief among them: Medicaid.

When I was governor and we were allotting state tax money for roads, schools, state agencies and the like, we'd have to choose between spending on Medicaid or public higher education. When states are forced to spend more of their limited tax dollars on Medicaid, that usually means they spend less on education.

Last year in Tennessee, Medicaid funding was up 16% while state support for higher education was down 15%. As a result, tuition and fees at public four-year universities rose more than 7%.

At Tennessee Tech University, state funding has dropped 30% over the last three years—and the picture is not much different at other universities and community colleges throughout the nation.

In addition to saving states money, this Grand Swap could help improve the quality of education, both in colleges and K 12.

Because of the funding crunch, the quality of many of our higher education institutions is in serious jeopardy, and that's putting our nation's future in jeopardy. America's secret weapons in creating jobs since World War II have been innovation, technology and a trained workforce. We not only have the best colleges and universities in the world, we have nearly all of the best.

At the K 12 level, federal involvement has done little to improve quality. Federal funding for elementary and secondary education programs has increased by 73% over the past nine years, while student achievement has stayed relatively flat.

State and local leaders know best how to create an environment in which students can learn what they need to know to succeed in college and in careers. Decisions on whether schools and teachers are succeeding or failing should be taken away from Washington and given back to state and local governments. While Washington has provided some important advocacy and requirements for better reporting of test scores, most of the initiative for higher standards, better tests, more accountability and more parental choice has come from the states.

Then there's the Grand Swap's potential for strengthening Medicaid: A single manager, even if it is the federal government, would operate Medicaid more efficiently because it would be forced to implement the mandates it crafts.

So, how about it, Mr. President—a single Grand Swap for the long-term stability of tuition rates, student-loan rates, Medicaid and K 12 education?

Mr. ALEXANDER. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MERKLEY). The Senator from Kentucky.

AID TO PAKISTAN

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, I think most Americans remember where they were on 9/11/2001. I was doing eye surgery in Bowling Green, KY. When I came out of surgery, I walked into the patient's room and on the television set were the planes crashing into the buildings. My first thought was horror. My second thought was concern for my father who was in Washington and is a Congressman and lives near the Pentagon. As I thought about this, it struck me as so bizarre and hard to believe. But I know exactly where I was and remember it vividly today.

I think Lucky Penny remembers where she was. Lucky Penny was one of the first female F 16 pilots. She was here in Washington at one of the bases, and she was asked to scramble her F 16. After the first two planes crashed, she was asked to intercept United Flight 93, which was coming in from Pennsylvania and thought to be headed toward the White House. She was asked to scramble a fighter jet with no armaments. They didn't have time to load the armaments and at that time we were not prepared and did not have jets already prearmed.

Her mission was to take down the plane however she could, which probably meant ramming her jet into the commercial airliner and bringing it down. Can you imagine being given this task? She took it upon herself and quickly scrambled her jet. The jet had to be scrambled in such a fast fashion that there were still things attached to it. People were trying to dismantle and pull out the gas hose and all the appendages to the plane as she was taxiing down the runway. I think she will never forget where she was on 9/11.

When SEAL Team 6 infiltrated bin Laden's compound, I think Americans were proud of SEAL Team 6 and proud of our military and proud of what they did to finally get this mass murderer. What happened in the weeks leading up to that attack and the attack on the compound by SEAL Team 6 was a doctor in Pakistan who helped us. His name is Dr. Shakil Afridi. He is about the same age as I, and I have a lot of sympathy for him and for his bravery. Doctors are not soldiers. We are taught to heal and to help, but he thought it was important enough and that bin Laden was a bad enough person that he would help America get bin Laden.

He set up a vaccination clinic, and they did DNA testing to try to prove that bin Laden was in the compound. He risked his life to get this mass murderer. As a consequence though, Pakistan has not treated him very well. The Pakistan Government has put him in prison for 33 years. I find it incredibly insulting that this is coming from an ostensible ally.

I find it troubling that this man who is a hero and should be praised and congratulated and rewarded has been sentenced to prison for 33 years. He has been in prison for the last year without trial and probably being tortured. He has lost a significant amount of weight and now he is told he will go to prison for the rest of his life for helping America to catch the mass murderer bin Laden.

What I find particularly troubling is that the United States continues to fund and give money to Pakistan. Over $1 billion of U.S. taxpayer money is sent to Pakistan. It troubles me that we are sending $1 billion to a country that imprisons the gentleman, the physician, who was brave enough to help us get bin Laden. It makes no sense.

Recently, a committee proposed reducing our foreign aid—the $1 billion—by $33 million. It is 3 percent. I think they will laugh at us and keep doing what they are doing. They only understand negotiation from strength. So what I am proposing, and what I will insist upon in the next few days, is a vote on ending aid to Pakistan unless they free Dr. Afridi. I think that is the very least they can do. I am also asking the U.S. Government to grant him emergency citizenship and to help his family get over here from Pakistan and to provide them safe passage. I think it is the least we can do.

We shouldn't reward bad behavior. That is what we have done with foreign aid for so many years. It is one thing to talk about aiding or assisting your allies, but it is another to aid and assist the people who persistently persecute their own people—people who continue with human rights abuses.

In Pakistan there is a woman named Asia Bibi. She has been accused of saying something about the prophet. She said she didn't do it. It is gossip. She is set to be executed in Pakistan.

I think Americans should be outraged that 1 billion of your taxpayer dollars is being sent to Pakistan, a country that is imprisoning the guy who helped us get bin Laden, that is imprisoning a Christian for saying she said some sort of religious blasphemy, and the accusation is basically gossip. I think we should be insulted, not to mention the fact that I don't think it works.

Look at the examples throughout the last 30, 40 years of the different dictators we have given money to. We gave over $60 billion to Mubarak, the military dictator of Egypt. He stole a lot of it. He was one of the richest men in the world. He had some of the largest palaces in the world. His kids were enriched also at our expense.

Look at Mobutu in Congo. He was given billions of dollars and entertained by American leaders. At one time he had seven of the largest palaces in the world, mansions in the United States, mansions in Paris that were all paid for with our money. What did his people have? His people didn't have running water or electricity. Even if we believe in the humanitarian nature of giving money to these countries, it is not going to them. We are making rich autocrats richer in Third World countries, and it is not going to the people of the country. It is stolen and skimmed off the top.

Look at Mugabe. Mugabe in Zimbabwe tortures his opposition, has confiscated land, has basically run his country into the ground, and we have given him billions of dollars. We can't buy better behavior and we shouldn't reward autocrats. Let's not reward folks who torture their people. For goodness' sake, we should not send $1 billion to Pakistan when they are imprisoning a hero who helped us get bin Laden.

My amendment will call for an immediate halt to all aid to Pakistan now. I am asking President Obama not to send one penny to Pakistan until Dr. Afridi is freed. I am asking that no more money goes there in the future until Dr. Afridi is freed. I think this is the least we can do. I plan on demanding a vote in the Senate, and I hope the American people will pay attention to how their representatives vote. They are voting to send money we don't even have. We are $1 trillion in debt. We borrow the money from China and send it to Pakistan. It makes no sense. Our infrastructure is crumbling. We have had two bridges collapse in Kentucky this year. We are struggling for money to pay for our own infrastructure, and we are sending $1 billion to a country that imprisons Christians for their beliefs.

It has to come to an end. It is going to come to an end one way or another. What I ask is that the Senate step up and support ending this money being sent to Pakistan and, at the very least, not send any more until Dr. Afridi is freed.

I thank the Chair.

I yield back my time and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DURBIN. Would the Chair remind me of the pending business?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The pending business is the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 415, S. 3240.

Mr. DURBIN. The farm bill; is that correct? The Agriculture bill?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. That is correct.

Mr. DURBIN. I was advised of that, and I wanted to double-check.

Three weeks ago we passed a milestone in U.S. agriculture. The U.S. Department of Agriculture celebrated its 150th birthday. I take some pride in that coming from Illinois because it was President Abraham Lincoln who created the U.S. Department of Agriculture. He called it the people's department. Among other things, it became a launch pad for the development of the United States. It was during that same period of the Lincoln Presidency that they started the land-grant college system as well as the Transcontinental Railroad. These things literally settled and united our great Nation.

Since its inception, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has played an important role supporting farmers, investing in rural communities, researching crops, diseases, production practices, increasing energy production, and helping to fight poverty.

Now the Senate is turning to the debate on the 2012 farm bill that will carry forward the vision of our government's role in agriculture for the next 5 years.

While much of the rest of the country has been struggling through a recession, agriculture in America has really remained a bright spot. We have seen record prices and record income in the farm sector.

Last year farm revenues reached $98.1 billion. Times are good, but we cannot afford to forget for a moment that there is inherent risk in farming—risks that many other business do not face. Droughts, floods, wind damage, rain, and pests are just a few of the risks farmers must cope with on a year-to-year basis. Because of the nature of these risks associated with farming and the important role farmers play in food production, the Federal Government, since the days of President Franklin Roosevelt, has long provided a safety net to help farmers in the worst of times. But the need for a safety net must be balanced every time we have a farm bill with the realistic appraisal of the risk facing farmers and acknowledging the resources available from the Federal Government.

The Agriculture Committee, under the leadership of Chairwoman DEBBIE STABENOW of Michigan, who has done an extraordinary job with Senator ROBERTS, the ranking Republican, in bringing this bill to the floor, and the broader agriculture community deserve credit for stepping up to find savings in this farm bill, to cut subsidies, and to make sure those savings are dedicated toward good programs and deficit reduction. They make real reforms in agricultural programs. The bill on the floor is a huge step forward in putting our agriculture policy on the right track in light of the fiscal challenges we face. It reforms several titles to help producers better manage their risk, makes key investments in energy and research, ensures programs are in place to help our rural communities grow, and assists those who need to put food on the table. It does all this, and, to the credit of the Agriculture Committee, it still manages to save $23 billion over the next 10 years against what we had projected spending before this bill was introduced.

Gone are the outdated direct payments that went to farmers even when they were having record positive income years. To replace direct payments, the Agriculture Committee has proposed the new Agriculture Risk Coverage Program, known as ARC. ARC is a market-oriented program to build on the principles of the ACRE Program that I authored in the last farm bill and was expanded on in the Aggregate Risk and Revenue Management Act I joined along in with Senator SHERROD BROWN, Senator THUNE, and Senator LUGAR last year.

The biggest change introduced by the ARC Program is that to get a payment, you have to have an actual loss. That may sound odd to people who are observing this from the outside, but this is a fundamental shift in agricultural policy and I think a very wise one. ARC does not guarantee a profit, and it does not make the farmer completely whole, but it smoothes out the downturns and provides the producer time to shift to a new market condition.

Crop insurance protects farmers within any given year. The ARC Program is designed to help manage risk when there are repeated years of low prices or low yields. In other words, it makes the payments when they are needed. And even better, the shift to ARC saves the Federal Government about $15 billion. I congratulate Senator STABENOW for this extraordinary savings as well as many other changes within the bill.

Other portions of the bill make long-term investments that will help strengthen agriculture. The bill increases mandatory spending and reauthorizes and expands several programs in agricultural research. It is a small part of the Agriculture bill but a critically important part of expanding agriculture in America.

This bill creates the new Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research, which leverages public dollars to generate private investment. These investments are going to be important to Illinois producers and major research institutions such as the University of Illinois, Southern Illinois University, and the Peoria Agriculture Lab, as well as several other universities across our State.

The energy title includes mandatory funding for programs to expand bio-based manufacturing, advanced biofuels, and renewable energy. These

programs are going to help companies in my State, such as Archer Daniels Midland and Patriot Renewable Fuels. They are going to be able to process and manufacture products in rural America. There are many examples in Illinois of new markets being developed and new jobs being created in rural areas because of the growth of the bio-based industry.

The bill reforms the conservation title to streamline programs and finds additional savings by limiting the number of acres that can participate in the CRP or Conservation Reserve Program.

I have some concerns with these cuts and believe our most environmentally sensitive lands need to stay out of production, but I understand that the committee had a tough assignment to balance our policies with the need to reduce the deficit. This also holds true when it comes to nutrition, and I would like to say a word about the nutrition programs in this bill.

You can almost argue that this is a nutrition and agriculture bill. But it is the farm bill, and it includes many critical nutrition programs.

SNAP is the old Food Stamp Program. It helps those most impacted by the current recession continue to feed their families. You cannot really improve your situation in life if you are hungry. The committee bill takes some steps to reduce fraud in SNAP, and I heartily endorse that. We cannot really argue against those. But I am concerned about rumblings from other Members considering amendments to cut the program more fundamentally and alter the way SNAP works.

Let's be clear. We should not be cutting food assistance at a time when we are setting record poverty levels. In 2010 the United States set a new record with 15.1 percent of the population living in poverty. That is over 46 million people in our country. For them, SNAP, or the Food Stamp Program, is a lifeline.

I invite my colleagues who are anxious to cut these programs to go visit the local pantry, whether it is run by the church or whether it is a food bank in your area, and watch the people coming through the door. Some of them are very poor. Some of them are very elderly. Some of them are coming from work or going to work; they just do not make enough money to feed their families. Now is not the time to cut food assistance for American families. If you need more savings, I encourage my colleagues to look somewhere else in this bill.

While the Agriculture Committee bill makes major reforms, there is still more that can be done. The bill makes no changes to the Sugar Program that forces consumers in America to pay higher prices at the store and costs us jobs in America. I plan to support an effort from several of my colleagues to make some relatively minor changes that will benefit both consumers and businesses.

There is another area that needs further reform. It is the area of crop insurance. Crop Insurance Program costs have risen dramatically over the last several years, even when farm income was rising dramatically. Just last year the Federal Government spent more than $7.4 billion in crop insurance premium support. This does not even account for the amount sent to crop insurance companies—the companies that actually sell the crop insurance—to simply sell the policies. Incidentally, by selling those policies, they get a 14-percent return—not a bad deal.

However, the crop insurance title sees the largest single expansion of any title in the farm bill, without making major efforts to rein in the costs. We can do better. I have joined with my Republican colleague, Senator TOM COBURN, to find additional savings in this title. In our opinion, it is not unreasonable to ask the wealthiest and most prosperous farmers in America to pay a little more for their crop insurance. Right now the Federal Government is subsidizing 62 percent of premium costs for crop insurance. For those who are making over $750,000 a year, a slight reduction in that Federal subsidy is not hard to explain, at least from where I am standing.

I commend my colleagues on the Agriculture Committee for sending us this bipartisan bill. It is a safety net for producers, makes investments in rural America, research, and energy development, protects nutrition programs, and actually cuts spending.

I look forward to working with my colleagues in a bipartisan fashion to debate and pass the 2012 farm bill. I hope they will all join us in voting for the motion to proceed.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to enter into a colloquy with my Senate colleagues.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

STARTUP ACT 2.0

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, entrepreneurs and new businesses are vital to the strength of the U.S. economy. We need to be a competitive country in which we have great success in creating jobs in America.

Between 1980 and 2005, startup companies—less than 5 years old—accounted for nearly all the net new jobs created in our country. New firms create an average of approximately 3 million jobs each year. In order to create jobs for Americans, we need to create an environment where entrepreneurs are free to pursue their ideas, start businesses, and hire American workers.

Now, why is this important? This is important, obviously, for the purpose of creating the opportunity for all Americans to pursue the American dream. It is important for us to have the ability to put food on our families' tables and save for our kids' education and save for our own retirement. And it is important because at a time in our Nation in which the fiscal condition of the Federal Government is so serious, so much out of balance—we are spending so many more dollars than we take in—the deficit is holding back the growth of our country. These facts are important because at this point in time, because of our country's fiscal condition, we have an inability to grow the economy, and we have seen little evidence that the administration and Congress are willing to address our fiscal issues.

I raise these facts because we have to act now in order to create jobs in this country. The way to do that is to create an entrepreneurial and innovation environment in which people—Americans—who have ideas want to take a product to market. In the process of pursuing their success, they put other Americans to work. We need to create the environment in which that can happen. In the process of creating the benefits of new jobs in America, we will have a better fiscal condition than the one we find ourselves in today and avoid the chances that the United States will become another Greece or other southern European country.

A number of us in the Senate who believe we can work together to accomplish this have come together and entered into negotiations and created legislation based upon information provided by the Kauffman Foundation on entrepreneurship in Kansas City, as well as the President's Council on Jobs and Competitiveness. On the floor with me today are several of those colleagues. The Senator from Virginia, Mr. WARNER, and I gathered together our thoughts several months ago and introduced legislation called the Startup Act. Also on the floor this afternoon is Senator COONS of Delaware. He and the Senator from Florida, Mr. RUBIO, introduced the AGREE Act, designed to put some things in place that most Members of Congress agreed upon to grow technology and create jobs. The four of us then came together with an idea and have now introduced Startup Act 2.0.

Today, Members of the House of Representatives introduced companion legislation—this morning—in a bipartisan effort. So we now have a bipartisan, bicameral piece of legislation that we believe is important to the country. We believe it is important to individual citizens, and we believe it is important in the ability for us to have the economic growth necessary to begin the process of making our country fiscally sound again.

This legislation has a number of components related to the Tax Code, related to the regulatory environment, related to the global battle for talent, related to the ability for us to take the money we spend—the taxpayer dollars at universities in conducting research—and to encourage that money be spent in a way for research that is able to be used in bringing new products to market, in commercialization,

and to create an environment in which States across the country can demonstrate their interest and willingness in pursuing an entrepreneurial environment so that entrepreneurs and innovators find a place to build their companies.

It is an honor to be here this afternoon to highlight this legislation, to encourage our other colleagues to join us, and to approach this in a way that says we believe this is something more than just introducing a bill, it is something that is important not just as a symbol that we are working together, but we are of the belief that this is legislation that can follow the JOBS Act that was passed by this Congress and signed by this President several months ago, that we can follow on with legislation that will increase the chances that entrepreneurship is alive and well and America retains its competitive place in a global economy.

Let me ask my colleagues if they would like to join in this discussion. I would yield to the Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I would like to thank my friend, the Senator from Kansas, for his leadership on this issue. This is something on which he and I spent a lot of time working, as have, I know, the Senators from Delaware, from Florida, and we are joined now by the Senator from Missouri as well. We are all new Senators.

We said before when we unveiled this we did not get the memo that we should take Presidential election years off. We still think the needs of our country ought to trump election-year politicking. We think this is one of those spaces where we can find that common ground.

I spent 20 years as an entrepreneur and a funder of startup businesses, and everything in my experience validates what Senator MORAN has talked about. But, candidly, the facts show 80 percent of all of the new jobs created in America in the last 20 years came from startup businesses. They are not all tech businesses. I think of Under Armour, which is right up the road in Maryland, close to our friend from Delaware.

There are certain key things that every startup business needs: They need access to capital, they need access to talent, they need access to new ideas. We need to make sure we have a stable regulatory environment that is not overly burdensome in each way we move the ball in this legislation, both that we passed and that we are working on right now.

Senator MORAN mentioned the JOBS Act, which looked at access to capital issues, how we can perhaps allow companies access to the public markets in a cleaner way. I want to commend the Presiding Officer as well. He took the lead on a whole new area of fundraising around crowdfunding, crowdsourcing, and using the tools of the Internet, in effect, democratizing the ability to raise capital.

In this legislation, Startup 2.0, we take on a series of other issues. One of the issues is the question of talent. Every country in the world competes for talent. We attract some of the best talent in the world to come to our world-class universities. Oftentimes, we then train them in science, technology, engineering, and math with graduate degrees. I wish we could fill all of those slots in American universities with native-born Americans. But we do not have enough.

Consequently, we train the best and brightest in the world, then send them home to start their businesses. I can tell you, in Virginia, where we are proud to have a vibrant high-tech community, an entrepreneurial community, literally one-third of all of our high-tech firms in Northern Virginia, the founders are first-generation Americans. If we had the same immigration policies 20 years ago that we have today, we would not have had that kind of explosive growth particularly all across America in the nineties from technology.

So I want to turn to my colleague, the Senator from Delaware, a State that punches above its weight, a small State but a State with great universities, a State which has a rich entrepreneurial climate as well, what got the Senator involved—I know he has a background in business as well—on this issue. I know the Senator wants to share as well some of the aspects of Startup 2.0.

Mr. COONS. Mr. President, I am honored to join with the good Senator from Kansas, the Senator from Missouri, and my friend from Virginia in speaking today in a bipartisan colloquy that is also part of a bicameral process that is trying to send a signal to the American people, to our markets, and to our competitors, that we understand that just because we happen to be in an election year does not mean our competitors in China, in India, and Russia, in Europe and other parts of world—in Africa and in other places where there are emerging markets or in places where we have well-developed competitors—we do not take this year off.

The American people expect since we are still drawing a salary, we should still be making progress. We should still be trying to meet the needs of a growing economy that needs to grow faster. So as Senator MORAN referenced previously, last November Senator RUBIO of Florida and I came together to put a package called the AGREE Act before the Senate.

We were pleased that a number of the provisions in that first AGREE Act actually have subsequently become law: One, to ease the path for IPOs, initial public offerings, for high-potential, high-growth companies; another through Executive order to strengthen intellectual property protection. We are hopeful the Senate will consider another provision that dealt with bonus depreciation, which is another way to help make investments in equipment for small businesses.

On top of that, Senator RUBIO and I have now teamed up with Senator MORAN and Senator WARNER to take some of the remaining provisions of the AGREE Act and add them in with your Startup Act and now make an improved and broader and stronger Startup 2.0.

The pieces that we brought to the party were eliminating the per-country caps for employment-based immigrant visas and making permanent the exemption of certain capital gains so investors can provide financial stability to qualified startups. There are a lot of good ideas in this bill. There are a lot of different ways in which it tackles the issues that my colleagues have already spoken to: immigration; retaining high-promise, entrepreneurial folks who come and learn in the United States; moving the inventions and innovations on American college campuses to the marketplace more predictably, more swiftly; providing tax incentives for startup businesses and putting provisions in the Tax Code that strengthen our welcoming environment for entrepreneurship and regulatory relief.

Senator MORAN took the lead in making possible a provision in this bill that provides some regulatory relief for startup businesses. In all I think these provisions make for a terrific package, thus the moniker ''2.0.'' It has already attracted some other folks to join us.

Before I hand the floor over to the Senator from Missouri, I just want to comment on what I think that means.

There are trillions of dollars in capital sitting on the sidelines. American corporations have more money sitting on their balance sheets, not invested and moving our economy forward, than at almost anytime in modern history. That is because they are not sure this body, the Congress of the United States, can tackle the very real financial and competitiveness challenges in front of us.

There is something about the symbolism of what is on the Senate floor today: the Agriculture bill, the farm bill, and a bill we took up and passed just a few weeks ago, the Transportation bill. I think that is at times lost. The average American sees in the news the fighting, the disagreement, the inability to come together, when, in fact, two fairly broad, strong important bills—the farm bill and the Transportation bill—were passed through committee by strong votes.

Senator BOXER of California, Senator INHOFE of Oklahoma, Senator STABENOW of Michigan, and Senator ROBERTS of Kansas—these are folks from both parties with significant differences in their views. But they managed to hammer out these bills, the Transportation and farm bills.

I want to thank Senators MORAN and WARNER and RUBIO for joining with me and the four of us being able to put this together and putting it on the floor of the Senate today.

To the good Senator from Missouri, a freshman in the Senate but a man of

great seasoning and experience in the House and in public service, we are grateful he has joined us as a cosponsor of this bill. I welcome him to speak for a few minutes about how he sees this contributing to positive progress for our recovery.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, I do think there are those things that we can agree on. I am glad to join the three of you and Senator RUBIO as one of the cosponsors of this bill that you all crafted and put together. Good energy policy, good tax policy, good regulatory policy are important to the future. But there are things we can do right now even outside of these bigger debates we need to have that are in this bill.

Who would have thought—Senator MORAN brought this poster to the floor—Great Britain would become a real competitor for us as a better place to do business? I have talked to more than one American business lately that has actually changed their worldwide headquarters and their corporate structure to Britain instead of the United States of America.

Then we have another—this poster is ''Entrepreneurs are Great Britain.'' I think entrepreneurs are still the United States of America. But this ad would suggest otherwise.

''Your next big idea. Canada.'' Canada is a great trading partner. They are a neighbor of ours. They are a friend of ours. But I do not think we would have thought a decade ago that these countries would be repositioning themselves, and that has happened. Also, I think we have not kept up like we should and we could have with things such as the Startup Act.

These countries are putting themselves in a position where they understand that private sector job growth is critical, that government can do some things to encourage that, but government does not create very many private sector jobs.

One of the reasons I decided to cosponsor the Startup Act 2.0, the second version of the Startup Act, is I think it does some of what we need to begin to do. Seventy-five percent of all U.S. engineering and technology firms in the last decade, the decade we have good numbers on, the one that ended just a few—that ended really—the numbers I have are 1995 to 2005—75 percent of the engineering and technology startups were started by people who were born in another country.

This bill simply creates a visa program that allows entrepreneurs who have good ideas and, frankly, have some money to go along with these good ideas, to come to the United States of America and start these jobs, to take advantage of our great workforce, to take advantage of the position we have to be able to send products all over the world, and to do that here.

This act also requires that we have a true cost-benefit analysis of rules and regulations. Last year the Federal Government—of the 66 rules which cost more than $100 million, only 18 of them had what one could describe as a cost-benefit analysis. There are lots of things that would be fine to do, but if the cost to the economy, the cost to jobs, and the cost to families is greater than the benefit, we should not do them.

So this bill says let's go ahead. Let's not let the cost of something overwhelm the benefit to the economy or become a negative impact on the economy. Long-term investment in this act with startups would have some exemption from the capital gains. People are risking a lot of money with a startup. This is saying: We want to raise the reward quotient of that risk so we encourage people to take the risk.

If someone is doing a startup, the odds are pretty high that money may not ever come back. So we need to do whatever we can to encourage that money be put on the table and those jobs be created. In 2009, 651 startups were created with university research involved as a component. This further opens the door for grant dollars that are already available, of Federal research and development funds to be even more open to a university partner as part of that private sector effort. So I think we have to be focused on the opportunity for families, the opportunity for individuals.

Who creates the jobs in America? Small business creates the jobs in America. Startups create the jobs in America. I am pleased to be here standing with Senator MORAN.

The next big idea is the biggest idea of the last couple hundred years, which is the United States of America intends to be a competitive leader in the world. What do we need to do as Members of the Senate to see that happen?

I am glad he and Senator WARNER, Senator COONS, and Senator RUBIO are leading this effort. I am glad to join in it and glad to be here on the floor today.

Mr. MORAN. I very much appreciate the remark of the Senator from Missouri and his cosponsorship of this legislation.

Let me highlight something he pointed out, which is in the short time that those of us on the floor today have been in the Senate, about 14 months, seven countries have adopted new laws to attract entrepreneurs. We have not.

Listen to this fact. A recent report from the World Bank shows that America has slipped in the rankings in terms of startup friendliness from first to thirteenth. There are provisions in here about visas for those who were foreign born. This is very much about American jobs. This is about the opportunity for someone to start a company here and hire Americans. If they happen to be someone who is foreign born but highly educated in science, technology, engineering and entrepreneurial with money and they want to invest in the U.S. economy and agree to put people to work, we are saying the doors of the United States of America are open for business for purposes of hiring U.S. citizens.

It is an important component. We do not want to lose this battle. As we see, these are ads from U.S. publications in which entrepreneurs are being lured to places outside the United States to start their companies. When I visited with an entrepreneur recently, they said: We could not get the person we needed to hire to work at our company because they could not get a visa. They were foreign born. So we hired them, but we put them in our plant in Canada. We put them in our facility in Dublin.

The fear is, the concern, there is more than just those number of jobs that we are out to create in the United States. It means people who are entrepreneurial are now in Dublin and in Toronto where they are making decisions not just about what they have to do today for a check, but when they have an idea about starting a business, they are outside of the United States and we lose the benefit of that job growth.

Let me also say something else about this legislation. An entrepreneurial engineer told me to get a plane to fly, there are two forces at work: thrust and drag. Too many times, in my view, Congress spends its efforts in creating new laws, more spending, it promotes the thrust. What we are doing is reducing the drag, increasing the chances that a new business will succeed.

Before our time expires, let me again return to the Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. I commend the Senator from Kansas for his comments. I am fond of Canada. My mom's family is from Canada. It is remarkable. Canada, over the last 3 years, has aggressively sought out worldwide talent.

I ask the Senator from Kansas whether he thinks it is good policy in what we do now—and, once again, I make very clear, this is about growing American jobs because we have more job openings in the advanced fields of science, technology, engineering, and math than there are American citizens applying for those jobs.

I ask the Senator from Kansas whether it would make sense—if we thought about this from a national security standpoint, would it make sense for us to take, for example, a Chinese lieutenant and send him to West Point and expose him to everything we have in terms of our national security ideas and then send him home?

I guess I ask the Senator whether he thought that would be good national security policy. Does it affect our current national immigration policy on an equally important front, in terms of job creation and economic activity?

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, the answer to that in Kansas is that it doesn't make any sense at all. There is no good judgment there. That is a point I would make in a more broad way. The provisions of Startup 2.0 are mostly about common sense, things that would make sense to the people of my State and to the people of the State

of Virginia who, if you looked at a problem said how can you solve it and grow the economy, they would say these things make common sense. That is what this legislation is about.

In my view, I guess 80 percent of our colleagues in the Senate at least would be supportive of the provisions of this legislation. I think the Senators on the floor this afternoon and others are out to prove that when there is broad support for commonsense ideas, we are still in a legislative body that can accomplish much and that, as the Senator from Virginia is fond of saying, we didn't get the memo that says we don't work during an election year. The American people expect us to make the necessary accomplishments to grow the economy, to put Americans to work, and to get our fiscal house in order.

Again, I ask if the Senator has any items to close with.

Mr. WARNER. No. I hope we can get a number of our colleagues to join us. This doesn't fall under a traditional Democratic versus Republican lexicon. This is more about future versus past. This is the future of global competition for talent, for ideas, and for capital. This is where job creation will come from. I look forward to working with the Senator and our other colleagues to make sure we get the support here and in the House and get this bill passed. I thank my friend, the Senator from Kansas.

Mr. MORAN. I thank the Senator, and I yield the floor.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, the Senate is about to turn its attention to one of the most significant legislative issues on our agenda this year, consideration of the 2012 farm bill. I would first like to thank the chairwoman, Senator STABENOW, and ranking member, Senator ROBERTS, for working together in a bipartisan way to advance a farm bill—the Agriculture Reform, Food, and Jobs Act of 2012—that can pass the Senate and become law this year. As a former chairman of the Agriculture Committee, and having worked closely with Senator LUGAR on many bipartisan farm bills, I know how difficult the task can be of forging a comprehensive bill that addresses many competing needs.

Some Senators may be scratching their heads trying to understand the urgency of passing this bill and why it matters to constituents in all of our States. The current farm bill expires at the end of September. We also have a serious problem with dairy policy that must be addressed before August 31; our dairy farmers will be left without a vital safety net if we do not act before then.

I recognize that not every Senator comes from farm country or hears from many farmers in their State like I do. But this is a bill that affects every State and touches the lives of every American, through the healthy food on our kitchen tables or in our children classrooms; the clean water that is a result of critical conservation programs; rural businesses on Main Street receiving assistance from USDA; new energy products resulting from research supported by this bill; and the benefits we all receive from our local farms and food systems that benefit from this bill. The farm bill also has a reach far beyond our borders with the international food aid that provides lifesaving support around the globe.

Make no mistake: Farming is part of our national security. Imagine what it would be like if we had to depend on imported food, the way we depend on imported oil. Keeping American agriculture strong and vibrant is at the core of this bill, but this bill does much more. It will also help keep our rural communities strong, and will support those Americans who are struggling to put food on the table.

Every Senator should know that this farm bill makes real reforms, and nets real savings. This bill makes long-overdue reforms to agriculture policy, and consolidates and streamlines USDA programs, all the while cutting $23 billion in mandatory spending. The bill before the Senate today proves that when Democrats and Republicans sit down and work in a bipartisan manner we can make progress and accomplish something real, and do so with fiscal restraint.

Is this the farm bill that I, or any individual Senator, would have drafted? Of course not. There are conservation and energy programs that farmers in Vermont would like to see strengthened, many nutrition programs that are vital in keeping food on the tables of millions of Americans, and a wide array of rural development programs that do not have mandatory funding in this bill. But I recognize that this bill is a compromise, and I will continue to work with the chairwoman and ranking member to make this the best farm bill possible.

I am especially pleased that the farm bill includes a major dairy reform proposal that I know will help both our producers and consumers move away from the dangerous roller coaster of price swings. For our farmers in Vermont, these dairy reforms are the key to our consideration of a farm bill. I regularly hear from Vermont farmers about this. We simply must free our dairy farmers from this destructive cycle of volatile price changes.

The current Federal safety net provides no protection for dairy farmers from this roller coaster of price volatility. The 2012 farm bill scraps outdated price supports and the Milk Income Loss Contract Program. It establishes a new risk management plan that protects farm income when margins shrink dangerously, and a stabilization program to allow farmers to take a proactive role in easing the instability in our dairy markets.

And it accomplishes this at a lower cost than the program that it replaces and contributes to the savings in this bill. It is a voluntary program and can be tailored by the farmer to fit the farmer's individual needs.

These reforms have the support of dairy farmers across the country, and they have been developed to move us away from the regional dairy fights and the constant policy conflicts between small and large farms. The 2009 dairy crisis brought plummeting milk prices and sky-high feed costs that combined to force far too many U.S. dairy farmers out of business, and saddled thousands more with losses and debt from which it will take years to recover. After those dark days in 2009, dairy farmers from across the country came together for a solution that will help them and consumers move away from these volatile price swings.

Dairy is Vermont's single most important agricultural commodity, and dairy products account for upward of 83 percent—or 90 percent, depending on market prices—of Vermont's agricultural products sales. If any Senator has questions about the dairy reforms in this bill, I would welcome discussing what this farm bill does for dairy farms. There has been a lot of misinformation about these provisions, and I welcome the opportunity to eliminate any confusion.

I have tried to be supportive of programs which do not directly benefit Vermont, and I intend to vote to help farmers in other regions—just as I hope other Senators will join me in supporting dairy farmers in Vermont, and throughout the Nation. Just like corn, wheat, soybean, sugar, cotton and the many other types of farmers in our country, our dairy farmers work extremely hard for a living. Dairy farmers deserve a voice in the crafting of this farm bill, and I have been proud to ensure that their voices are being heard in shaping this bill.

While listening to our farmers in writing this bill, we also need to hear the voices of the millions of Americans struggling every day to put food on the table. The nutrition assistance and emergency feeding programs in this farm bill are needed now more than ever. Because of the greater need for services, these programs currently do not satisfy demand. The numbers are staggering even for a State the size of Vermont. In 2010 alone, an average of more than 87,000 Vermonters received Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, SNAP, benefits each month. On top of that, nearly 86,000 Vermonters accessed food from our State's food pantries and soup kitchens. Sadly, those numbers have continued to rise in Vermont and across the country, and they reflect how critically important the nutrition title of the farm bill is to so many States.

Ensuring these programs can continue to serve Vermonters and all Americans in need is a key part of enacting a strong farm bill for this country.

Calls to reduce food assistance as a way to solve our Nation's deficit problems are misguided and shortsighted.

Axing tens of billions of dollars from the SNAP program would eliminate food assistance for millions of Americans and deny hundreds of thousands of American children school meals. I am disappointed that this bill includes $4.5 billion in cuts to the SNAP program, cuts that will predominately come from Northeastern States.

Despite these cuts, the farm bill does make significant improvements to nutrition programs, including important funding for emergency food assistance and initiatives to encourage better health through improved access to local foods, and better nutrition for our children and seniors. I am pleased that this bill also makes great advances to support self-sufficiency and food security in our low-income communities, helping to correct the ''food deserts'' that we experience in both urban and rural communities. At a time when more Americans than ever before are at risk of going hungry, and food pantry shelves across the country are bare, I am committed to working with the chairwoman and ranking member to find ways to make these nutrition programs even stronger in order to help the people who need it most.

I hope that the full Senate can now come together in a bipartisan way, just as we did in the Agriculture Committee, to pass this bill, which will have a tremendous impact on our farms, our rural communities, our kitchen tables, and our economic recovery.

This farm bill represents an investment in American agriculture that will benefit our producers, our rural communities, our Main Street businesses, taxpayers, and consumers, and particularly the neediest among us. It deserves the Senate's full and focused attention, and it deserves the support of every Senator.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF JEFFREY J. HELMICK TO BE U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to consider the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Jeffrey J. Helmick, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will be 90 minutes of debate equally divided in the usual form.

The Senator from Ohio is recognized.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. President, the U.S. Constitution entrusts the Senate with one of our democracies' most important obligations—to ''advise and consent'' to judicial nominations.

Yet, today, almost half of all Americans, 133 million citizens of our great country, live in districts or circuits that have a vacancy due to the inaction of Members of this body.

We have an opportunity today to take seriously our responsibility to do something about that and take one significant step by voting to confirm Jeffrey Helmick to serve as a U.S. district court judge. President Obama nominated Mr. Helmick to serve on the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio on May 11, 2011.

Based on a bipartisan commission's recommendation and based on my own judgment, I had no hesitation whatsoever in suggesting Jeffrey Helmick's name to President Obama. Let me tell you about our selection process.

In 2009, then-Senator George Voinovich, a Republican, and I assembled a bipartisan commission of distinguished Ohioans in the legal community. The commission included a former attorney general of Ohio, law school deans, and other accomplished Ohioans. In order to avoid any conflicts of interest, leading legal professionals from the Southern District of the State reviewed nominations—that Northern District includes Toledo, Akron, Canton, Youngstown; the Southern District includes Columbus, Dayton, Cincinnati, and other communities. Legal professionals from the Southern District reviewed nominations for vacant judgeships in the Northern District and vice versa.

The members of the bipartisan commission for the Northern and Southern District were about exactly half Republican and half Democratic. They spent a substantial amount of time, as they have on previous judges in the process, screening, interviewing, and discussing the candidates.

At the end of this process, they selected Jeffrey Helmick, a native of Toledo, to be the nominee for this judicial vacancy. They gave me three highly qualified names, suggesting that I interview them, which is part of the process. I then went there to advise and consent, if you will, after speaking with all members of the committee, personally or on the phone. I chose to send Jeffrey Helmick's name in to be the nominee.

Jeff Helmick continues to live in Toledo with his wife Karen, an attorney also, and their son Joel. Each of the members of this commission I spoke with was impressed by Jeff's thoughtfulness, his temperament, and his extraordinary reputation among his peers, even among opposing counsel.

The chair of the commission, Nancy Rogers, a former dean of the Ohio State University Moritz College of Law and former attorney general of Ohio, said of Jeff:

> He has shown a commitment to integrity and to excellence, and a dedication to his community and to the administration of justice.

Jeff Helmick not only has the support of this bipartisan selection committee, selected by Senator Voinovich, a Republican, and by me, he has the support of the larger legal community, including all the Federal judges he will serve beside at the Federal courthouse in Toledo.

U.S. District Court Judge Jack Zouhary, nominated by President George W. Bush, has been a judge in the Northern District since 2006. He is currently the sole active judge of the court in the Western Division of the Northern District in Ohio, and he will be working most closely with this new judge—we hope.

Judge Zouhary wrote to the committee recommending Jeff Helmick's expedient confirmation. For some time, Judge Zouhary has asked when the Senate would confirm Jeff. He wrote:

> You will find no better candidate than Jeff Helmick. He possesses the intelligence, the passion for our justice system, and the necessary temperament and people skills to be an outstanding district court judge.

If that weren't enough, he also said:

> In the private practice, lawyers are able to choose their partners. Federal judges don't have such a luxury; we must work with whomever you confirm. I would be thrilled to have Jeff as my ''partner'' on the bench.

Ohio State Senator Mark Wagner, a Republican, represents much of that area in the State legislature in the Western Division of the court. He is chair of the Ohio State Senate judiciary committee and a long-time member of the Toledo Bar Association. He recommends Jeff for this position. State Senator Wagner, a Republican, said:

> [Jeff] is someone who has stood for principles, litigated honestly, and ably defended our constitutional system of government. Helmick is held in very high esteem by the local bar, and his support crosses partisan lines.

The bipartisan selection committee, which Senator Voinovich and I convened, did its job well, and today we must do our job.

Jeff Helmick understands the needs and challenges facing the Northern District of Ohio and our legal system generally. Rising costs of litigation and increasing size and scope of court dockets pose numerous challenges to any system of justice.

But it is because of his experience—and respect from fellow lawyers and judges he has worked with—that he is well prepared to meet these challenges.

He is a courtroom innovator, having worked with the courts to integrate cutting-edge technologies into courtrooms to ensure that the administration of justice is efficient, equal, fair, and open for all who seek it. I am not a lawyer, but that is what lawyering and the judiciary should be all about.

Outside the courtroom, Jeff is equally dedicated to serving the public. A supporter of pro bono services, he volunteers at the Maumee Valley Criminal Defense Lawyers Association to improve the professionalism of lawyers and access to justice for the underserved.

He is past president of the Pemberville Boys Ranch, which helps

troubled young men in need of a home or a safer environment to reach their potential. He will make an outstanding judge on the U.S. District Court for Ohio's Northern District. I agree with Judge Zouhary that ''we will find no better candidate than Jeff.''

That is why I urge my colleagues on both sides to confirm Jeff Helmick today.

The snail pace with which we have been moving on judicial nominations threatens to delay justice for far too many Americans. Right now, 15 judicial nominations reported favorably by the Judiciary Committee still await a Senate confirmation vote.

Today, nearly 1 in 10 Federal judgeships is vacant. Earlier this year, the nonpartisan Administrative Office of the Courts, the nonpartisan agency charged with running our Federal courts, declared a judicial emergency for Ohio's Northern District.

We need to act right now, today, to confirm Jeffrey Helmick. The people of Ohio have waited for too long. The result is that litigants in the Northern District of Ohio are experiencing delays in having their cases resolved. In too many cases, justice deferred can mean justice denied.

In June of 2010, U.S. District Judge James Carr took senior status, creating a vacancy in Toledo's Federal courthouse. That is almost precisely 2 years ago.

For these 2 years, Jeffrey Helmick—I spoke with him in August, if my memory is correct, saying I wanted to send his name to the President, and I told him the delay may be several months, maybe even 1 year, never dreaming that partisanship in this body would mean a 2-year delay. For almost 2 years, Jeffrey Helmick, who enjoys the enthusiastic support of Federal judges appointed by Presidents of both parties in Toledo, enjoys the bipartisan support of me and of Senator PORTMAN, the Republican from Ohio.

For these 2 years, he has had his nomination placed on hold, and this is at enormous political cost. Justice delayed is justice denied.

Jeff Helmick is not a partner at some big law firm where others can help him or take over his cases. Instead, he has had a small firm where the clients are his own. As a result, his practice and his clients have been placed in limbo, not knowing when he will be confirmed.

Some 2 years later, we can finally ensure that the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio finally has its longstanding vacancy filled.

Today, we can confirm Judge Helmick as a judge, a brilliant, distinguished lawyer who was nominated by a bipartisan commission whose members were appointed by former Senator George Voinovich and me.

We must confirm Jeff Helmick. He has the support of his colleagues and from Republicans and Democrats in my home State.

One more brief story. I came to the Senate, as the Presiding Officer did, in January of 2007. Soon after I came here, I was presented with the nomination of a potential Federal judge, now Judge Lioi, from Canton, OH. Judge Lioi, waiting and hoping to be a judge—I believe she was a common pleas judge. She had been selected by two republican Senators, Senator DeWine, my predecessor, and Senator Voinovich, neither of whom is in the Senate today. She had been selected and vetted by two Republican Senators in a process not nearly as bipartisan—or I don't think as vigorous or as rigorous as ours—nominated by President Bush and sent to the Senate. As a Senator from Ohio, I had the opportunity, if I had chosen, to block the nomination of Ms. Lioi.

So the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, controlled by the Democrats—my party—in considering a nominee by the Republican President, sent to the Senate by two Republican Senators, presented this candidate's name to me. I sat down with Ms. Lioi for perhaps an hour, interviewed her, talked to others who were familiar with her and her background, and found her to be a woman of integrity and found her to be qualified. I immediately sent her name to Senator LEAHY, the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, and said: She has my support. I don't know the precise date, but within only a few weeks of my coming to the Senate and meeting future Judge Lioi, her nomination came to the floor of the Senate and she was confirmed. Contrast that with what has happened today with dozens of judges.

I plead with my colleagues to confirm this qualified, smart man with great integrity from Toledo, OH, who has been vetted by both parties and who has waited long enough. More importantly, the people of the Northern District, where a judicial emergency has been declared, deserve this nomination to be confirmed so that he can begin to serve the people of the Northern District and the western area of the Northern District of the Federal District Court in Ohio.

Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. KLOBUCHAR). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the time during the quorum call be equally divided.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

D-DAY INVASION

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Madam President, 68 years ago today, June 6, 1944, some 150,000 Americans, including many Ohioans, began what seemed like an impossible journey. Supreme Allied Commander Dwight Eisenhower called it ''the Great Crusade.''

At 6:30 on a fog-filled morning on June 6, 1944, our servicemembers made it to France. They waded onshore—past mines landed from the air, past sharpened stakes—and crawled toward gunfire. General Eisenhower told our sailors, soldiers, and airmen that the ''eyes of the world . . . the hopes and prayers of liberty-loving people everywhere'' were with them. A mere 50-mile stretch of the French coast—with places named Utah and Omaha, Gold and Juno Pointe du Hoc and Sword—was all that stood between humanity's freedom and Hitler's aggression. But our warriors—men such as Ohio's own PFC Frank E. Harget—did not give up.

Last May I had the honor of presenting Mr. Harget, of Akron, OH, the service medals he earned during World War II, some 67 or 68 years later.

Frank Harget joined the Army in September 1943 and was immediately sent to the European theatre. He was given the unenviable task of scout and was dispatched to the front lines to perform reconnaissance. His job was to gather intelligence on enemy forces. Many times, Mr. Harget told me, he was so close to the German front, he could see German soldiers eating their lunch. He served in five battle campaigns, from D-day to the Battle of the Bulge, and in Central Europe.

Mr. Harget was discharged in November 1945 after the war was over without receiving the Bronze Star he had earned. My office helped him finally receive that Bronze Star and seven other medals and awards. He helped our Nation and the world—think about living with this for the next 60 years of your life—overthrow an evil regime.

Today we recognize men like Frank Harget who overcame great odds thousands and thousands of miles from home.

D-day was the largest amphibious invasion in recorded world history, with 73,000 American troops, 61,000 British troops, 21,000 Canadian troops, and 195,000 allied naval and Merchant Marine personnel, with more than 5,000 ships involved.

After 24 hours, only 2,500 troops of the 101st and 2,000 of the 82nd Airborne Divisions were under the control of their parent units.

At Gold Beach, 25,000 men landed and some 400 were killed. At Omaha Beach, the U.S. 1st Infantry and the 29th Infantry Divisions found their sections to be the most heavily fortified of all the invasion beaches. The official record stated:

. . . within 10 minutes of the ramps being lowered, the leading company had become inert, leaderless and almost incapable of action. Every officer and sergeant had been killed or wounded. It had become a struggle for survival and rescue.

The 2nd Ranger Battalion had to scale 100-foot cliffs under the cover of night and then attack and destroy the German coastal defense guns at the massive concrete cliff-top gun emplacement at Pointe du Hoc. But despite these obstacles, young men such as Frank Harget from Akron, OH, who participated in this invasion fought and persevered and began the liberation of Europe with little else besides their training, their comrades, their courage, and their refusal to quit.

These men proved that the forces of freedom are strong. I would suggest that the forces of freedom are still strong today.

Members of the allied forces showed us the strength of humanity over tyranny. Franklin Roosevelt knew our D-day warriors would not ''rest until the victory is won.'' And we did win.

Today we salute the Frank Hargets of the world. There are still thousands of World War II veterans left. Most have died. Most who fought and survived D-day are no longer with us. Some still are. We salute them, and we salute those who went before them for running toward danger in order to secure peace.

Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, today the Senate turns to another judicial nomination, Jeffrey J. Helmick to be U.S. district judge for the Northern District of Ohio. I want to tell the Senate why I oppose the nomination and urge all Senators to do likewise.

We continue to confirm the President's nominees at a very brisk pace. Just 2 days ago we confirmed the 147th judicial nominee of this President to district and circuit courts. Let me put that in perspective for my colleagues. We also have confirmed two Supreme Court nominees during President Obama's term. The last time the Senate confirmed two Supreme Court nominees was during President Bush's second term. And during President Bush's entire second term, the Senate confirmed a total of only 120 district and circuit court nominees. We have already confirmed 27 more nominees for President Obama than we did for President Bush in a similar period of time. And this is in a Presidential election year—typically a time when judicial confirmations are limited to consensus nominees. Yet here we are considering a controversial nomination. Perhaps the Senate could better spend this time working on critical issues facing our Nation, such as our massive debt, intolerable deficit spending, an anemic economy, unacceptable unemployment levels, high energy costs, and national security issues.

The advice and consent function of the Senate is a critical step in the appointment of Federal judges. In Federalist Paper No. 76, Alexander Hamilton wrote this:

To what purpose then require the co-operation of the Senate? I answer, that the necessity of their concurrence would have a powerful, though, in general, a silent operation. It would be an excellent check upon a spirit of favoritism in the President, and would tend greatly to prevent the appointment of unfit characters from State prejudice, from family connection, from personal attention, or from a view to popularity.

In other words, the Senate has a role in preventing the appointment of judges who are unfit characters or political favors of any President or of those who are not qualified to serve as Federal judges.

What did our current President, then-Senator Obama say about this duty? He stated:

There are some who believe that the President, having won the election, should have the complete authority to appoint his nominee, and the Senate should only examine whether or not the Justice is intellectually capable and an all-around nice guy, that once you get beyond intellect and personal character, there should be no further question whether the judge should be confirmed. I disagree with this view. I believe firmly that the Constitution calls for the Senate to advise and consent. I believe that it calls for meaningful advice and consent that includes an examination of a judge's philosophy, ideology, and record.

Our inquiry of the qualifications of nominees must be more than intelligence, a pleasant personality, or a prestigious clerkship. At the beginning of this Congress, I articulated my standards for judicial nominees. I want to ensure that the men and women who are appointed to a lifetime position in the Federal judiciary are qualified to serve. Factors I consider important include intellectual ability, respect for the Constitution, fidelity to the law, personal integrity, appropriate judicial temperament, and professional competence. In applying these standards, I have demonstrated good faith in ensuring fair consideration of judicial nominees. I have worked with the majority to confirm consensus nominees. However, as I have stated more than once, the Senate must not place quantity confirmed over quality confirmed. These lifetime appointments are too important to the Federal judiciary and the American people to simply rubberstamp them. This is not a pro forma process that we are engaged in.

Last year I became increasingly concerned about some of the judicial nominees being sent to the Senate by this administration. In a few individual cases, it was very troublesome. Mr. Helmick's nomination fell into that category. When I apply the standard I mentioned and the standards that then-Senator Obama laid out or the standards expressed in the Federalist Papers, I reach the same conclusion. In my judgment, Mr. Helmick fails to meet the required standard and should not be confirmed.

The Senate process for reviewing the professional qualifications, temperament, background, and character is a long and thorough process. In Mr. Helmick's case, there were some issues that needed to be fully examined. At the conclusion of that lengthy process, a substantial majority of my political party—the Republicans—on the Judiciary Committee determined that this nomination should not be reported to the Senate. Nevertheless, we now have the nomination before us. Even so, there are reasons sufficient to oppose the nomination.

In 2000 Mr. Helmick faced disciplinary action for failing to comply with a court-issued subpoena. He refused to turn over an incriminating letter signed by a former client in the same case, which contained threats to a State witness. A grand jury issued a subpoena to obtain the letter, but Mr. Helmick refused to appear before the grand jury. The trial court found him in contempt of court. Mr. Helmick appealed, which caused the contempt sanction to be stayed. A three-judge panel of the Ohio Court of Appeals unanimously held that he was required to turn over the letter.

Mr. Helmick then appealed to the Ohio Supreme Court, which held that he must comply with the subpoena, although they lifted the contempt citation.

The Supreme Court of Ohio stated that Mr. Helmick's concerns regarding the attorney-client privilege were not enough to ''override the public interest in maintaining public safety and promoting the administration of justice.''

I do not think we should confirm to the bench individuals who are willing to put private interests over the public interest in the administration of justice.

I am concerned about Mr. Helmick's view on national security, as evidenced by his handling of terrorism cases as a defense attorney. In looking at the arguments he has made in court representing terrorists, I am concerned he may believe terrorism cases are less serious than other criminal cases, and that in turn causes some concern about how he might handle terrorism cases that may come before him, if confirmed.

For example, he represented the terrorist Wassim Mazloum. This terrorist was convicted by a jury of a conspiracy to kill U.S. troops overseas and of providing material support for terrorists. Those are very serious crimes. According to the sentencing guidelines, Mazloum deserved life in prison. Mr. Helmick argued ''that perhaps the life sentence that was called for in the advisory guidelines was too severe or too harsh.'' In the end, this terrorist did

not receive a life sentence, rather he received only an 8-year sentence—hardly a punishment or deterrent.

For these reasons and others I will vote no on this nomination and urge my colleagues to do likewise.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, I understand I have time remaining?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority has 17 minutes 10 seconds.

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, let me refer to the nomination that is before us. I know the distinguished senior Senator from Ohio will speak after me. Today the Senate will vote on the nomination of Jeffrey Helmick to fill a judicial emergency vacancy on the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio. I commend Senator BROWN and Senator PORTMAN for their diligence in securing a vote on this nomination. Mr. Helmick has the strong bipartisan support of his home State Senators. His nomination was voted out of the Judiciary Committee nearly 3 months ago by a bipartisan majority. I thank the majority leader for his work in bringing this nomination up for a final vote.

This is one of the nominations that I noted on Monday had been skipped, when we confirmed another district court judge. I look forward to working with Senator KYL and Senator MCCAIN to secure a vote on the nomination of Justice Andrew Hurwitz to fill a judicial emergency vacancy on the Ninth Circuit, working with Senator MENENDEZ and Senator LAUTENBERG to secure a vote on the nomination of Judge Patty Shwartz to fill a vacancy on the Third Circuit, and with Senator GRAHAM and Senator DEMINT to set a vote on the nomination of Mary Lewis to fill a vacancy in South Carolina.

I spoke on Monday about a recent Congressional Research Service report on judicial nominations. The report demonstrates what I have been saying for some time, that the time that nominations are being delayed from a final Senate vote is extraordinary. Pages 17 through 19 and figure 4 demonstrate the unprecedented obstruction. The median number of days President Obama's circuit court nominees have been delayed, from Committee report to a vote, has skyrocketed to 132 days, ''roughly 7.3 times greater than the median number of 18 days for the 61 confirmed circuit nominees of his immediate predecessor, President G.W. Bush.''

I ask unanimous consent that the summary of the CRS report be printed in the RECORD at the conclusion of my remarks.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(See exhibit 1.)

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, delay is being demonstrated again with respect to the nominations of Justice Hurwitz to the Ninth Circuit, Judge Shwartz to the Third Circuit, Richard Taranto to the Federal Circuit, and William Kayatta to the First Circuit. These are not controversial or ideologically driven nominees. Justice Hurwitz is strongly supported by Senator KYL and Senator MCCAIN; William Kayatta is strongly supported by Senator SNOWE and Senator COLLINS. Another point made by the Congressional Research Service is that fewer circuit court nominees have been confirmed than were confirmed during the first terms of any of President Obama's four predecessors President Reagan, President Geroge H.W. Bush, President Clinton, or President George W. Bush.

Similarly, district court nominees such as Mr. Helmick are being unnecessarily delayed. The median time from Committee vote to Senate vote has gone from 21 days during the George W. Bush presidency to 90 days for President Obama's district nominees. I wish Mr. Helmick had been confirmed back in March when he was first ready for a final Senate vote. He has been stalled for nearly 3 months. The Congressional Research Service report also notes that in contrast to President George W. Bush's district court nominees, who were confirmed at a rate of almost 95 percent, President Obama's district court nominees are being confirmed at a rate below 80 percent. And it concludes that ''the average time in the current Congress during which circuit and district court nominations have been pending on the Senate Executive Calendar before being confirmed has reached historically high levels.''

Once the Senate is allowed to vote on this nomination, we need agreement to vote on the 14 other judicial nominees stalled on the Executive Calendar. There are five more judicial nominees who had their hearing back on May 9 and should be voted on by the Judiciary Committee tomorrow. They too will need Senate votes for confirmation. Another point made by the Congressional Research Service in its recent report is that fewer of President Obama's district court nominees have been confirmed than were confirmed during the first terms of his four predecessors and vacancies remain higher now than when President Obama took office. Not a single one of the last three presidents has had judicial vacancies increase after their first term. In order to avoid this, the Senate needs to act on these nominees before adjourning this year.

Nor would that be unusual. As the Congressional Research Service Report makes clear, in 5 of the last 8 presidential election years, the Senate has confirmed at least 22 circuit and district court nominees after May 31. The notable exceptions were during the last years of President Clinton's two terms in 1996 and 2000 when they would not allow confirmations to continue. Otherwise, it has been the rule rather than the exception. So, for example, the Senate confirmed 32 in 1980; 28 in 1984; 31 in 1992; 28 in 2004 at the end of President George W. Bush's first term; and 22 after May 31 in 2008 at the end of President Bush's second term.

The Congressional Research Service Report about the treatment of President Obama's judicial nominations confirms what we already know that Senate Republicans have held President Obama's nominees to a different and unfair standard and engaged in unnecessary and harmful delays of consensus nominees.

James Fallows, a well-respected journalist at The Atlantic authored an internet article dated June 5, 2012 based on his reading of the CRS Report, which is entitled ''American Dysfunction Watch: State of the Judiciary.'' In this article, Mr. Fallows notes that Mr. Obama ''is the only president in the past few decades . . . to have more seats vacant as he began his reelection year than he inherited when he took office.'' Moreover, Mr. Fallows further highlights the following: ''During the Obama presidency thus far, fewer circuit court nominees have been confirmed by the Senate than were confirmed during the first terms of any of the four preceding Presidents (Reagan through G.W. Bush). Likewise, fewer Obama district court nominees have been confirmed by the Senate than were confirmed during the first terms of the four preceding presidents.''

The ranking member on the Judiciary Committee has noted that we are doing better than when his predecessor was the ranking republican on the Committee, and that is accurate. But we have not made up for the historically low confirmations allowed during that period or for the fact that in each of the last 2 years the Senate has adjourned without acting on 19 judicial nominations ready for final action each year.

Some seek to compare this first term of President Obama to President Bush's second 4-year term, but as the Congressional Research Service Report demonstrates, the proper comparison is to President Bush's first term. Nonetheless, I would remind the Senate that during President Bush's second term, the Republican majority managed the confirmation of 52 circuit and district court nominees while the Senate Democratic majority worked to confirm 68 judicial nominees during the last 2 years of that presidency and reduced vacancies to 34 while holding hearings and votes on judicial nominees well into September 2008.

The simple fact is that the Senate is still lagging far behind what we accomplished during the first term of President George W. Bush. During President Bush's first term we reduced the number of judicial vacancies by almost 75

percent. When I became chairman in the summer of 2001, there were 110 vacancies. As chairman, I worked with the administration and Senators from both sides of the aisle to confirm 100 judicial nominees of a conservative Republican President in 17 months.

Senate Democrats continued when in the minority to work with Senate Republicans to confirm President Bush's consensus judicial nominations well into 2004, a presidential election year. At the end of that presidential term, the Senate had acted to confirm 205 circuit and district court nominees. In May 2004, we reduced judicial vacancies to below 50 on the way to 28 that August. Despite 2004 being an election year, we were able to reduce vacancies to the lowest level in the last 20 years. At a time of great turmoil and political confrontation, despite the attack on 9/11, the anthrax letters shutting down Senate offices, and the ideologically-driven judicial selections of President Bush, we worked together to promptly confirm consensus nominees and to significantly reduce judicial vacancies.

By comparison, the vacancy rate remains nearly twice what it was at this point in the first term of President Bush. While vacancies were reduced to 43 by June of President Bush's fourth year, in June of President Obama's fourth year they remain in the mid-70s. They remained near or above 80 for nearly 3 years. We are 30 confirmations behind the pace we set in 2001 through 2004. Of course, we could move forward if the Senate were allowed to vote without further delay on the 15 judicial nominees ready for final action. The Senate could reduce vacancies below 60 and make progress.

The Judiciary Committee should be voting on more judicial nominees this Thursday and we held a hearing for another three judicial nominees this afternoon. With cooperation from Senate Republicans, the Senate could make real progress and match what we have accomplished in prior years.

After today, we still have much more work to do to help resolve the judicial vacancy crisis that has persisted for more than 3 years. Our courts need qualified Federal judges, not vacancies, if they are to reduce the excessive wait times that burden litigants seeking their day in court. It is unacceptable for hardworking Americans who turn to their courts for justice to suffer unnecessary delays. When an injured plaintiff sues to help cover the cost of his or her medical expenses, that plaintiff should not have to wait 3 years before a judge hears the case. When two small business owners disagree over a contract, they should not have to wait years for a court to resolve their dispute.

We need to work to reduce the vacancies that are burdening the Federal judiciary and the millions of Americans who rely on our Federal courts to seek justice. Let us work in a bipartisan fashion to confirm these qualified judicial nominees so that we can address the judicial vacancy crisis and so they can serve the American people.

Jeffrey Helmick was rated well qualified by a substantial majority of the ABA's Standing Committee on the Federal Judiciary. In his 22-year legal career as a litigator in private practice, Mr. Helmick has tried approximately 40 cases to verdict or judgment. Currently a principal at his law firm, Mr. Helmick has the strong support of his home state Senators, Democratic Senator SHERROD BROWN and Republican Senator ROB PORTMAN.

I join Senator BROWN and Senator PORTMAN in supporting the confirmation of Jeffrey Helmick.

EXHIBIT 1

[From the Congressional Research Service, June 1, 2012]

NOMINATIONS TO U.S. CIRCUIT AND DISTRICT COURTS BY PRESIDENT OBAMA DURING THE 111TH AND 112TH CONGRESSES

(By Barry J. McMillion, Analyst on the Federal Judiciary)

SUMMARY

Recent Senate debates in the 112th Congress over judicial nominations have focused on issues such as the relative degree of success of President Barack Obama's nominees in gaining Senate confirmation (compared with other recent Presidents) as well as the effect of delayed judicial appointments on judicial vacancy levels. The following report addresses these issues, and others, by providing a statistical overview of President Obama's nominees to U.S. circuit court of appeals and U.S. district court judgeships, current through May 31, 2012. Findings include the following:

President Obama thus far in his presidency has nominated 41 persons to U.S. circuit court judgeships, 29 of whom have been confirmed.

Of the 150 persons nominated thus far by President Obama to U.S. district court judgeships, 117 have been confirmed.

The greatest number of President Obama's circuit court nominees have been confirmed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit (6) and the Second Circuit (5).

The greatest number of President Obama's district court nominees have been confirmed to judgeships located within the Ninth Circuit (22) and the fewest to district court judgeships within the First Circuit (3).

District court vacancies have grown in number over the course of the Obama presidency, from 42 judgeships vacant when President Obama took office to 59 at present. There currently are 13 circuit court vacancies (the same number as when President Obama took office).

During the Obama presidency thus far, fewer circuit court nominees have been confirmed by the Senate than were confirmed during the first terms of any of the four preceding Presidents (Reagan through G.W. Bush).

Likewise, fewer Obama district court nominees have been confirmed by the Senate than were confirmed during the first terms of the four preceding Presidents.

President Obama is the only one of the three most recent Presidents to have begun his fourth year in office with more circuit and district court judgeships vacant than when he took office.

During the Obama presidency, the average waiting time from nomination to committee hearing has been, thus far, 69.6 days for circuit court nominees and 83.2 days for district court nominees.

During the Obama presidency, the average waiting time from Senate Judiciary Committee report to Senate confirmation has been 139.7 days for circuit court nominees and 105.1 days for district court nominees.

Various factors might help explain differences or variation found in judicial appointment statistics across recent presidencies.

A President's opportunities to make circuit and district court appointments will be affected by the number of judicial vacancies existing at the time he takes office, as well as by how many judges depart office, and how many new judgeships are statutorily created, during his presidency.

The time taken by a President to select nominees for judicial vacancies may be affected by whether the selection of lower court nominees must compete with filling a Supreme Court vacancy, whether the selection process itself is a priority for a President, the level of consultation between a President and a nominee's home state Senators, and the time taken by home state Senators to make judicial candidate recommendations.

Institutional and political factors which may influence the processing of judicial nominations by the Senate include ideological differences between the President and the opposition party in the Senate, the extent of interest group opposition to certain nominees, the presence or absence of ''divided government,'' the point in a congressional session when nominations arrive in the Senate, whether nominees have the support of both of their home state Senators, and whether the blue slip policy of the Senate Judiciary Committee requires the support of both home state Senators before a nominee can receive a hearing or committee vote.

Mr. LEAHY. I yield the remainder of my time to the distinguished senior Senator from Ohio.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WHITEHOUSE). The distinguished Senator from Ohio.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. President, I appreciate the kind words and the insight from Chairman LEAHY and his leadership on trying to speed up the confirmation process on a whole host of judges.

I have a lot of respect for my colleague from Iowa, but I take exception with a couple of things he said. No. 1, he compared the number of nominations during the second Bush 4 years with the first 4 Obama years and said that the Senate was more cooperative now than it was then. Clearly it was apples and oranges. We know—almost any schoolkid in America now knows—the dysfunction of the Senate in terms of the minority party blocking all kinds of things, from medium- to low-level Federal appointments to the executive branch, to district court judges, to legislation. So I think Senator LEAHY has addressed that very aptly, and I don't need to go into detail there.

Senator LEAHY also has spoken to the two public criticisms—shallow and vacuous that they are—of Jeffrey Helmick. The one on him representing terrorists, I am not a lawyer, but I know that when a Federal judge asks a lawyer to represent somebody, the lawyer does it, as Jeffrey Helmick did. And, as Senator LEAHY said on the ethics issue, the Ohio Court of Appeals said that Mr. Helmick should be commended. The supreme court agreed

unanimously that the letter they talked about was a client secret and that Mr. Helmick acted in good faith. So those criticisms don't really stand the test of time in that way.

Again, I thank Senator LEAHY and the Judiciary Committee for moving as quickly as they could move. This is a difficult time. At times, there is Senate dysfunction and the minority party blocks or slow-walks some of these nominees.

Jeffrey Helmick has been supported by a bipartisan, rigorous committee of 17 who come from the Southern District of Ohio and who help to choose nominees for the Northern District of Ohio. I spoke personally with all but 1 or 2 of those 17 Republicans and Democrats around whom consensus was formed in support of Jeffrey Helmick. They think he is an outstanding lawyer, jurist, and potential Federal judge. The other Federal judges in the western region of the Northern District Court in Ohio, which is out of Toledo—including a judge nominated by President George W. Bush—enthusiastically support Jeffrey Helmick.

Senator GRASSLEY said he was a controversial nominee. He is only controversial in the Senate Judiciary Committee and among some of my colleagues. He is not controversial in Ohio, where they know Jeffrey Helmick the best. He is not controversial in the Toledo bar. He is not controversial among people who know Jeffrey Helmick and who have watched him perform his service to his community and watched him professionally and the way that he does his job as a lawyer in Toledo, OH, in Federal court or in State court. So the fact is, he is not a controversial nominee. He is only a controversial nominee in the U.S. Senate and in some places in Washington, DC. But we know he is qualified, and we know he is ready to serve.

I ask my colleagues to vote today to confirm Jeffrey Helmick to the U.S. Federal court in the Northern District of Ohio.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, Jeffrey Helmick was rated "well qualified" by a substantial majority of the ABA's Standing Committee on the Federal Judiciary. In his 22-year legal career as a litigator in private practice, Mr. Helmick has tried approximately 40 cases to verdict or judgment. Currently a principal at his law firm, Mr. Helmick has the strong support of his home State Senators who have spoken in support of this nomination. He was also voted out of the Judiciary Committee nearly 3 months ago by a bipartisan majority. Given his distinguished record in private practice and his bipartisan support, I trust that he will be confirmed.

Some have chosen to criticize Mr. Helmick for his role as court-appointed defense counsel. Those who criticize him may not understand how our justice system works. Our legal system is an adversary system, predicated upon legal advocacy for both sides. That is what Mr. Helmick did at the request of the court.

No nominee should be disqualified for representing clients zealously. At his confirmation hearing to become the Chief Justice of the United States, John Roberts made the point:

"[I]t's a tradition of the American Bar that goes back before the founding of the country that lawyers are not identified with the positions of their clients. The most famous example probably was John Adams, who represented the British soldiers charged in the Boston Massacre. He did that for a reason, because he wanted to show that the Revolution in which he was involved was not about overturning the rule of law, it was about vindicating the rule of law.

Our Founders thought that they were not being given their rights under the British system to which they were entitled, and by representing the British soldiers, he helped show that what they were about was defending the rule of law, not undermining it, and that principle, that you don't identify the lawyer with the particular views of the client, or the views that the lawyer advances on behalf of the client, is critical to the fair administration of justice."

Mr. Helmick was appointed by the court to represent a defendant and he had an ethical obligation to advocate zealously for that client. That was what he did, and he should not now be punished for doing his duty.

In addition, there has apparently been an objection to Mr. Helmick's handling of an ethical dilemma where he refused to disclose a client secret. This is particularly odd because the Ohio Court of Appeals who heard the case stated that Mr. Helmick "should be commended for his professional and ethical behavior in a very difficult situation." In addition, although a divided Ohio Supreme Court ultimately ordered disclosure of the letter based on a balancing test in a 4 3 decision, the Court nevertheless agreed unanimously with Mr. Helmick that the letter was a client secret. Indeed, the Ohio Supreme Court stated that Mr. Helmick acted in good faith.

Let us confirm this good man and not try to tarnish his distinguished reputation. I join Senator BROWN and Senator PORTMAN in urging a vote for confirmation.

I yield back the remaining time, and I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The question is, will the Senate Advise and Consent to the nomination of Jeffrey J. Helmick, of Ohio, to be U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio?

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. KYL. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 62, nays 36, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 116 Ex.]

YEAS—62

Akaka	Gillibrand	Murray
Alexander	Graham	Nelson (NE)
Baucus	Hagan	Nelson (FL)
Begich	Harkin	Portman
Bennet	Inouye	Pryor
Bingaman	Johnson (SD)	Reed
Blumenthal	Kerry	Reid
Boxer	Klobuchar	Rockefeller
Brown (MA)	Kohl	Sanders
Brown (OH)	Landrieu	Schumer
Cantwell	Lautenberg	Shaheen
Cardin	Leahy	Snowe
Carper	Levin	Stabenow
Casey	Lieberman	Tester
Collins	Lugar	Udall (CO)
Conrad	Manchin	Udall (NM)
Coons	McCaskill	Warner
Corker	Menendez	Webb
Durbin	Merkley	Whitehouse
Feinstein	Mikulski	Wyden
Franken	Murkowski	

NAYS—36

Ayotte	Enzi	McCain
Barrasso	Grassley	McConnell
Blunt	Hatch	Moran
Boozman	Heller	Paul
Burr	Hoeven	Risch
Chambliss	Hutchison	Roberts
Coats	Inhofe	Rubio
Coburn	Isakson	Sessions
Cochran	Johanns	Shelby
Cornyn	Johnson (WI)	Thune
Crapo	Kyl	Toomey
DeMint	Lee	Wicker

NOT VOTING—2

Kirk	Vitter

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table.

The President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will resume legislation session.

AGRICULTURE REFORM, FOOD, AND JOBS ACT OF 2012—MOTION TO PROCEED—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

WISCONSIN RECALL ELECTION

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise to comment on the results of last night's recall election in the State of Wisconsin. After nearly 2 years of heated political debate, the people of Wisconsin made it clear last night that they are not suffering from buyers' remorse. Two years ago, they elected leaders committed to solving their State's budget crisis. Last night, they stood by those leaders for making the hard choices that turned Wisconsin's deficit into a surplus.

Yesterday's election was very important. It was important because of the example it provides to the Nation and the world of how a democracy should work, with citizens who disagree vehemently about policy nonetheless coming together to accept the results of an open and fair election.

It was important because of the message it sends with respect to public employee unions. Last night's results serve as yet another reminder that the

American people want serious answers to our Nation's fiscal problems, and they are tired of having labor unions dictate the terms of our economic recovery.

Scott Walker never hid his agenda. He ran for office on a platform of reducing State spending, and Governor Walker immediately began addressing the State's problems after taking office. So what egregious acts did Governor Walker commit during his first months in office to trigger this recall? First of all, his budget repair bill actually required Wisconsin State employees to contribute more to their pensions. Prior to passage of the Walker budget, many State employees did not contribute to their retirement benefits.

You heard that right. Facing a massive State deficit, Governor Walker determined that Wisconsin taxpayers should no longer foot the entire bill for the generous pensions of public employees. In other words, he asked State public employees to do what private sector employees have done for a generation, contribute to their own retirement plan.

Next, he required that State employees pay a larger share of their health care premiums. The new law requires State employees to pay 12.6 percent of their health care premiums. By contrast, Federal employees pay at least 25 percent of their health care premiums.

To put these reforms in terms that his liberal detractors might appreciate, the Governor was just asking for a little shared sacrifice. Instead of pitching in, however, the State's public employees pitched a fit. Then, most significantly, Governor Walker reformed a collective bargaining system for State employees. Above all else, it was this decision that triggered the meltdown in Wisconsin last year and ultimately led to the recall.

Facing the possibility that a State might successfully limit union influence and excesses, national labor groups turned Wisconsin into the frontlines of labor agitation. I know some have tried to give me a reputation of being anti-union. That is ridiculous because I was raised in a union movement. I held a card for basically 10 years as I worked as a skilled tradesman in the construction industry.

But, in fact, I am not opposed to unionization if that is what employees truly want. I simply believe workers should be free to choose whether to unionize and do so in an environment that is free of coercion or intimidation.

Once unions are formed, I do not believe they should enjoy disproportionate bargaining power in their negotiations with management. That said, unions of public sector employees present a unique set of issues for taxpayers and voters. Public sector unions have inherent advantages in negotiations that private sector unions do not. Most notably, public sector unions use their substantial influence in State politics to elect the very officials with whom they will be negotiating their union contracts.

As the academic Dan DiSalvo and many others have recognized, when the Ford Motor Company negotiates with the American Auto Workers, it is an arm's length negotiation, with both parties having an interest in the ongoing success of the firm. Yet public employee unions effectively negotiate with themselves. There is no distance between them and the public officials they helped to elect and expect payback from.

Franklin Roosevelt understood that because public employee unions could elect their own boss, ''the process of collective bargaining, as usually understood, cannot be transplanted into the public service.''

George Meany, the first head of the AFL CIO, knew this relationship made it ''impossible to bargain collectively with the government.''

These critical points are lost on today's Democratic Party, which increasingly depends on the foot soldiers and largesse provided by these unions. As a result, we have an untenable situation, where public sector unions are, in effect, negotiating against the taxpayers. After all, their salaries and benefits come at the expense of the taxpayers.

The fiscal impact of these rigged negotiations is most evidence in States with the biggest budget problems. California faces a budget deficit of nearly $16 billion this year alone. It has $65 billion in unfunded liabilities in its teachers' pension system and $136 billion in unfunded liabilities for its largest city and county employee pension system.

The Illinois public employee pension system now has $83 billion in unfunded liabilities. So far, comprehensive efforts to reform these systems and bring down costs have been stymied for one simple reason: Politicians in those States do not have the courage of people such as Gov. Scott Walker.

Our folks here who support the unions ought to be happy this is happening because they themselves may not be able to accomplish this. The courageous Governors, such as Governor Walker, can, and in the end they are better off as Democrats because they have some reasonable approach toward some of these enormous problems that are affecting our States.

Instead of reforming their systems, these States have more often opted to raise taxes to attempt to eliminate the shortfalls. Yet most of the States with the highest unfunded liabilities already have higher-than-average tax rates.

Despite their many faults, private sector unions have a stake in the U.S. economy and the profitability of American businesses. Indeed, they have a built-in incentive to ensure continued economic growth. True enough, they do not always act in accordance with that interest, which is probably the biggest reason why today less than 7 percent of private sector workers belong to a union. But, nevertheless, they need some level of continued growth in order to further their existence.

Public sector unions are an entirely different animal with a completely different set of interests. Unlike private sector businesses, State governments are not required to turn a profit. State officials are accountable to voters, but, unlike stockholders, most voters do not have the same expectations to see returns on their investments.

That being the case, public sector unions lack the same incentive to see their negotiating counterparts succeed. There are no forces limiting their incentive to simply maximize benefits for their membership, regardless of what it might cost their employers. In order to succeed, even the most ambitious and shrewd private sector union needs to account for its employer's ability to grow and expand.

Public sector unions are not subject to these sorts of limitations. That is probably why they have been so successful. Today, about 37 percent of government employees belong to a union, which is five times the unionization rate in the private sector. So it is easy to see why Big Labor pulled out all the stops to recall Governor Walker. Public sector unions are the future of the labor movement. Because of the long, steady decline of private sector unions, Big Labor knows it must maintain the strength of public sector unions in order to remain relevant. Yet at the same time, the States that employ them face incredibly difficult budgetary decisions in the coming years and I believe without the ability to be able to get them under control because of the controls of the major parties.

Let's be clear about what it would mean if public employee unions prevailed in these fights. It means that instead of reducing spending, States will have to raise taxes. It means that instead of eliminating government waste, States will have to maintain the status quo, and, ultimately, it means States will have to make a choice between paying their bills on the one hand and growing their economies on the other.

Going forward, it is absolutely vital that more States follow Wisconsin's example. States should not have to choose between educating their kids and paying the full freight of public employee pensions. During such difficult economic times, they should not have to raise taxes in order to keep their employees from having to pay a reasonable share of their own benefits. In short, States should have the ability to balance budgetary priorities without being thwarted at every turn by public employee unions that are only concerned with their own interests.

Last night and this morning, the pundits were in full gear, dissecting the results in Wisconsin and prognosticating about the election's long-term impact. To me, this exercise in democracy demonstrates two things. First, the failure of the unions and the national Democratic Party was not a failure of messaging or money. It was a failure of ideas.

Richard Weaver once wrote that ideas have consequences. That is absolutely true. The ideas that Governor Walker proposed were reasonable ones that addressed a critical fiscal situation without undermining essential services in his State. Second, it is clear the Democratic Party of Franklin Roosevelt, a party of blue-collar, private sector workers, has morphed into a party dominated by white-collar, public workers.

The American people, beginning with Wisconsin, are rejecting this Democratic Party and the priorities of its most influential stakeholders. The silent majority that gets up every day and goes to work in the private sector is losing its appetite for allowing public employee unions to dictate the Nation's fiscal policy.

There is one video going around of an opponent of Governor Walker's near tears and saying that democracy was denied tonight. Au contraire. Democracy is alive and well in Wisconsin and around the Nation, and the American people are going to have their say. Last night's results should serve as a reminder of the need to face our perilous fiscal situation honestly and squarely.

It should also remind us that the American people will not punish leaders who stand and do the right thing, even in the face of powerful and vengeful opposition.

My hope is that the experience in Wisconsin will be replicated around the country.

To borrow from one of Wisconsin's patron saints, Vince Lombardi, ''Winning is a habit. Unfortunately, so is losing.''

The unions have now had three bites at the apple since Governor Walker was first elected. Each time they have come up short. By prevailing, Governor Walker and Republicans in Wisconsin should stiffen the spines of conservatives who might have been previously unwilling to take on these public sector unions—public employee unions, if you will. By losing, those unions have shown themselves to be increasingly desperate and out of touch with the sentiments and concerns of everyday citizens and taxpayers.

Mr. President, I commend Governor Walker and his efforts to secure a prosperous future for the citizens of Wisconsin. His courage in the face of significant opposition is a model of statesmanship, and I look forward to working with him for many years to come.

Look, we all know the public sector unions have been out of control for a long time. Throughout the country, benefits paid to public employees have outpaced those in the private sector, and that includes Federal Government employees where the average pay is $80,000 a year compared to $50,000 for the private sector. We all know that is justified in the eyes of some because it is ''so expensive'' to live in Washington, DC, or nearby. Why is it that expensive? Because we have built the Federal Government at all costs, and we allow it to spend and spend rather than find more ways of living within our means.

There is a part of me that wishes we could move a number of these agencies out of Washington and put them out with the real people throughout our country who have to live within their means, and who don't have huge Washington, DC, salaries, which are huge to the average person, but not always to the people who work in this very expensive town. There they can mingle with the everyday people in this country who are paying the freight.

By the way, we all know that according to the Joint Committee on Taxation, the bottom 51 percent of all households don't pay any income tax or freight. There is a method in that madness, it seems to me. But it is the wrong method. Sooner or later we are all going to have to help pull the wagon and not just sit in the wagon and take advantage of everybody else. It ought to be done on a reasonable and decent basis.

But, once again, we all know the public sector unions are out of control. The States where they have the biggest problems are the States where the public sector unions have dominated their elected politicians over and over and over again, so the elected politicians are afraid to take them on, afraid to do the things that would straighten out their States, as Governor Walker has said.

Instead of finding a lot of fault with Governor Walker, if I were a Democrat, I would be saying: Thank God, somebody stood up. The fact is he has stood up, and he should be given credit for that not condemnation.

Frankly, I am very proud of the people of Wisconsin for standing up the way they did. I think other States are going to have to do that, too, or there are going to be problems like we have never seen before. We can name the States that have the problems. In almost every case they are blue States.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BENNET). The Senator from Rhode Island is recognized.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, it has become sort of a personal tradition of mine to come to the floor each week to report on the status of the dangers to our Earth and climate from the relentless carbon pollution that we have to face, and this is a bellwether week. This is our first week back in session in the Senate since our break last week, and during that time we have had a first. There were reports from the atmospheric measuring station that the carbon dioxide in the atmosphere broke 400 parts per million.

The Christian Science Monitor has reported on this, stating monitoring stations across the Arctic this spring are measuring more than 400 parts per million of the heat-trapping gas carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. The number isn't quite a surprise because it has been rising at an accelerating pace.

Years ago, it passed the 350 parts-per-million mark that many scientists say is the highest safe level for carbon dioxide. It now stands globally at 395.

The story continues, saying it has been at least 800,000 years—probably more—since Earth saw carbon dioxide levels in the 400s, according to the climate scientists involved. They point out that the Arctic is the leading indicator in global warming, both in carbon dioxide in the air and in its effects.

Pieter Tans, a senior NOAA scientist, says this is the first time the entire Arctic has been that high. He calls a 400 number ''depressing.''

The Christian Science Monitor also reported that global carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuels hit a record high of 34.8 billion tons released in 2011.

Another report from the Sustainable Business News said readings are coming in at 400 parts per million and higher all over the Arctic. They have been recorded in Alaska, Greenland, Norway, Iceland, and even Mongolia; and 400 parts per million is beyond what scientists consider ''safe'' in terms of human society.

It goes on saying in reporting of a 2009 paper in the journal Science, researchers concluded ''the only time in the last 20 million years that we find evidence for carbon dioxide levels similar to the [then] modern level of 387 parts per million was 15 to 20 million years ago, when the planet was dramatically different.''

It also says:

> How different? It says that ''Global temperatures were 5 to 10 degrees Fahrenheit higher than they are today. The sea level was 75 to 120 feet higher than it is today, there was no permanent sea ice cap in the Arctic and very little ice on Antarctica and Greenland.''
>
> According to NASA's leading climate scientist, James Hanson, ''that level of heat-trapping gases would assure that the disintegration of the ice sheets would accelerate out of control. Sea levels would rise and destroy coastal cities. Global temperatures would become intolerable, and 20 to 50 percent of the planet species would be driven to extinction. Civilization would be at risk.

So this was a somber benchmark to have passed. As I have said before, we have had the experiences—humankind—of living within a bandwidth between 190 and 300 parts per million of carbon dioxide for about 800,000 years, which is going back into the very early days of our species—even before then.

I think the famous Lucy, the prehistoric human, was 150,000, 160,000 years ago. So this goes way back before then. We started agriculture about 10,000 years ago. Before then, we were picking things off of trees and hunting small animals. We weren't even farming yet.

When we go back 800,000 years, that is basically for as long as we can imagine on this planet, without going back into previous geologic eras. That has been the bandwidth—800,000 years, 190 to 300 parts per million. We rocketed

out of that and blew through 350 several years ago, and now we have gone through 400, at least in the Arctic, and that is where we will go global-wide if this continues. There is no reason it will not continue because we keep increasing the amount of carbon pollution we emit into the atmosphere.

I regret I have to come here every week and continue to bring grim news, but that is the fact, and the day will come when we are going to have to deal with it. I hope it is not too late for us when we finally get around to it. There is the prospect that it is too late because once the carbon is up in the atmosphere, it continues to do its work.

The campaign that has been deployed to try to diminish the science of climate change, to try to confuse the public, and try to create a disabling measure of doubt has been reprehensible. It is based on falsehood. It is steeped in impropriety and special influence. It is inhibiting the ability of the Congress to do its job for the American people—not because there is any real doubt about the science but because the special interests that benefit from the status quo have entirely inappropriate levels of influence in this body, and they are insisting either directly or through phony front organizations, such as the Heartland Institute, which has recently put itself in jeopardy by comparing people who think climate change is actually happening to the Unabomber—now, there is a responsible public debate. That blew up in their faces because they had gone too far. The lying, the phony science, taking money from the polluters, and the phony operation they ran didn't go too far. The comparison to Ted Kazinski, the Kazinski billboard was that one step too far.

There is some pushback on that, but that doesn't lift the burden on the polluting industries that are manipulating and maneuvering in Washington to prevent us from doing what needs to be done and doing so through false and phony organizations. Even if the Heartland Institute is gone, there are plenty of others, and the process continues.

I think it is going to be a very harsh judgment that history brings to bear on this generation of Representatives and Senators that, as a body, we were willing to step away from our duty when the signal was clear. We were willing to listen to the siren song of special interests. We put their money in our pockets. We put our consciences on hold. We put the blinders on about the facts, and we marched forward foolishly when we should have been preparing.

I am going to continue to do this. I hope the point comes soon when we can begin to realize that putting a price on carbon pollution, developing American clean energy that creates American clean energy jobs and begin to take care of this world as it increasingly sends us warnings about the damage that we are doing is the right and wise and proper thing to do.

With that, I yield the floor.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

CALIFORNIA CASUALTIES

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to 27 servicemembers from California or based in California who have died while serving our country in Operation Enduring Freedom since March 1, 2012. This brings to 351 the number of servicemembers either from California or based in California who have been killed while serving our country in Afghanistan. This represents 18 percent of all U.S. deaths in Afghanistan.

Cpl Conner T. Lowry, 24, of Chicago, IL, died March 1 while conducting combat operations in Helmand province, Afghanistan. Corporal Lowry was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, CA.

SPC Edward J. Acosta, 21, of Hesperia, CA, died March 5 in La Jolla, CA, of injuries sustained December 3, 2011, when his vehicle was struck by an improvised explosive device in Wardak province, Afghanistan. Specialist Acosta was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, Fort Bliss, TX.

CPT Francis D. Imlay, 31, of Vacaville, CA, died March 28 from injuries received in an accident involving an F 15 aircraft near a base in Southwest Asia. Captain Imlay was assigned to the 391st Fighter Squadron, Mountain Home Air Force Base, ID.

Cpl Michael J. Palacio, 23, of Lake Elsinore, CA, died March 29 while conducting combat operations in Helmand province, Afghanistan. Corporal Palacio was assigned to Headquarters Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, Okinawa, Japan.

Cpl Roberto Cazarez, 24, of Harbor City, CA, died March 30 while conducting combat operations in Helmand province, Afghanistan. Corporal Cazarez was assigned to the 1st Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, CA.

Cpl Alex Martinez, 21, of Elgin, IL, died April 5 while conducting combat operations in Helmand province, Afghanistan. Corporal Martinez was assigned to the 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, CA.

CN Trevor J. Stanley, 22, of Virginia Beach, VA, died April 7 while deployed to Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti. Constructionman Stanley, a Seabee, was assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 3, homeported in Port Hueneme, CA.

LCpl Ramon T. Kaipat, 22, of Tacoma, WA, died April 11 while conducting combat operations in Helmand province, Afghanistan. Lance Corporal Kaipat was assigned to 1st Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, CA.

CW2 Nicholas S. Johnson, 27, of San Diego, CA, died April 19 in Helmand province, Afghanistan, when his Black Hawk (UH 60) crashed. Chief Warrant Officer Johnson was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, Wheeler Army Airfield, HI.

SSgt Joseph H. Fankhauser, 30, of Mason, TX, died April 22 while conducting combat operations in Helmand province, Afghanistan. Staff Sergeant Fankhauser was assigned to 7th Engineer Support Battalion, 1st Marine Logistics Group, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, CA.

SPC Manuel J. Vasquez, 22, of West Sacramento, CA, died April 24 in Paktika province, Afghanistan. Specialist Vasquez was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment, 172nd Infantry Brigade, Grafenwoehr, Germany.

SGT Moises J. Gonzalez, 29, of Huntington Beach, CA, died April 25 in Balkh province, Afghanistan, of injuries sustained when his vehicle rolled over. Sergeant Gonzalez was assigned to the 509th Combat Service Support Company, 504th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade, Fort Hood, TX.

SSG Andrew T. Britton-Mihalo, 25, of Simi Valley, CA, died April 25 in Kandahar province, Afghanistan, of injuries sustained from small arms fire. Staff Sergeant Britton-Mihalo was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 7th Special Forces Group, Eglin Air Force Base, FL.

LT Christopher E. Mosko, 28, of Pittsford, NY, died April 26 while conducting combat operations in Nawa district, Ghazni province, Afghanistan. Lieutenant Mosko was assigned as a Navy Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Platoon Commander to Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force, Afghanistan. He was stationed at EOD Mobile Unit 3, San Diego, CA.

MSgt Scott E. Pruitt, 38, of Gautier, MS, died April 28 while conducting combat operations in Helmand province, Afghanistan. Master Sergeant Pruitt was assigned to I Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, CA.

PFC Christian R. SanNicolas, 20, of Anaheim, CA, died April 28 in Kandahar province, Afghanistan, of injuries sustained when his vehicle encountered an improvised explosive device. Private First Class SanNicolas was assigned to 1st Battalion, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, NC.

Sgt John P. Huling, 25, of West Chester, OH, died May 6 while conducting combat operations in Helmand province, Afghanistan. Sergeant Huling was assigned to 7th Engineer Support Battalion, 1st Marine Logistics Group, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, CA.

SSG Thomas K. Fogarty, 30, of Alameda, CA, died May 6 in Ahmad-Kheyl, Afghanistan, from injuries sustained when enemy forces attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device. Staff Sergeant Fogarty was assigned to the 3rd Battalion (Airborne), 509th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, AK.

SPC Chase S. Marta, 24, of Chico, CA, died May 7 in Ghazni province, Afghanistan, of wounds suffered when enemy forces attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device. Specialist Marta was assigned to the 3rd Squadron, 73rd Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, NC.

Sgt Wade D. Wilson, 22, of Normangee, TX, died May 11 while conducting combat operations in Helmand province, Afghanistan. Sergeant Wilson was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, CA.

SGT Brian L. Walker, 25, of Lucerne Valley, CA, died May 13 in Bowri Tana, Afghanistan, when the enemy attacked his vehicle with an improvised explosive device. Sergeant Walker was assigned to the 425th Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, AK.

PO1 Ryan J. Wilson, 26, of Shasta, CA, died of complications associated with a medical condition May 20 in Manama, Bahrain. Petty Officer First Class Wilson was assigned to U.S. Naval Forces Central Command headquarters in Bahrain.

2LT Travis A. Morgado, 25, of San Jose, CA, died May 23 in Zharay, Afghanistan, of injuries sustained when insurgents attacked his patrol with an improvised explosive device. Second Lieutenant Morgado was assigned to the 5th Battalion, 20th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA.

Cpl Keaton G. Coffey, 22, of Boring, OR, died May 24 while conducting combat operations in Helmand province, Afghanistan. Corporal Coffey was assigned to 1st Law Enforcement Battalion, 1st Marine Headquarters Group, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, CA.

SPC Vilmar Galarza Hernandez, 21, of Salinas, CA, died May 26 in Zharay, Kandahar province, Afghanistan, when enemy forces attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device. Specialist Galarza Hernandez was assigned to the 4th Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA.

SPC Tofiga J. Tautolo, 23, of Wilmington, CA, died May 27 in Bati Kot, Nangarhar province, Afghanistan, of wounds sustained when his vehicle was attacked with an enemy improvised explosive device. Specialist Tautolo was assigned to the 3rd Squadron, 61st Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, Fort Carson, CO.

LCpl Joshua E. Witsman, 23, of Covington, IN, died May 30 while supporting combat operations in Helmand province, Afghanistan. Lance Corporal Witsman was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, CA.

RECOGNIZING THE CROATIAN CULTURAL GARDEN

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the Croatian Cultural Garden committee of the Croatian Heritage Museum and Library in the city of Cleveland. This garden will serve both to celebrate the rich cultural achievements and contributions of people of Croatian heritage, as well as to create an educational legacy which future generations may enjoy for years to come. Cleveland's Croatian community has worked to make this garden a reality for the past 3 years, and the first phase of this project was completed and dedicated on June 3, 2012.

Since 2009, the Croatian community has worked diligently to raise the funding necessary to realize this goal, as well as to design, plan, and establish this garden in Cleveland's Rockefeller Park.

With this dedication, the Croatian Cultural Garden will join others in the chain of the Cultural Gardens along Martin Luther King Boulevard in Cleveland. These gardens were dedicated over 75 years ago with the goal of recognizing and preserving the diversity of culture that has enriched northeast Ohio and our county.

Mr. President, for the continuing support of the Croatian community, I would like to recognize the Croatian Cultural Garden Committee and join in celebrating the dedication of this project.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING THE SHINE FAMILY FOUNDATION

• Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize an organization from my home State of Nevada whose continued dedication to our Nation's active military, veterans, and their families is inspiring. As the Shine Family Foundation celebrates their first anniversary of becoming a recognized nonprofit organization, I thank them for their commitment to assisting our country's military community during times of hardship. We rely on organizations like the Shine Family Foundation to ease the stress that military families face when a family member is deployed. I applaud the Shine Family Foundation for their commitment to our heroes who sacrifice so much to keep America safe.

The Shine Family Foundation was founded to address the needs of military personnel and their families when they are separated due to prolonged and often multiple deployments. As their loved ones are far away from home sacrificing their own well-being for the safety of our Nation, military families often struggle with hardships while they are apart. Having a brother who served overseas, I understand the sacrifices that military families make when a loved one is deployed.

The Shine Family Foundation is committed to ensuring soldiers deployed across the globe are able to connect with their families back home. Last year, the Shine Family Foundation's gifting program helped provide school supplies, Christmas gifts, food, gift cards, and phone cards to more than 100 military families. Recognizing the changing dynamics of our military force, the foundation also provides assistance to veterans returning from Active Duty to help welcome them home. They also offer a mentoring program for young children whose parents or siblings are serving in war zones.

I commend the Shine Family Foundation's commitment to honor and give back to our military communities. We must always remember the brave men and women in uniform and their families who make grave sacrifices to protect our freedom. As their organization grows, I know they will maintain a commitment to touching the lives of our troops and their families. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this honorable organization for all they do for our Nation's heroes.•

REMEMBERING DR. JAN KARSKI

• Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to Dr. Jan Karski, who, as a young officer in the Polish Underground during the Second World War, was among the first to provide eyewitness accounts of the Holocaust to the world.

Shaped by his own personal loss during one of the darkest hours in human history, Dr. Karski had the moral clarity to make distinctions between good and evil, and the personal courage to speak out and fight for good and against evil. After being captured and tortured by the Nazis, Dr. Karski escaped and became a courier for the Polish Underground, smuggling information out of Poland to the Polish government-in-exile. Among his many missions, Dr. Karski, who was Roman Catholic, twice infiltrated Warsaw's Jewish Ghetto through a series of underground tunnels disguised as a Nazi auxiliary guard.

Dr. Karski showed fearlessness in the face of a regime built on fear, and he was not afraid to challenge conventional wisdom and take on the enemies of freedom. In 1943, Dr. Karski traveled to the United Kingdom and the United States, where he was the first credible eyewitness to brief British Foreign Minister Anthony Eden and President

Roosevelt about the Holocaust in an effort to build international pressure against Hitler and the Nazi regime. While his pleas did not lead to the quick action that they deserved, Dr. Karski persisted in reporting on the brutality that would ultimately prompt meaningful international intervention.

After the war, Dr. Karski resettled in the United States, where he earned his doctorate from Georgetown University and taught for 4 decades, warning generations of students about the dangers of authoritarianism, including one notable student: President Bill Clinton. During his lifetime and following his death in 2000, Jan Karski was and has been the recipient of dozens of international awards honoring his courageous work. I was proud to join my colleagues Senators MIKULSKI, LEVIN, and CARDIN last year in writing to President Obama to urge his consideration of Dr. Karski for highest civilian honor—the Presidential Medal of Freedom. I am delighted that President Obama announced at the Holocaust Memorial Museum last month that Dr. Karski will be honored posthumously with the award later this month.

The choice to confront tyranny is not an easy one, but it is America's responsibility and purpose as a Nation. Through his decades of devoted service, Jan Karksi carried out this mission and lived its values. And in doing so, he was a champion of the cause that has defined our country since its birth—the cause that has given us an enduring purpose and a national destiny: the cause of human freedom.

I am encouraged to know that there are efforts underway to ensure that Jan Karski's story is shared widely in the years ahead and in particular during 2014, which will mark the centennial of his birth. Jan Karski's example should inspire in us the belief that courageous and determined people can help to shape the course of human history for the better and remind us what is required to ensure that when we say Never Again, it will truly mean Never Again.●

CONGRATULATING THE CITY OF RICHFIELD, UTAH

● Mr. LEE. Mr. President, today I wish to congratulate the city of Richfield, UT, for winning the Joining Forces Community Challenge. This honor is of exceptional note as Richfield was the only municipality chosen as a finalist in the competition.

The Joining Forces Community Challenge was launched in July of 2011, seeking to encourage and promote creative ways of showing support for members of the military and their families. Citizens of Richfield have been strongly supportive of military personnel and their loved ones for years, especially the men and women who are stationed in and around Richfield. The 2nd Battalion, 222nd Field Artillery unit of the Utah National Guard is based out of Richfield, and has been deployed four times since September 11, with soldiers going to both Iraq and Afghanistan. Nicknamed the ''Triple Deuce,'' the 222nd is beloved in Utah, and the extraordinary community support made for a perfect submission to the challenge.

Local businesses have found numerous ways to throw their weight behind the unit. Many of them offer discounts and special service to members of the 222nd and their families, and include messages of support in their advertising. Richfield's newspaper, the Richfield Reaper, sends free copies to deployed servicemembers and often prints photos sent in by soldiers so that family, friends, and neighbors can stay connected back home. Richfield City covers utility bills in full for the families of deployed soldiers.

In 2005, the Richfield Chamber of Commerce organized a campaign that came to be known as Coins for a Camouflage Christmas. The goal was to throw an extraordinary Christmas party for military families during the holidays while the 222nd was deployed on an 18-month-long mission in Iraq. Participating businesses kept special containers next to their cash registers for donations, and asked customers for their spare change. Tens of thousands of dollars were collected, and in addition to the party, each child of a deployed parent received a special gift from that parent delivered by Santa Claus. In 2011, when it was thought that the unit would again be deployed over Christmas, Coins for a Camouflage Christmas was organized once again. Rather than throwing a party for the families of deployed soldiers, Richfield got to throw a welcome home party for soldiers who had come back earlier than scheduled as American forces withdrew from Iraq.

The Richfield library has joined in the effort to support the 222nd. After discovering that one daughter of a deployed soldier was trying to learn about Iraq because her father was there, the library put in a special order for books describing the places where parents in the unit were deployed. When the books were received, the library held a special gathering to introduce the new material.

City and community leaders were also instrumental in creating and signing onto the military's Community Covenant Outreach Program in Richfield. Participants promise soldiers and their families support and services from Richfield. As part of the program, two large Community Covenant signs were built at each end of town to show visitors how much Richfield cares about military families.

Perhaps most importantly, the Richfield community has contributed more than a quarter of a million dollars to build a veterans memorial. The memorial is currently under construction and slated to be completed later this year.

Richfield has demonstrated over and over again that it is a community that cares deeply about the men and women who fight to keep us safe and free. The special love for the Triple Deuce is a shining example of how a unit should be supported by local communities around the country. I sincerely thank my fellow Utahns in Richfield who continue to set a high standard of excellence in showing love and respect for our brave heroes. Finally, I add my grateful appreciation to all of our men and women in uniform.●

REMEMERING HARVEY L. SCHWARTZ

● Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to my dear friend, Harvey L. Schwartz, who passed away on April 13 at his home in Harrisville, NH. While I was not able to attend Harvey's memorial service on May 20, I did send a remembrance to be read, and wanted to share these thoughts with my colleagues on a truly remarkable man.

Harvey was born in 1929 at the start of the Great Depression into a family of modest means living in Brooklyn, NY. He graduated from Brooklyn College and then Columbia Law School. Harvey's career began at Time, Inc., where he was groomed for leadership in the company's executive training program. Later, he answered his country's call, serving with the U.S. Counter-Intelligence Corps in Japan during the Korean War and then in these very halls as an aide to Senator Thurston Morton of Kentucky. He went on to have an impressive career in international business with a focus on Latin America. It was experience that, Harvey would readily admit, greatly expanded his worldview.

Harvey and his wife, Nell, moved to New Hampshire in 1987. Fortunately for my fellow Granite Staters and me, they put down lasting roots in our State. During his later years in New Hampshire, Harvey called upon his years of experience in the public and private sectors at home and abroad, to find common ground and to unite when too often there were calls to divide. Harvey was a proud Republican, but he was also a consensus builder and a problem solver. I think my colleagues would agree that we could use more people like Harvey Schwartz today. I ask unanimous consent that my May 20 remembrance be printed in the RECORD.

The material follows.

I was very sad to hear the news of Harvey's passing, but I understand he had requested this event be a celebration of his life, so I will keep this reflection upbeat.

We were all extremely fortunate when, in 1987, Harvey and his beloved Nell chose to settle down in the lovely and historic town of Harrisville. From then on, Harvey had a great impact on New Hampshire.

I first became aware of Harvey's impact on the state through the critical role he played in helping block the proposed Route 101 bypass through Harrisville. That was an impressive feat and one that would most likely have failed were it not for Harvey's involvement.

Community leaders, business leaders, political leaders of every stripe listened to Harvey. I was especially hopeful they would listen to him when, to my surprise, he supported my run for governor! Though Harvey was a staunch Republican, his spirit of bipartisanship was strong, and one that I admired a great deal.

While I was Governor, we held an Executive Council Meeting in Harrisville. It was a proud day for Harrisville, and therefore, a proud day for Harvey. Unfortunately, while we were there, a rather challenging issue facing our state government required immediate consideration. Harvey, as creative and giving as always, offered up his beautiful home with its breathtaking view of Mount Monadnock for a private emergency meeting. Once again, Harvey was finding solutions for his state.

Harvey's enthusiasm for public service and his community were evident to all who knew him. Over the years, we worked closely on the issues that matter for New Hampshire, particularly how we provide economic opportunities for all of our citizens, especially our state's young people. In fact, right until his passing, Harvey served as director of the High Bridge Foundation, a non-profit dedicated to providing high school students in New Hampshire with the tools necessary to thrive in a changing economy. He was doing his part to prepare the next generation of Granite Staters.

Harvey was a great consensus builder. At a time when too many focus on what divides, Harvey worked to unite.

Harvey, you will be missed, but your legacy will be honored and remembered for generations to come because of your hard work and your dedication to New Hampshire.

And for that, we all thank you.●

RECOGNIZING JSI STORE FIXTURES

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, manufacturing has long provided well-paying jobs and economic growth for Americans, especially in my home State of Maine. As co-chair of the Senate Task Force on Manufacturing, I am acutely aware that a healthy manufacturing sector is essential to our Nation's economic prosperity.

Regrettably, our Nation's manufacturing sector was particularly hard hit by the recent recession, and continues to suffer through this underwhelming recovery. As this is a challenge faced by many of America's manufacturers, I would like to take the opportunity to recognize a company in my home State, that despite all obstacles, has overcome economic difficulties to become one of Maine's most successful businesses. Today, I rise to salute JSI Store Fixtures in Milo, ME, a premier manufacturer of high-end wood and metal fixtures for the supermarket industry and a distinguished member of the Milo community.

Over 20 years ago, JSI was started in the Awalt family's basement with just a table saw and an aspiration. Brothers Barry and Terry Awalt and their stepfather, Clayton Johndro, rallied family support to found JSI Store Fixtures; which has since grown to manufacture custom displays for many of the Nation's largest supermarket chains, including: Hannaford Supermarkets, Whole Foods, Giant, Wegmans, Sweetbay, and several others.

When Mark Awalt, brother to Barry and Terry, joined the company in 1997, JSI had already outgrown the family basement. In fact, it had outgrown its original facility, a 30,000-square foot plant located in Howland. Mark sought the help of the Maine Small Business Development Center at the Eastern Maine Development Corporation and the Piscataquis County Economic Development Council to receive a community development block grant and a Small Business Administration guaranteed loan. This funding enabled JSI to expand and relocate to the vacant Dexter Shoe Plant in 2000, garnering many employees who had previously worked for Dexter Shoe. JSI now ships 95 percent of its products out of Maine and in 2011 generated approximately $20 million in sales—proof that small businesses are economically successful, even in the most rural parts of Maine. Today, JSI is the region's largest employer with 130 employees and has become a cherished staple in the community.

Additionally, the hard work and perseverance of JSI's second-to-none employees cannot be overstated as they boast an incredible record in a key area—safety excellence. At a time when JSI sales increased 400 percent, the company reached the outstanding safety milestone of over 10 years without a lost-time accident. Owners, managers, and employees of JSI have implemented and nurtured a safety focus over the last decade and were recognized for this momentous feat by the Manufacturers of Maine Group Trust's, Richard J. Haines Award for Safety Excellence in 2007. The award honors a member of the trust who excels in six different areas of employee safety: commitment, persistence, participation, performance, consistency, and innovation. In 2009, JSI was celebrated again by the Trust for having the most effective safety program.

But it is not just safety excellence that JSI employees practice, its distinction in customer service, quality and industry leading on-time shipping that has powered JSI to become one of the largest employers in Piscataquis County. Their success has certainly not gone unnoticed, as their list of accolades is truly remarkable. In 1999, JSI Store Fixtures received the Hannaford Brothers Distinguished Vendor Award for exceptional service and high product quality. Then in 2004, co-owner Mark Awalt was named by the U.S. Small Business Administration as Maine's Small Business Person of the Year, followed by JSI receiving the Governor's Award for Business Excellence in 2011. This renowned award honors Maine companies that demonstrate a high level of commitment to their community, employees and to manufacturing or service excellence.

At the same time, JSI is perhaps most prominently known for their invaluable contributions to the local community. Their steadfast loyalty to the region has been demonstrated through numerous projects and fundraisers to benefit area children and the local school community. For example, through the Clayton Johndro Golf Tournament which is held annually, JSI raised over $10,000 for youth programs in 2011 alone. Once again, highlighting their extraordinary contributions, JSI received the 2010 Maine Education Association's Corporate Award in honor of their significant impact on area youth and the Distinguished Service Award in the same year from the Milo/Brownville Kiwanis.

A true asset to the state of Maine, JSI has exemplified outstanding leadership and a passion for helping others that is certainly worthy of commendation. I am proud to extend my congratulations to the Awalt family and everyone at JSI Store Fixtures for their tremendous accomplishments. They are a shining example of the dedication to excellence, quality workmanship, commitment to community and service that Maine is known for. I offer my best wishes for continued success to JSI, and look forward to hearing more about their achievements in the future.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:50 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 241. An act to authorize the conveyance of certain National Forest System lands in the Los Padres National Forest in California.

H.R. 1740. An act to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate a segment of Illabot Creek in Skagit County, Washington, as a component of the National Wild and Scenic River System.

H.R. 2060. An act to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to adjust the Crooked River boundary, to provide water certainty for the City of Prineville, Oregon, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2336. An act to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the York River and associated tributaries for study for potential inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

H.R. 2512. An act 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.

H.R. 3263. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to allow the storage and conveyance of nonproject water at the Norman project in Oklahoma, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4222. An act to provide for the conveyance of certain land inholdings owned by the United States to the Tucson Unified School District and to the Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4282. An act to amend part D of title IV of the Social Security Act to ensure that the United States can comply fully with the obligations of the Hague Convention of 23 November 2007 on the International Recovery of Child Support and Other Forms of Family Maintenance, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5883. An act to make a technical correction in Public Law 112 108.

H.R. 5890. An act to correct a technical error in Public Law 112 122.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 128. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for an event to award the Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the Montford Point Marines.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 241. An act to authorize the conveyance of certain National Forest System lands in the Los Padres National Forest in California; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 2060. An act to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to adjust the Crooked River boundary, to provide water certainty for the City of Prineville, Oregon, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 2336. An act to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the York River and associated tributaries for study for potential inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 2512. An act 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; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 4222. An act to provide for the conveyance of certain land inholdings owned by the United States to the Tucson Unified School District and to the Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 4282. An act to amend part D of title IV of the Social Security Act to ensure that the United States can comply fully with the obligations of the Hague Convention of 23 November 2007 on the International Recovery of Child Support and Other Forms of Family Maintenance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

S. 3268. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to provide rights for pilots, and for other purposes.

S. 3269. A bill to provide that no United States assistance may be provided to Pakistan until Dr. Shakil Afridi is freed.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC 6342. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a review and certification of the Joint Land Attack Cruise Missile Defense Elevated Netted Sensor System (JLENS) program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC 6343. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report relative to the Distribution of Department of Defense (DoD) Depot Maintenance Workloads; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC 6344. A communication from the Acting Director of Legislative Affairs, Legal Office, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Mutual Insurance Holding Company Treated as Insurance Company'' (RIN3064 AD89) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 29, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC 6345. A communication from the Chairman and President of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to transactions involving U.S. exports to Mexico; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC 6346. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans and Operating Permits Program; Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; Administrative Changes'' (FRL No. 9675 1) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 29, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC 6347. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Significant New Use Rule on a Certain Chemical Substance; Withdrawal of Significant New Use Rule'' (FRL No. 9350 3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC 6348. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Elemental Mercury Used in Barometers, Manometers, Hygrometers, and Psychrometers; Significant New Use Rule'' (FRL No. 9345 9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC 6349. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Heavy-Duty Highway Program: Revisions for Emergency Vehicles'' (FRL No. 9673 1) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC 6350. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Direct Final Negative Declaration and Withdrawal of Large Municipal Waste Combustors State Plan for Designated Facilities and Pollutants: Illinois'' (FRL No. 9679 6) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC 6351. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Protection of Stratospheric Ozone: Alternative for the Motor Vehicle Air Conditioning Sector Under the Significant New Alternatives Policy (SNAP) Program'' (FRL No. 9668 8) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC 6352. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Designation of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes; State of Arizona; Pinal County; PM10'' (FRL No. 9679 7) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC 6353. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Guidance for ITAAC Closure Under 10 CFR Part 52'' (Regulatory Guide 1.215, Revision 1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 24, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC 6354. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Industry Guideline for Implementing Performance-Based Option of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix J'' (ML121030286) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 24, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC 6355. A communication from the Assistant Regional Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska—Subpart C—Board Determinations; Rural Determinations'' (RIN1018 AX95) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC 6356. A communication from the Chief of the Foreign Species Branch, Fish and Wildlife Services, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Final Rule to Remove the Morelet's Crocodile From the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife'' (RIN1018 AV22) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC 6357. A communication from the Chief of the Recovery and Delisting Branch, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Establishment of a Nonessential Experimental Population of American Burying Beetle in Southwestern Missouri'' (RIN1018 AX79) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 25, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC 6358. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Regional Haze: Revisions to Provisions Governing Alternatives to Source-Specific Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) Determinations, Limited SIP Disapprovals, and Federal Implementation Plans'' (FRL No. 9672 9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 1, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC 6359. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, South Coast Air Quality Management District'' (FRL No. 9670 8) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 1, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC 6360. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Illinois; Consumer Products and AIM Rules'' (FRL No. 9663 1) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 1, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC 6361. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Extension of Interim Guidance on Modification of Section 833 Treatment of Certain Health Organizations'' (Notice 2012 37) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 29, 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC 6362. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Discharge of Partnership Excess Nonrecourse Indebtedness'' (Rev. Rul. 2012 14) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 29, 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC 6363. A communication from the Program Manager, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Medicare and Children's Health Insurance Programs; Disallowance of Claims for FFP and Technical Corrections'' (CMS 2292 F) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 29, 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC 6364. A communication from the Commissioner, Social Security Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration's 2012 Annual Report of the Supplemental Security Income Program; to the Committee on Finance.

EC 6365. A communication from the Chairman of the Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC 6366. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC 6367. A communication from the Chief Executive Officer, Corporation for National and Community Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report of the Inspector General and the Corporation for National and Community Service's Report on Final Action for the period from October 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC 6368. A communication from the Administrator of the Agency for International Development (USAID), transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC 6369. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Energy's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC 6370. A communication from the Federal Co-Chair, Appalachian Regional Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC 6371. A communication from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Veterans Affairs' Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC 6372. A communication from the Chairman and President of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period October 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC 6373. A communication from the Secretary of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Agriculture's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC 6374. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC 6375. A communication from the Deputy Secretary of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of the Interior's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC 6376. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Health and Human Service's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC 6377. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report of the Office of Inspector General of the Department of Labor for the period from October 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC 6378. A communication from the Deputy Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Defense's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC 6379. A communication from the Director, Congressional Affairs, Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC 6380. A communication from the Administrator of the General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012 and the Administrator's Semiannual Management Report to Congress; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC 6381. A communication from the Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report of the Inspector General and a Management Report for the period from October 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC 6382. A communication from the Chief Executive Officer, Millennium Challenge Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of Inspector General's Semiannual Report for the period of October 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. COBURN (for himself and Mr. BURR):

S. 3266. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to reset interest rates for new student loans; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 3267. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and modify the American Opportunity Tax Credit, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. INHOFE (for himself and Mr. BEGICH):

S. 3268. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to provide rights for pilots, and for other purposes; read the first time.

By Mr. PAUL (for himself, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. LEE, Mr. COBURN, Mrs. HUTCHISON, and Mr. RISCH):

S. 3269. A bill to provide that no United States assistance may be provided to Pakistan until Dr. Shakil Afridi is freed; read the first time.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. BURR):

S. 3270. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to consider the resources of individuals applying for pension that were recently disposed of by the individuals for less than fair market value when determining the eligibility of such individuals for such pension, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. MCCONNELL (for himself, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. ENZI, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. KIRK, Mr. KYL, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. MORAN, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. RUBIO, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin, and Mr. JOHANNS):

S. Res. 482. A resolution celebrating the 100th anniversary of the United States Chamber of Commerce; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PRYOR (for himself and Ms. AYOTTE):

S. Res. 483. A resolution commending efforts to promote and enhance public safety on the need for yellow corrugated stainless steel tubing bonding; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BOOZMAN (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. CASEY, Mr. MORAN, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, and Mr. LEAHY):

S. Res. 484. A resolution designating June 7, 2012, as ''National Hunger Awareness Day''; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. REID (for himself and Mr. MCCONNELL):

S. Res. 485. A resolution to authorize representation by the Senate Legal Counsel in the case of Common Cause, et al. v. Joseph R. Biden, et al; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. WEBB:

S. Con. Res. 46. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that an appropriate site at the former Navy Dive School at the Washington Navy Yard should be provided for the Man in the Sea Memorial Monument to honor the members of the Armed Forces who have served as divers and whose service in defense of the United States has been carried out beneath the waters of the world; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Ms. SNOWE):

S. Con. Res. 47. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress on the sovereignty of the Republic of Cyprus over all of the territory of the island of Cypress; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 482—CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED STATES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Mr. MCCONNELL (for himself, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. ENZI, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. KIRK, Mr. KYL, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. MORAN, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. RUBIO, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin, and Mr. JOHANNS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 482

Whereas the United States Chamber of Commerce (referred to in this preamble as the ''Chamber'') was founded on April 22, 1912, at the request of President William Howard Taft, thereby creating a unified voice for business in the United States;

Whereas, on that date, President Taft supported the creation of the Chamber by declaring before 700 delegates from businesses, chambers, and associations representing every State, ''We want your assistance in carrying on the government in reference to those matters that affect the business and the business welfare of the country, and we do not wish to limit your discretion in that matter. We wish that your advice should be as free and unrestricted as possible, but we need your assistance and we ask for it.'';

Whereas, during the 100 years since its founding, the Chamber has represented and advocated the interests of the business community in Washington, DC, across the United States, and around the world;

Whereas the Chamber continues to give voice to business in the United States and rally the business community around policies that create jobs and grow the economy;

Whereas the Chamber is committed to preserving and advancing free market principles and the free enterprise system of the United States, which has created growth, opportunities, innovation, and jobs, and has empowered generations of individuals in the United States to fulfill the American dream;

Whereas, for a century, the Chamber has played an instrumental role in major pieces of legislation on trade, infrastructure, energy, and a host of other issues integral to generating economic growth, supporting the business community, and creating jobs in the United States; and

Whereas, for the next 100 years, and well beyond, the Chamber will continue to work to restore and strengthen the prosperity and competitiveness of the United States and will continue to represent the interests of businesses in the United States of every size, sector, and region before Congress, the executive branch, the courts, and the court of public opinion: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate congratulates the United States Chamber of Commerce on its 100th anniversary.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, today I am submitting a resolution congratulating the U.S. Chamber of Commerce on defending and advancing free market principles for the past 100 years.

For a century, the Chamber has helped business owners all across the country, from the Great Depression to the current fiscal crisis our Nation is struggling with today. The chamber and its member chambers and businesses have continued to find ways to help keep our economy growing and businesses hiring.

In 1962, marking the 50th anniversary of the founding of the chamber, President Kennedy said: ''The foundation of the Chamber in April of 1912 marked a turning point in the relations between government and business.'' This remains true to this day.

When the Chamber turned 70, President Reagan joked:

I remember the day you started. And like good wine, you have grown better, not older.

He then quipped:

The membership of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States is the only thing that has grown faster than the Federal Government—thank heaven!

The free enterprise system is the backbone of the American economy, and nobody embodies it more than the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. So on the year marking the 100th anniversary, I, along with my colleagues, wish to extend my heartfelt thanks and appreciation for all the work they do to help businesses grow and create jobs. Through their efforts, millions of Americans have been able to pursue and achieve the American dream.

To the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, thank you for your contribution to society, and congratulations on 100 years of representing and advocating for job creators across our country.

SENATE RESOLUTION 483—COMMENDING EFFORTS TO PROMOTE AND ENHANCE PUBLIC SAFETY ON THE NEED FOR YELLOW CORRUGATED STAINLESS STEEL TUBING BONDING

Mr. PRYOR (for himself and Ms. AYOTTE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 483

Whereas yellow corrugated stainless steel tubing (referred to in this preamble as ''CSST'') is flexible gas piping used to convey natural gas or propane to household appliances in homes and businesses;

Whereas since 1990, yellow CSST has been installed in more than 6,000,000 homes and businesses in the United States;

Whereas field reports and research suggest that if direct or indirect lightning strikes a structure, the risk for electrical arcing between the metal components in a structure with yellow CSST may be reduced by means of equipotential bonding and grounding;

Whereas proper bonding of CSST is defined in section 7.13.2 of the 2009 edition of the NFPA 54: National Fuel Gas Code, and is referenced in info note 2 in section 250.104 of the 2011 edition of the NFPA 70: National Electric Code;

Whereas the National Association of State Fire Marshals supports the proper bonding of yellow CSST to current National Fire Protection Association Code to reduce the possibility of gas leaks and fires from lightning strikes;

Whereas the National Association of State Fire Marshals is working to educate relevant stakeholders, including fire, building, and housing officials, consumers, homeowners, and construction professionals about the need to properly bond yellow CSST in legacy installations and in all new installations in accordance with the most recent building codes and manufacture installation instructions;

Whereas the bonding of yellow CSST in legacy installations is an important public safety matter that merits alerting homeowners, relevant State and local fire, building, and housing officials, and construction professionals such as electricians, contractors, plumbers, inspectors, and home-improvement specialists: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends efforts to promote and enhance public safety and consumer awareness on proper bonding of yellow corrugated stainless steel tubing (referred to in this resolution as ''CSST'') as defined in the National Fire Protection Association Code; and

(2) encourages further educational efforts for the public, relevant building and housing officials, consumers, homeowners, and construction professionals on the need to properly bond yellow CSST retroactively and moving forward in houses that contain the product.

SENATE RESOLUTION 484—DESIGNATING JUNE 7, 2012, AS ''NATIONAL HUNGER AWARENESS DAY''

Mr. BOOZMAN (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. CASEY, Mr. MORAN, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, and Mr. LEAHY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 484

Whereas food insecurity and hunger are a fact of life for millions of individuals in the

United States and can produce physical, mental, and social impairments;

Whereas recent data published by the Department of Agriculture shows that approximately 48,800,000 individuals in the United States live in households experiencing hunger or food insecurity, and of that number, 32,600,000 are adults and 16,200,000 are children;

Whereas the Department of Agriculture data also shows that households with children experience food insecurity nearly twice as frequently as households without children;

Whereas 4.8 percent of all households in the United States (approximately 5,600,000 households) have accessed emergency food from a food pantry 1 or more times;

Whereas the report entitled ''Household Food Security in the United States, 2010'', published by the Economic Research Service of the Department of Agriculture, found that in 2010, the most recent year for which data exists—

(1) 14.5 percent of all households in the United States experienced food insecurity at some point during the year;

(2) 20.2 percent of all households with children in the United States experienced food insecurity at some point during the year; and

(3) 7.9 percent of all households with elderly individuals in the United States experienced food insecurity at some point during the year;

Whereas the problem of hunger and food insecurity can be found in rural, suburban, and urban portions of the United States, touching nearly every community in the country;

Whereas, although substantial progress has been made in reducing the incidence of hunger and food insecurity in the United States, many Americans remain vulnerable to hunger and the negative effects of food insecurity;

Whereas the people of the United States have a long tradition of providing food assistance to hungry individuals through acts of private generosity and public support programs;

Whereas the Federal Government provides nutritional support to millions of individuals through numerous Federal food assistance programs, including—

(1) the supplemental nutrition assistance program established under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.);

(2) the child nutrition program established under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.);

(3) the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children established by section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786);

(4) the emergency food assistance program established under the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983 (7 U.S.C. 7501 et seq.); and

(5) food donation programs;

Whereas there is a growing awareness of the important role that community-based organizations, institutions of faith, and charities play in assisting hungry and food-insecure individuals;

Whereas more than 61,000 local, community-based organizations rely on the support and efforts of more than 600,000 volunteers to provide food assistance and services to millions of vulnerable people; and

Whereas all people of the United States can participate in hunger relief efforts in their communities by—

(1) donating food and money to hunger relief efforts;

(2) volunteering for hunger relief efforts; and

(3) supporting public policies aimed at reducing hunger: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates June 7, 2012, as ''National Hunger Awareness Day''; and

(2) calls on the people of the United States to observe National Hunger Awareness Day—

(A) with appropriate ceremonies, volunteer activities, and other support for anti-hunger advocacy efforts and hunger relief charities, including food banks, food rescue organizations, food pantries, soup kitchens, and emergency shelters; and

(B) by improving programs and public policies that reduce hunger and food insecurity in the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 485—TO AUTHORIZE REPRESENTATION BY THE SENATE LEGAL COUNSEL IN THE CASE OF COMMON CAUSE, ET AL. V. JOSEPH R. BIDEN, ET AL

Mr. REID of Nevada (for himself and Mr. MCCONNELL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 485

Whereas, Joseph R. Biden, Jr., the Vice President of the United States; Nancy Erickson, Secretary of the Senate; Terrance W. Gainer, Senate Sergeant at Arms; and Elizabeth MacDonough, Senate Parliamentarian, have been named as defendants in the case of Common Cause, et al.. v. Joseph R. Biden, et al., No. 1:12cv00775, now pending in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia;

Whereas, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 704(a)(1) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, 2 U.S. C. 288b(a) and 288c(a)(1), the Senate may direct its counsel to defend officers and employees of the Senate in civil actions relating to their official responsibilities: Now therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate Legal Counsel is authorized to represent Joseph R. Biden, Jr., the Vice President of the United States; Nancy Erickson, Secretary of the Senate; Terrance W. Gainer, Senate Sergeant at Arms; and Elizabeth MacDonough, Senate Parliamentarian, in the case of Common Cause, et al. v. Joseph R. Biden, et al.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 46—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT AN APPROPRIATE SITE AT THE FORMER NAVY DIVE SCHOOL AT THE WASHINGTON NAVY YARD SHOULD BE PROVIDED FOR THE MAN IN THE SEA MEMORIAL MONUMENT TO HONOR THE MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES WHO HAVE SERVED AS DIVERS AND WHOSE SERVICE IN DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN CARRIED OUT BENEATH THE WATERS OF THE WORLD

Mr. WEBB submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. CON. RES. 46

Whereas United States Navy divers have received 7 Medals of Honor for multiple acts of heroism dating back to 1915;

Whereas United States Navy divers received the only Medals of Honor ever awarded for actions during peacetime;

Whereas United States Navy divers have addressed critical beach and harbor clearances and recoveries in World War I and all subsequent wars fought by the United States;

Whereas United States Navy divers significantly contributed to the salvage and restoration of Pearl Harbor after the attack by Japan in 1941;

Whereas United States Navy divers significantly contributed to the United States victory in the Cold War by diving on communications cables of the Soviet Union at extreme depths;

Whereas United States Navy divers made critical recoveries of Space Shuttles Challenger and Columbia;

Whereas United States Army divers were instrumental in the clearance of underwater munitions at ports and harbors during World War II;

Whereas United States Army divers were crucial to the maintenance and repair of vessels and the recovery of aircraft during the Vietnam War;

Whereas United States Army divers salvaged vessels during the Persian Gulf War, vessels of the Soviet Union during Operation Restore Hope in Somalia, and numerous vessels during the humanitarian operation in Haiti;

Whereas United States Army divers deployed to the Persian Gulf region in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom;

Whereas United States Army divers have participated in humanitarian relief efforts to clear international ports and harbors after natural disasters;

Whereas United States Army divers have performed hundreds of missions for the Corps of Engineers to maintain the dams, locks, and waterways of the United States;

Whereas United States Army divers have performed lifesaving recompression treatments on injured military and civilian personnel;

Whereas United States Marine Corps divers were essential to the development of the buoyant ascent technique, which allows forces to deploy from submarines at depth and return to a submerged submarine, thus enabling the completion of a range of covert missions;

Whereas United States Marine Corps divers were essential to the testing and development of the Fulton Skyhook, intended for the sophisticated snatch pickup of troops from remote areas;

Whereas United States Air Force divers, specifically Pararescuemen and Combat Controllers, have supported crucial missions of the Department of Defense in Iraq and Afghanistan and crucial missions of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration;

Whereas United States Coast Guard divers undertook clandestine infiltration missions in the European and Pacific theaters of World War II;

Whereas United States Coast Guard divers provided critical underwater ship husbandry support during the historic exploration of the Northwest Passage by the Coast Guard in 1957;

Whereas United States Coast Guard divers assisted in the recoveries of Air Florida Flight 90, the Space Shuttle Challenger, and numerous other aircraft and vehicles;

Whereas United States Coast Guard divers have enhanced scientific achievements through the collection of marine samples in the Arctic and Antarctic regions;

Whereas United States Coast Guard divers have ensured the safety of shipping in the Pacific Islands; and

Whereas United States Coast Guard divers have established a security posture throughout the United States during inspections of

ports, waterways, and coastal security facilities since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that the Secretary of the Navy should provide an appropriate site at the former Navy Dive School at the Washington Navy Yard for the Man in the Sea Memorial Monument, to be paid for with private funds, to honor the members of the Armed Forces who have served as divers and whose service in defense of the United States has been carried out beneath the waters of the world, so long as the Secretary of the Navy has exclusive authority to approve the design and site of the monument.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 47—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS ON THE SOVEREIGNTY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS OVER ALL OF THE TERRITORY OF THE ISLAND OF CYPRESS

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Ms. SNOWE) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 47

Whereas the Republic of Cyprus is an independent, sovereign nation-state;

Whereas the Republic of Cyprus, as the only sovereign state on the island of Cyprus, is a member of the United Nations, the European Union, and other key international and multilateral organizations;

Whereas Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has stated that the Republic of Cyprus is ''strategically important'';

Whereas the Government of Cyprus is a close friend and partner of the United States Government in the volatile eastern Mediterranean region;

Whereas United Nations Security Council Resolution 939 (1994) reaffirms that a solution to the Cypriot issue must be based on a State of Cyprus with a single sovereignty and international personality, and a single citizenship, with its independence and territorial integrity safeguarded, and comprising two politically equal communities as described in the relevant Security Council resolutions, in a bicommunal and bizonal federation, and that such a settlement must exclude union in whole or in part with any other country or any form of partition or secession;

Whereas the Government of Turkey illegally occupies the northern area of Cyprus with an armed force of 43,000 troops;

Whereas Article 49 of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, done at Geneva August 12, 1949, states, ''The Occupying Power shall not deport or transfer parts of its own civilian population into the territory it occupies.'';

Whereas, in 1954, the Government of Turkey ratified the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, done at Geneva August 12, 1949;

Whereas the Government of Turkey is attempting to colonize the part of Cyprus it occupies by sending hundreds of thousands of citizens of Turkey to live permanently in Cyprus;

Whereas the demographic composition of the Republic of Cyprus in 1974 was estimated to be 506,000 Greek-Cypriots and 118,000 Turkish-Cypriots;

Whereas the current demographic composition of the Republic of Cyprus is estimated to be 672,000 Greek-Cypriots, 89,000 Turkish-Cypriots, and 200,000-500,000 citizens of Turkey transferred by the Government of Turkey to live permanently in Cyprus;

Whereas the Turkish-Cypriot community's leadership rejected the Council of Europe's request to conduct an island-wide census to accurately determine the current demographic composition of the island's population;

Whereas the Government of Turkey's colonization plan was publicly exposed when Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan told Turkish-Cypriots protesting against the transfer of colonists from Turkey in the summer of 2011, ''If you don't want us to send people, you need to have more babies.'';

Whereas the demographic composition of Cyprus is being dramatically and illegally altered by the influx of non-Cypriot colonists sent from Turkey;

Whereas 40,000 Turkish-Cypriots protested against Turkish austerity measures during demonstrations in 2011, with hundreds shouting and holding signs reading, ''Ankara, get your hand off our shores.'';

Whereas, on March 4, 2012, Turkey's European Union Minister, Egemen Bagis, called for ''annexing northern Cyprus to Turkey,'' an action that would be in direct violation of the United Nations Charter, United Nations Security Council resolutions on Cyprus, and United States Government policy toward Cyprus;

Whereas, in recent years, the Republic of Cyprus, along with other countries in the eastern Mediterranean, including Israel, have discovered vast reserves of natural gas within their territorial waters and Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs);

Whereas Cyprus and Israel recently signed an agreement defining the boundaries of their respective EEZs, and, on that basis, are proceeding with the exploration of natural gas reserves;

Whereas a United States company is currently developing hydrocarbon deposits in the offshore EEZs of Cyprus and Israel;

Whereas these developments are significant for the energy security and independence of Europe;

Whereas the United States Government supports the sovereign rights of Cyprus and Israel to explore hydrocarbon deposits in their respective EEZs;

Whereas the Government of Turkey is seeking to expand its illegal occupation to control portions of the EEZ of Cyprus and illegally seize and exploit the energy resources of Cyprus;

Whereas the Government of Turkey has engaged in a variety of provocative and bellicose actions, including sending warships off the southern coast of Cyprus to escort a Turkish research vessel looking for hydrocarbon deposits, conducting air and naval military exercises south of Cyprus in the area of exploration, declaring invalid the agreement between Israel and Cyprus demarcating their maritime borders, and threatening the use of military action against Cyprus;

Whereas the highest levels of the United States Government have privately urged the Government of Turkey not to follow through with its threats against Cyprus for exercising its sovereign right to explore its natural resources; and

Whereas, on April 26, 2012, the Government of Turkey began illegally drilling for oil and natural gas on the island of Cyprus, within the sovereign territory of the Republic of Cyprus: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) respects and accepts the sovereignty of the Republic of Cyprus over all of the territory of the island of Cyprus;

(2) urges the Government of Turkey to respect, accept, and formally recognize the sovereignty of the Republic of Cyprus over all of the territory of the island of Cyprus, end its illegal military occupation of Cyprus, and accept and fully implement all United Nations Security Council Resolutions on Cyprus;

(3) supports the Republic of Cyprus in its plans to explore and exploit energy reserves within its Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), and praises the Governments of the Republic of Cyprus and Israel for working cooperatively to develop the energy holdings in the region;

(4) urges the Government of Turkey to cease all activities and plans to further develop energy resources illegally within the territory and EEZ of the Republic of Cyprus;

(5) opposes the Government of Turkey's threatening statements and naval movements designed to prevent the Republic of Cyprus from exploiting its energy resources;

(6) expresses serious concern about the effort by the Government of Turkey to colonize the area of northern Cyprus by sending hundreds of thousands of non-Cypriot Turkish citizens to live in Cyprus;

(7) considers the Government of Turkey in grave violation of Article 49 of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, done at Geneva August 12, 1949, by transferring parts of its civilian population into occupied northern Cyprus; and

(8) urges the President to call on the Government of Turkey to end its illegal colonization of Cyprus with non-Cypriot populations, terminate its occupation of northern Cyprus, and cease its illegal interference with the exploitation by the Government of the Republic of Cyprus of its energy resources.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 17

At the request of Mr. JOHANNS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 17, a bill to repeal the job-killing tax on medical devices to ensure continued access to life-saving medical devices for patients and maintain the standing of United States as the world leader in medical device innovation.

S. 67

At the request of Mr. INOUYE, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 67, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit former members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability rated as total to travel on military aircraft in the same manner and to the same extent as retired members of the Armed Forces are entitled to travel on such aircraft.

S. 210

At the request of Mr. COBURN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 210, a bill to amend title 44, United States Code, to eliminate the mandatory printing of bills and resolutions for the use of offices of Members of Congress.

S. 262

At the request of Mr. JOHANNS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S.

262, a bill to repeal the excise tax on medical device manufacturers.

S. 339

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 339, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the special rule for contributions of qualified conservation contributions.

S. 649

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 649, a bill to expand the research and awareness activities of the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention with respect to scleroderma, and for other purposes.

S. 687

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 687, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the 15-year recovery period for qualified leasehold improvement property, qualified restaurant property, and qualified retail improvement property.

S. 705

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 705, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for collegiate housing and infrastructure grants.

S. 775

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 775, a bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to encourage research and carry out an educational campaign with respect to pulmonary hypertension, and for other purposes.

S. 821

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 821, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to eliminate discrimination in the immigration laws by permitting permanent partners of United States citizens and lawful permanent residents to obtain lawful permanent resident status in the same manner as spouses of citizens and lawful permanent residents and to penalize immigration fraud in connection with permanent partnerships.

S. 1167

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1167, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve the diagnosis and treatment of hereditary hemorrhagic telangiectasia, and for other purposes.

S. 1301

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1301, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2012 through 2015 for the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, to enhance measures to combat trafficking in persons, and for other purposes.

S. 1309

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1309, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to cover physician services delivered by podiatric physicians to ensure access by Medicaid beneficiaries to appropriate quality foot and ankle care.

S. 1591

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1591, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Raoul Wallenberg, in recognition of his achievements and heroic actions during the Holocaust.

S. 1613

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1613, a bill to improve and enhance research and programs on childhood cancer survivorship, and for other purposes.

S. 1880

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1880, a bill to repeal the health care law's job-killing health insurance tax.

S. 1935

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1935, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition and celebration of the 75th anniversary of the establishment of the March of Dimes Foundation.

S. 1947

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1947, a bill to prohibit attendance of an animal fighting venture, and for other purposes.

S. 2030

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2030, a bill to provide protection for consumers who have prepaid cards, and for other purposes.

S. 2060

At the request of Mr. KOHL, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2060, a bill to provide for the payment of a benefit to members eligible for participation in the Post-Deployment/Mobilization Respite Absence program for days of nonparticipation due to Government error.

S. 2103

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2103, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to protect pain-capable unborn children in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

S. 2143

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2143, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify that paper which is commonly recycled does not constitute a qualified energy resource under the section 45 credit for renewable electricity production.

S. 2165

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. COATS) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2165, a bill to enhance strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel, and for other purposes.

S. 2167

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2167, a bill to increase the employment of Americans by requiring State workforce agencies to certify that employers are actively recruiting Americans and that Americans are not qualified or available to fill the positions that the employer wants to fill with H 2B nonimmigrants.

S. 2264

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2264, a bill to provide liability protection for claims based on the design, manufacture, sale, offer for sale, introduction into commerce, or use of certain fuels and fuel additives, and for other purposes.

S. 2325

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2325, a bill to authorize further assistance to Israel for the Iron Dome anti-missile defense system.

S. 2371

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2371, a bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to permit employers to pay higher wages to their employees.

S. 3053

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3053, a bill to require Regional Administrators of the Environmental Protection Agency to be appointed by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

S. 3078

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER), the Senator from West

Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN), the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. DEMINT), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 3078, a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to install in the area of the World War II Memorial in the District of Columbia a suitable plaque or an inscription with the words that President Franklin D. Roosevelt prayed with the United States on June 6, 1944, the morning of D-Day.

S. 3085

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3085, a bill to provide for the expansion of affordable refinancing of mortgages held by the Federal National Mortgage Association and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation.

S. 3203

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3203, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to limit increases in the certain costs of health care services under the health care programs of the Department of Defense, and for other purposes.

S. 3220

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3220, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes.

S. 3221

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3221, a bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to permit employers to pay higher wages to their employees.

S. 3239

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3239, a bill to provide for a uniform national standard for the housing and treatment of egg-laying hens, and for other purposes.

S. 3257

At the request of Mr. COBURN, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNS) were added as cosponsors of S. 3257, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prohibit the use of public funds for political party conventions, and to provide for the return of previously distributed funds for deficit reduction.

S. 3261

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL), the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3261, a bill to allow the Chief of the Forest Service to award certain contracts for large air tankers.

S.J. RES. 42

At the request of Mr. DEMINT, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 42, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relative to parental rights.

S. RES. 376

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 376, a resolution commemorating the 225th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution of the United States and recognizing the contributions of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution.

S. RES. 435

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON) was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. Res. 435, a resolution calling for democratic change in Syria, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 435, supra.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2156. Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. REED, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. MENENDEZ) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2157. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2158. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2159. Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. KIRK, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. TOOMEY, and Mr. COATS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2160. Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. KIRK, and Mr. LAUTENBERG) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2161. Mrs. GILLIBRAND submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2162. Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. AYOTTE, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. VITTER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2163. Mr. MCCAIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2164. Mr. LEAHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2165. Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. HELLER, Mr. VITTER, and Mr. CRAPO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2166. Mr. RUBIO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2167. Mr. GRASSLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2168. Mr. GRASSLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2169. Mr. GRASSLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2170. Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. CONRAD) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2171. Mr. SESSIONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2172. Mr. SESSIONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2173. Mr. SESSIONS (for himself and Ms. AYOTTE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2174. Mr. SESSIONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2175. Mr. BARRASSO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2176. Mr. BARRASSO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2177. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2178. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2179. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2180. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2181. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2182. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2183. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the

bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2184. Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. BURR) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2185. Mr. GRAHAM submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2186. Mr. COBURN (for himself and Mr. DURBIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2187. Mr. KERRY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2188. Mr. KERRY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2189. Mr. JOHNSON, of Wisconsin submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2156. Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. REED, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. MENENDEZ) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Beginning on page 312, strike line 9 and all that follows through the end of page 313.

On page 361, strike lines 1 through 8 and insert the following:

SEC. 4207. PURCHASE OF COMMODITIES BY COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION.

When the Secretary considers the purchasing of commodities by the Commodity Credit Corporation or under section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935 (7 U.S.C. 612c), in addition to other appropriate considerations, the Secretary may consider the needs of the States and the demands placed on emergency feeding organizations.

SEC. 4208. FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PROGRAM.

Section 19(i) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1769a(i)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (4) through (7) as paragraphs (5) through (8), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (3) the following:

''(4) MANDATORY FUNDING.—In addition to any other amounts made available to carry out this section, on October 1, 2012, and on each October 1 thereafter through October 1, 2021, out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer to the Secretary to carry out this section $50,000,000, to remain available until expended.''.

On page 953, between lines 8 and 9, insert the following:

SEC. 11011. ANNUAL LIMITATION ON DELIVERY EXPENSES AND REDUCED RATE OF RETURN.

(a) ANNUAL LIMITATION ON DELIVERY EXPENSES.—Section 508(k)(4) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1508(k)(4)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(G) ANNUAL LIMITATION ON DELIVERY EXPENSES.—Beginning with the 2014 reinsurance year, the amount paid by the Corporation to reimburse approved insurance providers and agents for the administrative and operating costs of the approved insurance providers and agents shall not exceed $825,000,000 per year.''.

(b) REDUCED RATE OF RETURN.—Section 508(k)(8) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1508(k)(8)) (as amended by section 11010) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(G) REDUCED RATE OF RETURN.—Beginning with the 2014 reinsurance year, the Standard Reinsurance Agreement shall be adjusted to ensure a projected rate of return for the approved insurance producers not to exceed 12 percent, as determined by the Corporation.''.

SA 2157. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1009, after line 11, add the following:

SEC. 12207. SUPPORT FOR STATE AND TRIBAL GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO PROMOTE DOMESTIC MAPLE SYRUP INDUSTRY.

(a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED; AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary of Agriculture may make grants to States and tribal governments to support their efforts to promote the domestic maple syrup industry through the following activities:

(1) Promotion of research and education related to maple syrup production.

(2) Promotion of natural resource sustainability in the maple syrup industry.

(3) Market promotion for maple syrup and maple-sap products.

(4) Encouragement of owners and operators of privately held land containing species of tree in the genus Acer—

(A) to initiate or expand maple-sugaring activities on the land; or

(B) to voluntarily make the land available, including by lease or other means, for access by the public for maple-sugaring activities.

(b) APPLICATIONS.—In submitting an application for a grant under this section, a State or tribal government shall include—

(1) a description of the activities to be supported using the grant funds;

(2) a description of the benefits that the State or tribal government intends to achieve as a result of engaging in such activities; and

(3) an estimate of the increase in maple-sugaring activities or maple syrup production that the State or tribal government anticipates will occur as a result of engaging in such activities.

(c) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAWS.—Nothing in this section preempts a State or tribal government law, including any State or tribal government liability law.

(d) DEFINITION OF MAPLE SUGARING.—In this section, the term ''maple-sugaring'' means the collection of sap from any species of tree in the genus Acer for the purpose of boiling to produce food.

(e) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall promulgate such regulations as are necessary to carry out this section.

(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2012 through 2015.

SA 2158. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title III, add the following:

Subtitle D—Milk Import Tariff Equity

SEC. 3301. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the ''Milk Import Tariff Equity Act''.

SEC. 3302. IMPOSITION OF TARIFF-RATE QUOTAS ON CERTAIN CASEIN AND MILK CONCENTRATES.

(a) CASEIN AND CASEIN PRODUCTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Additional U.S. Notes to chapter 35 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States are amended—

(A) by striking ''Additional U.S. Note'' and inserting ''Additional U.S. Notes'';

(B) in Note 1, by striking ''subheading 3501.10.10'' and inserting ''subheadings 3501.10.05, 3501.10.15, and 3501.10.20''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new Note:

''2. The aggregate quantity of casein, caseinates, milk protein concentrate, and other casein derivatives entered under subheadings 3501.10.15, 3501.10.65, and 3501.90.65 in any calendar year shall not exceed 55,477,000 kilograms. Articles the product of Mexico shall not be permitted or included under this quantitative limitation and no such article shall be classifiable therein.''.

(2) RATES FOR CERTAIN CASEINS, CASEINATES, AND OTHER DERIVATIVES AND GLUES.—Chapter 35 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is amended by striking subheadings 3501.10 through 3501.90.60 and inserting the following new subheadings, with the article descriptions for subheadings 3501.10 and 3501.90 having the same degree of indentation as the article description for subheading 3502.20.00:

''	3501.10	Casein:			
		Milk protein concentrate:			
	3501.10.05	Described in general note 15 of the tariff schedule and entered pursuant to its provisions	0.37¢/kg	Free (A, BH, CA, CL, CO, E, IL, J, JO, KR, MA, MX, OM, P, PE, SG) 0.2¢/kg (AU)	12¢/kg
	3501.10.15	Described in additional U.S. note 2 to this chapter and entered according to its provisions	0.37¢/kg	Free (A, BH, CA, CL, CO, E, IL, J, JO, KR, MA, OM, P, PE, SG) 0.2¢/kg (AU)	12¢/kg
	3501.10.20	Other	$2.16/kg	Free (MX)	$2.81/kg
		Other:			
	3501.10.55	Suitable only for industrial uses other than the manufacture of food for humans or other animals or as ingredients in such food	Free		Free
		Other:			
	3501.10.60	Described in general note 15 of the tariff schedule and entered pursuant to its provisions	0.37¢/kg	Free (A, BH, CA, CL, CO, E, IL, J, JO, KR, MA, MX, OM, P, PE, SG) 0.2¢/kg (AU)	12¢/kg
	3501.10.65	Described in additional U.S. note 2 to this chapter and entered according to its provisions	0.37¢/kg	Free (A, BH, CA, CL, CO, E, IL, J, JO, KR, MA, OM, P, PE, SG) 0.2¢/kg (AU)	12¢/kg
	3501.10.70	Other	$2.16/kg	Free (MX)	$2.81/kg
	3501.90	Other:			
	3501.90.05	Casein glues	6%	Free (A, AU, BH, CA, CL, CO, E, IL, J, JO, MA, MX, OM, P, PE, SG) 4.8% (KR)	30%
		Other:			
	3501.90.30	Suitable only for industrial uses other than the manufacture of food for humans or other animals or as ingredients in such food	6%	Free (A, AU, BH, CA, CL, CO, E, IL, J, JO, MA, MX, OM, P, PE, SG) 4.8% (KR)	30%
		Other:			
	3501.90.55	Described in general note 15 of the tariff schedule and entered pursuant to its provisions	0.37¢/kg	Free (A, BH, CA, CL, CO, E, IL, J, JO, KR, MA, MX, OM, P, PE, SG) 0.2¢/kg (AU)	12.1¢/kg
	3501.90.65	Described in additional U.S. note 2 to this chapter and entered according to its provisions	0.37¢/kg	Free (A, BH, CA, CL, CO, E, IL, J, JO, KR, MA, OM, P, PE, SG) 0.2¢/kg (AU)	12.1¢/kg
	3501.90.70	Other	$2.16/kg	Free (MX)	$2.81/kg ''.

(b) MILK PROTEIN CONCENTRATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Additional U.S. Notes to chapter 4 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States are amended—

(A) in Note 13, by striking ''subheading 0404.90.10'' and inserting ''subheadings 0404.90.05, 0404.90.15, and 0404.90.20''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new Note:

''27. The aggregate quantity of milk protein concentrates entered under subheading 0404.90.15 in any calendar year shall not exceed 18,488,000 kilograms. Articles the product of Mexico shall not be permitted or included under this quantitative limitation and no such article shall be classifiable therein.''.

(2) RATES FOR CERTAIN MILK PROTEIN CONCENTRATES.—Chapter 4 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is amended by striking subheadings 0404.90 through 0404.90.10 and inserting the following new subheadings, with the article description for subheading 0404.90 having the same degree of indentation as the article description for subheading 0404.10 and with the article descriptions for subheadings 0404.90.05, 0404.90.15, and 0404.90.20 having the same degree of indentation as the article description for subheading 0405.20.40:

''	0404.90	Other:				
		Milk protein concentrates:				
	0404.90.05	Described in general note 15 of the tariff schedule and entered pursuant to its provisions	0.37¢/kg	Free (A, BH, CA, CL, CO, E, IL, J, JO, KR, MA, MX, OM, P, PE, SG) 0.2¢/kg (AU)	12¢/kg	
	0404.90.15	Described in additional U.S. note 27 to this chapter and entered pursuant to its provisions	0.37¢/kg	Free (A, BH, CA, CL, CO, E, IL, J, JO, KR, MA, OM, P, PE, SG) 0.2¢/kg (AU)	12¢/kg	
	0404.90.20	Other	$1.56/kg	Free (MX)	$2.02/kg	''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this section apply to goods entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after the first day of the first month after the date that is 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS.—

(A) CHAPTER 35.—Notwithstanding the amendments made by subsection (a)(1) of this section, in the case of any calendar year that includes the effective date described in paragraph (1), the aggregate amount of casein, caseinates, milk protein concentrate, and other casein derivatives entered under subheadings 3501.10.15, 3501.10.65, and 3501.90.65 shall not exceed an amount equal to 151,992 kilograms multiplied by the number of calendar days remaining in such year beginning with such effective date.

(B) CHAPTER 4.—Notwithstanding the amendments made by subsection (b)(1) of this section, in the case of any calendar year that includes the effective date described in paragraph (1), the aggregate amount of milk protein concentrates entered under subheading 0404.90.15 shall not exceed an amount equal to 50,652 kilograms multiplied by the number of calendar days remaining in such year beginning with such effective date.

SEC. 3303. COMPENSATION AUTHORITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—If the provisions of section 3302 require, the President—

(1) may enter into a trade agreement with any foreign country or instrumentality for the purpose of granting new concessions as compensation in order to maintain the general level of reciprocal and mutually advantageous concessions; and

(2) may proclaim such modification or continuance of any general rate of duty, or such continuance of duty-free or excise treatment, or any quantitative limitation, as the President determines to be required or appropriate to carry out any such agreement.

(b) LIMITATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—No proclamation shall be made pursuant to subsection (a) decreasing any general rate of duty to a rate that is less than 70 percent of the existing general rate of duty.

(2) SPECIAL RULE FOR CERTAIN DUTY REDUCTIONS.—If the general rate of duty in effect is an intermediate stage under an agreement in effect before August 6, 2002, under section 1102(a) of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988 (19 U.S.C. 2902) or under an agreement entered into under section 2103 (a) or (b) of the Bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority Act of 2002 (19 U.S.C. 3803), the proclamation made pursuant to subsection (a) may provide for the reduction of each general rate of duty at each such stage by not more than 30 percent of such general rate of duty, and may provide for a final general rate of duty that is not less than 70 percent of the general rate of duty proclaimed as the final stage under such agreement.

(3) ROUNDING.—If the President determines that such action will simplify the computation of the amount of duty computed with respect to an article, the President may exceed the limitations provided in paragraphs (1) and (2) by not more than the lesser of—

(A) the difference between such limitation and the next lower whole number, or

(B) one-half of 1 percent ad valorem.

SA 2159. Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. LUGER, Mr. KIRK, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. TOOMEY, and Mr. COATS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike subtitle C of title I and insert the following:

Subtitle C—Sugar

SEC. 1301. SUGAR PROGRAM.

(a) SUGARCANE.—Section 156(a) of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7272(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4), by striking ''and'' after the semicolon at the end;

(2) in paragraph (5), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(6) 18 cents per pound for raw cane sugar for each of the 2013 through 2017 crop years.''.

(b) SUGAR BEETS.—Section 156(b)(2) of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7272(b)(2)) is amended by striking ''2012'' and inserting ''2017''.

(c) EFFECTIVE PERIOD.—Section 156(i) of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7272(i)) is amended by striking ''2012'' and inserting ''2017''.

SEC. 1302. FLEXIBLE MARKETING ALLOTMENTS FOR SUGAR.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 359b of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1359bb) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1)—

(A) in the matter before subparagraph (A), by striking ''2012'' and inserting ''2017''; and

(B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting ''at reasonable prices'' after ''stocks'';

(2) in subsection (b)(1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''but'' after the semicolon at the end and inserting ''and''; and

(B) by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

''(B) appropriate to maintain adequate domestic supplies at reasonable prices, taking into account all sources of domestic supply, including imports.''; and

(3) in subsection (c)(2)(C), by striking ''if the disposition of the sugar is administered by the Secretary under section 9010 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002''.

(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF FLEXIBLE MARKETING ALLOTMENTS.—Section 359c of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1359cc) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''but'' after the semicolon at the end and inserting ''and''; and

(ii) by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

''(B) appropriate to maintain adequate supplies at reasonable prices, taking into account all sources of domestic supply, including imports.''; and

(B) in paragraph (2)(B), by inserting ''at reasonable prices'' after ''market''; and

(2) in subsection (g)—

(A) by striking ''ALLOTMENTS.—'' and all that follows through ''Subject to subparagraph (B), the'' and inserting ''ALLOTMENTS.—The''; and

(B) by striking subparagraph (B).

(c) SUSPENSION OR MODIFICATION OF PROVISIONS.—Section 359j of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1359jj) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(c) SUSPENSION OR MODIFICATION OF PROVISIONS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, the Secretary may suspend or modify, in whole or in part, the application of any provision of this part if the Secretary determines that the action is appropriate, taking into account—

''(1) the interests of consumers, workers in the food industry, businesses (including small businesses), and agricultural producers; and

''(2) the relative competitiveness of domestically produced and imported foods containing sugar.''.

(d) ADMINISTRATION OF TARIFF RATE QUOTAS.—Section 359k of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1359kk) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 359k. ADMINISTRATION OF TARIFF RATE QUOTAS.

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, at the beginning of the quota year, the Secretary shall establish the tariff-rate quotas for raw cane sugar and refined sugar at no less than the minimum level necessary to comply with obligations under international trade agreements that have been approved by Congress.

''(b) ADJUSTMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (a), the Secretary shall adjust the tariff-rate quotas for raw cane sugar and refined sugar to provide adequate supplies of sugar at reasonable prices in the domestic market.

''(2) ENDING STOCKS.—Subject to paragraphs (1) and (3), the Secretary shall establish and adjust tariff-rate quotas in such a manner that the ratio of sugar stocks to total sugar use at the end of the quota year will be approximately 15.5 percent.

''(3) MAINTENANCE OF REASONABLE PRICES AND AVOIDANCE OF FORFEITURES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may establish a different target for the ratio of ending stocks to total use if, in the judgment of the Secretary, the different target is necessary to prevent—

''(i) unreasonably high prices; or

''(ii) forfeitures of sugar pledged as collateral for a loan under section 156 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7272).

''(B) ANNOUNCEMENT.—The Secretary shall publicly announce any establishment of a target under this paragraph.

''(4) CONSIDERATIONS.—In establishing tariff-rate quotas under subsection (a) and making adjustments under this subsection, the Secretary shall consider the impact of the quotas on consumers, workers, businesses (including small businesses), and agricultural producers.

''(c) TEMPORARY TRANSFER OF QUOTAS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—To promote full use of the tariff-rate quotas for raw cane sugar and refined sugar, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary shall promulgate regulations that provide that any country that has been allocated a share of the quotas may temporarily transfer all or part of the share to any other country that has also been allocated a share of the quotas.

''(2) TRANSFERS VOLUNTARY.—Any transfer under this subsection shall be valid only on voluntary agreement between the transferor and the transferee, consistent with procedures established by the Secretary.

''(3) TRANSFERS TEMPORARY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Any transfer under this subsection shall be valid only for the duration of the quota year during which the transfer is made.

''(B) FOLLOWING QUOTA YEAR.—No transfer under this subsection shall affect the share of the quota allocated to the transferor or transferee for the following quota year.''.

(e) EFFECTIVE PERIOD.—Section 359l(a) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1359ll(a)) is amended by striking ''2012'' and inserting ''2017''.

On page 897, strike lines 8 through 15, and insert the following:

SEC. 9009. REPEAL OF FEEDSTOCK FLEXIBILITY PROGRAM FOR BIOENERGY PRODUCERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 9010 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8110) is repealed.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 359a(3)(B) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1359aa(3)(B)) is amended—

(A) in clause (i), by inserting ''and'' after the semicolon at the end;

(B) in clause (ii), by striking ''; and'' at the end and inserting a period; and

(C) by striking clause (iii).

(2) Section 359b(c)(2)(C) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1359bb(c)(2)(C)) is amended by striking '', except for'' and all that follows through '' of 2002''.

SA 2160. Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. KIRK, and Mr. LAUTENBERG) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike subtitle C of title I and insert the following:

Subtitle C—Sugar

SEC. 1301. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the ''Stop Unfair Giveaways and Restrictions Act of 2012'' or ''SUGAR Act of 2012''.

SEC. 1302. SUGAR PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 156 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7272) is amended—

(1) in subsection (d), by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

''(1) LOANS.—The Secretary shall carry out this section through the use of recourse loans.'';

(2) by redesignating subsection (i) as subsection (j);

(3) by inserting after subsection (h) the following:

''(i) PHASED REDUCTION OF LOAN RATE.—For each of the 2012, 2013, and 2014 crops of sugar beets and sugarcane, the Secretary shall lower the loan rate for each succeeding crop in a manner that progressively and uniformly lowers the loan rate for sugar beets and sugarcane to $0 for the 2015 crop.''; and

(4) in subsection (j) (as redesignated), by striking ''2012'' and inserting ''2014''.

(b) PROSPECTIVE REPEAL.—Effective beginning with the 2015 crop of sugar beets and sugarcane, section 156 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7272) is repealed.

SEC. 1303. ELIMINATION OF SUGAR PRICE SUPPORT AND PRODUCTION ADJUSTMENT PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law—

(1) a processor of any of the 2015 or subsequent crops of sugarcane or sugar beets shall not be eligible for a loan under any provision of law with respect to the crop; and

(2) the Secretary may not make price support available, whether in the form of a loan, payment, purchase, or other operation, for any of the 2015 and subsequent crops of sugar beets and sugarcane by using the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation or other funds available to the Secretary.

(b) TERMINATION OF MARKETING QUOTAS AND ALLOTMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Part VII of subtitle B of title III of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1359aa et seq.) is repealed.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 344(f)(2) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1344(f)(2)) is amended by striking ''sugar cane for sugar, sugar beets for sugar,''.

(c) GENERAL POWERS.—

(1) SECTION 32 ACTIVITIES.—Section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935 (7 U.S.C. 612c), is amended in the second sentence of the first paragraph—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting ''(other than sugar beets and sugarcane)'' after ''commodities''; and

(B) in paragraph (3), by inserting ''(other than sugar beets and sugarcane)'' after ''commodity''.

(2) POWERS OF COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION.—Section 5(a) of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (15 U.S.C. 714c(a)) is amended by inserting '', sugar beets, and sugarcane'' after ''tobacco''.

(3) PRICE SUPPORT FOR NONBASIC AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES.—Section 201(a) of the Agricultural Act of 1949 (7 U.S.C. 1446(a)) is amended by striking ''milk, sugar beets, and sugarcane'' and inserting '', and milk''.

(4) COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION STORAGE PAYMENTS.—Section 167 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7287) is repealed.

(5) SUSPENSION AND REPEAL OF PERMANENT PRICE SUPPORT AUTHORITY.—Section 171(a)(1) of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7301(a)(1)) is amended—

(A) by striking subparagraph (E); and

(B) by redesignating subparagraphs (F) through (I) as subparagraphs (E) through (H), respectively.

(6) STORAGE FACILITY LOANS.—Section 1402(c) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 7971) is repealed.

(7) FEEDSTOCK FLEXIBILITY PROGRAM FOR BIOENERGY PRODUCERS.—Effective beginning with the 2013 crop of sugar beets and sugarcane, section 9010 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8110) is repealed.

(d) TRANSITION PROVISIONS.—This section and the amendments made by this section shall not affect the liability of any person under any provision of law as in effect before the application of this section and the amendments made by this section.

SEC. 1304. TARIFF-RATE QUOTAS.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Except as provided in subsection (c) and notwithstanding any other provision of law, not later than October 1, 2012, the Secretary shall develop and implement a program to increase the tariff-rate quotas for raw cane sugar and refined sugars for a quota year in a manner that ensures—

(1) a robust and competitive sugar processing industry in the United States; and

(2) an adequate supply of sugar at reasonable prices in the United States.

(b) FACTORS.—In determining the tariff-rate quotas necessary to satisfy the requirements of subsection (a), the Secretary shall consider the following:

(1) The quantity and quality of sugar that will be subject to human consumption in the United States during the quota year.

(2) The quantity and quality of sugar that will be available from domestic processing of sugarcane, sugar beets, and in-process beet sugar.

(3) The quantity of sugar that would provide for reasonable carryover stocks.

(4) The quantity of sugar that will be available from carryover stocks for human consumption in the United States during the quota year.

(5) Consistency with the obligations of the United States under international agreements.

(c) EXEMPTION.—Subsection (a) shall not include specialty sugar.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the terms ''quota year'' and ''human consumption'' have the meaning such terms had under section 359k of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1359kk) (as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act).

SEC. 1305. APPLICATION.

Except as otherwise provided in this subtitle, this subtitle and the amendments made by this subtitle shall apply beginning with the 2012 crop of sugar beets and sugarcane.

SA 2161. Mrs. GILLIBRAND submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 331, between lines 2 and 3, insert the following:

SEC. 4009. PLAN FOR INTERVIEWING HOUSEHOLDS.

Section 11(e)(3) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2020(e)(3)) is amended by striking ''by way of'' and inserting ''using a plan for interviewing households at the time of application and recertification of eligibility, in a manner approved by the Secretary and that is adequate to ensure the integrity of the program and accuracy of payments, but not requiring that every applicant household be interviewed at application or that every participating household be interviewed at every recertification, and using''.

SA 2162. Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. AYOTTE, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. VITTER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtltie C of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 12207. REPORT ON EFFECTS OF BUDGET SEQUESTRATION ON THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The inability of the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction to find $1,200,000,000,000 in savings will trigger automatic funding reductions known as ''sequestration'' to the Department of Defense of $492,000,000,000 between 2013 and 2021 under section 251A of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901a).

(2) These reductions are in addition to reductions of $487,000,000,000 already being implemented by the Department of Defense, and would decrease the readiness and capabilities of the Armed Forces while increasing risks to the effective implementation of the National Security Strategy of the United States.

(3) The leaders of the Department of Defense have consistently testified that threats to the national security of the United States have increased, not decreased. Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta said that these reductions would ''inflict severe damage to our national defense for generations'', comments that have been echoed by the Secretaries of the Army, Navy, and Air Force.

(4) While reductions in funds available for the Department of Defense will automatically commence January 2, 2013, uncertainty regarding the reductions has already exacerbated Department of Defense efforts to plan future defense budgets.

(5) Sequestration will have a detrimental effect on the industrial base that supports the Department of Defense.

(b) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than August 15, 2012, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a detailed report on the impact on the Department of Defense of the sequestration of funds authorized and appropriated for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of Defense, if automatically triggered on January 2, 2013, under section 251A of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The report required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) An assessment of the potential impact of sequestration on the readiness of the Armed Forces, including impacts to steaming hours, flying hours, and full spectrum training miles, and an estimate of the increase or decrease in readiness (as defined in the C status C 1 through C 5).

(B) An assessment of the potential impact of sequestration on the ability of the Department of Defense to carry out the National Military Strategy of the United States, and any changes to the most recent Risk Assessment of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff under section 153(b) of title 10, United States Code arising from sequestration.

(C) A detailed estimate of the reduction in force of civilian personnel as a result of sequestration, including the estimated timing of such reduction in force actions and timing of reduction in force notifications thereof.

(D) A list of the programs, projects, and activities across the Department of Defense, the military departments, and the elements and components of the Department of Defense that would be reduced or terminated as a result of sequestration.

(E) An estimate of the number and value of all contracts that will be terminated, restructured, or revised in scope as a result of sequestration, including an estimate of potential termination costs and of increased contract costs due to renegotiation and reinstatement of contracts.

(F) An assessment of the impact on ongoing military operations, and the safety of United States military personnel, of sequestration of funds in accounts for overseas contingency operations.

(3) ASSUMPTIONS.—The report required by paragraph (1) shall assume the following:

(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the funds subject to sequester are the funds in all 050 accounts, including all unobligated balances.

(B) Funds in accounts for military personnel are exempt from the sequester.

(4) PRESENTATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION.—In listing programs, projects, and activities under paragraph (2)(D), the report required by paragraph (1) shall set forth for each the following:

(A) The most specific level of budget item identified in applicable appropriations Acts.

(B) Related classified annexes and explanatory statements.

(C) Department of Defense budget justification documents DOD P 1 and R 1 as subsequently modified by congressional action, and as submitted by the Department of Defense together with the budget materials for the budget of the President for fiscal year 2013 (as submitted to Congress pursuant to section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code).

(D) Department of Defense document O 1 for operation and maintenance accounts for fiscal year 2013, for which purpose the term ''program, project, or activity'' means the budget activity account and sub account for the program, project, or activity as submitted in such document O 1.

(c) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means—

(1) the Committees on Armed Services, Appropriations, and the Budget of the Senate; and

(2) the Committees on Armed Services, Appropriations, and the Budget of the House of Representatives.

SA 2163. Mr. MCCAIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1009, after line 11, add the following:

SEC. 122____. PROHIBITION ON USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS RELATING TO ETHANOL BLENDER PUMPS AND ETHANOL STORAGE FACILITIES.

Effective beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, no funds made available by Federal law shall be expended to construct, fund, install, or operate an ethanol blender pump or an ethanol storage facility (unless the funds are expended to construct, fund, install, or operate an ethanol blender pump or an ethanol storage facility for use by motor vehicle fleets operated by a Federal agency), including—

(1) funds in any trust fund to which funds are made available by Federal law; and

(2) any funds made available under the Rural Energy for America Program established under section 9007 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8107).

SA 2164. Mr. LEAHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1009, after line 11, add the following:

SEC. 12207. CRIMINAL PENALTIES UNDER THE FEDERAL FOOD, DRUG, AND COSMETIC ACT RELATING TO MISBRANDED OR ADULTERATED FOOD.

Section 303(a) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 333(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''Any'' and inserting ''Except as provided in paragraph (2) or (3), any'';

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking ''Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (1) of this section, if'' and inserting ''If''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(3) Any person who violates subsection (a), (b), (c), or (k) of section 301 with respect to any food—

''(A) knowingly and intentionally to defraud or mislead; and

''(B) with conscious or reckless disregard of a risk of death or serious bodily injury,

shall be fined under title 18, United States Code, imprisoned for not more than 10 years, or both.''.

SA 2165. Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr.

SESSIONS, Mr. HELLER, Mr. VITTER, and Mr. CRAPO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1009, after line 11, add the following:

SEC. 12207. IDENTIFICATION OF WATERS PROTECTED BY THE CLEAN WATER ACT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Neither the Secretary of the Army nor the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall—

(1) finalize the proposed guidance described in the notice of availability and request for comments entitled ''EPA and Army Corps of Engineers Guidance Regarding Identification of Waters Protected by the Clean Water Act'' (EPA HQ OW 2011 0409) (76 Fed. Reg. 24479 (May 2, 2011)); or

(2) use the guidance described in paragraph (1), or any substantially similar guidance, as the basis for any decision regarding the scope of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.) or any rulemaking.

(b) RULES.—The use of the guidance described in subsection (a)(1), or any substantially similar guidance, as the basis for any rule shall be grounds for vacation of the rule.

SA 2166. Mr. RUBIO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ___. PAYMENT OF HIGHER WAGES.

Section 9(a) of the National Labor Relations Act (29 U.S.C. 159(a)) is amended—

(1) by inserting ''(1)'' after ''(a)''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) Notwithstanding a labor organization's exclusive representation of employees in a unit, or the terms and conditions of any collective bargaining contract or agreement then in effect, nothing in either—

''(A) section 8(a)(1) or section 8(a)(5), or

''(B) a collective bargaining contract or agreement renewed or entered into after the date of enactment of the RAISE Act,

shall prohibit an employer from paying an employee in the unit greater wages, pay, or other compensation for, or by reason of, his or her services as an employee of such employer, than provided for in such contract or agreement.''.

SA 2167. Mr. GRASSLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 140, strike line 1 and insert the following:

(b) LIMITATION ON MARKETING LOAN GAINS AND LOAN DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS FOR PEANUTS AND OTHER COVERED COMMODITIES.—Section 1001 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1308) is amended by striking subsection (d) and inserting the following:

''(d) LIMITATION ON MARKETING LOAN GAINS AND LOAN DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS FOR PEANUTS AND OTHER COVERED COMMODITIES.—The total amount of marketing loan gains and loan deficiency payments received, directly or indirectly, by a person or legal entity (except a joint venture or general partnership) for any crop year under subtitle B of the Agriculture Reform, Food, and Jobs Act of 2012 (or a successor provision) for—

''(1) peanuts may not exceed $75,000; and

''(2) 1 or more other covered commodities may not exceed $75,000.''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

On page 143, line 9, strike ''(c)'' and insert ''(d)''.

SA 2168. Mr. GRASSLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 139, lines 17 and 18, strike ''PEANUTS AND OTHER''.

On page 139, lines 22 through 24, strike ''for—'' and all that follows through ''1 or more other'' and insert ''for 1 or more''.

SA 2169. Mr. GRASSLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 424, between lines 3 and 4, insert the following:

''(d) LIMITATION ON PERIOD BORROWERS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR GUARANTEED LOANS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary shall not guarantee a loan under this chapter for a borrower for any year after the 15th year that a guarantee is provided with respect to, the borrower under this chapter.

''(2) WAIVERS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may, on a case-by-case basis not subject to administrative appeal, grant a borrower a waiver from the limitation period under paragraph (1) if the borrower demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Secretary that—

''(i) the borrower has a viable farm or ranch operation; and

''(ii) the borrower is unable to obtain a commercial loan without a loan guarantee.

''(B) WAIVER PERIOD.—A waiver issued under subparagraph (A) shall not be for a period of more than 3 years.

SA 2170. Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. CONRAD) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 998, between lines 7 and 8, insert the following:

SEC. 12106. PROHIBITION ON PACKERS OWNING, FEEDING, OR CONTROLLING LIVESTOCK.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 202 of the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921 (7 U.S.C. 192), is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (f) and (g) as subsections (g) and (h), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (e) the following:

''(f) Own or feed livestock directly, through a subsidiary, or through an arrangement that gives the packer operational, managerial, or supervisory control over the livestock, or over the farming operation that produces the livestock, to such an extent that the producer is no longer materially participating in the management of the operation with respect to the production of the livestock, except that this subsection shall not apply to—

''(1) an arrangement entered into within 14 days (excluding any Saturday or Sunday) before slaughter of the livestock by a packer, a person acting through the packer, or a person that directly or indirectly controls, or is controlled by or under common control with, the packer;

''(2) a cooperative or entity owned by a cooperative, if a majority of the ownership interest in the cooperative is held by active cooperative members that—

''(A) own, feed, or control livestock; and

''(B) provide the livestock to the cooperative for slaughter;

''(3) a packer that is not required to report to the Secretary on each reporting day (as defined in section 212 of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1635a)) information on the price and quantity of livestock purchased by the packer; or

''(4) a packer that owns 1 livestock processing plant; or''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the amendments made by subsection (a) take effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) TRANSITION RULES.—In the case of a packer that on the date of enactment of this Act owns, feeds, or controls livestock intended for slaughter in violation of section 202(f) of the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921 (as amended by subsection (a)), the amendments made by subsection (a) apply to the packer—

(A) in the case of a packer of swine, beginning on the date that is 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act; and

(B) in the case of a packer of any other type of livestock, beginning as soon as practicable, but not later than 180 days, after the date of enactment of this Act, as determined by the Secretary.

SA 2171. Mr. SESSIONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 313, after line 25, insert the following:

SEC. 4003. SYSTEMATIC ALIEN VERIFICATION FOR ENTITLEMENTS.

Section 5 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2014) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(o) SYSTEMATIC ALIEN VERIFICATION FOR ENTITLEMENTS.—

''(1) DEFINITION OF SATISFACTORY IMMIGRATION STATUS.—In this subsection, the term 'satisfactory immigration status' means an immigration status under which an individual is eligible for benefits under the supplemental nutrition assistance program, if the individual otherwise meets the requirements of this Act.

''(2) DECLARATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—As a condition of eligibility for the supplemental nutrition assistance program, the Secretary shall require each head of a household seeking to participate in the program to submit to the applicable State agency a written declaration in accordance with subparagraph (B), which the head of household shall sign under penalty of perjury.

''(B) CONTENTS.—The head of household shall certify in the written declaration under subparagraph (A) that each member of the household is—

''(i) national of the United States (as that term is defined in section 101(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)); or

''(ii) in a satisfactory immigration status.

''(3) DOCUMENTATION.—

''(A) NATIONALS OF THE UNITED STATES.—Subject to subparagraph (B), for each member of a household for which a certification is made under clause (i) of paragraph (2)(B), the head of household shall submit to the

State agency administering the supplemental nutrition assistance program documentation demonstrating that each such member is a national of the United States that is—

''(i) a document showing birth in the United States;

''(ii) a United States consular report of birth;

''(iii) a United States passport;

''(iv) a Certificate of Naturalization; or

''(v) a Certificate of Citizenship.

''(B) SATISFACTORY IMMIGRATION STATUS.—Subject to subparagraph (B), for each member of a household for which a certification is made under clause (ii) of paragraph (2)(B), the head of household shall submit to the State agency administering the supplemental nutrition assistance program—

''(i) alien registration documentation or other proof of immigration registration issued by the Secretary of Homeland Security that contains—

''(I) the alien admission number of the individual; and

''(II) the alien file number of the individual; or

''(ii) any other document that the State agency determines constitutes reasonable evidence of a satisfactory immigration status.

''(C) ADULT HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS.—An individual who is a member of a household who is 18 years of age or older for which a certification is made under clause (i) or (ii) of paragraph (2)(B) shall submit to the State agency the documentation described in subparagraph (A) or (B) on such individual's own behalf.

''(4) SYSTEMATIC ALIEN VERIFICATION FOR ENTITLEMENTS PROGRAM.—For documentation described in paragraph (3)(B), the State agency to which the documentation is submitted shall use the alien admission number or alien file number of the individual to verify the immigration status of the individual using the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.''.

SA 2172. Mr. SESSIONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 335, between lines 8 and 9, insert the following:

SEC. 4011. REPEAL OF STATE BONUS PAYMENTS.

Section 16 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2025) is amended by striking subsection (d).

SA 2173. Mr. SESSIONS (for himself and Ms. AYOTTE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 4002 and insert the following:

SEC. 4002. STANDARD UTILITY ALLOWANCE.

(a) STANDARD UTILITY ALLOWANCE.—Section 5 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2014) is amended—

(1) in subsection (e)(6)(C), by striking clause (iv); and

(2) in subsection (k), by striking paragraph (4) and inserting the following:

''(4) THIRD PARTY ENERGY ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS.—For purposes of subsection (d)(1), a payment made under a State law (other than a law referred to in paragraph (2)(G)) to provide energy assistance to a household shall be considered money payable directly to the household.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 2605(f)(2) of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981 (42 U.S.C. 8624(f)(2)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''and for purposes of determining any excess shelter expense deduction under section 5(e) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2014(e))''; and

(2) in subparagraph (A), by inserting before the semicolon the following: '', except that such payments or allowances shall not be considered to be expended for purposes of determining any excess shelter expense deduction under section 5(e)(6) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2014(e)(6))''.

SA 2174. Mr. SESSIONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 312, between lines 8 and 9, insert the following:

SEC. 4002. LIMITATION ON CATEGORICAL ELIGIBILITY.

Section 5 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2014) is amended—

(1) in the second sentence of subsection (a), by striking ''households in which each member receives benefits'' and inserting ''households in which each member receives cash assistance''; and

(2) in subsection (j), by striking ''or who receives benefits under a State program'' and inserting ''or who receives cash assistance under a State program''.

SA 2175. Mr. BARRASSO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1009, after line 11, add the following:

SEC. 122___. GRAZING PERMITS AND LEASES.

(a) TERMS OF GRAZING PERMITS AND LEASES.—Section 402 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1752) is amended—

(1) by striking ''ten years'' each place it appears and inserting ''20 years''; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking ''or'' at the end of each of paragraphs (1) and (2);

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; or''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(4) the initial environmental analysis under National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) regarding a grazing allotment, permit, or lease has not been completed.''.

(b) RENEWAL, TRANSFER, AND REISSUANCE OF GRAZING PERMITS AND LEASES.—Title IV of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 405. RENEWAL, TRANSFER, REISSUANCE, AND PENDING PROCESSING OF GRAZING PERMITS AND LEASES.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) CURRENT GRAZING MANAGEMENT.—The term 'current grazing management' means grazing in accordance with the terms and conditions of an existing permit or lease and includes any modifications that are consistent with an applicable Department of Interior resource management plan or Department of Agriculture land use plan.

''(2) SECRETARY CONCERNED.—The term 'Secretary concerned' means—

''(A) the Secretary of Agriculture, with respect to National Forest System land; and

''(B) the Secretary of the Interior, with respect to land under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior.

''(b) RENEWAL, TRANSFER, REISSUANCE, AND PENDING PROCESSING.—A grazing permit or lease issued by the Secretary of the Interior, or a grazing permit issued by the Secretary of Agriculture regarding National Forest System land, that expires, is transferred, or is waived shall be renewed or reissued under, as appropriate—

''(1) section 402;

''(2) section 19 of the Act of April 24, 1950 (commonly known as the 'Granger-Thye Act'; 16 U.S.C. 5801);

''(3) title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act (7 U.S.C. 1010 et seq.); or

''(4) section 510 the California Desert Protection Act of 1994 (16 U.S.C. 410aaa 50).

''(c) TERMS; CONDITIONS.—The terms and conditions (except the termination date) contained in an expired, transferred, or waived permit or lease described in subsection (b) shall continue in effect under a renewed or reissued permit or lease until the date on which the Secretary concerned completes the processing of the renewed or reissued permit or lease that is the subject of the expired, transferred, or waived permit or lease, in compliance with each applicable law.

''(d) CANCELLATION; SUSPENSION; MODIFICATION.—Notwithstanding subsection (c), a permit or lease described in subsection (b) may be cancelled, suspended, or modified in accordance with applicable law.

''(e) RENEWAL, TRANSFER, OR REISSUANCE AFTER PROCESSING.—When the Secretary concerned has completed the processing of the renewed or reissued permit or lease that is the subject of the expired, transferred, or waived permit or lease, the Secretary concerned may renew or reissue the permit or lease for a term of 20 years after completion of processing.

''(f) COMPLIANCE WITH NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT OF 1969.—The renewal, reissuance, or transfer of a grazing permit or lease by the Secretary concerned may, at the sole discretion of the Secretary concerned, be categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or an environmental impact statement if—

''(1) the decision to renew, reissue, or transfer continues the current grazing management of the allotment;

''(2) monitoring of the allotment has indicated that the current grazing management has met, or has satisfactorily progressed towards meeting, objectives contained in the land use and resource management plan of the allotment, as determined by the Secretary concerned; or

''(3) the decision is consistent with the policy of the Department of the Interior or the Department of Agriculture, as appropriate, regarding extraordinary circumstances.

''(g) PRIORITY AND TIMING FOR COMPLETING ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSES.—The Secretary concerned, in the sole discretion of the Secretary concerned, shall determine the priority and timing for completing each required environmental analysis regarding any grazing allotment, permit, or lease based on the environmental significance of the allotment, permit, or lease and available funding for that purpose.

''(h) NEPA EXEMPTIONS.—The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) shall not apply to the following:

''(1) Crossing and trailing authorizations of domestic livestock.

''(2) Transfer of grazing preference.''.

SA 2176. Mr. BARRASSO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed

by him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 880, between lines 3 and 4, insert the following:

SEC. 83_____. COOPERATIVE AGREEEMENTS FOR FOREST, RANGELAND, AND WATERSHED RESTORATION AND PROTECTION SERVICES.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ELIGIBLE STATE.—The term ''eligible State'' means a State that contains National Forest System land or Bureau of Land Management land located west of the 100th meridian.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means—

(A) the Secretary of Agriculture, with respect to National Forest System land; or

(B) the Secretary of the Interior, with respect to Bureau of Land Management land.

(3) STATE FORESTER.—The term ''State forester'' means the head of a State agency with jurisdiction over State forestry programs in an eligible State.

(b) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS AND CONTRACTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may enter into a cooperative agreement or contract (including a sole source contract) with a State forester to authorize the State forester to provide the forest, rangeland, and watershed restoration and protection services described in paragraph (2) on National Forest System land or Bureau of Land Management land, as applicable, in the eligible State.

(2) AUTHORIZED SERVICES.—The forest, rangeland, and watershed restoration and protection services referred to in paragraph (1) include the conduct of—

(A) activities to treat insect infected trees;

(B) activities to reduce hazardous fuels; and

(C) any other activities to restore or improve forest, rangeland, and watershed health, including fish and wildlife habitat.

(3) STATE AS AGENT.—Except as provided in paragraph (6), a cooperative agreement or contract entered into under paragraph (1) may authorize the State forester to serve as the agent for the Secretary in providing the restoration and protection services authorized under paragraph (1).

(4) SUBCONTRACTS.—In accordance with applicable contract procedures for the eligible State, a State forester may enter into subcontracts to provide the restoration and protection services authorized under a cooperative agreement or contract entered into under paragraph (1).

(5) TIMBER SALES.—Subsections (d) and (g) of section 14 of the National Forest Management Act of 1976 (16 U.S.C. 472a) shall not apply to services performed under a cooperative agreement or contract entered into under paragraph (1).

(6) RETENTION OF NEPA RESPONSIBILITIES.—Any decision required to be made under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) with respect to any restoration and protection services to be provided under this section by a State forester on National Forest System land or Bureau of Land Management land, as applicable, shall not be delegated to a State forester or any other officer or employee of the eligible State.

(7) APPLICABLE LAW.—The restoration and protection services to be provided under this section shall be carried out on a project-to-project basis under existing authorities of the Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management, as applicable.

SA 2177. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____. NAVIGABLE WATERS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the ''Defense of Environment and Property Act of 2012''.

(b) NAVIGABLE WATERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 502 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1362) is amended by striking paragraph (7) and inserting the following:

''(7) NAVIGABLE WATERS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'navigable waters' means the waters of the United States, including the territorial seas, that are—

''(i) navigable-in-fact; or

''(ii) permanent, standing, or continuously flowing bodies of water that form geographical features commonly known as streams, oceans, rivers, and lakes that are connected to waters that are navigable-in-fact.

''(B) EXCLUSIONS.—The term 'navigable waters' does not include—

''(i) waters that—

''(I) do not physically abut waters described in subparagraph (A); and

''(II) lack a continuous surface water connection to navigable waters;

''(ii) man-made or natural structures or channels—

''(I) through which water flows intermittently or ephemerally; or

''(II) that periodically provide drainage for rainfall; or

''(iii) wetlands without a continuous surface connection to bodies of water that are waters of the United States.

''(C) EPA AND CORPS ACTIVITIES.—An activity carried out by the Administrator or the Corps of Engineers shall not, without explicit State authorization, impinge upon the traditional and primary power of States over land and water use.

''(D) AGGREGATION; WETLANDS.—

''(i) AGGREGATION.—Aggregation of wetlands or waters not described in clauses (i) through (iii) of subparagraph (B) shall not be used to determine or assert Federal jurisdiction.

''(ii) WETLANDS.—Wetlands described in subparagraph (B)(iii) shall not be considered to be under Federal jurisdiction.

''(E) APPEALS.—A jurisdictional determination by the Administrator that would affect the ability of a State to plan the development and use (including restoration, preservation, and enhancement) of land and water resources may be appealed by the State during the 30-day period beginning on the date of the determination.

''(F) TREATMENT OF GROUND WATER.—Ground water shall—

''(i) be considered to be State water; and

''(ii) not be considered in determining or asserting Federal jurisdiction over isolated or other waters, including intermittent or ephemeral water bodies.

''(G) PROHIBITION ON USE OF NEXUS TEST.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Administrator may not use a significant nexus test (as used by EPA in the proposed document listed in section 3(a)(1)) to determine Federal jurisdiction over navigable waters and waters of the United States (as those terms are defined and used, respectively, in section 502 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1362)).''.

(2) APPLICABILITY.—Nothing in this subsection or the amendments made by this subsection affects or alters any exemption under—

(A) section 402(l) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1342(l)); or

(B) section 404(f) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1344(f)).

(c) APPLICABILITY OF AGENCY REGULATIONS AND GUIDANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The following regulations and guidance shall have no force or effect:

(A) The final rule of the Corps of Engineers entitled ''Final Rule for Regulatory Programs of the Corps of Engineers'' (51 Fed. Reg. 41206 (November 13, 1986)).

(B) The proposed rule of the Environmental Protection Agency entitled ''Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on the Clean Water Act Regulatory Definition of 'Waters of the United States' '' (68 Fed. Reg. 1991 (January 15, 2003)).

(C) The guidance document entitled ''Clean Water Act Jurisdiction Following the U.S. Supreme Court's Decision in 'Rapanos v. United States' & 'Carabell v. United States' '' (December 2, 2008) (relating to the definition of waters under the jurisdiction of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.)).

(D) Any subsequent regulation of or guidance issued by any Federal agency that defines or interprets the term ''navigable waters''.

(2) PROHIBITION.—The Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall not promulgate any rules or issue any guidance that expands or interprets the definition of navigable waters unless expressly authorized by Congress.

(d) STATE REGULATION OF WATER.—Nothing in this section affects, amends, or supersedes—

(1) the right of a State to regulate waters in the State; or

(2) the duty of a landowner to adhere to any State nuisance laws (including regulations) relating to waters in the State.

(e) CONSENT FOR ENTRY BY FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES.—Section 308 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1318) is amended by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—

''(1) ENTRY BY FEDERAL AGENCY.—A representative of a Federal agency shall only enter private property to collect information about navigable waters if the owner of that property—

''(A) has consented to the entry in writing;

''(B) is notified regarding the date of the entry; and

''(C) is given access to any data collected from the entry.

''(2) ACCESS.—If a landowner consents to entry under paragraph (1), the landowner shall have the right to be present at the time any data collection on the property of the landowner is carried out.''.

(f) COMPENSATION FOR REGULATORY TAKING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If a Federal regulation relating to the definition of navigable waters or waters of the United States diminishes the fair market value or economic viability of a property, as determined by an independent appraiser, the Federal agency issuing the regulation shall pay the affected property owner an amount equal to twice the value of the loss.

(2) ADMINISTRATION.—Any payment provided under paragraph (1) shall be made from the amounts made available to the relevant agency head for general operations of the agency.

(3) APPLICABILITY.—A Federal regulation described in paragraph (1) shall have no force or effect until the date on which each landowner with a claim under this subsection relating to that regulation has been compensated in accordance with this subsection.

SA 2178. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____. FREEDOM FROM OVERCRIMINALIZATION AND UNJUST SEIZURES.

(a) PROHIBITED ACTS.—Section 3(a) of the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3372(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''or in violation of any foreign law''; and

(B) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) in clause (i), by striking '', or any foreign law,'';

(ii) in clause (ii), by striking ''or any foreign law''; and

(iii) in clause (iii), by striking '', or under any foreign law,''; and

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''foreign law or''; and

(B) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) in clause (i), by striking '', or any foreign law,'';

(ii) in clause (ii), by striking ''or any foreign law''; and

(iii) in clause (iii), by striking '', or under any foreign law,''.

(b) PENALTIES.—Section 4 of the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3373) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

''(1) ASSESSMENT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Any person who engages in conduct prohibited by any provision of this Act (other than subsections (b), (d), and (f) of section 3) and in the exercise of due care should know that the fish, wildlife, or plants were taken, possessed, transported, or sold in violation of, or in a manner unlawful under, any underlying law, treaty, or regulation, and any person who knowingly violates subsection (d) or (f) of section 3, may be assessed a civil penalty by the Secretary for each violation in accordance with subparagraph (B) or (C), as applicable.

''(B) MARKET VALUE OF LESS THAN $350.—If a violation under subparagraph (A) involves fish or wildlife or plants with a market value of less than $350 and involves only the transportation, acquisition, or receipt of fish, wildlife, or plants taken or possessed in violation of any law, treaty, or regulation of the United States, tribal law, or any law or regulation of a State, the penalty assessed under subparagraph (A) for the violation shall not exceed the lesser of—

''(i) the maximum amount of the penalty provided for violation of the law or regulation; or

''(ii) $10,000.

''(C) OTHER VIOLATIONS.—For any violation under subparagraph (A) that is not described in subparagraph (B), the penalty assessed under that subparagraph shall not exceed $200,000.''; and

(2) by striking subsections (d) and (e).

(c) FORFEITURE.—Section 5 of the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3374) is amended—

(1) by striking subsections (a) and (b) and inserting the following:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—All fish, wildlife, or plants imported, exported, transported, sold, received, acquired, or purchased in violation of section 3 (other than subsection (b) of that section), or any regulation issued under that section, shall be subject to forfeiture to the United States notwithstanding any culpability requirements for civil penalty assessment under section 4.'';

(2) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsections (b) and (c), respectively; and

(3) in subsection (b) (as redesignated), by striking ''convicted of an offense, or assessed a civil penalty,'' and inserting ''assessed a civil penalty''.

(d) ENFORCEMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 6 of the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3375) is amended—

(A) by striking subsection (b);

(B) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsections (b) and (c), respectively;

(C) in subsection (b) (as redesignated), by striking the third sentence; and

(D) in the first sentence of subsection (c) (as redesignated)—

(i) by striking ''an arrest, a criminal conviction, civil penalty assessment, or forfeiture of property'' and inserting ''a civil penalty assessment or forfeiture of property''; and

(ii) by striking ''or criminal''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Section 3(c)(3) of the Fish and Wildlife Improvement Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 7421(c)(3)) is amended by striking ''section 6(d) of the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3375(d))'' and inserting ''section 6(c) of the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3375(c))''.

(B) Section 503(b) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1423b(b)) is amended—

(i) by striking the subsection designation and heading and all that follows through ''The Secretary may utilize'' in paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

''(b) UTILIZATION OF OTHER GOVERNMENT RESOURCES AND AUTHORITIES.—The Secretary may utilize''; and

(ii) by striking paragraph (2).

(C) Section 11(d) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1540(d)) is amended in the fourth sentence by striking ''section 6(d) of the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3375(d))'' and inserting ''section 6(c) of the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3375(c))''.

(D) Section 7(f) of the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 5305a(f)) is amended by striking ''section 6(d) of the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3375(d))'' and inserting ''section 6(c) of the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3375(c))''.

(E) Section 524(c)(4)(A) of title 28, United States Code, is amended by striking ''section 6(d) of the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3375(d))'' and inserting ''section 6(c) of the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3375(c))''.

(F) Section 1402(b)(1)(A)(ii) of the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10601(b)(1)(A)(ii)) is amended by striking ''section 6(d) of the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3375(d))'' and inserting ''section 6(c) of the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3375(c))''.

(e) EXCEPTIONS.—Section 8 of the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3377) is amended by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

''(b) ACTIVITIES REGULATED BY TUNA CONVENTION ACTS.—Paragraphs (1), (2)(A), and (3)(A) of subsection 3(a) shall not apply to any activity regulated by the Tuna Conventions Act of 1950 (16 U.S.C. 951 et seq.) or the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act of 1975 (16 U.S.C. 971 et seq.).''.

SA 2179. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. CARRYING OF FIREARMS BY DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES.

(a) AUTHORITY OF THE OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL.—Section 1337 of the Agriculture and Food Act of 1981 (7 U.S.C. 2270) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by inserting ''and'' after the semicolon;

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking ''; and''; and

(3) by striking paragraph (3).

(b) FIREARM AUTHORITY OF EMPLOYEES ENGAGED IN ANIMAL QUARANTINE ENFORCEMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1 of Public Law 97 312 (7 U.S.C. 2274) is repealed.

(2) EFFECT ON REGULATIONS.—Any regulation promulgated by the Secretary of Agriculture under section 1 of Public Law 97 312 (7 U.S.C. 2274) shall have no force or effect.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 2 of Public Law 97 312 (96 Stat. 1461) is redesignated as section 1.

(c) ENFORCEMENT PROVISIONS.—Section 204(b)(1) of the Sikes Act (16 U.S.C. 670j(b)) is amended—

(1) by striking clause (i); and

(2) by redesignating clauses (ii) through (v) as clauses (i) through (iv), respectively, and by indenting appropriately.

SA 2180. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____. INTERSTATE TRAFFIC OF UNPASTEURIZED MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS.

(a) SALE ALLOWED.—Notwithstanding the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 301 et seq.), section 361 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 264), and any regulations or other guidance issued under such Act or section, a Federal department, agency, or court may not take any action (such as administrative, civil, criminal, or other actions) that would prohibit, interfere with, regulate, or otherwise restrict the interstate traffic of milk, or a milk product, that is unpasteurized and packaged for direct human consumption, if such restriction is based on the determination that, solely because such milk or milk product is unpasteurized, such milk or milk product is adulterated, misbranded, or otherwise in violation of Federal law.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) The terms ''interstate traffic'', ''milk'', and ''milk product'' have the meanings given those terms in section 1240.3 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the date of enactment of this Act).

(2) The term ''packaged for direct human consumption'' means milk and milk products that are packaged for the final consumer and intended for human consumption. Such term does not include milk and milk products that are packaged for additional processing, including pasteurization, before being consumed by humans.

(3) The term ''pasteurized'' means the process of heating milk and milk products to the applicable temperature specified in the tables contained in section 1240.61 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations), and held continuously at or above that temperature for at least the corresponding specified time in such tables.

SA 2181. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by

him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 1605 and insert the following:

SEC. 1605. AVERAGE ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME LIMITATION.

Section 1001D of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1308 3a) is amended by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

''(b) LIMITATIONS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a person or legal entity shall not be eligible to receive any payment or other benefit under the Agriculture Reform, Food, and Jobs Act of 2012, or any amendment made by that Act, during a crop, fiscal, or program year, as appropriate, if the average adjusted gross income of the person or legal entity exceeds $250,000.''.

SA 2182. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Beginning on page 312, strike line 2 and all that follows through page 342, line 10, and insert the following:

Subtitle A—Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Block Grant Program

SEC. 4001. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this subtitle is to empower States with programmatic flexibility and financial predictability in designing and operating State programs—

(1) to raise the levels of nutrition among low-income households;

(2) to provide supplemental nutrition assistance benefits to households with income and resources that are insufficient to meet the costs of providing adequate nutrition; and

(3) to provide States the flexibility to provide new and innovative means to accomplish paragraphs (1) and (2) based on the population and particular needs of each State.

SEC. 4002. STATE PLANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—To receive a grant under section 4003, a State shall submit to the Secretary a written plan that describes the manner in which the State intends to conduct a supplemental nutrition assistance program that—

(1) is designed to serve all political subdivisions in the State;

(2) provides supplemental nutrition assistance benefits to low-income households for the sole purpose of purchasing food, as defined by the applicable State agency in the plan; and

(3) limits participation in the supplemental nutrition assistance program to those households the incomes and other financial resources of which, held singly or in joint ownership, are determined by the State to be a substantial limiting factor in permitting the members of the household to obtain a more nutritious diet.

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—Each plan shall include—

(1) specific objective criteria for—

(A) the determination of eligibility for nutritional assistance for low-income households, which may be based on standards relating to income, assets, family composition, beneficiary population, age, work, current participation in other Federal government means-tested programs, and work, student enrollment, or training requirements; and

(B) fair and equitable treatment of recipients and provision of supplemental nutrition assistance benefits to all low-income households in the State; and

(2) a description of—

(A) benefits provided based on the aggregate grant amount; and

(B) the manner in which supplemental nutrition assistance benefits will be provided under the State plan, including the use of State administration organizations, private contractors, or consultants.

(c) CERTIFICATION OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROGRAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Governor of each State that receives a grant under section 4003 shall issue a certification to the Secretary in accordance with this subsection.

(2) ADMINISTRATION.—The certification shall specify which 1 or more State agencies will administer and supervise the State plan under this section.

(3) PROVISION OF BENEFITS ONLY TO LOW-INCOME INDIVIDUALS AND HOUSEHOLDS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The certification shall certify that the State will—

(i) only provide supplemental nutrition assistance to low-income individuals and households in the State; and

(ii) take such action as is necessary to prohibit any household or member of a household that does not meet the criteria described in subparagraph (B) from receiving supplemental nutrition assistance benefits.

(B) CRITERIA.—A household shall meet the criteria described in this subparagraph if the household is—

(i) a household in which each member receives benefits under the supplemental security income program established under title XVI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1381 et seq.);

(ii) a low-income household that does not exceed 100 percentage of the poverty line (as defined in section 673(2) of the Community Services Block Grant Act (42 U.S.C. 9902(2), including any revision required by such section)) for a family of the size involved as the State shall establish; or

(iii) a household in which each member receives benefits under a State or Federal general assistance program that complies with income criteria standards comparable to or more restrictive than the standards established under clause (ii).

(4) PROVISION OF BENEFITS ONLY TO CITIZENS AND LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES.—The certification shall certify that the State will—

(A) only provide supplemental nutrition assistance to citizens and lawful permanent residents of the United States; and

(B) take such action as is necessary to prohibit supplemental nutrition assistance benefits from being provided to any individual or household a member of which is not a citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States.

(5) CERTIFICATION OF STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES TO ENSURE AGAINST PROGRAM FRAUD, WASTE AND ABUSE.—The certification shall certify that the State—

(A) has established and will continue to enforce standards and procedures to ensure against program fraud, waste, and abuse, including standards and procedures concerning nepotism, conflicts of interest among individuals responsible for the administration and supervision of the State program, kickbacks, and the use of political patronage; and

(B) will prohibit from further receipt of benefits under the program any recipient who attempts to receive benefits fraudulently.

(6) LIMITATION ON SECRETARIAL AUTHORITY.—The Secretary—

(A) may only review a State plan submitted under this section for the purpose of confirming that a State has submitted the required documentation; and

(B) shall not have the authority to approve or deny a State plan submitted under this section or to otherwise inhibit or control the expenditure of grants paid to a State under section 4003, unless a State plan does not comply with the requirements of this section.

SEC. 4003. GRANTS TO STATES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, each State that has submitted a plan that meets the requirements of section 4002 shall receive from the Secretary a grant in an amount determined under subsection (b).

(b) AMOUNTS OF GRANTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (3), a grant received under subsection (a) shall be in an amount equal to the product of—

(A) the amount made available under section 4005 for the applicable fiscal year; and

(B) the proportion that—

(i) the number of individuals residing in the State whose income does not exceed 100 percent of the poverty line described in section 4002(c)(3)(B)(ii) applicable to a family of the size involved; bears to

(ii) the number of such individuals in all States that have submitted a plan under section 4002 for the applicable fiscal year, based on data for the most recent fiscal year for which data is available.

(2) PRO RATA ADJUSTMENTS.—The Secretary shall make pro rata adjustments in the amounts determined for States under paragraph (1) for each fiscal year as necessary to ensure that—

(A) the total amount appropriated for the applicable fiscal year under section 4005 is allotted among all States that submit a plan under section 4002; and

(B) the total amount of all supplemental nutrition assistance grants for States determined for the fiscal year does not exceed the total amount appropriated for the fiscal year.

(3) ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.—

(A) QUARTERLY PAYMENTS.—The Secretary shall make each supplemental nutrition assistance grant payable to a State for a fiscal year under this section in quarterly installments.

(B) COMPUTATION AND CERTIFICATION OF PAYMENT TO STATES.—

(i) COMPUTATION.—The Secretary shall estimate the amount to be paid to each State for each quarter under this section based on a report filed by the State that shall include—

(I) an estimate by the State of the total amount to be expended by the State during the applicable quarter under the State program funded under this subtitle; and

(II) such other information as the Secretary may require.

(ii) CERTIFICATION.—The Secretary shall certify to the Secretary of the Treasury the amount estimated under clause (i) with respect to each State, adjusted to the extent of any overpayment or underpayment—

(I) that the Secretary determines was made under this subtitle to the State for any prior quarter; and

(II) with respect to which adjustment has not been made under this paragraph.

SEC. 4004. USE OF GRANTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), a State that receives a grant under section 4003 may use the grant in any manner that is reasonably demonstrated to accomplish the purposes of this subtitle.

(b) LIMITATION ON USE OF GRANT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES.—A State may not use more than 3 percent of the amount of a grant received for a fiscal year under section 4003 for administrative purposes.

SEC. 4005. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subtitle $45,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2013 and each fiscal year thereafter.

SEC. 4006. REPEAL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Effective 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.) is repealed.

(b) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAW.—Any reference in this Act, an amendment made by this Act, or any other Act to the supplemental nutrition assistance program shall be considered to be a reference to the supplemental nutrition assistance block grant program under this subtitle.

SA 2183. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ___. LIMITATION ON FOREIGN ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN.

No amounts may be obligated or expended to provide any direct United States assistance to the Government of Pakistan unless the President certifies to Congress that—

(1) Dr. Shakil Afridi has been released from prison in Pakistan;

(2) any criminal charges brought against Dr. Afridi, including treason, have been dropped; and

(3) if necessary to ensure his freedom, Dr. Afridi has been allowed to leave Pakistan.

SA 2184. Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. BURR) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title III, add the following:

Subtitle D—Other Matters

SEC. 3301. ACCESS OF MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND THEIR STAFF TO DOCUMENTS RELATING TO TRADE NEGOTIATIONS.

(a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this section are—

(1) to ensure the adequate consultation of the United States Trade Representative with Members of Congress;

(2) to provide Members of Congress with appropriate opportunities—

(A) to advise the Trade Representative with respect to the formulation of trade policy; and

(B) to propose specific negotiating objectives for trade negotiations; and

(3) to provide Members of Congress with the information necessary to assess compliance with and enforcement of commitments made by countries that are parties to trade agreements with the United States.

(b) ACCESS TO CERTAIN DOCUMENTS.—Notwithstanding section 2107 of the Bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority Act of 2002 (19 U.S.C. 3807) or any other provision of law, the United States Trade Representative shall provide access to documents, including classified materials, relating to negotiations for a trade agreement to which the United States may be a party and policies advanced by the Trade Representative in such negotiations to—

(1) any Member of Congress that requests such documents; and

(2) staff of such a Member with proper security clearances.

SA 2185. Mr. GRAHAM submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Beginning on page 312, strike line 2 and all that follows through page 342, line 10, and insert the following:

Subtitle A—Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Block Grant Program

SEC. 4001. SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a supplemental nutrition assistance block grant program under which the Secretary shall make grants to each State that submits to the Secretary a plan describing the manner in which the State will carry out the supplemental nutrition assistance program in the State, including eligibility and fraud prevention requirements.

(b) AMOUNT OF GRANT.—For each fiscal year, the Secretary shall make a grant to each State that has submitted a plan under subsection (a) in an amount equal to the product of—

(1) the amount made available under subsection (c) for the applicable fiscal year; and

(2) the proportion that—

(A) the number of low-income individuals (as determined by the Secretary) in the State; bears to

(B) the number of low-income individuals in all States that have submitted a plan for the applicable fiscal year.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section an amount equal to the amount made available to carry out the supplemental nutrition assistance program established under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.) (as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act) for fiscal year 2010.

SEC. 4002. REPEAL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.) is repealed.

(b) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAW.—Any reference in this Act, an amendment made by this Act, or any other Act to the supplemental nutrition assistance program shall be considered to be a reference to the supplemental nutrition assistance block grant program under this subtitle.

SA 2186. Mr. COBURN (for himself and Mr. DURBIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. LIMITATION ON PREMIUM SUBSIDY BASED ON AVERAGE ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME.

Section 508(e) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1508(e)) (as amended by section 11023(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(9) LIMITATION ON PREMIUM SUBSIDY BASED ON AVERAGE ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME.—

''(A) DEFINITION OF AVERAGE ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME.—In this paragraph, the term 'average adjusted gross income' has the meaning given the term in section 1001D(a) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1308 3a(a)).

''(B) LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this subtitle and beginning with the 2014 reinsurance year, in the case of any producer that is a person or legal entity that has an average adjusted gross income in excess of $750,000 based on the most recent data available from the Farm Service Agency as of the beginning of the reinsurance year, the total amount of premium subsidy provided with respect to additional coverage under subsection (c), section 508B, or section 508C issued on behalf of the producer for a reinsurance year shall be 15 percentage points less than the premium subsidy provided in accordance with this subsection that would otherwise be available for the applicable policy, plan of insurance, and coverage level selected by the producer.''.

SA 2187. Mr. KERRY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 398, line 1, insert ''(including a commercial fisherman)'' after ''farmer''.

SA 2188. Mr. KERRY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1003, line 24, insert ''and commercially harvested fish'' after ''ornamental fish''.

SA 2189. Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle C of title IV, add the following:

SEC. 4208. FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PROGRAM.

Section 19 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1769a) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking ''**FRESH**'';

(2) in subsection (a), by striking ''fresh''; and

(3) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

''(b) PROGRAM.—A school participating in the program—

''(1) shall make free fruits and vegetables available to students throughout the school day (or at such other times as are considered appropriate by the Secretary) in 1 or more areas designated by the school;

''(2) may make the free fruits and vegetables available in any form (such as fresh, frozen, dried, or canned) that meets any nutrition requirement prescribed by the Secretary and consistent with the most recent Dietary Guidelines for Americans published under section 301 of the National Nutrition Monitoring and Related Research Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5341); and

''(3) shall purchase, to the maximum extent practicable, domestic commodities or products in compliance with section 12(n) (including any implementing regulations).''.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on June 6, 2012, at 10 a.m., to conduct a Committee hearing entitled ''Implementing

Wall Street Reform: Enhancing Bank Supervision and Reducing Systemic Risk.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on June 6, 2012, at 2:30 p.m. in room 253 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

The Committee will hold a hearing entitled, ''The European Union Emissions Trading System.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on June 6, 2012, at 10:00 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on June 6, 2012, at 10:00 a.m., in room SD 226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled ''Ensuring that Federal Prosecutors Meet Discovery Obligations.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on June 6, 2012, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD 226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled ''Nominations.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee on Aging be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on June 6, 2012, at 2:00 p.m. in room 562 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing entitled ''Pension Poachers: Preventing Fraud and Protecting America's Veterans.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that two detailees from my office, Herrick Fox and Benjamin Thomas, be granted floor privileges for the remainder of the debate on S. 3240, the Agriculture Reform, Food, and Jobs Act of 2012.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Chris Avery, a fellow in Senator COONS' office, be granted the privilege of the floor for the remainder of the 112th Congress.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator LEAHY, I ask unanimous consent that Michelle Lacko, a fellow on the Senate Judiciary Committee, be granted Senate floor privileges for the duration of the debate on S. 3240, the Agriculture Reform, Food and Jobs Act of 2012.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that privileges of the floor be granted to Benedikt Springer from Senator MERKLEY's staff.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NATIONAL HUNGER AWARENESS DAY

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 484, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 484) designating June 7, 2012, as National Hunger Awareness Day.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise in honor of National Hunger Awareness Day, which takes place on June 7. On this day, we focus on the difficult reality that exists for millions of Americans. Hunger is a form of poverty, and the persistence of hunger in the wealthiest nation in the world is both alarming and unacceptable. It is long past due that we recognize the devastating impact of hunger and commit to protect the anti-hunger programs that help children and families in their time of need.

Today, June 6, marks a sad day in America, the forty-fourth anniversary of Senator Robert Kennedy's death. In April 1967, Senator Kennedy visited homes in the Mississippi Delta where he was stunned to see babies with distended bellies and ice boxes and cupboards bare of food. Senator Kennedy was visibly moved by those he met with on his trip and went back to Washington to make hunger a national issue and to raise federal support for hungry children and families.

Today the fight continues. Hunger remains a reality in all of our communities. We see it in the long lines at our food pantries. We hear it from seniors forced to choose between groceries and medication. And we see it in the faces of children at school who have not had a decent meal since yesterday's school lunch.

During a visit to a food bank in Champaign, IL, I noticed a young woman who I thought worked there or served on the board, but when she spoke with me I learned that she is a teacher's aide in a local school and a single mom with two kids. While she is happy to have her teaching job, she doesn't earn enough to keep food on the table and must rely on the food bank and food stamps.

Her story is not unique. Millions of families live each day not knowing if or how they will put food on the table. Rather than thinking about what the next meal will be, parents worry if there will be a next meal. Today, 50 million people have trouble putting food on the table, and 740,000 children live in a food insecure household. Where there is poverty, we see a greater demand for emergency food programs and support. Fortunately, programs like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program—SNAP—Women, Infant, Children—WIC—Program, and school meal programs provide food for hungry children and families. These programs have responded to the growing need by helping low and middle-class families, children, and seniors maintain a healthy diet.

The benefits of SNAP reach far beyond helping households maintain a healthy diet. SNAP is one of the Nation's most important anti-hunger programs and has provided over 46 million Americans with essential food assistance. In Illinois, more than 1.8 million people rely on SNAP benefits. SNAP has lifted nearly 2.5 million children out of poverty, more than any other government program.

According to the United States Department of Agriculture's—USDA—Economic Research Service, $5 of SNAP benefits can generate $9 in economic activity through retail demand, farm production, and jobs. When millions of Americans are struggling, food stamps meet a basic human need.

This week the Senate will take up the Farm bill, which provides critical funding for food assistance programs, including SNAP. I am concerned about possible amendments to significantly cut the program and fundamentally alter how the program operates. SNAP provides an important safety net for households that have fallen on hard times.

Throughout the country, food banks and pantries that rely on Federal assistance are the front line of the fight against hunger, providing emergency food assistance to hungry families. At a time when millions of middle class Americans are struggling to keep up with higher gas prices, grocery bills, and health care costs, more families are looking to federal programs for assistance. Throughout the country, federal hunger assistance programs have responded to this growing need by providing essential support to hungry families. Over the past 2 years, Illinois food banks have seen a 50 percent increase in requests for food assistance.

As Americans struggle to make ends meet, they rely on food pantries to fill gaps in their grocery needs. The Central Illinois Food Bank is one of many in my State that help to meet that need. Central Illinois Food Bank celebrates its 30th anniversary today. In its

first year, the food bank had one truck and a staff of three and distributed 700,000 pounds of food to 85 agencies. The food bank now serves 150 agencies and distributes 800,000 pounds of food a month. Last year, the food bank helped over 100,000 families and provided well over 1 million pounds of fresh produce. I am grateful to the Central Illinois Food Bank for its work on the front lines of the fight to end hunger and for the safety net it provides for families having trouble putting food on the table.

The millions of Americans who rely on safety net anti-hunger programs may not have the loudest voice in the debate or big public relations firms, but we must protect these programs and work to improve the lives of vulnerable families, children, and seniors at their time of need. Hunger in America is not something we can ignore. At a time when families are working to make ends meet, this isn't the place we should be looking to for cuts. We cannot return to the scenes that Senator Robert Kennedy witnessed decades ago. We should honor his legacy by protecting these programs that help families out food on the table. No family should have to wonder where their next meal will come from.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 484) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 484

Whereas food insecurity and hunger are a fact of life for millions of individuals in the United States and can produce physical, mental, and social impairments;

Whereas recent data published by the Department of Agriculture shows that approximately 48,800,000 individuals in the United States live in households experiencing hunger or food insecurity, and of that number, 32,600,000 are adults and 16,200,000 are children;

Whereas the Department of Agriculture data also shows that households with children experience food insecurity nearly twice as frequently as households without children;

Whereas 4.8 percent of all households in the United States (approximately 5,600,000 households) have accessed emergency food from a food pantry 1 or more times;

Whereas the report entitled ''Household Food Security in the United States, 2010'', published by the Economic Research Service of the Department of Agriculture, found that in 2010, the most recent year for which data exists—

(1) 14.5 percent of all households in the United States experienced food insecurity at some point during the year;

(2) 20.2 percent of all households with children in the United States experienced food insecurity at some point during the year; and

(3) 7.9 percent of all households with elderly individuals in the United States experienced food insecurity at some point during the year;

Whereas the problem of hunger and food insecurity can be found in rural, suburban, and urban portions of the United States, touching nearly every community in the country;

Whereas, although substantial progress has been made in reducing the incidence of hunger and food insecurity in the United States, many Americans remain vulnerable to hunger and the negative effects of food insecurity;

Whereas the people of the United States have a long tradition of providing food assistance to hungry individuals through acts of private generosity and public support programs;

Whereas the Federal Government provides nutritional support to millions of individuals through numerous Federal food assistance programs, including—

(1) the supplemental nutrition assistance program established under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.);

(2) the child nutrition program established under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.);

(3) the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children established by section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786);

(4) the emergency food assistance program established under the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983 (7 U.S.C. 7501 et seq.); and

(5) food donation programs;

Whereas there is a growing awareness of the important role that community-based organizations, institutions of faith, and charities play in assisting hungry and food-insecure individuals;

Whereas more than 61,000 local, community-based organizations rely on the support and efforts of more than 600,000 volunteers to provide food assistance and services to millions of vulnerable people; and

Whereas all people of the United States can participate in hunger relief efforts in their communities by—

(1) donating food and money to hunger relief efforts;

(2) volunteering for hunger relief efforts; and

(3) supporting public policies aimed at reducing hunger: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates June 7, 2012, as ''National Hunger Awareness Day''; and

(2) calls on the people of the United States to observe National Hunger Awareness Day—

(A) with appropriate ceremonies, volunteer activities, and other support for anti-hunger advocacy efforts and hunger relief charities, including food banks, food rescue organizations, food pantries, soup kitchens, and emergency shelters; and

(B) by improving programs and public policies that reduce hunger and food insecurity in the United States.

AUTHORIZING LEGAL REPRESENTATION

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 485, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 485) to authorize representation by the Senate Legal Counsel in the case of Common Cause, et al v. Joseph R. Biden, et al.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 485) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 485

Whereas, Joseph R. Biden, Jr., the Vice President of the United States; Nancy Erickson, Secretary of the Senate; Terrance W. Gainer, Senate Sergeant at Arms; and Elizabeth MacDonough, Senate Parliamentarian, have been named as defendants in the case of Common Cause, et al. v. Joseph R. Biden, et al., No. 1:12cv00775, now pending in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia;

Whereas, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 704(a)(1) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, 2 U.S.C. §§ 288b(a) and 288c(a)(1), the Senate may direct its counsel to defend officers and employees of the Senate in civil actions relating to their official responsibilities: Now therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate Legal Counsel is authorized to represent Joseph R. Biden, Jr., the Vice President of the United States; Nancy Erickson, Secretary of the Senate; Terrance W. Gainer, Senate Sergeant at Arms; and Elizabeth MacDonough, Senate Parliamentarian, in the case of Common Cause, et al. v. Joseph R. Biden, et al.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 3268 AND S. 3269

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I understand there are two bills at the desk, and I ask for their first reading en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bills by title for the first time en bloc.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3268) to amend title 49, United States Code, to provide rights for pilots, and for other purposes.

A bill (S. 3269) to provide that no United States assistance may be provided to Pakistan until Dr. Shakil Afridi is freed.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I now ask for a second reading and object to my own request, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the measures will be read for a second time on the next legislative day.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, JUNE 7, 2012

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, June 7, 2012; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the majority leader be recognized; that the time until

10:30 a.m. be equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees; further, that following the cloture vote on the motion to proceed to S. 3240, the next hour be equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with the Republicans controlling the first half and the majority controlling the final half.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, to our colleagues, I announce that it is the intention of the majority leader to resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 3240, the farm bill, when the Senate convenes tomorrow. At 10:30 a.m., there will be a cloture vote on the motion to proceed to the farm bill. We hope to reach an agreement on amendments to the bill during Thursday's session.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent the Senate adjourn under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator SESSIONS.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE BUDGET

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, every summer the Congressional Budget Office produces a long-term budget outlook. This is the report they produced yesterday, which is what they do every year. It is a grim document indeed, not a document that should give us comfort but should be a call to action as to what we would need to do about the financial future of our country. It is part of their effort to produce for Congress objective, impartial analyses. We all will complain about this or that from CBO, but they are pretty objective, and they work hard to produce the kind of information we can benefit from as Americans, certainly that we in Congress need as we deal with our challenges at this period in history. They lay out, over 25 years, what we could expect to see if current policy is extended.

These are some of the things they find in this report that are certainly disturbing to us. Actually, they are more than disturbing, they are unacceptable. They are absolute proof that we are on an unsustainable debt course, and that means we have to get off it or bad things will happen. The numbers I will give from this report, as Federal Reserve Chairman Mr. Bernanke indicated last year, would not happen—events wouldn't occur because we will have a crisis before that if we continue on this path.

This is what they found: 25 years under the current policy, annual deficits would reach $5 trillion a year or 17 percent of GDP and would rise steadily thereafter. In other words, we would have in 1 year a $5 trillion deficit. This year we expect to spend $3.7 trillion total, including defense and Social Security and Medicare.

They go on to make this finding: Federal debt would reach approximately 200 percent of GDP; that is, the debt would be twice as large as the entire American economy. Japan has that high a debt. It is the highest in the world. It is financed because of Japan's unusual saving policies—financed mainly internally, but we are not financing our debt that way now. In fact, 60 to 70 percent of our debt now is being financed by the Federal Reserve, by buying Treasuries by the Federal Reserve. That is very dangerous because it is, in effect, printing money. So this is an unsustainable path.

They go on to say annual Federal spending would rise to $10 trillion a year or 36 percent of GDP. So 36 percent of the entire economy would be consumed by Federal Government spending. We are now 18 to 20 percent, in that range. This is a historic alteration of the fundamental concept of our government being a government of limited powers. That is a stunning number.

They go on to say this: Yearly interest, what we would pay yearly, would reach $2.7 trillion. That is certainly a large number. As I said, this year we spent $3.7 trillion.

The Federal debt, according to the report, will be double the size of the entire U.S. economy in 2037, 25 years from now. CBO agrees that higher levels of Federal Government debt will burden American families and destroy economic growth. We have had studies on that. Reinhart and Rogoff reports—I think most economists agree with this principle—that when taxes reach high levels, it pulls down the entire economy's ability to grow.

They go on to say each family's share of the Federal debt will climb to $382,000, per family, by 2037 or an additional $287,000 over what today's family's share of the total American debt is. That is, of course, more than twice as much.

CBO warns that ''large budget deficits and growing debt would . . . lower the growth of incomes in the United States.''

According to CBO data, over the next 20 years, high debt levels will result in $21 trillion less in economic output. This is a significant reduction in economic growth, and it is out of growth that we hope to be able to close the deficit gap. Without growth, we can't do it. But if we run our debt too high, it pulls down growth and makes it even more difficult for us to maintain the growth levels we need to get our economy and Federal budget under control.

They go on to say that government debt will also slow economic growth nearly 1 percent a year, on average, supporting a landmark study done by Reinhart and Rogoff that quantified the effect of debt on advanced economies.

I asked Secretary of Treasury Geithner about the Rogoff-Reinhart study. He said it was an excellent study. Then he added: In some ways, it understates our problems.

We were talking about this 1 percent factor. When our debt exceeds 90 percent of GDP, we lose 1 percent of growth. He acknowledged the validity of that, and then went on to say that it understates the problem, because when we reach that high debt level, we are vulnerable to an economic shock—another recession, a 2007 debt crisis, a Greek-like problem.

Government debt, the report indicates, will also slow economic growth, and that 1 percent of slowing growth, according to numbers released by the Obama administration—and I think they are pretty accurate—1 million jobs is 1 percent of GDP. So if we go from 2 percent to 1 percent GDP growth, 3 percent to 2 percent GDP growth, we lose 1 million jobs.

We don't need to be losing jobs. We need to be creating jobs, and debt is a threat to economic growth. The idea some people have that we could continue to borrow, borrow, borrow and spend, spend, spend and this will create a healthy growing economy that could be sustained is absolutely truly false, I believe.

CBO gave this ominous warning:

> Growing debt also would increase the probability of a sudden financial crisis, during which investors would lose confidence in the government's ability to manage its budget and the government would thereby lose its ability to borrow at affordable rates.

It seems to me pretty clear, if we look at the numbers, that spending is the primary cause of our long-term fiscal imbalance—that and a lack of growth.

Under both the baseline and current policy scenarios set out by CBO, spending will remain well above historical averages. So it is not as if they are assuming we will cut spending and that we will reduce what the government spends each year. They are assuming the spending levels will be well above historical averages. If we return those spending levels to historical averages, I believe we then have a far better chance to get our economy under control, rather than just asking the American people to send more money to Washington.

Under current policy, annual Federal spending will exceed $10 trillion—or 36 percent of GDP—by 2037. Twenty-five years used to seem like a long time to me, but as I have gotten older, 25 is a lot shorter period of time.

By 2025, the report indicates, mandatory health spending, Social Security spending, and interest costs—Medicare and Medicaid, mandatory health spending—Social Security, and interest costs will consume 100 percent of the revenues this government is expected to receive; the Defense Department, zero; the Education Department, zero; Federal highway bill funds, zero. All of it would just be in those programs. That reveals to us that necessity of looking at those programs, to think that we can deal with our surging deficits without confronting the fact that the largest, most sustained growth areas are Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and interest on the debt.

What about raising taxes? Why don't we raise taxes? There are problems with raising taxes. It has consequences. It weakens the private sector. It takes more money from the private sector where the money is earned, where growth is generated, and distributes it to the governmental sector—which, I have to tell you, is not as efficient and productive and hasn't proven it is and has not gone through what private business has gone through, which is to make themselves more efficient, more productive, and utilize technology and advanced techniques to produce more widgets for less cost. The Federal Government has not done that.

This is what CBO said:

> To the extent that additional tax revenues were generated by boosting marginal tax rates, those higher rates would discourage people from working and saving, further reducing output and income.

There is no doubt about that. This is not some rightwing scenario. If we keep raising taxes on the productive sector, we are going to have less of it. It will discourage people from working and saving, further reducing output and income. That is an economic fact. It is not a scare tactic. So it is not just something we can do. Why don't we just raise taxes? That is the reason. It weakens economic growth. It weakens the private sector. It empowers the government, violates our heritage of limited government, and is not healthy for American families and job creation.

The Congressional Budget Office agrees we cannot wait; that we cannot continue to delay action on the deficits. This is what they say in this report:

> Waiting to address the long-term budgetary imbalance and allowing debt to mount in the meantime would be detrimental to future generations.

We don't need to do things that are detrimental to future generations. We are already leaving them with more debt than we ever should, and we need to get off this path.

I have told this story, but back in Marion, AL, I was at a house of a World War II veteran just less than 2 years ago. Mr. Wheeler has since passed away, but he was the last person to speak as I was listening to people's views. He said he lived through the Depression and served in World War II, he lived through the inflationary period in the 1970s and 1980s, and the problem we face is not the high cost of living; the problem we face is the cost of living too high. Frankly, that is what has happened. Individually, we have lived too high. We have to deleverage. Individual families are doing it. The government has lived too high. It has assumed too much debt, and there is no way out of it—no easy way. There is no free lunch. Nothing comes from nothing. Somebody pays.

To get this debt under control, we have to manage better than we ever have, in my opinion. I truly believe that, and we can do it. We can manage better. It is going to take leadership of the Chief Executive Officer of the United States, and Congress needs to be involved in the process too.

Federal Reserve Board Chairman Ben Bernanke, before the Senate Budget Committee earlier this year, testified this way:

> Having a large and increasing level of government debt relative to national income runs the risk of serious economic consequences. Over the longer term, the current trajectory of federal debt threatens to crowd out private capital formation and thus reduce productivity growth. . . .

It is growth we need. It is growth we need that will make America more competitive, that will produce more widgets for less cost, that will allow us to export and be competitive, to defeat importers by producing products better and at less cost than the importers can. That is within our grasp. But we are getting away from that and debt is a threat to us.

Chairman Bernanke goes on to say:

> To the extent that increasing debt is financed by borrowing from abroad, a growing share of our future income would be devoted to interest payments on foreign-held federal debt. High levels of debt also impair the ability of policy makers to respond effectively to future economic shocks and adverse events.

Adverse events occur periodically, and high levels of debt impairing our ability to react to those make us more vulnerable to serious economic dislocations that would occur in the future.

But Mr. Bernanke also knows that on our current course, we will never make it to the years where our debt is three, four, five times the size of our economy.

He also stated about the CBO outlook:

> The CBO projections, by design, ignore the adverse effects that such high debt and deficits would likely have on the economy. But if government debt and deficits were actually to grow at the pace envisioned in this scenario, the economic and financial effects would be severe.

In other words, what he is saying is we are not going to get there. It is not going to happen because we will have a financial crisis before then, and we can see that.

We had the President's fiscal commission, Erskine Bowles and Alan Simpson, and they told us, ''We are facing the most predictable financial crisis in our Nation's history.'' Both of them signed a statement to the Budget Committee just last year to that effect, and they said we could have an economic crisis in as little as 2 years.

We have not had a budget in the Senate. The Republican House has produced a budget, but the Senate Democrats have determinatively refused to bring up a budget in committee or bring one on the floor. We are now 3 years without a budget, while we have had trips to Las Vegas and conferences and tax credit loopholes for children of illegal aliens. Children who don't even live in the United States are getting a $1,000 tax credit from Uncle Sam and we can't get that fixed. That seems to be too hard to do, costing $4 billion a year.

So these are the kinds of things Americans need to be aware of and need to be focused on. If we do so, there are a number of options that would allow us to get the country on a sound path. We can do some things without debt, such as tax simplification that creates more growth, such as eliminating every regulation that does not serve the national interest and benefit the economy but adds cost to our productive capability in America and delays production of energy or delays construction of factories and businesses—eliminate those regulations that don't make sense. We can work hard to produce more American energy, keeping our wealth at home. We can reduce the amount of debt we are running up so we are sending fewer dollars, fewer billions of dollars, abroad every year after year after year just to pay the interest on the debt.

There are a lot of things we can do that will create jobs and growth and productivity gains in America that will not add to our debt, and we have to find those things. We have to tighten our belt across the board, in Congress and the White House and down to every agency and department and government entity that exists in this country and around the world. If everybody does that, we will surprise ourselves with how much progress we can make. I think it is not too late for us to reverse the course.

I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate stands adjourned until 9:30 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:45 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, June 7, 2012, at 9:30 a.m.

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate June 6, 2012:

THE JUDICIARY

JEFFREY J. HELMICK, OF OHIO, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CELEBRATING DENTON PUBLIC LIBRARY'S 75 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Denton Public Library, an esteemed local institution, in celebrating 75 years of service to the whole Denton community. The three-branch library system currently provides a full online catalog and a web-based automation system that houses more than 240,000 items. It has also assisted the community by providing over 1,400,000 quality resources of educational, informational, and cultural value. To achieve this service, took a great deal of commitment.

In 1914, the City Federation of Women's Clubs gave a report stating the clear need for a free public library for the City of Denton. Philanthropist Andrew Carnegie would contribute a building if the city contributed a location and maintenance for the building. When the City Council could not guarantee their support, Carnegie withdrew his offer.

In the Depression Era, the federal government established the Works Progress Administration. One of its services was the sponsorship of school libraries. This program allowed the Denton County Schools Superintendent to employ Mattie Pyrene Wilson as the library supervisor and establish a program of interschool loans. In order to expedite the loans, a bookmobile service was inaugurated. Wilson opened a small 3,000 volume library on the third floor of the courthouse and the bulk of the material was acquired through a $10 state teacher allowance and books donated by the Parent Teacher Association of Denton. In 1935, the Junior Shakespeare Club commenced a movement to combine the Denton County School Library with a public library. The club encouraged the county school board and the city and county commissions to join together to support a library that would be free to all citizens of Denton County. The club also conducted a book drive and collected more than 4000 books to initially stock the proposed library; the city commission donated $600 for the purchase of new books and the county agreed to furnish shelves, equipment and utilities. Finally, Denton's first public library opened on June 6, 1937. Over the years, the library has expanded to meet the needs of a growing population. There are now three locations and over 75,000 square feet of space dedicated to readers and researchers.

The Denton Public Library has positively influenced the community of Denton, serving young and old alike with a foundation of knowledge. With the support of the citizens of Denton, the library will continue to flourish and provide resources to broaden intellectual and creative horizons. It is my pleasure to recognize the Denton Public Library for 75 years of service and this significant milestone in its history. I am privileged to represent the City of Denton in the U.S. House of Representatives.

HONORING THE WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF ST. LOUIS AND THE DONALD DANFORTH PLANT SCIENCE CENTER AS THE 2012 RECIPIENT OF THE COUNCIL'S INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the World Affairs Council of St. Louis, and to honor the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center as the 2012 recipient of the Council's International Humanitarian of the Year Award.

The World Affairs Council of St. Louis is dedicated to educating, inspiring, and engaging citizens and businesses in international affairs and the critical global issues of our times. It is the oldest such organization in St. Louis.

Each year, the World Affairs Council of St. Louis welcomes more than 300 visitors to the greater metropolitan area, including leading ambassadors and other foreign dignitaries, as well as students from around the world. The Council's mission is to promote understanding, engagement, relationships, and leadership in world affairs, and it connects the citizens of the St. Louis region with the world.

The Council's International Humanitarian of the Year Award, its highest honor, recognizes the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center this year for its mission to improve the human condition through crop research which centers on feeding the hungry, improving human health and preserving the environment. This award specifically recognizes the Center's Institute for International Crop Improvement, which aims to bring improved crops to small farmers in places such as Uganda, Kenya, Nigeria, and Burkina Faso. These crops yield more per acre, are richer in essential nutrients, and resistant to disease, insects and drought, and they can bring tremendous benefit to small farmers.

The Donald Danforth Plant Science Center serves as a seed of hope in the St. Louis region—applying research to better address malnutrition, preserve our environment, and explore novel, sustainable energy solutions. The World Affairs Council honors Danforth Center's leadership as an essential part of fostering this valuable, humanitarian-based research which can impact the lives of farmers and citizens in nations throughout the world.

On June 7, 2012, the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center will receive the International Humanitarian of the Year Award. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognition of this honor.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF JERRELLE FRANCOIS

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge to a long-time servant of the community, Mrs. Jerrelle Francois, an accomplished educator and public servant who will leave her post as Vice Chair of the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners on June 30, 2012.

Jerrelle has served the students of Baltimore for more than three decades. Beginning her service as a teacher at Cherry Hill Junior High School, and continuing on to become a Department Head, Assistant Principal, Principal and Assistant Superintendent, Ms. Francois has brought care, mentoring and education to thousands of the city's children. A graduate of Morgan State University, Jerrelle has dedicated her professional life to serving the children of Baltimore and to revitalizing education in the state of Maryland.

Due to her exemplary career, Jerrelle was nominated for the 2011 Richard R. Green Award by her colleagues. When nominating her, they wrote of her service, "Ms. Francois' 30-year career as an educator and administrator at every level of Baltimore City Public Schools exemplifies the highest standards of public service and dedication to the students and families of Baltimore." They went on to say, "Ms. Francois has devoted her life to a passionate commitment to the children of Baltimore and the relentless pursuit of constant improvement in student achievement. As part of this dedication, she is firmly committed to achieving equity in education for all students."

Jerrelle's career may speak for itself but what cannot be stated on a resume is her inspirational leadership and her value to the countless lives of students, parents, teachers and administrations alike that she has touched.

Mr. Speaker, the words of her colleagues speak volumes about the person that she is, but one of the most profound statements I can make about this great American is that Jerrelle exemplifies the dedication to providing education, especially to underserved populations, that we as a nation strive for. She is the personification of what we seek to have our education system be-dedicated, driven and providing for those who truly need it.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this great career.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF DR. MARSHA S. BORDNER FOR HER SERVICE AS PRESIDENT OF TERRA STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding public servant in Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. Dr. Marsha S. Bordner is retiring from Terra State Community College, located in Fremont, Ohio, after spending over Thirty-Five years in the education field.

Dr. Marsha S. Bordner became the President of Terra State Community College in 2003, following her time as the Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs at Clark State Community College in Springfield, Ohio. During her tenure as President at Terra State Community College, the school has seen record high enrollment levels, the redevelopment of the educational facilities to include state of the art equipment, and a new strategic plan to lead the college into the future.

A resident of Catawba Island, Dr. Marsha S. Bordner has strived to expand the education of the area's residents not only through the collegiate setting, but by working with local public school systems to allow high school students to earn college credit through Terra State Community College. Dr. Marsha Bordner has also reinstated Terra State Community College's partnership with local communities through the offering of music performances of Terra State Community College faculty and students at area venues.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. Marsha S. Bordner for her role in promoting and expanding the educational opportunities for the residents of Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. Our communities have undoubtedly benefited from her years of dedicated service. We wish Dr. Marsha S. Bordner all of the best upon her retirement as the President of Terra State Community College.

IN HONOR OF COLONEL WILLIAM T. BARE

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Colonel William T. Bare on the occasion of his retirement from the United States Air Force on August 1, 2012.

Colonel Bare has given 27 stellar years to service to the United States Air Force. He has had a wide array of experience in intelligence, foreign language training, program management, policy development, and has linguistic capabilities in several foreign languages. Of particular note, he recently served as the Assistant Commandant of the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center (DLIFLC) and the Commander, 517th Training Group, Presidio of Monterey, California, located in my congressional district. The Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center is regarded as one of the finest schools for foreign language instruction in the nation.

It is important that we as a nation recognize our service men and women for their dedication to the United States of America, particularly those as accomplished as Colonel William T. Bare.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful nation, I join my colleagues today in saying thank you to Colonel Bare for his extraordinary dedication to duty and service to his country throughout his distinguished career in the United States Air Force. I wish him, his wife Joselyn, his three daughters Lindsay, Jade, and J'adore (aka Jazzy), and his parents Bill and Elinor, much continued happiness as they start a new chapter in their lives.

IN RECOGNITION OF HOSPICE OF WESTERN RESERVE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the 34th Annual Meeting of Hospice of the Western Reserve on May 24, 2012.

Since 1978, Hospice of the Western Reserve, a community-based, mission-driven not-for-profit organization, has provided comfort care and emotional support to patients and their families at the end-of-life. Its mission is "to provide palliative end-of-life care, caregiver support and bereavement services throughout Northern Ohio."

Hospice of the Western Reserve is committed to providing ideal patient care, regardless of age, race, color, national origin, disability or sexual orientation. It celebrates the individual worth of each life, and strives to relieve suffering, enhance comfort, promote quality of life, foster choice in end-of-life care, and support effective grieving.

Hospice of the Western Reserve affirms the dignity of life, and advocates for patient and family comfort and quality during life's final phase. The board, staff and volunteers believe that hospice patients have the right to continue life to the fullest extent possible according to their circumstances. They foster opportunities for continued growth and fulfillment.

Hospice of the Western Reserve's specialized services (including AIDS, pediatric, perinatal, and chronic disease-specific teams) provide care and support to patients, families and caregivers wherever they call home, whether it be in their home, at an assisted living facility, in a hospital, nursing facility or group home, in a county jail or at a homeless shelter.

Hospice of the Western Reserve is not part of a chain or franchise and is not owned by anyone but the community. Its services are not administered by hospitals, insurance companies or health systems. Through exemplary partnerships with the Northern Ohio's premier healthcare systems, Hospice of the Western Reserve incorporates state-of-the-art care and best practices for its patients and their families.

Hospice of the Western Reserve's involvement with multiple community agencies, advisory councils and academic institutions keeps its staff and volunteers abreast of emerging trends and allows them to take a leadership role in addressing the ever-changing needs of our community. Hospice of the Western Reserve has received numerous awards from community, professional and non-profit organizations.

In 2010, Hospice of the Western Reserve provided care to 6,779 patients and families across Northern Ohio, including care to 1,757 patients and families at its world-class 42-bed in-patient facility, David Simpson Hospice House overlooking Lake Erie. Hospice of the Western Reserve is the longest-serving hospice and the largest non-profit hospice in the State of Ohio.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in congratulating Hospice of the Western Reserve at its 34th Annual Meeting as it celebrates its long-standing service to the people of Northern Ohio and looks forward to many more years of quality care to its patients and their families.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

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. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chair, since late 2009, the Army Corps of Engineers has been working on a study of the Great Lakes and Mississippi Interbasin—

"To evaluate options and technologies to prevent the spread of aquatic nuisance species between the Great Lakes and Mississippi River."

Recently, the Corps indicated this study may not be completed until March 2016.

When it comes to aquatic invasive species, 7 years is 7 years too long.

Senator SHERROD BROWN of Ohio introduced and passed an amendment to the Senate Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, ensuring that the Corps finishes their study no later than July 1, 2014.

Further, the amendment ensures that the Corps fully examines the feasibility of all options, including permanent hydrological separation.

I can't help but stand here today and express my sincere disappointment for the missed opportunities in the legislative vehicle before us.

The Energy and Water Appropriations bill that we consider on the House floor this week is not only missing this vital amendment, but its priorities are way out of whack.

The bill increases funding for the Nation's nuclear weapons stockpile, as well as for fossil fuels programs and nuclear energy research and development.

Meanwhile, funding would be reduced for a wide range of very important activities including: Army Corps of Engineers projects, Energy

Department science programs, advanced energy research, defense and non-defense environmental cleanup activities, nuclear non-proliferation programs, and most renewable energy programs (including solar, wind, water and geothermal programs).

But, to the point at hand—the Great Lakes and the terrifying prospect that we might continue standing still on this issue of invasive species prevention.

First and foremost, I must recognize the hard work and bipartisan effort from the Senators, including Senator DURBIN, and am hopeful that this provision is preserved throughout the appropriations process.

After all, this amendment does not tell anybody what to do.

It simply recognizes the urgency of the Asian carp threat to the Great Lakes and compels the Corps to quicken its study of solutions in the face of a potential catastrophe that no one wants.

The Great Lakes make up 20 percent of our fresh water and are home to a fishing and boating industry worth 7 billion dollars annually.

The Lakes are a priceless treasure for the millions of people who live in the region.

We must do all we can to encourage a speedy creation of an action plan to block Asian carp from entering the Great Lakes.

In 1998 the late Senator Paul Simon predicted wars would be fought over water.

Let us not pretend this is near as drastic as war.

But, at the same time, let us not neglect or fail to acknowledge that the importance of today's actions will weigh heavily on the successes of tomorrow. I urge the Committees to preserve and protect Senator BROWN's amendment and hope that the final Energy and Water package looks far better for our land, air and water than it does today.

DYLAN BEKEMEIER OF REPUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL WINNING THE MISSOURI CLASS 3 STATE INDIVIDUAL GOLD CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dylan Bekemeier from Republic High School for winning the Missouri Class 3 State Individual Golf Championship.

Dylan should be commended for all of his hard work throughout the regular season and bringing home the individual state title to his school, family and community. At the State Golf Championships in Springfield, Dylan won the individual state title with an impressive second round showing of 68, 4 under par. His total score was 140. Completing his sophomore year means Dylan will be a force to be reckoned with in Missouri high school golf in the coming years.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dylan Bekemeier, the Missouri Class 3 State Golf Champion.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, June 5th, 2012, I was absent during rollcall vote No. 315 due to a family medical issue. Had I been present, I would have voted ''no'' on the McClintock of California Amendment No. 3.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL BRIAN L. TARBET

HON. JASON CHAFFETZ

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the service and dedication of Major General Brian L. Tarbet, the Adjutant General of the Utah National Guard. He has served his country as a member of the Utah National Guard for over 30 years. As the Adjutant General for the Utah National Guard, General Tarbet has been responsible for over 7,000 soldiers and airmen for the past 12 years.

General Tarbet began his military career as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army Reserve in 1973. After being a member of the ROTC program and earning his bachelor of arts degree in political science from Utah State University, General Tarbet served on active duty from 1973 to 1975. General Tarbet then joined the Utah Army National Guard as a First Lieutenant and received his juris doctorate from the University of Utah in 1978. During the 2002 Winter Olympic Games, General Tarbet commanded over 4,500 troops providing security in Salt Lake City, just months after the September 11 terrorist attacks heightened security concerns surrounding high profile events. He has led the Utah National Guard through many deployments of soldiers and airmen supporting operations around the globe.

I invite my colleagues to join me in celebrating the accomplishments of this incredible man who placed service to his country above that of his own ambitions. Major General Brian L. Tarbet is a great example of the men and women who have served or who are currently serving our country in the various branches of the Armed Forces. I am grateful to every member of the military for the great sacrifice that they make every day.

IN RECOGNITION OF H.E. MINISTER FADY ABBOUD

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize H.E. Minister Fady Abboud, Minister of Tourism for the Republic of Lebanon and to welcome him to the City of Cleveland.

Born on March 21, 1955, Minister Abboud graduated from the International School of Choueifat. In 1976, following a year of service in the military, he began studying at the University of Westminster. Minister Aboud and his wife of 26 years, Sarah-Lilianna, have two children, Faddy and Joanne.

Fady Abboud had a successful career in industry, working in the packaging, plastic engineering, general machines and metal processing, and food businesses. In 1982, he was named Chairman of General Packaging Industries. In 2002, he was elected as President of the Board of the Association of Lebanese Industrialists. Minister Abboud is also a member of the American Lebanese Chamber of Commerce and the International Chamber of Commerce.

Abboud was appointed as the Minister of Tourism in November 2009. Since his appointment, Minister Abboud has turned the office's focus to sustainable tourism in order to promote the different regions of Lebanon.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in welcoming H.E. Minister Fady Abboud to the City of Cleveland.

D-DAY REMEMBRANCE

HON. CHRISTOPHER P. GIBSON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the Second Annual Recognition and Remembrance ceremony being held in Delmar, NY by the D-Day Remembrance Association. It is truly a commendable event to honor those who sacrificed so much in order to return freedom and democracy to Europe in one of the most courageous and awe-inspiring military operations ever conceived.

The D-Day Remembrance Association hosts this event to remember and honor the events of those several days and particularly the servicemembers who stormed the beaches, airdropped behind enemy lines, and supported the invasion from sea. As a result of the efforts of this remarkable collection of volunteers, and many others like it across the nation, these annual gatherings create new treasured memories for all veterans, their children, grandchildren and others who recognize and appreciate the significant contributions and sacrifices that the ''Greatest Generation'' made in name of freedom.

The Battle of Normandy was fought during World War II in the summer of 1944, between the Allied nations and German forces occupying Western Europe. Almost 70 years later, the Normandy Invasion, or D-Day, remains the largest seaborne invasion in history, involving nearly three million troops crossing the English Channel from Great Britain to Normandy in occupied France.

On June 6, 1944, 160,000 Allied troops landed along a 50-mile stretch of heavily-fortified French coastline to fight Nazi Germany. General Dwight D. Eisenhower called the operation a crusade in which ''we will accept nothing less than full victory.'' By the end of the first day, the Allies had gained a foothold in Normandy. The cost of D-Day was high—more than 2,500 were killed and 8,500 wounded—but more than 100,000 Soldiers began the march across Europe to defeat Hitler. I am in awe of what they accomplished during this period that can only be described as Hell on Earth.

Our men and women who served in combat and support roles did not ask for that war; yet, they answered the nation's call with honor and conviction. They put aside the instinct for self-preservation and risked their lives for all humanity in order to preserve freedom and defeat evil. They personified the words, ''Greatest Generation.'' Those men had survived the Great Depression, fought and won World War II, returned to America and simply tried to put it all behind them—rebuilding lives, families, and our country.

We are strengthened by their courage and awestruck by their valor. God Bless our veterans and those who gave their lives so that we may live free. Let us continue to stand for the ideals for which they fought, live a life worthy of their sacrifice, and work tirelessly to preserve our cherished way of life.

RECOGNIZING JUNE AS LGBT PRIDE MONTH

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize June as National LGBT Pride Month. Our greatest strength is its promise of equality for every citizen, and we have made significant progress in ensuring that promise is kept regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.

As a proud member of the Congressional LGBT Equality Caucus, I am committed to extending full rights to all Americans, repealing discriminatory laws, and eliminating hateful violence.

This past year has brought many changes in law and policy, and there have been noticeable changes in public discourse as well. Last year, the military repealed its discriminatory ''Don't Ask, Don't Tell'' policy, and a federal circuit court ruled last week that the Defense of Marriage Act is unconstitutional. President Obama's historic endorsement of same-sex marriage has also moved this country into a new era of progressive thinking and equal rights for all.

The 37th District of California has seen incredible movement toward equality and acceptance. I am proud to represent the significant population of gay, lesbian and transgender constituents in my district. This is a community that has become integral to the Long Beach area and continues to give back to the city in many ways.

Long Beach Lesbian & Gay Pride, Inc. is one of the larger philanthropic organizations in the city, and they developed the Long Beach Lesbian and Gay Pride Parade in 1984. They have also granted nearly one million dollars to local non-profit organizations, and organized a toy drive for disabled and disadvantaged children in conjunction with catholic charities.

The Long Beach Lesbian and Gay Pride Parade continues to be the main project for the organization. When it first began its organizers faced death threats and fierce opposition. Today, the parade is the nation's third-largest pride parade and attracts over 75,000 participants annually. It is heralded as one of the district's most popular attractions, and its organizers have helped to foster greater understanding and respect in the community.

During my time in Congress I have supported many different areas of LGBT legislation. I am an original co-sponsor of multiple bills including: the Employment Non-Discrimination Act to prohibit discrimination in the work place; the Equal Access to COBRA Act which guarantees the continuation of health coverage to any qualified beneficiary under an employer's health insurance; and the Reuniting Families Act which supports the core value of keeping all families together regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity together.

I voted to repeal the Don't Ask Don't Tell policy, and signed the amicus brief declaring the Defense of Marriage Act unconstitutional, and I am proud the Obama Administration will no longer defend section 3 of DOMA. These actions make our country stronger not weaker; they bring our national policies closer to our national ideals; and they affirm that in America it is the content of our character that counts, not immutable characteristics of birth.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues and American citizens to join me in celebrating the accomplishments of the LGBT community across the United States. However, there is still so much more work to be done. Every citizen of this country deserves the same opportunities regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. Recent events have made momentous gains towards that goal, but let us not forget we still have a long fight ahead of us.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, on May 31, 2012, I missed rollcall votes Nos. 297–305 due to a family obligation. Had I been present I would have voted ''yea'' on rollcall votes Nos. 297, 300, 302, 304, and 305. I would have voted ''nay'' on rollcall votes Nos. 298, 299, 301, and 303.

Mr. Speaker, on June 1, 2012, I missed rollcall votes Nos. 306–314 due to a family obligation. Had I been present I would have voted ''yea'' on rollcall votes Nos. 308, 312, 313, and 314. I would have voted ''nay'' on rollcall votes Nos. 306, 307, 309, 310, and 311.

OZARK CHRISTIAN COLLEGE'S 70TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Ozark Christian College's 70th Anniversary.

Ozark Bible College started out in Bentonville, Arkansas, on June 12, 1942 and two years later relocated to Joplin, Missouri. The name Ozark Christian College was adopted in 1985 when Ozark Bible College merged with Midwest Christian College of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Ozark Christian College offers degree programs that help lay the foundation for their graduates who are called to careers in vocational ministry. Ozark Christian College graduates total more than 14,000 and are serving in 48 states and 40 counties.

Volunteerism is an important characteristic for the school. Ozark Christian College has been serving the Joplin area for 68 years and was heavily involved in helping after Joplin was struck by an EF–5 tornado on May 22, 2011. With open arms, the entire campus was used in a variety of ways from a Red Cross Command Center, to housing for 3,000 volunteers, and to a meeting place for three churches.

The school's motto of ''Training Men and Women for Christian Service'' has played an important role in the school's 70 year history and will continue to as students answer the call to vocational ministry.

I want to congratulate Ozark Christian College as they celebrate 70 years.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. SEAN NELSON

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the good work and achievements of Sean Nelson, who is leaving the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) in Cleveland. Sean is leaving the VA after nearly a decade of service to the Veterans of Northeast Ohio.

Sean Nelson is a 2001 graduate of Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois, with a degree in Biology and a 2003 graduate of the University of Memphis with a Master of Health Administration. Mr. Nelson began his career at the VA Boston Healthcare System in 2003 as an Administrative Fellow. He transferred to the Cleveland VAMC in 2004.

He held numerous line and staff positions of increasing responsibility in Cleveland, including Chief of Quality and Information Management starting in 2005 and Chief of External Affairs and Facility Planning beginning in 2007. He later served as Assistant Director and Acting Associate Medical Center Director before his appointment as the Deputy Medical Center Director of the Cleveland VAMC in January 2011.

Sean is a graduate of the 2011 Executive Career Field Program and graduate of the 2008 Cleveland Bridge Builders flagship program. He is an active member of the American College of Healthcare Executives.

During his tenure, Sean has been part of the leadership team at the Cleveland VAMC that has overseen tremendous expansion with the opening of the Parma outpatient facility and the growth of the Wade Park facility as it was consolidated with the now-defunct Brecksville hospital. My staff and I have come to depend on Sean's eagerness to serve our nation's veterans and his ability to solve problems.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in wishing Sean Nelson much success as he takes his tremendous skills and dedication to service to the next steps in his career.

RECOGNIZING BEVERLY F. LYELL

HON. TIM WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Beverly F. Lyell upon her recent retirement as the Executive Director of Goodwill Industries of Southeastern Michigan.

Compassion, commitment, and courage are three words which accurately describe Beverly. Over the past several decades, Beverly has been actively serving communities throughout Michigan. In 1975, she began working for Goodwill Industries of Southeastern Michigan as an assistant supervisor in the Ceramics Department. During her tenure at Goodwill, she worked in a number of different capacities before becoming Executive Director. As Executive Director, she has helped Goodwill attain various certifications, coordinate capital campaigns, and develop successful programs aimed at assisting the physically and mentally impaired and at risk members of our community.

In addition to her work with Goodwill Industries, Beverly has also served as a board member of many other organizations. She has received a number of awards over the years that reflect the respect our community has for her work and her character. In addition to raising their own children, she and her husband, Steve, have served as foster parents and have raised service puppies for the disabled. She is also an active member of her church. Beverly has truly left a mark on the community and improved the quality of life for many. Her character, integrity, and ever-optimistic personality have changed lives forever.

Beverly should be commended for her service to the community and I offer her my best wishes for the future.

RECOGNIZING 50 YEARS OF KTXR 101.3 FM ''THE GENTLE GIANT''

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, it was June 13, 1962, when KTXR 101.3 FM ''The Gentle Giant'' began informing and entertaining the Ozarks audience with great music and special programming.

Under the guidance of local owners Ken and Jane Meyer, what started in the 60s as a 6,000 watt station by 1970 became a 100,000 watt ''Class C'' FM operation. In 2001, when a bad ice storm brought the KTXR tower down, the Meyers received FCC permission to build the only ''Class C-0'' tower in the state of Missouri. Soaring 1488 feet above ground, it is Missouri's tallest radio tower with the state's largest coverage, heard throughout mid and southern Missouri, northern Arkansas, parts of Oklahoma, and Kansas.

KTXR is a rarity in Springfield. It is one of the only locally owned and operated FMs in the market. When it signed on the air, KTXR became not only the second FM station in the city but also the second in the state to broadcast in stereo. Jane Meyer was the first woman in Springfield to sell radio advertising and was the first woman in the state to be a radio station general manager.

While the music on KTXR may have changed over the decades from classical to easy listening to light hits to today's Greatest Hits, there have always been several constants. Jane Meyer decided early on to add ''special programs with special appeal.'' Knowing the volatility and importance of weather in the Ozarks, she hired her own resident meteorologist rather than be dependent on the National Weather Service. Then, 35 years ago Wayne Glenn, ''The Old Record Collector,'' became part of KTXR special programming and has not missed an air shift in all that time.

Possibly the most unique programming decision the Meyers made was to put sports on a music station. While most in the radio broadcast industry would tell you a music/sports format would never work, KTXR has proved them wrong. It started with the Kansas City Royals in the 1970s, and a few years later KTXR became the exclusive radio home of the St. Louis Cardinals in the Ozarks and remains so today. Drury University and Evangel University were two of the local colleges sports programs aired on KTXR in the 70s. In the 80s the station picked up the Missouri State University Bears and KTXR remains the flagship station of the Bears Radio Network. After carrying the Bears for several years it was Jane Meyer's decision to broadcast the Lady Bear basketball games that helped propel them to a nation-high attendance record and in turn she received an invitation to address the NCAA national meeting about marketing women's sports.

Though Jane Meyer passed away in 2001 her influence is still felt not only in the halls of KTXR but throughout the Ozarks. She and Ken Meyer have always served on numerous boards and foundations giving of their time and finances to support the community that has always been supportive of Meyer Communications.

Over the past 50 years Meyer Communications has grown from the humble beginnings of one station to, at any one time, owning several radio and television stations, an outdoor signage company, and an advertising agency. But, it has always been KTXR ''The Gentle Giant'' that is the heartbeat of the company.

Ken Meyer has stated unequivocally ''in my opinion Jane Meyer made KTXR the class station of Springfield. Any way you look at it Jane was the Gentle Giant.''

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, June 5, 2012, I was absent during rollcall vote No. 318 due to a family medical issue. Had I been present, I would have voted ''aye'' on the Matheson of Utah Amendment.

RECOGNIZING HERITAGE MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT ESSAYS

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, eighth grade students from Heritage Middle School in Maryville, Tennessee, recently visited Washington, DC.

Our office gave the students and chaperones a tour of the Capitol, and I received a very nice thank you letter from trip coordinator Patricia Russell and principal Steve Moser.

Along with the thank you note, I was also sent the enclosed four essays from some of the students on the trip. I was so impressed with these essays that I wanted them to be included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

I hope my Colleagues and other readers of the RECORD will take a few minutes to read the impressions of these 8th grade students about our Nation's Capital.

MY AMERICAN APPRECIATION

(By Anna Stout)

''In a mountain of despair, there is a stone of hope,'' said Martin Luther King Jr. I read this quote from the Martin Luther King Jr. memorial. This was one of the most significant moments on the whole Washington D.C. trip for me. The trip to D.C. changed my whole of life. I use to take every little thing for granted, like eating and the things I owned. Going to the Holocaust Museum, the Lincoln memorial, and the Martin Luther King Jr. memorial all increased my appreciation for my American heritage.

The Holocaust Museum was probably the saddest, most moving thing I've ever experienced. When you read about what happened in books or on the internet you don't really understand what happened. You kind of just think ''yeah that's awful, hope it doesn't ever happen again'' but when you see with your own eyes the actual happenings of what Holocaust, it changes you forever. When I walked into the room, and saw hundreds of pairs of shoes, I went into shock. I just stood there and looked at how many there were. It took me a few minutes before I started to look at the individual shoes, the baby shoes, the shoes that were my size, and the shoes that were bigger than my own foot. I was in such shock it took me at least 5 minutes to move, and 10 to stop staring at them all. That change how I look at everything. How I get mad over having ''nothing to wear'' and they wore rags. Now everything I do, a part of the Holocaust is in my thoughts.

I really liked the Lincoln memorial because Lincoln really fought to keep our Nation together and without that, things today would be way different. Most of us probably would even be here. I use to think that Lincoln started the war to free all the slaves, when really he started the war to keep our united states together. Personally I think he was one of the most successful, helpful presidents ever. And Im glad that there is a memorial built in his honor. To remind the generations to come, about all he did.

Last but not least, the Martin Luther King Jr. memorial. I really enjoyed going to this memorial, because I have a lot of respect for Martin Luther King. I think what he did for our nation was an amazing, and very brave thing. He stood up and fought for what he believed in, but he did it peacefully. That sets an amazing example for the people of our time. To not have to use guns and war to solve things is a great accomplishment. ''In a mountain of despair, there is a stone of

hope.''—Martin Luther King Jr. I didn't quite get this at first, until I started to think about it. What King means is, the there is always a little bit of hope, even if the problem is huge. To always cling to that piece of hope, and you will overcome the problem.

Some of the reasons my appreciation for my American heritage has increased is because of the Holocaust Museum, the Lincoln Memorial, and the Martin Luther King Jr. memorial. I am deeply grateful for being able to go on this trip. I am so thankful for everyone that has done something for our country, not just the things listed above. Without these people and these events, we would not be here, and we would not be America. Thank you everyone.

WASHINGTON D.C. ESSAY

(By Chloe Atchley)

'We the People of the United States . . .' Thomas Jefferson wrote. I believe that as a citizen of the United States, we should have pride in our country. On my trip to Washington D.C., I grew a new appreciation and curiosity for my great Nation. Three places I was able to visit that helped my respect grow were the Arlington National Cemetery, the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial, and the Jefferson Memorial.

The first place that helped me appreciate my Nation more was the Arlington National Cemetery. In my opinion, what shocked me the most was just how many graves there were. They lined the fields and area for miles. Every single one of those people served my country. Some of them died and sacrificed themselves for it. This cemetery did a wonderful job honoring those people, those heroes.

The second place that helped me appreciate my Nation more was the Vietnam's Veteran Memorial. When I saw it, it was dark, and I couldn't see how long it was. Walking along beside it, I was surprised to find that it kept on going on with me. There are 58,272 names on the wall today. It gave me pride to be American knowing that every last one of those people did their best to protect us and help others.

The last place that helped me appreciate my country more was the Jefferson Memorial. Out of everything I saw and visited, this was definitely one of my favorites. It was quiet, peaceful, and reflective, just like how I think Thomas Jefferson would have liked it. The sun was setting, and reflected on the walls of the little dome beautifully. It illuminated the excerpts from the Declaration of Independence that were engraved everywhere. It was a reminder of how we originally fought for our freedom, and of how my home began.

These are some of the places that increased my appreciation for my American heritage. This trip was one of the best experiences I have ever had. I hope everyone can stop to remember the sacrifices made and the struggles conquered through our history, and hold their head higher in remembrance that they are an American.

WASHINGTON, DC ESSAY

(By Callie Effler)

Very few places make one more proud to be an American than Washington, DC. I saw very many things in our nation's capitol that I will remember for the rest of my life, but several stuck out that made me feel even more blessed than I already do to live in America. Three things and places in particular that made me especially appreciate my American heritage were the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial, the National Archives, and the flag that inspired the Star Spangled Banner.

All of the monuments were breathtakingly beautiful, but the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial didn't catch my eye for that reason—it was that it had so many names. 58,795 brave men and women were willing to pay the ultimate price to preserve the freedom and safety that so many of us take for granted today. These soldiers, nurses, and others who gave their lives so that we in the United States and those in other countries could be free are true heroes.

Another thing that made me prize my American heritage was the National Archives. There, we saw many documents including the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. It made me feel honored to have the opportunity to see the documents that shaped our past, which led to my present, and will lead to our future. In my opinion, these are some of the most important documents in the world. They led to changes in not only our country, but others as well.

Lastly, the flag that inspired our national anthem was the most amazing thing I saw in Washington. I couldn't believe that such a massive flag could even be made! It's colossal size was accomplished by a woman and several teenage girls. They made a flag—by hand—that survived battle and sparked a poem that is now one of the most recognizable tunes in history. Even then, Americans were making great things, both physical items and ideas.

The Vietnam Veterans' Memorial, National Archives, and the Star-Spangled Banner are only three of the things I saw in Washington, DC, that made me proud of my American heritage. I think that everyone should have the opportunity to see the things from the past that shaped their future. I will never forget my 8th grade field trip, and will cherish all of the things that make our country great.

WASHINGTON D.C.

(By Madison Jacobs)

Washington D.C. is located between Virginia and Maryland in the District of Columbia. I believe that it is important to know about your countries history in order to be able to do the basic things adults do. This experience was breathtaking and intriguing. I have learned several things while on this trip but the three places that taught me a lot was The National Archives, the Vietnam Memorial, and the Holocaust Museum.

My first place visited that I really enjoyed and learned a lot from was the National Archives. This acquaintance was both enticing and captivating. Seeing the Declaration of Independence, The Constitution, and the Bill of Rights I felt astonished and proud to live in this country. It is incredible to see that in 200 years these documents are still around and we go by them today. I especially enjoyed looking at all of the documents written so long ago.

The second place visited that I enjoyed and learned from was the Vietnam Memorial. It gave me great pride in my country but also at the same time it made me feel sad that all of these wonderful men; fathers, sons, husbands, and brothers lost their lives. This war lasted for 16 years. During these years 58,000 people died fighting so that we could all be free and giving their life for ours. The Vietnam Memorial was very humbling to me. My lasting impression is that I will always respect and honor those who fight and die for our country.

My third place I visited that I learned from was the Holocaust Museum. The Holocaust was a mass killing of Jews and other civilians. The factors that contributed to this were anti-Semitism and the rise of the Nazis. My most vivid thing that I will always remember is the room with all of the Jewish people's shoes. Also the smell of the shoes from the leather was horrible. This will always stay in the back of my mind. The Holocaust Museum really touched me with the fact that millions of people died who were innocent and died for what they believed in.

The National Archives, The Vietnam Memorial, and The Holocaust Museum were the three places that we went to that touched me the most. These places have affected our nation's history in many different ways and they represent what Americans are and what we stand for. I really enjoyed this trio and would like to go back one day in the near future.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DEDICATION OF THE CROATIAN CULTURAL GARDEN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the dedication of the Croatian Cultural Garden, taking place on June 3, 2012.

The 254 acre piece of land that constitutes Rockefeller Park was donated to the City of Cleveland by John D. Rockefeller in 1896. The Cleveland Croatian Cultural Garden is a two acre piece of land within Rockefeller Park. The Cleveland Cultural Gardens were founded in 1926 to create a memorial area for the diverse ethnic groups that shape the region, and to serve as a space for reflection on peace, cooperation and understanding. The Cultural Gardens are currently a collection of 26 gardens which include African-American, American Indian, British, Chinese, Czech, Estonian, and Slovenian gardens, among others.

The mission of the Croatian Cultural Garden is to dedicate a garden that celebrates the rich cultural achievements and contributions of the Croatian people and to endow an educational legacy for future generations. Groundbreaking on the Garden took place on April 30, 2011 with the support of the Garden's benefactor, Ed Lozick.

The dedication of Phase I of the Croatian Cultural Garden will begin with a Holy Mass at St. Paul Croatian Church. Phase I includes the installation of ''The Immigrant Mother'' statue which represents Croatian mothers who emigrated to the U.S. The bronze statue was sculpted by Clevelander and Croatian-American, Joseph Turkaly. The granite base of the statue is inscribed with three Croatian symbols; the Croatian Homland Shield (Grb), the original Croatian alphabet (Glagolijica) and the pleter design. The Gardens will also have a heart shaped flower garden representing the ''Licitar Heart'' as well as three benches carved from stone from the island of Brac.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognition of the dedication of the Croatian Cultural Garden.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 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:

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Chair, I am proud to support the Hirono-Chu-Matsui-Lee-Carnahan Amendment to the Energy and Water appropriations bill. The amendment would maintain our commitment to the successful Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy, or ARPA–E as it is more commonly known.

In March of this year, Energy Secretary Chu came before the Science, Space, and Technology Committee to discuss the Administration's budget request, which included an additional $75 million for ARPA–E. I had the opportunity to speak with him about the importance of ARPA–E and the effectiveness of the program as we seek to bring new technologies to market that change the way we generate, store, and use energy.

I take a particular interest in ARPA–E because in Oregon we have seen its benefits first hand. As a result of the program, a company by the name of ReVolt Technology actually relocated to our community and brought its amazing research—and jobs as well. In my discussion with Secretary Chu, he highlighted the effectiveness of ARPA–E in leveraging private-sector investments stating that a $40 million federal investment has been leveraged to private-sector investments of more than $200 million.

Keeping this in mind, I was dismayed to see that the underlying bill under consideration not only rejects the request for additional ARPA–E investment, but seeks to cut $75 million in FY2013.

As a member of the Budget Committee, I understand the need to get our fiscal house in order. But we have a responsibility to do so in a strategic manner to ensure that we do not undermine our future security and competitiveness. It is precisely this recognition that makes the Hirono-Chu-Matsui-Lee-Carnahan Amendment so important.

This amendment addresses the lopsided priorities in the underlying bill in a reasonable and balanced way. It seeks to meet the Administration's request for the fossil fuels research and development, and uses the difference to support ARPA–E. This would provide roughly $333 million for ARPA–E, a modest increase over FY2012.

This is amendment takes a fair approach, balancing today's energy research needs with the promise of tomorrow's technologies, and the jobs and economic benefits that go along with them.

I commend my colleagues for their work on this amendment.

RETIREMENT OF JIMMY MILLER

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the service of one of this body's most able, dedicated and respected employees, James R. "Jimmy" Miller.

After 53 years of combined service here on Capitol Hill and a distinguished career in the United States Air Force, Jimmy is retiring from the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Mr. Miller has ensured the smooth operation of the Committee's hearings, meetings, and functions for decades. And he has been the person that Committee Members and staff have gone to when we simply needed to get something done, because no one else has a better understanding of how the House of Representatives functions on a daily basis.

It has been said that every committee has a Jimmy Miller, but Transportation has THE Jimmy Miller.

Jimmy has been much more than a long-serving staffer; he has been a trusted friend to me, to other Members of Congress, and to his countless Hill colleagues for more than 30 years. While his family is undoubtedly happy they'll be seeing more of him in the coming days, we on Capitol Hill will feel his considerable absence.

Jimmy's service to our country began when he joined the United States Air Force in 1959, where he rose to the rank of Command Sergeant Major, the highest rank possible for an enlisted airman.

During his 28 years of distinguished service in the Air Force, Jimmy served under three Chairmen of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Earle Wheeler, General George Brown, and General David C. Jones.

In 1980, Command Sergeant Major Miller became the Air Force legislative liaison to the House of Representatives.

In 1987, he retired from the Air Force and was subsequently appointed by Chairman Bob Roe to join the staff of the House Committee on Science, Space and Technology. Jimmy then came with Chairman Roe to the Committee on Public Works and Transportation in 1991.

Jimmy has shepherded numerous delegations of U.S. officials to meetings with their foreign counterparts all over the world. He has crossed the globe more times than most people, having been to more than 170 countries, and he has established many friendships along the way.

Jimmy embodied a bipartisan spirit over the years, serving under six chairmen, Republicans and Democrats alike. In fact, Jimmy insisted that he equally serve all the Members of the Committee, regardless of which party led the House.

Jimmy accorded all of us on the Hill with the same respect over the years, whether we've wielded a gavel or a paintbrush, and we all admire his humble professionalism and dedication.

Jimmy was born on August 22, 1940 to Alyce and Robert Miller in Paulding, Ohio and was one of nine children. His parents instilled in them the values of family, God, and country and helped shape their children's personal lives and their public citizenship.

Even with all of his successes, including meeting many of the world's leaders, Jimmy's most important achievement has been his own family. He has been a caring, loving, and proud father to his children, Kim, Bob, Chris, and Shawn. I know Jimmy is looking forward to spending more time with his four children, nine grandchildren, one great grandson, and his wife Peg.

I will personally miss Jimmy. I consider him a close friend and I know that the House of Representatives will miss him. On behalf of this body, which he has served so well, I want to thank Jimmy for his dedicated service to our Nation and wish him a happy and healthy retirement.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and all of our colleagues to join in thanking Jimmy Miller for his years of service to the House of Representatives and our Nation. We wish him a wonderful retirement and want him to know we all appreciate his service and friendship.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, on June 5, 2012, I missed rollcall votes numbered 315, 316, 317, and 318. Had I been present, I would have voted "no," on rollcall No. 315, the McClintock Amendment which would reduce the Nuclear Energy account by $514,391,000, and apply the savings to the spending reduction account; "yes" on rollcall No. 316, the Hirono Amendment which would reduce the Fossil Energy Research and Development account by $133,400,000, and increase funds for the Advanced Research Project Agency account by the same amount; "no" on rollcall No. 317, the McClintock Amendment which would zero out the Fossil Energy Research and Development account (a cut of $554 million) and apply the savings to the spending reduction account; and "yes" on rollcall No. 318, the Matheson Amendment which would increase the Non-Defense environmental cleanup account by $9,600,000, and reduce the National Nuclear Security Weapons account by the same amount.

CONGRATULATING MRS. HELEN R. HENDERSON ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Helen R. Henderson from Pahokee, Florida on the occasion of her 100th birthday, which is June 8, 2012. Born in Kentucky, Mrs. Henderson was raised on her family's farm. From her earliest days, she learned the value of a healthy diet, eating the food her family raised. Her life has been characterized by hard work, dedication, compassion, and inner strength.

Helen and her late husband, Brooks Henderson, devoted their lives to education in the Glades area, with Brooks serving as the principal of Pahokee High School, and Helen working as a special needs elementary education teacher in Belle Glade and Canal Point. Helen began her love for learning at a young age when she traveled six miles by horse and buggy to attend her one-room schoolhouse in Kentucky. Sadly, the Henderson's only child, Ann, passed away several years ago, but their love of education was passed down to their grandson, Kevin Henderson, an instructor at Palm Beach State College in Belle Glade.

An accomplished musician, Helen has played piano at her church, First United Methodist of Pahokee, for over 60 years. A lifelong

follower of Jesus Christ, she has taught Sunday school to several generations of Pahokee children. She still faithfully attends Sunday school and worship service each week. She still lives in her own home in Pahokee, where she enjoys spending time with friends, participating in church activities, and working in her yard. Helen says the secret to her longevity is hard work and eating right.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Helen Henderson is a fine citizen, and I am proud that she continues to make a positive impact on the Glades community. I am delighted to join her family, friends and many admirers in wishing her a very happy 100th birthday and continued good health and happiness for years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF ELIAS BOU SAAB

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Honorable Elias Bou Saab, the Mayor of Dhour Shweir and Ain Al Sindyaneh, and welcome him to the City of Cleveland.

Born and raised in Dhour Shweir, Mayor Bou Saab earned his Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing from The American College in London and his Master of Arts in International Relations from Boston University. In 1992, he established and served as the first president of the Lebanese Graduates of Britain.

Dedicated to higher education and improving relations between the United States and the Arab world, in 1995 Bou Saab moved to Dubai and founded the American University in Dubai. Today he serves as the executive vice president of the university overseeing the implementation of policies and long-term planning.

In 2010, Bou Saab was elected as the Mayor of his hometown of Dhour Shweir and Ain Al Sindyaneh. He is also an active member of the Clinton Global Initiative, co-founder of the Emirates Lebanese Friendship Association and former Member of the Board of Directors of the Young Arab Leaders.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me welcoming Mr. Elias Bou Saab to the City of Cleveland.

RECOGNIZING OXFORD HEALTHCARE OF JOPLIN

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the reopening of Oxford HealthCare in Joplin, Missouri.

Oxford HealthCare is a home care provider that serves more than 50 counties in southwest and central Missouri. In 1975, Oxford HealthCare began operations in Joplin and Springfield, Missouri. On May 22, 2011, a tornado struck the Joplin community and destroyed Oxford's office. It was very important to Oxford HealthCare that they get to a new normal as quickly as possible because their patients and employees were dependent on them, and in their business there is no excuse not to show up for work.

Hours after the tornado tore through Joplin, Destiny Church opened its doors to Oxford. By the next morning the Joplin and Springfield staff converged on the church with everything needed to do business. For weeks Oxford staff worked out of plastic tubs that held office and medical supplies and they used cell phones and laptops using a computer system that their IT Department was able to establish on the spot. Oxford was back to business as usual. The Zimmer Radio Group helped Oxford get word to their staff and patients that they were working out of Destiny Church.

With the help of the entire company, within three days of the storm all 650 employees and patients were accounted for. Some had been in the path of the storm and lost their homes. Many suffered injuries.

Immediately after the tornado employees who were suffering themselves continued to see their patients without fail. In those first days after the storm many Oxford staff stayed with the patients they were with during the storm, without going to their own homes, until they knew the patients were safe and had family to watch over them. In an effort to ensure that the community's clinical needs were being met, Oxford set up makeshift first aid stations throughout the neighborhoods that were in the path of the tornado. Volunteer nurses from the entire company took their vacation time to staff the tents from 8–5, seven days a week for a number of weeks, where 1,400 tetanus shots were given and first aid was administered.

Oxford eventually left Destiny Church and set up a temporary office in Carthage as plans were being made to return to Joplin. The resilience of Oxford and its employees is amazing and I am honored to help Oxford celebrate the reopening of their new facility in Joplin.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE McINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. McINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present for votes on June 5, 2012. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following ways: ''no'' on rollcall vote No. 315, ''no'' on rollcall vote No. 316, ''no'' on rollcall vote No. 317, and ''yes'' on rollcall vote No. 318.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR FLIGHT OF EASTERN OREGON AND HONOR FLIGHT OF PORTLAND, OREGON

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 54 World War II veterans from Oregon who will be visiting their memorial this Friday in Washington, D.C. through Honor Flight of Eastern Oregon and Honor Flight of Portland, Oregon. On behalf of a grateful State and country, we welcome these heroes to our Nation's Capital.

The veterans on this flight from Oregon are: Theodore Baumeister, U.S. Army; William Burgess, U.S. Army; Warren F. Ebersole, U.S. Army; Walter J. Forsea, U.S. Army; Teresa Fortino, U.S. Army; Jay L. Garrison, U.S. Army; Zoella Hickmon, U.S. Army; James E. Monroe, U.S. Army; Walter S. Saunders, U.S. Army; Joseph W. Sharpe, U.S. Army; Frank K. Walsh, U.S. Army; Earl C. Williams, U.S. Army; Glenn A. Wrede, U.S. Army; Arthur J. Blumberg, U.S. Army Air Forces; John Bogen, U.S. Army Air Forces; Merrit S. Kelsay, U.S. Army Air Forces; Daniel F. McAllaster, U.S. Army Air Forces; Robert J. Miller, U.S. Army Air Forces; Arthur Perkins, U.S. Army Air Forces; Gene Woodward, U.S. Army Air Forces; Jerry Benson, U.S. Coast Guard; Charles L. Burgess, U.S. Marine Corps; Golda F. Fabian, U.S. Marine Corps; William Gordon, U.S. Marine Corps; Charles R. Holmes, U.S. Marine Corps; Keith C. Tucker, U.S. Marine Corps; Dwain E. Whitney, U.S. Marine Corps; Levi D. Chamberlin, U.S. Merchant Marine; John Alford, U.S. Navy; Robert Barber, U.S. Navy; Eldon Bartlett, U.S. Navy; Sylvine Elie Bourque, U.S. Navy; John E. Curran, U.S. Navy; Bruce L. Dickman, U.S. Navy; Richard M. Finch, U.S. Navy; Louis Fortino, U.S. Navy; Ted S. Georgioff, U.S. Navy; Dale D. Halm, U.S. Navy; Merrily Kurtz Hewett, U.S. Navy; Jack Hilbourne, U.S. Navy; Leslie H. Horn, U.S. Navy; Robert J. Huesby, U.S. Navy; Charles H. Kies, U.S. Navy; Robert L. Lee, U.S. Navy; Leo Moore, U.S. Navy; Thomas Mummy, U.S. Navy; Walker D. Nicholson, U.S. Navy; Raymond Quimby, U.S. Navy; Richard G. Ray, U.S. Navy; George Reiner, U.S. Navy; Louis Stone, U.S. Navy; Robert B. Stuart, U.S. Navy; Helmer C. Wallan, U.S. Navy; Aurthur L. Welch, U.S. Navy.

These 54 heroes join more than 81,000 veterans from across the country who, since 2005, have journeyed from their home states to Washington, D.C. to reflect at the memorials built in honor of our Nation's veterans.

Mr. Speaker, each of us is humbled by the courage of these brave Americans who put themselves in harm's way for our country and way of life. As a nation, we can never fully repay the debt of gratitude owed to them for their honor, commitment, and sacrifice in defense of the freedoms we have today.

My colleagues, please join me in thanking these veterans and the volunteers of Honor Flight of Eastern Oregon and Portland, Oregon for their exemplary dedication and service to this great country. I especially want to recognize U.S. Army veteran Dick Tobiason and the Bend Heroes Foundation, whose tireless work will result in over 100 World War II veterans from Oregon visiting the memorials and U.S. Capitol.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, June 5, 2012, I was absent during rollcall vote No. 316 due to a family medical issue. Had I been present, I would have voted ''aye'' on the Hirono of Hawaii Amendment.

JEWISH B2B NETWORKING: A VALUED RESOURCE FOR SMALL BUSINESSES AND OUR COMMUNITY

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Jewish B2B Networking (JBN) and its founder, Shalom Klein, for their outstanding work in promoting and nurturing small businesses in the metro Chicago area. Next week, on June 14, JBN will hold its second ''Business Event'' at the Lincolnwood Town Center in my district, just one of the many ways that it is helping small businesses, workers and our economy.

I attended last year's inaugural Business Event, along with representatives from over 2,700 small businesses, elected officials and job seekers. It was extraordinary—a vibrant, exciting and incredibly useful opportunity for small businesses to network, learn from each other, make contacts, set up meetings to help build their companies, and share their experiences and concerns with Members of Congress. It was so successful that plans began right there on the spot to hold another Event in 2012.

Small business men and women are essential to our economic well-being. In Illinois, they represent 98 percent of all employers. They also represent the spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship that has made our country so strong. It is imperative that we foster small business creation and expansion—and that is the mission of JBN.

It is never easy to start a small business, but it is especially challenging today as we work to recover from the impacts of the Great Recession. JBN was formed in 2010, through the vision of Shalom Klein, to help provide the support and tools needed to help small businesses thrive.

Through its monthly networking events, JBN provides critical and practical information to help small business owners learn about available lending resources. Business to business networking through monthly forums provide the opportunity to share ''best practices'' and pick up tips that can help small businesses succeed. JBN is creating a vibrant network—not just among Chicagoland small businesses but between small businesses and policymakers at the local, State and national levels. This year, for example, they brought small business owners to Washington, D.C. so that they could share their experiences and recommendations with the Obama Administration and Members of Congress and also learn about opportunities and assistance.

JBN has touched over 6,000 active business networking partners and has over 17,000 subscribed networkers receiving weekly communications and utilizing its interactive website.

Through its Business Event and through online job listings, JBN has helped more than 200 job seekers obtain employment. Over 5,000 businesses and job seekers are expected at next week's event in Lincolnwood, to exchange business information, ideas, and resources.

There are many wonderful small business men and women who have contributed to the success of JBN, but I want to specifically recognize the vision and work of Shalom Klein, its founder. As a small businessman, Shalom felt the need to connect with others. As an organizer, he did something about it. He invited 20 people to an informal ''networking'' lunch at the Slice of Life kosher restaurant in Skokie—and 70 people came.

Out of Shalom's initiative, Jewish B2B Networking was born. Open to all, the non-profit organization has taken off—serving a role that had been missing in the community. What I so admire about Shalom Klein—beyond his enthusiasm and skill—is his refusal to rest on his laurels, despite the many successes he has already achieved. As he has said, he will not be satisfied if JBN reaches a plateau—as high as it may be—he wants it to keep growing and growing, empowering more and more small business men and women. His spirit is infectious, his ability to inspire people to action is enormous, and I know he and JBN will continue to excel in their efforts.

JBN knows that local communities cannot prosper without small businesses, and they are committed to providing the climate that will help them succeed. I want to thank JBN for all that it has done already and wish it well as it, like the small businesses it assists, seeks to expand its activities in the future.

IN HONOR OF MR. WILLIAM ARTHUR FIELDS, SR.

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Mr. William Arthur Fields, Sr., who lived his life centered around family, community, and hard work.

Mr. Fields was born on May 21, 1915 in Columbus, Ohio. He was married to Estelle, for 68 years and had four children, William, Jr., Ronald, Janice and Charles. He was an avid reader, who enjoyed hunting, fishing and golf and shared his love of nature with his family on many fishing trips to Lake Erie. He was a life-long member of Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church.

Mr. Fields started a family-owned and operated construction and masonry company, Fields Brothers Masonry. A skilled block and masonry contractor, he used his skills to improve his community whenever he was called upon. Following his first retirement, Mr. Fields became a dispatcher for the City of Columbus, Maintenance Department. In addition, he was a volunteer firefighter for Clinton Township.

I offer my condolences to his children, Janice Bosley and Charles (JoAnn) Fields; daughters-in-law, Earlene Fields and Shirley Hawkins; brothers, Charles and Carl (Jean) Fields; sister-in-law, Bettye Randle; 15 grandchildren, 34 great-grandchildren and 13 great-great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in celebrating the long and prolific life of Mr. William Arthur Fields, Sr.

HEROES OF COMPASSION

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate the heroes and heroines of compassion in our community for their exceptional devotion to serving the needs of others. In so doing, the ethic they set creates a better way of life for people across our region and enriches the human condition. The Charter for Compassion was created by Karen Armstrong, author of many interfaith books in 2008. Her wish was that the faith leaders of the world would acknowledge their core common value of compassion in a simple document and the response to her idea for Heroes of Compassion was phenomenal. Greater Toledo has many individuals and organizations that qualify as Heroes of Compassion. But many of these individuals and institutions are unsung heroes and heroines. Their stories of compassion are untold, while news of violence and conflict make headlines. The First Heroes of Compassion of Toledo were honored at the 11th Annual MultiFaith Banquet on March 11, 2012 at the Franciscan Center at Lourdes University, and later at a community gathering at the Unitarian Universalist Church on Glendale Ave. The First Heroes of Compassion included:

Sr. Mary Angelita Abair: Decades of work in central Toledo with the poor, marginalized, imprisoned, and disabled;

Cherry Street Mission: Emergency shelter, food and other assistance;

Dr. Lawrence V. Conway, The Diller Foundation: Provides medical equipment and supplies to many deserving countries and the Medical Hall of Fame;

Judge Charles J. Doneghy: Inner city youth mentor and support for prostate cancer awareness;

Fr. Martin Donnelly: Founding chair of Erase the Hate Toledo and Central City Ministries and many other organizations;

Hannah's Socks: Founded by four year old Hannah Turner and has since supplied 200,000+ pairs of socks to the homeless last year;

Jewish Family Service Food Bank: Food, supplies and moral support to the needy in the general community;

Ken Leslie & Pat Lewandowski, 1Matters—Tent City: Working to change the perception of the homeless;

Lifeline Toledo: Support for inner city homeless, including mobile medical support;

The Ronald McDonald House Charities: Provides a free home away from home for families accessing specialized medical care for their children;

Martha Pituch, RN, Cherry St. Mission Clinic: Founded and developed a nursing clinic to provide primary health care for homeless persons;

Devorah (Friedrich) Shulamit, Interfaith Blood Drive: Founder of the first interfaith blood drive in the nation, now in its 25th year;

Sr. Grace Ellen & Sr. Jeremias, Sisters of St. Francis of Sylvania Gardens: Developed a nationally recognized four-season polyhouse to provide food for the needy year round;

Mike Szuberla, Toledo GROWs: Provides support for 150 community gardens and reentry and proactive programs for at-risk youth;

St. Paul's Community Center: Daily hot meals, emergency shelter, and other services for the homeless;

St. Vincent de Paul Conference: Tangible, confidential, no-questions-asked assistance to those in need;

Toledo Area Ministries, Feed Your Neighbor Ministry: 12 food pantries, serve over 80,000 clients per year;

Toledo Mountain Mentors: One-on-one mentoring and outdoor experiences for at-risk teens.

A MOVING TRIBUTE

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I submit remarks delivered at the recent memorial service, at Washington National Cathedral, for the late Chuck Colson.

Emily Colson, Chuck's daughter, gave a compelling personal eulogy which gave us a glimpse into Chuck as a father and grandfather—his undying love and devotion to his family were beautiful to behold.

The Reverend Dr. Timothy George delivered the homily—a stirring charge to those Chuck left behind to "be not afraid."

I commend these eloquent, heartfelt tributes which honor a man whose prophetic voice will be sorely missed.

EMILY COLSON MEMORIAL SERVICE TRANSCRIPT

Good morning. My name is Emily Colson, and I am very blessed to be Chuck Colson's daughter. Today we celebrate a life well lived. I am thankful to be old enough to have known my father before he became a Christian and to see the change, the transformation in my father when Christ ruled in his heart. My father still had the same intellect and drive and passion for life, but a softness came over him. I think about my dad's office in his home in Florida, the desk highly polished where he worked tirelessly, and I think about the over-stuffed green chair in the corner where every morning he would kneel and pray. I think of the 3x5 cards my dad carried in his pocket underneath his jacket. There were 15 or 20 of them there, an ever growing to do list. But in that list he also had names, people that he prayed for every day. My dad became, as Scripture says, a new creation, and he loved his family differently.

My father in his work changed people all over the world and he also changed his family. That drive became a source of an affectionate joke in our family. We love to get together for family reunions and vacations and all of our family would be so excited to relax for a week together. And we would find ourselves in one scheduled fun activity to the next scheduled fun activity. And then my father would announce, he would declare, let's all take five minutes and relax. I was teasing him about it one day, and he looked at me just with a hint of a smile, and he said "Emily, six minutes would be wasteful."

But even with that drive when I would call my dad or when he would call me, which was daily (sometimes it was more than once a day), you would think my dad had nothing else to do in his life. He was fully present. I thought he only did that for me. But I now know he has done it for everyone in our family. He put God first, family second above all else. That's the mark of a great father and a great leader. I encourage all of you who are fathers to understand the powerful impact you can have in your children's lives. Don't miss it. My father loved his family. He and Patty just celebrated 48 years. Patty has been there as a partner in ministry; has kept my dad humble and well fed. My dad loved his three children, his grandchildren, and he almost lived to see his first great-grandchild, who will be born next month.

But perhaps for me the greatest mark of my dad's character has been his relationship with my son, Max. Max is 21 with a diagnosis of autism. And when we would come, which was frequently, my dad would clear his schedule and do nothing else but be present for Max and do everything Max loved, because Max needed his grandfather. And as it turns out, his grandfather needed Max.

My father has stood by his convictions even when no one else was looking. My father has been a defender of the weak. We will miss his zest for life. He was always the first to laugh and the last one to stop laughing. Every meal he ate was the best one he'd ever had, or so he would tell us. He was our advisor, mentor, friend, shoulder and encourager.

I think of that encouragement today. Today is a celebration of my father's life. But today is also about us, you and me. What will we do in the shadow of such an extraordinary role model. There is work to be done. I encourage you to continue the work God has begun through my father's life. Do the right thing. Seek the truth. Defend the weak. Live courageous lives. My father left a wonderful legacy and he left many writings for us to follow, to learn from. He left something for us this morning, for this moment today. "I want my funeral services to be joyful. I don't want people to be sad because I believe with every ounce of conviction in my body that death is but a homecoming and that we will be in the presence of God. It is the culmination of life. It's a celebration."

BE NOT AFRAID!

A HOMILY DELIVERED BY THE REVEREND DR. TIMOTHY GEORGE AT THE MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR CHARLES W. COLSON AT WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL ON MAY 16, 2012

Invocation: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

In the ancient book of Joshua we read: "Now after the death of Moses, the servant of the Lord, it came to pass that the Lord spake unto Joshua the son of Nun saying, 'Moses my servant is dead: now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel. . . . As I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. Be strong and of a good courage. Be thou strong and very courageous. Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest." (Joshua 1:1–9, selected verses)

Charles Wendell Colson was once the youngest captain in the United States Marines and, at his request, he was laid to rest several days ago at Quantico National Cemetery. He loved his country fiercely and served it well. But we are here today, in this the nation's church, to celebrate the life of one who ended his days as a soldier in another army, the militia Christi, a battalion without bullets, soldiers of Christ, arrayed in truth, wielding weapons of faith, prayer, and love. To describe this change in the life of Chuck Colson requires us to use freighted words such as conversion, redemption, transformation.

Not that Chuck ever completely outgrew the Marines. There was an intensity and drivenness about him that could be formidable. He did not suffer fools gladly and he was not blessed with an overabundance of patience. Chuck loved to tell the story about a man who accosted him on a plane one day, pushing, shoving, jostling for a seat. Chuck said to him, "Fella, do you know who you're messing with? I'm an ex-marine, an ex-con, and if I weren't a Christian you'd be on the floor of this plane!" Then he presented the Gospel to him.

Chuck was not perfect, but he was forgiven. He never got over the wonder and surprise of having encountered Jesus Christ as a real person, a living reality; the one person in human history who passed through the gossamer veil of death and came back to tell us what was on the other side and how we should prepare for that journey by living every day in the light of eternity. Chuck's autobiography, Born Again, tells the story of a man born in Boston on the wrong side of the tracks. He clawed his way up the ever-spiraling ladder of success until he reached the pinnacle of power as Special Counsel to the President of the United States.

But when his career was shattered in the wake of Watergate, he found himself in the position of another henchman, Thomas á Becket, who had done the bidding of King Henry II in the twelfth century. In a play about his life, Becket stands on stage, stripped of the insignia of his high office, and exclaims, "Oh, God, there must be more, there must be something more!"

Chuck Colson had such a moment in the summer of 1973. Sitting alone late one night in the driveway of his friend Tom Phillips, filled with guilt and despair, he burst into tears "crying so hard," he later said, "it was like tying to swim underwater." That night he prayed his first real prayer, "God, I don't know how to find you. But I'm going to try. Somehow I want to give myself to you." Take me, take me, take me, he repeated over and over.

And God did take Chuck Colson from that moment of surrender to a federal prison in Alabama, to the experience of baptism as a new believer in Christ, to the founding of Prison Fellowship, a wonderful ministry to prisoners and their families now chartered in 113 countries around the world. And God took Chuck to the side of Mary Kay Beard, a former inmate and bank robber who could boast of being on the FBI's Ten Most Wanted list. At our fundraisers, Chuck used to say that no one could ask for money like Mary Kay! Together with Chuck she founded a ministry called Angel Tree that has served some six million children of prisoners over the last three decades. Chuck never forgot that he served a Savior who had been crucified as a prisoner, one who knew what it was like to be stripped, sentenced, beaten, and mocked. He never forgot Jesus' words: "I was in prison and you visited me."

Chuck's conversion was not only emotional, it was also intellectual and moral as well. "I could not sidestep," he said, "the central question God had placed squarely before me. Was I to accept without reservation Jesus Christ as Lord of my life? It was like a gate before me. There was no way to walk around it. I would step through or I would remain outside. A 'maybe' or 'I need more time' was kidding myself. The phrase 'accept Jesus Christ' had sounded at first both pious and mystical, the language of the zealot, maybe black magic stuff. But the question was: did I believe what Jesus said? If I did, then I accepted. Not mystical or weird at all, and with no in-between ground left. Either I would believe or I would not—and believe it all or none of it."

Of course, there have been and still are the critics. When Born Again was released, Chuck's hometown newspaper, The Boston Globe, wrote: "If Colson can repent, there just has to be hope for everyone!" To which

Chuck would be the first to say, Yes! that's exactly the point. Hope for everyone, anyone. The invitation has gone out with your name on it. It says RSVP. There is no limit to this love of God. His grace and forgiveness reach to the least, the last, and the lost, which, at the end of the day, is all of us, each of us sooner or later, in one way or other.

Of all the tributes that have been written about Chuck in recent days, the one that touched me most deeply was by Mr. Lanny Davis, who served as Special Counsel to President Clinton, the same title Chuck Colson had in his work at the White House with President Nixon. Mr. Davis described his meeting with Chuck several years ago at a dinner before the National Prayer Breakfast. They greeted one another, and Chuck said to Mr. Davis, ''I've wanted for a very long time to say something to you: I am sorry, may God forgive me.'' ''I looked at him, stunned,'' Mr. Davis wrote. Chuck continued, ''You know, I'm the guy who put you on the enemies list—that was wrong, please forgive me.'' Mr. Davis said, ''I looked into his eyes and I felt a strange and deep peace. It was eerie. I also saw a profound goodness and spirituality. My eyes teared up. 'Of course I forgive you, Mr. Colson.' Mr. Davis then asked for Chuck's forgiveness, as years before he himself had spoken with hatred about Chuck. Immediately, Chuck hugged him. ''I learned an important lesson that night,'' Lanny Davis said. ''I vowed that I would never use the word 'hate' about people in politics with whom I disagreed.''

Over the years, Chuck came to see the close connection between the despair he witnessed within the prisons and the ''culture of death'' in society on the outside. He knew that genuine reform had to embrace the family, the community, and the church as well as the state. He came to see that the work he had done, and continued to do, in the prisons would ultimately fail unless it was undergirded by a robust Christian worldview, an understanding of what it is we believe and how it applies to our lives.

This perspective was reinforced by the three great intellectual heroes to whom Chuck turned again and again. William Wilberforce, the young member of Parliament who devoted his life to the abolition of the slave trade. And Abraham Kuyper, the Reformed theologian and prime minister of the Netherlands whom Chuck quoted, I believe, more than anyone else. Kuyper said: ''There is not one square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is Sovereign over all, does not cry: 'Mine, that belongs to me!' '' And there was Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a champion of faith and conscience in one of the darkest moments of human history. Bonhoeffer, who preached a gospel of costly grace and who, in 1937, wrote ''When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and die.''

Chuck Colson was a Baptist but he had a passion for Christian unity that reached far beyond his own denomination. In the early nineteen-nineties, Chuck and his close friend, the late Father Richard John Neuhaus, brought together a group known as Evangelicals and Catholics Together—not a mere coalition but a fellowship of earnest Evangelicals and faithful Catholics who recognized that beyond all the differences that continued to separate us, we shared a fundamental unity as brothers and sisters in Christ, a vision for reconciliation that continues still.

This same impulse was behind the 2009 Manhattan Declaration, which began as a statement and has now become a movement of more than half a million Protestant, Catholic, and Orthodox believers all committed to the three most pressing, and increasingly contested moral issues of our time: the sanctity of life for every single person including the elderly, the weak, and the pre-born, each of whom is made in the image of God (imago Dei) and is worthy of our respect and protection; the historic institution of marriage, not for the sake of traditionalism but for the flourishing of families and the nurture of children, an institution Cardinal Timothy Dolan has called the cornerstone of society; and religious freedom, not only for Christians, but for all persons everywhere, and for religious institutions as well as for individuals, for synagogues, mosques, temples and churches and the work they do on behalf of the common good in education and benevolence. Chuck believed in these things and he stood for them with courage, charity and civility.

For those who thought that this was just the old political Colson in a new disguise, he reminded them that while citizens in a representative democracy such as ours have a special responsibility, the fundamental issue is not political but spiritual. What Chuck advocated was a chastened form of civic virtue based on the fact that Christians hold a dual citizenship, one in this world, and the other, as St. Paul said, in heaven. With St. Augustine, Chuck wanted us to avoid two mistakes that Christians have often made and that still tempt us today.

One is the lure of utopianism, the mistake of thinking that we can produce a human society that will solve our problems and bring about the Kingdom of God on earth. This was the basic error of both liberalism and Marxism in the nineteenth century. But the other error is equally disastrous: cynicism. This happens when we become so jaded by the evil around us that we are tempted to give up on this world altogether, to retreat into our own self-contained circle of contentment, which can be either a pious holy huddle or a secular skeptics club. How are we to avoid such reactions?

Perhaps Francis of Assisi can help us here. One day after his conversion to Christ when he was riding back to Assisi, he saw a leper on the road. He reached out to embrace the leper and actually gave him a kiss. It was the kiss of peace. In that moment when he embraced this filthy diseased outcast, Francis said that he was overcome by a dual sensation. On the one hand, he was nauseated. He wanted to throw up. On the other hand, he was permeated with a sense of sweetness (suavitas) and well-being, and both sensations were in that one embrace.

Chuck Colson knew that both reactions were critical to our faith. If all we experience is nausea, we will become cynics. We will give up on the world and turn away from it in despair. But if all we have is sweetness, then our faith will amount to little more that sentimental fluff, what Schopenhauer called an ''unscrupulous optimism that leads us nowhere but to vanity.'' Genuine faith and true ministry take place on the thin edge between nausea and sweetness.

Chuck Colson often experienced that thin edge. Once while visiting Trivandrum, India, he was taken to a camp with more than a thousand inmates, most of them ''untouchables.'' Caged in squalid holes, with no toilets or running water, they were totally dehumanized, treated as outcasts. Speaking through a Hindi translator, Chuck shared his own testimony of grace and forgiveness. After the closing prayer, acting against the advice he had been given, he jumped down from the platform and ran to touch the men before him. Later, he wrote about this event: ''Suddenly, like a flight of birds, men rose to their feet and circled around me. I shook every hand I could. Most of the men just reached and touched; they were desperate to 'touch,' to know that the love God offers is real.'' Later, they went back to their grim cells. But that night, through the witness of Chuck Colson, they had received some good news: in Jesus Christ there are no untouchables. All of us bear that message whenever we walk the thin edge of costly discipleship.

John Calvin was right when he warned against extravagant speculation in the mystery of death. There is much we do not know. And this is a good occasion for each of us to think about our own deaths, for death waits for each of us around the next corner, or the next. John Donne spoke of the democracy of the dead. Mortality is egalitarian. It comes equally to each of us, and when it comes, it makes us all equal. Today we mourn with Chuck's beloved Patty, the Colson family, and countless citizens across our land and around the world who have lost a great friend, champion, leader, and world Christian statesman. But we do not grieve as those who have no hope, for as St. Paul has reminded us, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

It has been said that this life is a chasm of light suspended between two eternities of darkness. But the Gospel Chuck Colson believed and proclaimed tells a different story: this life is the real shadowland, and often a vale of tears, suspended between two eternities of light. We come into this world, each of us, from the hands of the invisible God who dwells in light inaccessible. And, we leave this world, trusting in Jesus Christ, to go into what the African American preacher calls the land of ''no more,'' no more sorrow, no more crying, no more pain or death, no more crime or violence, no more prison and no more night, for we go into that land beyond the shadows where we shall have no need of candles, nor light of the sun, for the Lord God will give light to all those gathered around his throne and that of the Lamb.

And in the meantime? How now shall we live?

One of Chuck's last books was titled The Good Life. And it closes with these words: ''The good life? A life worth living? Indeed. But the good life is possible only if we live in expectation that life will end as richly as we lived it, if we laugh off the maggots and affirm that these bones shall live in the resurrection. Live each day as if it were the best of days and the last of days. And when the last of days comes, live it as the best of days.''

And who will take the place of Chuck Colson? Earlier this year I visited the grave of the great evangelist D.L. Moody who died in 1899 in Northfield, Massachusetts. At that time, everyone was saying, who can fill the shoes of the great D.L. Moody? There seemed no one on the horizon who commanded the respect and loyalty that Moody had. It's quite depressing to read the religious press of those days. But unbeknownst to anyone on earth at the time, a little baby named John was about to be born to Sir Arnold Stott and his wife Lily. About the same time, another little boy named Billy entered the Graham family in Charlotte. A few years later, Pastor and Sister King in Atlanta celebrated the birth of baby Martin. And in 1931, in a hardscrabble section of Boston, a baby named Charlie Colson arrived.

Today the servant of God named Chuck Colson is dead and the Lord is saying to us as he said to Joshua and the children of Israel long ago: as I was with Chuck, so I will be with you. Be not afraid! I will not fail you, nor forsake you. Be strong and of a good courage. Be not afraid! Be not dismayed. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Let us pray: Oh, God, whose days are without end and whose mercies cannot be numbered: Make us, we beseech thee, deeply sensible of the shortness and uncertainty of life. Remind us of the wonderful promise of our

Lord Jesus Christ who said: ''Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest. We praise thee that through his atoning death on the cross, and his glorious resurrection, Jesus has opened wide the gates of eternal life to all who believe.

Today we give thanks for thy servant Charles Wendell Colson, for his steadfastness in faith, obedience to thy Word, and love for thy Church, for his gracious smile, loving touch, and contagious confidence in Jesus Christ his only comfort in life and death, and ours as well. We say farewell in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection, until we meet again in that blessed land of ''no more'', through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost now and forevermore. Amen.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE U.S. HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM SECOND ANNUAL LUNCHEON IN CLEVELAND

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to acknowledge the gathering of supporters of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Cleveland for the second annual Cleveland Luncheon on Monday May 21, 2012. The luncheon featured remarks by Museum Director Sara Bloomfield, a Cleveland native, and former U.S. Attorney General Michael Mukasey. Judge Mukasey discussed the importance of the Museum's training for judges, ''Law, Justice, and the Holocaust: How the Courts Failed Germany.''

The idea of a U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum began in 1978. On November 1, 1978, President Jimmy Carter established the ''President's Commission on the Holocaust,'' chaired by author and Holocaust survivor Elie Wiesel. The commission was charged with, among other things, reporting back on how an appropriate museum could be created in Washington to commemorate the Holocaust which would be funded through contributions by the American people. The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum was completed in 1993 on 1.9 acres of land adjacent to the National Mall in Washington donated by the federal government with the $200 million in construction costs paid completely by private donations.

To quote Director Bloomfield, the ''Museum presents the Holocaust in a way that challenges people to confront human nature—the entire spectrum, from extraordinary evil that led to the mass murder of Jews to the extraordinary goodness of people who risked their lives, risked the lives of their families to save another human being, and every kind of shade of human behavior in between. And, for me, it says to people, now that you know this about ourselves as a species, what must you do with this? You must do something with this. You must be responsible for our species.''

Mr. Speaker, Director Bloomfield's perspective sums up the practical necessity of peace education, which I fully support and have advocated on this floor and in the corridors of Congress. I am pleased that there is a national grassroots movement to support the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum and that the movement has convened for a second year in Cleveland. Please join me in acknowledging the importance of this movement and the support they provide to continuing the peace education conducted on a daily basis at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent yesterday. Had I been present, I would have voted ''nay'' on rollcall No. 315, ''yea'' on rollcall No. 316, ''nay'' on rollcall No. 317, ''yea'' on rollcall No. 318.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was $10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is $15,733,409,283,200.18. We've added $5,106,532,234,287.10 to our debt in just over 3 years. This is debt our Nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT MARC ROGERS' SERVICE

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor LTG Marc E. Rogers for his service to our country.

Our country has been blessed to have citizens like Lt. Gen. Rogers who have selflessly volunteered to defend our Nation and freedom. They are the reason why we are the strongest Nation on Earth, and the reason we stand today with freedoms unparalleled across the globe. Lt. Gen. Rogers joined the Air Force in 1974 and served as an electronic combat pilot, Aggressor pilot, instructor pilot, evaluation pilot, operations officer and commander. During his time in the Air Force he commanded at the squadron level, group, wing and numbered air force levels. Lt. Gen. Rogers led combat operations in Iraq and Bosnia. He has served in a variety of positions at command headquarters including the Joint Staff, U.S. Joint Forces Command, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Tactical Air Command, U.S. Air Forces in Europe, Air Education and Training Command, and Air Force Material Command.

Our republic and the freedoms that flow from it remain the envy of the world because of service and sacrifices of men and women like Lt. Gen. Rogers. I am proud of Lt. Gen. Rogers' service to our Nation and am honored to call him my neighbor in the 7th Congressional District of Missouri. I wanted to take this opportunity to honor his service to a grateful Nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, June 5th, 2012, I was absent during rollcall vote No. 317 due to a family medical issue. Had I been present, I would have voted ''no'' on the McClintock of California Amendment No. 5.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF FATHER JOHN J. CREGAN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Father John J. Cregan, who ministered to parishes throughout our community, including Blessed Sacrament, St. Joseph's Church, St. Thomas More and Our Lady of Angels. Father Cregan also served as the Chaplain for the Cleveland Police and Fire, Greater Cleveland Police and Fire, Holy Name Society, Cleveland Office of the FBI, the Greater Cleveland Police Emerald Society, Retired Irish Police Society and the Anchor Club. Collectively, he held these roles for more than forty years.

Father Cregan had a long and distinguished history in Cleveland. Born on June 2, 1935, Father Cregan went to St. Vincent de Paul grade school and later graduated from Saint Ignatius High School. After attending St. Meinrad Minor Seminary, Borromeo Seminary, and St. Mary Seminary, Father Cregan was ordained at Saint John Cathedral by Auxiliary Bishop Floyd Begin on May 20, 1961.

Father Cregan was especially active with safety organizations such as police officers and firemen. He was an invaluable source of support, kindness and guidance for the women and men who bravely serve in the line of duty. His service led to him being honored with numerous awards, including becoming the 12th inductee of the Cleveland Police Museum Hall of Fame.

Father Cregan's joy and strong faith were apparent after listening to any of his sermons. His kind spirit and good nature has brought countless people to his church. His dedication, generosity, and love to his members was like no other. He truly cared for all people. We, as a community, were blessed to have Father Cregan.

I offer my condolences to his sisters, Sister M. Theresine, Rita Joyce, and Florence Schwind and his 15 nieces and nephews.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the life of Father John J. Cregan who served his community selflessly with love and talent.

RECOGNIZING DR. MATTHEW HOLDEN, ACADEMICIAN

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and acknowledge Dr. Matthew Holden, Academician.

Holden was born in Mound Bayou, Mississippi and subsequently grew up in Chicago. He is married to the former Dorothy Amanda Howard and they are the parents of Paul Christopher Hendricks and John Matthew Alexander Holden. Holden is an alumnus of Northwestern University (M.A., Ph.D., Political Science, Anthropology minor), of Roosevelt University (B. A., Political Science, History minor), and of Wendell Phillips High School (Chicago).

He taught at Wayne State University in Detroit, the University of Pittsburgh, the University of Wisconsin—Madison, and the University of Virginia, where he was the Henry L. and Grace M. Doherty Professor of Politics. He has also been the Newman Visiting Professor of American Civilization, Cornell University, and has been a visiting professor at Jackson State University. In his writings and experience, Holden has emphasized the connection of political science concepts to the actual world that they seek to explain, and of learning from the actual world to refine concepts.

Professor Holden has written extensively in many fields of the discipline of political science. This work has included energy politics and environmental policy, regulatory policy and practice, urban and metropolitan politics, public policy and administration, executive politics, law and politics, and race and ethnic politics.

Among his works are Continuity & Disruption: Essays in Public Administration, a study of race and politics entitled The Divisible Republic, an edited volume on Varieties of Political Conservatism, and contributions to a joint volume on Resources and Decisions.

He is also the author of a new volume, now in the last stage of writing, entitled The Practice of Power, a study of public administration and political power, for the University of Oklahoma Press. This volume is based on the Rothbaum Lecture in Representative Government delivered in 2001 and rewritten over the past decade. In 1973, he published a two volume perspective on race relations and civil rights entitled The Politics of the Black ''Nation'' and The White Man's Burden. A combined trade edition was also published under the title The Divisible Republic.

He has also been engaged in many activities outside the academy. He held full time appointive public office as Commissioner of the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin and as Commissioner of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. He has been a member of the Electricity Advisory Board (U.S. Department of Energy), Task Force on Electric System Reliability (U.S. Department of Energy), President's Air Quality Advisory Board, and of the Board of Directors of Atlantic Energy, Inc.

Among his public affairs activities have been assignments in congressional testimony on D.C., government organization and on energy policy, and as a witness before the House Judiciary Committee on historical and constitutional standards on Presidential impeachment. He has also been a witness on state legislative hearings on energy.

He has also been a member of the Delegate Assembly of the National Urban League, the Education and Youth Incentives Committee of the National Urban League, the Boards of Directors of the Madison, Wisconsin and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania Urban Leagues, in local NAACP chapters, and is an active layperson in the Episcopal Church.

He has also been a strong advocate for improving the analytical basis of African American politics, and has spent recent years advancing the concept of a think tank on politics, economics, and government, especially in the Lower Mississippi Valley. One of his major current interests, as well, is historic preservation, especially in Mound Bayou where the vicissitudes of the contemporary economy are severe and adverse effects.

He is a former President of the American Political Science Association, a former President of the Policy Studies Organization, a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a Senior Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration. He holds the LLD. (Hon.) from Tuskegee University, the L.H.D. (Hon.) from Roosevelt University, and the L.H.D. (Hon.) from Virginia Theological Seminary. Holden has recently become a member of the Board of the Abraham Lincoln Association.

Jackson State University has also created a Matthew Holden, Jr. Symposium Lecture in recognition of his work and of his and Mrs. Dorothy Holden's donation of the 4,000 volume library that is now called The Mrs. Dorothy Howard Holden and Dr. Matthew Holden, Jr. Reading Room. Holden's academic, personal, and official papers have mainly been donated to the University of Virginia Archives. When those papers are processed they will provide one of most extensive collections in any university of materials on regulatory policy and procedure as seen from a commissioner's standpoint.

Holden served in the United States Army, with sixteen months in Korea in the 7th Infantry Division Artillery.

Matthew Holden, Jr. is the Wepner Distinguished Professor in Political Science, University of Illinois—Springfield, a position he has held since August 2009. He is the convener of the Wepner Symposium on the Lincoln Legacy and Contemporary Scholarship.

HONORING AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF EVELYN WEINSTEIN

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Evelyn Weinstein, beloved mother, grandmother, and wife, tireless advocate for the underprivileged, and friend to all who knew her. Regrettably, Evelyn passed away earlier this week.

To say that Evelyn believed in giving back and paying forward would be an understatement—she devoted her entire life to helping the most vulnerable members of our society. The daughter of Polish immigrants, Evelyn worked hard to achieve the American Dream, graduating first from Brooklyn College and then going on to receive a Masters degree from Columbia University. Evelyn used her education and training to help others by becoming a certified psychiatric social worker in New York State.

During World War II and its aftermath, she helped veterans and their families cope with the psychiatric issues of war and also assisted children with respiratory ailments. During her four-decade long career as a social worker, she was a stalwart advocate for patients, assisting thousands of them at Jamaica, Long Island Jewish and North Shore hospitals. She was also the director of Long Term Care Ombudservice, Nassau County, safeguarding the rights of nursing-home residents and helping families deal with the difficult transition of placing loved ones into elder-care facilities.

Always the ardent activist, Evelyn was involved with many social agencies and organizations dedicated to assisting low income and vulnerable individuals, including: the Nassau Action Coalition, helping the aged and disabled and blind on Social Security Income; the Kimmel Housing Development Foundation, advocating for affordable housing; and the Social Action Committee of Temple Emanuel of Great Neck, serving as its chairperson. Evelyn also received numerous honors for her good works during her long and varied career, including: the American Jewish Congress Woman of the Year award, the Nassau County Social Worker of the Year award, and Nassau County Senior Citizen of the Year award.

Evelyn met the love of her life, Jack Weinstein, while she was attending Brooklyn College. They married in 1946 after Jack's service in the U.S. Navy and had three sons, Seth, Michael, and Howard. Jack went on to become a federal district judge, then chief judge, in the Eastern District of New York. But before Jack could become one of the most distinguished jurists in the country, Evelyn worked nights as a social worker and helped care for their young son so that Jack could attend Columbia University law school.

Evelyn was known for a lifetime of selfless devotion to her family, friends, coworkers, patients and clients. Her human touch and empathy for those in need led to the bettering of thousands of lives, not just through her own work, but also through her efforts of teaching people how to help people. She trained and supervised hundreds of social workers and volunteer ''ombudspeople'' along the way so that they could continue to ''pay forward'' what Evelyn had ''given back'' to her community. Evelyn was deeply committed to the concept of citizen representatives overseeing and engaging in government programs in their communities.

Mr. Speaker, Evelyn's energy and compassion for helping the disadvantaged never wavered, never flagged. She is already sorely missed, but her gift of helping others, as well as inspiring all of us to help those less fortunate than us, will always endure. I ask all of our colleagues to rise and join me in honoring Evelyn Weinstein.

HONORING LEROY KELLER

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Leroy Keller of Scarborough, Maine, who is celebrating his 50th consecutive year as a volunteer with the American Legion, Department of Maine Dirigo Boys State Program.

Leroy has been an integral part of the Maine American Legion Boys State Program for the last half century. Boys State programs currently operate in 48 States around the country, and serve over 19,000 high school students ever year. Enrolled students are given the opportunity to learn about the operation of State and local governments by running a model state. Boys State helps instill a sense of civic engagement in our youth, while also providing them with an experience that is both fun and educational. The Department of Maine Dirigo Boys State was founded in 1947, and through the hard work of people like Leroy, the program has made a significant impact in the lives of thousands of Maine high school students.

Few people can claim to embody the spirit of community engagement as completely as Mr. Keller. Leroy retired from a distinguished career as an educator in the Mount View and Deer-Isle Stonington School districts. He has also refereed and coached youth sports for 40 years in the Eastern Maine Conference.

After five decades, Leroy's commitment to Maine's youth through the Boys State Program is second only to his 51-year marriage to his wife Mary. He has been the senior counselor coordinator for most of his 50 years at the organization, overseeing countless volunteers and students, including myself. I am humbled to be one of the many lives touched by Leroy's warmth and dedication.

On June 16, Dirigo Boys State will be honoring Leroy for his service at Thomas College in Waterville, ME. I can think of no one else more deserving of this recognition.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Keller on achieving this milestone, and thanking him for all that he does on behalf of Maine's youth.

WEST VIRGINIA ALWAYS FREE HONOR FLIGHT

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a group of distinguished West Virginia Veterans—the State's first Honor Flight—who came to Washington today to visit war memorials and our Nation's Capitol. It was my privilege to meet with them so that I could personally thank them for their outstanding service. I am humbled and honored at any opportunity to meet such remarkable American patriots and to pay tribute to those who have done so much for us.

I welcomed them to their Nation's Capitol, and I do mean their Capitol, because without them and their service to our Nation, this old capitol just might not be here.

On this day they will visit the World War II, Korean and Vietnam Veterans memorials. I asked them while they are at the Korean War Memorial, to read the words chiseled in the granite wall there, ''Freedom is not free.'' Truer words were never uttered.

And, for their service, we, as a Nation, can never repay them, but I have to say, we darn well better never quit trying to honor them in our thoughts and prayers and deeds.

The Honor Flight is a measure of what the service of Veterans has meant to those who freely contribute to keep these missions of lasting memories for you going. We salute all those who contribute and help organize them.

And it's up to those of us in the public sector to stand firm in our Nation's commitment to Veterans' long term health care and other benefits.

From towns born of mining, to our state born of war, to a nation under God, each of West Virginia's Veterans symbolizes the depth of human giving and the height of divine compassion. One word best describes what our Veterans did: sacrifice.

What they, and those who served with them, sacrificed is reflected in the white and black granite of our war memorials. They serve as timeless reminders to all who pass their way that we must always remember and honor those who stood in harm's way so that freedom's light could continue to shine.

Every time a Veteran steps foot on the grounds of one of the war memorials, they honor all who did not live to see it. And their visit adds a living testament to the memorial's significance, when each returns home and tells family and friends about the experience.

These West Virginia Veterans defended our Nation under the banner of red, white and blue; and on behalf of a grateful Nation, I presented each of them our country's colors, Old Glory, to take home with them.

I am so proud of all Veterans and will continue to fight and to work with my colleagues in the House to address their needs. As a Nation, we have a duty and responsibility to support and acknowledge the great sacrifice that our veterans so willingly made for all of us.

So much of the Nation's greatness rests on the shoulders of these protectors of America—like the members of West Virginia Honor Flight—whose commitment and duty to God, country, and family keeps strong the foundation of our republic.

May God always bless our Nation with men and women such as these:

Andrew Semonco—Age 88—WW II Vet.—Bluefield, W. Va.; Harold Lee Dobbins, Sr.—Age 85—WW II Vet.—Beckley, W. Va.; Robert Arthur Day—Age 85—WW II Vet.—Beaver, W. Va.; Frank Martin Johnston—Age 90—WW II Vet.—Bluefield, Va.; Howard B. Candler—Age 86—WW II Vet.—Bluefield W. Va.; Joseph Laenen—Age 84—WW II Vet.—Montcalm, W. Va.; Cecil Pennington—Age 83—WW II Vet.—Princeton, W. Va.; Buford S. Helmandollar—Age 86—WW II Vet.—Princeton, W. Va.; William D. Foley—Age 87—WW II Vet.—Crab Orchard, W. Va.; Ralph L. Kiblinger—Age 82—WW II Vet—Beaver, W. Va.

Victor T. Birchfield—Age 89—WW II Vet.—Lester, W. Va.—joined Army in 1940's in Hotchkiss, W. Va.—Sgt., served in the European Theater in combat units, infantryman; Bruce Blevins—Age 86—WW II Vet.—Princeton, W. Va.; Eugene Lusk—Age 87—WW II Vet.—Herndon, W. Va.; Leonard (Whitey) Beckett—Age 87—WW II Vet.—Princeton, W. Va.; James A Harvey—Age 78—Korean War Vet.—Bluefield, W. Va.; Franklin Sargent—Age 77—Korean War Vet.—Bluefield, W. Va.; Conrad (Connie) Jenkins—Age 79—Korean War Vet.—Lashmeet, W. Va.; Joel W. Birchfield—Age 64—Vietnam Vet.—Lester, W. Va.; Raymond A. Desplaines—Age 60—Vietnam Vet.—Bluefield, W. Va.; Alphonso Hancock—Age 74—Vietnam Vet.—Bluefield, W. Va.

Ivan R. Freeland—Age 64—Vietnam Vet.—Fairmont, W. Va.; David A. Simmons—Age 62—Vietnam Vet.—Bluefield, W. Va.; Randall R. Lawhorn—Age 62—Vietnam Vet.; Robert B. Ashby—Age 73—Vietnam Vet.—Princeton, W. Va.; Johnnie Williams—Age 66—Vietnam Vet.—Bluefield, W. Va.; Justin S. Bays—Age 65—Vietnam Vet.—Bluefield, W. Va.; James L. Scott—Age 70—Vietnam Vet.—Rock, W. Va.; Donald F. Sternoff, Jr.—Vietnam Vet.—Bluefield, W. Va.; Ernest R. Rose—Vietnam Vet.—Age 63—Raysal, W. Va.; Jackie L. Etter—Vietnam Vet.—Age 75—Bluefield, W. Va.

Richard N. Wirt—Vietnam Vet.—Age 74—Princeton, W. Va.; Gary S. Bowling—Vietnam Vet.—Age 63—Bluefield, W. Va.; Richard Sturgell—Vietnam Vet.—Age 63—Thorpe, W. Va.; Stephen O. Beckett—Vietnam Vet—Age 59—Hiwassee, Va.; Laura King and Marie Blackwell—Bluefield, W. Va. representing their father and husband, David Blackwell, Vietnam Veteran who passed away 4 months ago; Dreama Denver—Princeton, W. Va.—President, The Denver Foundation, V–Pres. Always Free H. F. representing her deceased father Korean War Vet., Glen E. Peery; Charles Thomas Richardson—Princeton, W. Va.—President, Always Free Honor Flight representing his deceased father WW II Vet., Clifford Richardson; Pamela Coulbourne—Princeton, W. Va.—Exec. Assistant, The Denver Foundation, Coord. Always Free H.F. representing her deceased father WW II Vet.—Francis L. Fluharty; Steve Coleman—Bluefield, W. Va.—Official Photographer, The Denver Foundation & Always Free H. F. representing his deceased father WW II Vet., James M. Coleman; Burk Allen Adkins—Washington, D.C.—Board Member of Always Free H.F., Public Relations for The Denver Foundation, representing his deceased father WW II/Korea Vet., Stanley Adkins.

IN HONOR OF ST. MARTIN OF TOURS SCHOOL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of St. Martin of Tours School, a distinguished primary Catholic school located in Maple Heights, Ohio that is closing after 49 years of serving the community.

St. Martin of Tours was founded in 1963 under the leadership of Pastor John J. Gerrity. The school originally had just three grades. One grade was added each year until each grade, from kindergarten through eighth, was represented. The first principal was Sister Mary Electa Coleman, a member of the Humility of Mary Sisters.

Students at St. Martin of Tours participate in many activities that are educationally, spiritually, and socially enriching. The 6th, 7th, and 8th graders maintain pen-pal relationships with residents of a local senior care facility. The Liturgy Team collaborates with the West Side Catholic Center. Twice a month students in grades 4–8 travel to the Center to volunteer their service. Since 1989, students have participated in the DARE program, a program that

teaches children how to avoid drugs and violence. The school also has a Peace Pole in their Memory Garden, around which students and faculty gather each Memorial Day, Veteran's Day, and for special prayer services to commemorate loved ones who have passed away.

In 1997, the school won the National Blue Ribbon of Excellence Award from the United States Department of Education. Despite the outstanding education students at St. Martin of Tours have received for almost fifty years, this year will be the school's last.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring St. Martin of Tours, a school that has provided education of the highest quality for decades. It will certainly be missed by the community it served.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, due to a commitment in my district, I had to miss votes on H.R. 5325. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote 315, "aye" on rollcall vote 316, "no" on rollcall vote 317, "yes" on rollcall vote 318.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DIANE BLACK

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, during Floor consideration of H.R. 5325 on June 1, 2012, I mistakenly recorded my vote on roll No. 311 as "no" on the question on agreeing to the amendment offered by Mr. MCCLINTOCK of California.

I intended to vote "yes", on the McClintock amendment, which sought to reduce the Department of Energy, Energy Programs, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Account by $1,450,960,000 and apply the savings to the spending reduction account. Again, I would like to reiterate my strong support for the McClintock amendment and wish to clearly state for the record that I support the amendment to H.R. 5325 and did not intend to vote against it.

HONORING LOGAN ROUSH

HON. TOM MARINO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of my constituent, Logan Roush, of New Berlin, Pennsylvania.

Logan, a 22-year-old, lifelong resident of Pennsylvania's 10th Congressional District, will have the distinct honor of delivering the keynote address at this year's dinner for Pennsylvania Cystic Fibrosis, Inc.

As an amateur historian, Civil War buff, and diehard Notre Dame football fan, Logan stands as an example to people across the district and the country who are struggling with cystic fibrosis. He embodies courage and strength, as he works to achieve good through the adversity of his struggles.

Logan graduated from Mifflinburg High School and completed one semester at Susquehanna University, until he was unable to continue due to his battle with cystic fibrosis. Along with his parents, Shawn and Kelly Roush, and his grandmother, Betty Hollenbach, Logan has served as a longtime member of PACFI, emceeing their annual dinner for the past ten years.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, Logan Roush, and ask my colleagues to join in praising his commitment to country and community.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MOUNT WASHINGTON CRUISES ON THEIR 140TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate Mount Washington Cruises on reaching your 140th anniversary.

New Hampshire is proud to be home to some of the most beautiful sights in the Northeast. The White Mountains and Lakes Region have attracted tourists from all over the world, and the beauty and grandeur of Lake Winnipesaukee has been shared with thousands of visitors thanks to the M/S Mount Washington.

The MIS Mount Washington is truly one of New Hampshire's greatest treasures and continues to be one of the State's leading tourist attractions in the Lakes Region and for Weirs Beach. The daily in season tours give visitors the chance to view firsthand the beauty and majesty of Lake Winnipesaukee. With the ability to hold 1250 passengers, the "Mount" has also been a popular venue for parties, weddings and various celebrations. Today Mount Washington Cruises is owned and operated by local individuals ensuring that this fine vessel and her operations maintain in New Hampshire and are run by New Hampshire's great citizens.

I congratulate the owners, officers and crew of the Mount Washington Cruises for their continued success and their dedication to maintain the great legacy of the M/S Mount Washington here in the Granite State. I wish you all the best for continued success in the future.

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, today is World Environment Day. Established by the United Nations and now in its 40th year, World Environment Day draws the attention of the international community to the urgent and continuing need to address environmental issues.

A "green" economy is one whose growth in income and employment is driven by public and private investments that reduce carbon emissions and pollution, enhance energy and resource efficiency, and prevent the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services. These investments need to be incentivized and supported by targeted public-private partnerships, policy reforms, and regulation changes.

One of the main engines for economic growth is a higher rate of employment, which both reduces the burden on the economy and gives consumers the purchasing power to sustain a middle-class standard of living through supporting industries. And "greening the economy" creates good-paying jobs.

The theme of this year's celebration is "Green Economy: Does it Include You?"

On behalf of the 7,000,000 residents of the 37th Congressional District of California whom I represent, I am proud to answer this question in the affirmative. The people, businesses, and institutions of the 37th Congressional District of California have taken groundbreaking steps to strengthen and advance America's green economy. For example, the Port of Long Beach's Clean Trucks Program has reduced air pollution from harbor trucks by 90 percent. The City of Long Beach has implemented several initiatives aimed at 'greening' its economy, including the Green Business Recognition Program, the Environmental Purchasing Policy, and the foundation of the Green Job Center.

As a member of the Sustainable Energy and Environment Caucus and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, I have worked to advance environmentally sustainable policies that will position our country to compete and win in the global economy of the 21st century. In the 111th Congress, I introduced the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act, DERA, of 2010, which extended a national and State-level grant, rebate and loan program that created jobs and improved the Nation's air quality. This legislation also provides economic incentives to decrease emissions and protect the environment, which will result in significant health benefits for communities across the country. DERA was signed into law by the President on January 4, 2011.

I am also proud to have voted to pass such other important 'green' legislation as the American Clean Energy and Security Act, the Home Star Jobs Act, and Renewable Energy Credits and Other Business and Individual Credits Act.

Mr. Speaker, since its inception in 1972 World Environment Day has grown to become one of the main vehicles to focus attention and encourage action by the international community in support of the environment. World Environment Day is a day for people from all walks of life to come together to ensure a cleaner, greener and brighter outlook for themselves and future generations.

Everyone counts in this initiative and everyone can help make a difference. Whether by organizing a neighborhood clean-up, stop using plastic bags and get your community to do the same, planting a tree, walking to work, starting a recycling drive, everyone can contribute to making our communities safer, healthier, and cleaner.

So on World Environment Day, I commend all those individuals and organizations across the Nation and around the world for the contributions they are making and urge all Americans to join them in the worthwhile effort.

IN HONOR OF TOM AND BEVERLY JELEPIS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Tom and Beverly Jelepis, the former Mayor of Bay Village, Ohio and his wife.

Tom Jelepis was the Mayor of Bay Village from 1994 to 2000. In August of 2010, Tom was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. After ten months of treatment, Tom is now cancer-free. However, the experience left his wife, Beverly, overwhelmed with the responsibilities of maintaining a home, a family, and also their real estate business. Friends and Bay Village residents were eager to help the former mayor and his family by providing them with food, lawn care services, and other day-to-day needs for which they no longer had time. The couple realized how difficult a cancer diagnosis must be for people without such support, and was deeply thankful for the generosity of their friends and neighbors during their difficult time.

Tom and Beverly have decided to establish an organization called Friends From the Start that will provide the same basic services for other cancer patients. The organization's website will include links to businesses that are willing to offer their services for free or a reduced cost to people with cancer. Friends From the Start will be run by volunteers and will also have volunteers present to personally assist the patients.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Tom and Beverly Jelepis, a couple familiar with the hardships of cancer who are dedicated to maintaining the quality of life for their neighbors should they battle this terrible disease.

GRACE APOSTOLIC CHURCH'S 65 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Grace Apostolic Church's 65 years of service in the community of Joplin, Missouri.

Grace Apostolic Church was founded in 1947, by the late Irving Baxter Sr. It was originally located at 16th and Pearl Street. In 1948, an Army chapel was picked from Fort Crowder and moved to the location on 15th and Pearl, where the church remained until 1967. In 1957, Reverend William J Garrett assumed the pastorship.

In 1966, land was acquired at 2601 Connecticut, where the new facility was built. The new building at 26th and Connecticut was dedicated in 1967 and Elder William Garrett served as Pastor for 52 years. In 2009, Dr. Gary W. Garrett assumed pastoral duties.

A major remodeling project was started by Pastor Garrett and has transformed this property.

Grace Apostolic Church has impacted the Joplin area for 65 years and is a purpose-driven church. The vision of Grace Church is to help people, restore lives and families, and help meet the needs of the families that are hurting.

On May 22, 2011, Grace Church became a refuge for many who sought shelter, just minutes before the storm ravaged the city. Having been blessed by God and escaping the full impact of the storm, Grace Church stood and continually provided shelter, food, and encouragement to those in need.

Grace Church has an illustrious history of 65 years of service in Joplin, and has provided spiritual guidance for thousands of people spanning nearly seven decades. Grace Church has been blessed to serve Joplin and the surrounding communities.

HONORING LANCE CORPORAL JEFFREY KNIGHT

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, I am humbled today to recognize Lance Corporal Jeffrey Knight for his service to our country. Lance Corporal Knight was a combat engineer for the United States Marine Corps, who was severely injured while serving in Afghanistan in June of 2011, resulting in the loss of both legs and one hand. Currently undergoing treatment at Brooke Army Medical Center, Lance Corporal Knight takes great pride in the fact that no other soldier was hurt under his watch.

Thanks to the selfless sacrifice of Lance Corporal Knight and others like him, my children will sleep in a safer and freer America tonight. As a father, as a congressman, and as an American, I am honored to offer this small token of gratitude to Lance Corporal Knight for his brave service to our nation. As Ronald Reagan once said, ''We will always remember, we will always be proud, we will always be ready, so we may always be free.''

On behalf of the constituents of the Fifth District of Texas, I extend prayers and best wishes to LCpl Knight for a speedy recovery.

A TRIBUTE TO THE 2012 ELLIS ISLAND MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 2012 recipients of the coveted Ellis Island Medal of Honor. Presented annually by the National Ethnic Coalition (NECO), the Ellis Island Medal of Honor pays tribute to our Nation's immigrant heritage, as well as individual achievement. The medals are awarded to U.S. citizens from various ethnic backgrounds who exemplify outstanding qualities in both their personal and professional lives, while continuing to preserve the richness of their particular heritage. We honor these outstanding individuals because they create a better world for all of us in the future by the work they do today. Since the Medal's founding in 1986, more than 2,000 American citizens have received Ellis Island Medals of Honor, including six American Presidents, several United States Senators, Congressmen, Nobel Laureates, outstanding athletes, artists, clergy, and military leaders.

This medal is not about money, but about people who seized the opportunities this great country has to offer and who used those opportunities to not only better their own lives but make a difference in the lives of those around them. As we all know, citizens of the United States can trace their ancestry to many nations. The richness and diversity of American life makes us unique among the Nations of the world and is in many ways the key to why America is the most innovative country in the world. The Ellis Island Medals of Honor not only celebrate select individuals but also the pluralism and democracy that enabled our ancestors to celebrate their cultural identities while still embracing the American way of life. Even in the midst of difficult financial times, this award serves to remind us all that with hard work and perseverance anyone can achieve the American dream. In addition, by honoring these remarkable Americans, we honor all who share their origins and we acknowledge the contributions they and other groups have made to America. I commend NECO and its Board of Directors headed by my good friend, Nasser J. Kazeminy, for honoring these truly outstanding individuals for their tireless efforts to foster dialogue and build bridges between different ethnic groups, as well as promote unity and a sense of common purpose in our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing the good works of NECO, and in congratulating all of the 2012 recipients of the Ellis Island Medals of Honor. I also ask unanimous consent that the names of this year's recipients be placed into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

2012 ELLIS ISLAND MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS

A. Marshall Acuff, Jr., Michael W. Allen, PhD, Nancy Arabian, Carol M. Baldwin, Michael D. Bennett, Neil Berg, Peter Bheddah, Ravishankar Bhooplapur, Herman Chanen, Sam Chang, Johnson Chen, Sanjiv Chopra, MD, MACP, William A. Cooper, Bita Daryabari and Helene Irma der Stepanian.

Leena Doshi, MD, NYS Lieutenant Governor Robert Duffy, Angelo Dundee, Robert F. Dunn, Annie Falk, Leonard A. Ferrari, PhD, Jason C. Fu, Bob Gaudio, Fletcher Doud Gill, Nishan Goudsouzian, MD, Richard H. Grace, Dr. Peter Gruss, VADM Robert S. Harward, USN, David A. Hirsch and Chung-Wha Hong.

Surendra Jain, MD, James J. Jimmerson, Esq., Robert Trent Jones, Jr., Dr. Henry (Hyun Suk) Kang, Kevork Karajerjian, AIA, Declan Kelly, Howard Kessler, Michele Kessler, Dalida Keuroghlian, Dongsuk Kim, Paul Klaassen, Gerda Weissmann Klein, Emrah Kovacoglu, Thomas C. Lee, MD and Harry Leibowitz, PhD.

Sugar Ray Leonard, Hoi Ken Leung, William Li, MD, Emily E. Lin, AIA, Superintendent David Luchsinger, Felix Luu, David E. Luzzi, PhD, MBA, David S. Mack, Spiro J. Macris, DDS, Kai D. Mai, DDS, Ray Mancini, Steven G. Mandis, John A. Mattiacci, DPM, Leonard Mazur and James H. McGuire.

Hon. Gregory W. Meeks, Papken Megerian, Lt Col Ed Monroe, USAF (Ret), Dr. Gordon H. Mueller, Colonel Mark Mykleby, USMC (Ret.), Ryan Nabors, MSIR, Ohannes Nercessian, MD, Helen Ngan Shim Ng, General Raymond T. Odierno, USA, BGen Joseph

L. Osterman, USMC, Edith Padilla-Serrano, John A. Peca, Helen K. Persson, Alice Petrossian and H.E. Dr. Vanda Pignato.

First Deputy Commissioner Rafael Pineiro, NYPD, Pasquale Pistorio, CAPT Wayne Porter, USN, Dominic L. Pugliani, Thomas C. Quick, Edward J. Rappa, Hon. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, Ghassan M. Saab, Peter Kaivon Saleh, DrPH, Theresa Patnode Santmann, Wido L. Schaefer, Dr. Tamer Seckin, Dr. Hasu P. Shah, Peter Stephen Shelley, MME, Brooke Shields, Joan Ellyn Silber, PhD, Dr. Rajendra Singh, Ronald E. Spears and Joyce Philibosian Stein.

John P. Thomas, MD, FACS, Dr. Ronan Tynan, Frankie Valli, Mohammad Reza Vaziri, Helen verDuin Palit, DHL, CAPT Joe Vojvodich, USCG, Paul E. Wakim, DO, Jose M. Wiley, MD, FACC, FACP, FSCAI, Maj. Gen. James L. Williams, USMC (Ret.), Dr. Carolyn Y. Woo and Tommy C. Xie.

SUPPORT FOR FIRE AND SAFER GRANTS

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the amendment offered by Mr. RUNYAN and Mr. KISSELL and others, which seeks to ensure that our Nation's fire stations are adequately staffed and that firefighters have the tools they need to protect our communities safely and effectively. Specifically, this amendment will restore the successful FIRE and SAFER grant programs to last year's funding level of $337.5 million each.

Independent observers have found that FIRE and SAFER work: an independent study from the U.S. Fire Administration found that grants like these are making our fire departments more prepared and better equipped to protect our communities. Cutting FIRE and SAFER makes it more difficult for our communities to recruit, train, and retain skilled firefighters. And, it makes it far more difficult for our departments to equip themselves with the up-to-date tools critical to protecting property and saving lives.

I want to make clear that I am not pleased with the offset being used to restore this funding. However, I recognize that my colleagues were left with very few options, given the cuts made to the overall bill. I am hopeful that this will be addressed in conference with the Senate.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment, fund FIRE and SAFER at the Fiscal Year 2012 level, and protect these vital investments in public safety.

HONORING CAPTAIN SCOTT McKEE

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, I am humbled today to recognize Captain R. Scott McKee for his service to our country. In 1987, he enlisted in the Army as an airborne paratrooper at the age of 17 and was soon accepted into Georgia Military College, where he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in 1991.

After his commission as a lieutenant, he served as an operations officer and tank platoon leader with the 1st Battalion, 66th Armored Regiment at Fort Hood, Texas. While at Fort Hood, then-First Lieutenant McKee deployed to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. In Cuba, he served as a Quick Reaction Force platoon leader in support of Operation Sea Signal, responsible for the security and safety of over 2,000 Haitian and Cuban migrants and U.S. personnel on the base.

Upon leaving active duty, Captain McKee enrolled at Texas Wesleyan School of Law, attending classes at night while working full-time. In 2008, he was elected to serve as the Henderson County District Attorney, taking office on January 1, 2009.

A year after assuming office, Captain McKee mobilized with the Army National Guard's 3rd Battalion, 256th Light Infantry Regiment for a deployment to Iraq on January 4, 2010. During his deployment to Iraq, Captain McKee served as the infantry operations officer for the battalion and planned over 1,200 combat missions throughout Iraq, participating in many of them.

While in Iraq, Captain McKee was awarded the Bronze Star for his actions and performance in a combat zone. He was also awarded the Louisiana War Cross by the Adjutant General of the State of Louisiana.

Captain McKee currently serves as the commander of Company A, 3rd Battalion, 156th Infantry Regiment, Louisiana National Guard out of Fort Polk, Louisiana. He and his wife, Ashley, have three children, Stuart, Ryan, and Ranger.

As the Member of Congress for the Fifth District of Texas in the United States House of Representatives, it is my honor to recognize Captain McKee for his service to our nation in uniform and to the citizens of Henderson County as the District Attorney.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT T. SCHILLING

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. SCHILLING. Mr. Speaker, on Friday June 1, 2012, I attended a family funeral and was unable to cast my votes for Roll Numbers 306 through 313. These were amendments to H.R. 5325, the fiscal year 2013 Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

Had I been present, my votes would have been as follows:

For roll No. 306, an amendment by Congressman SCALISE of Louisiana Page 3, Line 16—Transfers $10 million from Department of Energy Salaries & Expenses to Corps of Engineers construction account. I would have voted "aye".

For roll No. 307, an amendment by Congressman KING of Iowa Page 3, Line 16—Strikes $1 million from Fish and Wildlife and adds $571,000 to Operations and Maintenance. I would have voted "aye".

For roll No. 308, an amendment by Congressman MORAN of Virginia, Page 12, Line 16—Strikes Sec. 110. Sec. 110 prevents the Corps of Engineers from updating guidance concerning federal jurisdiction under the Clean Water Act. I would have voted "no".

For roll No. 309, an amendment by Congressman HULTGREN of Illinois, Page 20, Line 15—Takes $30 million from Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy and puts $15 million in the Office of Science. I would have voted "aye".

For roll No. 310, an amendment by Congressman CHAFFETZ of Utah, Page 20, Line 15—Reduces Advanced Manufacturing by $74 million, to FY 2011 spending levels, and transfers this amount to the Spending Reduction Account. I would have voted "aye".

For roll No. 311, an amendment by Congressman MCCLINTOCK of California, Amendment No. 6—Reduces Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy by $1.45 billion and puts the savings in the Spending Reduction Account. I would have voted "no".

For roll No. 312, an amendment by Congresswoman KAPTUR of Ohio, Page 20, Line 15—Transfers $10 million from the Department of Energy Administrative accounts to Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy. I would have voted "no".

For roll No. 313, an amendment by Congressman TONKO of New York, Page 20, Line 15—Transfers $180 million from National Nuclear Security Administration—Weapons Activities to Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy for Weatherization assistance and state energy programs. I would have voted "no".

For roll No. 314, an amendment by Congresswoman HAHN of California, Page 20, Line 15—Adds $50 million to Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy offset by a $100 million reduction in Fossil Energy Research and Development. I would have voted "no".

It is an honor to serve the people of the 17th Congressional District of Illinois.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF JEWISH AMERICANS

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today it is my honor to rise and recognize the contributions of Jewish-Americans to our nation. I commend President Barack Obama for designating May 2012 as Jewish Heritage Month. Also, I thank Congresswoman DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, my fellow Floridian, for leading the congressional effort to commemorate Jewish Heritage Month.

My relationship with the Jewish community dates back to my childhood years. It was a very different time then. While segregation and oppression were the norm, members of the Jewish community treated me and my family with love and compassion. Decades later, these guiding principles remain the same. Today, as many of my colleagues honor Jewish-Americans who have made significant contributions to our nation, I will recognize Steven Sonenreich, a leader in the healthcare industry and South Florida community.

Mr. Sonenreich has been a leader in my community for over 30 years. In addition to leading Mount Sinai Hospital, he is an advisory board member for the University of Miami School of Business's Health Administration Department and the 5,000 Role Models of Excellence Project. Furthermore, he serves on numerous other boards and committees.

Whether we visit hospitals as an expecting mother or for emergency purposes, we place our lives in the hands of the many healthcare professionals and we expect them to meet our needs at the highest level. Mr. Sonenreich keenly understands this. During my mother's last moments, Mr. Sonenreich ensured that I had access to her, so that I could remain by her side. His commitment to serving others and leadership are two factors accounting for his remarkable career.

After earning his Masters Degree in Business Administration at the University of Miami, Mr. Sonenreich began his health care career at Mount Sinai in 1976. During his initial 20–year tenure at Mount Sinai, he worked his way through the ranks, starting in the finance division. He was Mount Sinai's first Director of Marketing and Business Development and later was named Vice President of Administration. In 1990, he became Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, responsible for all the operational management of the Medical Center.

In 1996, Mr. Sonenreich left Mount Sinai for the opportunity to become Chief Executive Officer of Cedars Medical Center in Miami. Under his direction, Cedars won several awards for customer service and overall performance including Florida Medical Business Journal's Annual Healthcare Award for the Best Run Hospital and Best Hospital Administrator, Mercury Award for overall performance and the Systema Group's Consumer Opinion Award in 2000.

The Mount Sinai Medical Center Board of Trustees recruited Mr. Sonenreich back to the hospital in October 2001. Under his leadership, the hospital has won numerous awards, including the Solucient 100 Top Hospitals, designation as a UnitedHealth Premium Cardiac Specialty Center; the Clinical Trials Participation Award presented by the American Society of Clinical Oncology, Excellence in Facility Expansion (Mount Sinai's cardiac catheterization lab) from South Florida Business Journal, Excellence In Health Services (Mount Sinai's Community Clinical Oncology Program) from South Florida Business Journal and Kids Crown Award—Best Place to Give Birth in Miami-Dade County and South Florida.

Mr. Steven Sonenreich remains one of our nation's most outstanding community leaders and providers of healthcare. I thank him today for his service to South Florida and our nation.

HONORING LIEUTENANT COLONEL ROBERT ROACH (RETIRED)

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, I am humbled today to recognize Lieutenant Colonel Robert Roach for his service to our country. Lieutenant Colonel Roach joined the United States Army Air Forces as an Aviation Cadet in November of 1942, was called to active duty in January of 1945, and beginning at age 21, piloted his B–17 through 35 missions into Germany during World War II.

During one of these missions, his plane was hit by ground fire. Fearful that they would not make it, he ordered his crew to bail out. Thankfully, he survived and continued to serve—retiring after 28 years in the Air Force and Air Force Reserve.

As the Member of Congress for the Fifth District of Texas in the United States House of Representatives, it is my honor to recognize Lieutenant Colonel Roach for his service and acts of bravery that allow us the freedoms we enjoy today.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

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

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, June 7, 2012 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 12

10 a.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine equality at work, focusing on the ''Employment Non-Discrimination Act''.

SD–106

Judiciary

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Department of Justice.

SD–226

2:30 p.m.

Armed Services

Emerging Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proliferation prevention programs at the Department of Energy and at the Department of Defense in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC–217 following the open session.

SR–232A

Appropriations

Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

Business meeting to markup proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies.

SD–124

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH–219

3:30 p.m.

Appropriations

Financial Service and General Government Subcommittee

Business meeting to markup proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for Financial Services and General Government.

SD–138

JUNE 13

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine risk management, focusing on JPMorgan Chase and Co.

SD–G50

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Allison M. Macfarlane, of Maryland, and Kristine L. Svinicki, of Virginia, both to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

SD–406

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider any pending nominations.

SD–430

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine economic opportunity and transition legislation.

SR–418

10:30 a.m.

Appropriations

Department of Defense Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of the Defense.

SD–192

2 p.m.

Aging

To hold hearings to examine empowering patients and honoring individual's choices, focusing on lessons in improving care for individuals with advanced illness.

SD–562

2:45 p.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Richard L. Morningstar, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Azerbaijan, Timothy M. Broas, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, and Jay Nicholas Anania, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Suriname, all of the Department of State.

SD–419

JUNE 14

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine competitiveness and collaboration between the United States and China on clean energy.

SD–366

10 a.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

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

To hold hearings to examine saving taxpayer dollars by curbing waste and fraud in Medicaid.

SD–342

2:15 p.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine new taxes on tribal self-determination.

SD–628

2:30 p.m.

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH–219

JUNE 27

10 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine health and benefits legislation.

SR–418

JUNE 28

10 a.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine creating positive learning environments for all students.

Room to be announced

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

The House passed H.R. 5325, Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2013.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S3739–S3801

Measures Introduced: Five bills and six resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3266–3270, S. Res. 482–485, and S. Con. Res. 46–47. **Pages S3781–82**

Measures Passed:

National Hunger Awareness Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 484, designating June 7, 2012, as "National Hunger Awareness Day". **Pages S3798–99**

Authorizing Legal Counsel: Senate agreed to S. Res. 485, to authorize representation by the Senate Legal Counsel in the case of *Common Cause, et al. v. Joseph R. Biden, et al.* **Page S3799**

Measures Considered:

Agriculture Reform, Food, and Jobs Act—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017.

Pages S3739–68, S3773–76

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that following the cloture vote on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, the next hour be equally divided and controlled between the two Leaders, or their designees with the Republicans controlling the first half and the Majority controlling the final half. **Page S3799**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 62 yeas to 36 nays (Vote No. EX. 116), Jeffrey J. Helmick, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio.

Pages S3768–73, S3801

Messages from the House: **Pages S3779–80**

Measures Referred: **Page S3780**

Measures Read the First Time: **Page S3780**

Executive Communications: **Pages S3780–81**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S3784–86**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S3782–84**

Additional Statements: **Pages S3777–79**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S3786–97**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Pages S3797–98**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—116) **Page S3773**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 6:45 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 7, 2012. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S3799.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of Defense received testimony from sundry public witnesses requesting funding for programs in the Department of Defense appropriations bill for fiscal year 2013.

IMPLEMENTING WALL STREET REFORM

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine implementing Wall Street reform, focusing on enhancing bank supervision and reducing systemic risk, after receiving testimony from Neal S. Wolin, Deputy Secretary, and Thomas J. Curry, Comptroller of the Currency, both of the Department of the Treasury; Daniel K. Tarullo, Member, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; Martin J. Gruenberg,

Acting Chairman, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; and Richard Cordray, Director, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

EUROPEAN UNION EMISSIONS TRADING SYSTEM

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the European Union Emissions Trading System, after receiving testimony from Ray LaHood, Secretary of Transportation; Jos Delbeke, European Commission, Brussels, Belgium; and Sean Cassidy, Air Line Pilots Association, International, Ed Bolen, National Business Aviation Association, Annie Petsonk, Environmental Defense Fund, and Nancy N. Young, Airlines for America, all of Washington, D.C.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Michele Jeanne Sison, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Republic of Maldives, Brett H. McGurk, of Connecticut, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Iraq, and Susan Marsh Elliott, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Tajikistan, all of the Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

FEDERAL PROSECUTORS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine ensuring that Federal prosecutors meet discovery obligations, including S. 2197, to require the attorney for the Government to disclose favorable information to the defendant in criminal prosecutions brought by the United States, after receiving testimony from Senator Murkowski; James M. Cole, Deputy Attorney General, Department of Justice; Carol A. Brook, Federal Defender Program for the Northern District of Illinois, Chicago; and Stephanos Bibas, University of Pennsylvania Law School, Philadelphia.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Terrence G. Berg, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan, who was introduced by Senator Levin, Jesus G. Bernal, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, who was introduced by Senator Boxer, Lorna G. Schofield, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, who was introduced by Senator Blumenthal, and Grande Lum, of California, to be Director, Community Relations Service, who was introduced by Senators Boxer and Blumenthal, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

PENSIONS

Special Committee on Aging: Committee concluded a hearing to examine pensions, focusing on preventing fraud and protecting America's veterans, after receiving testimony from Senator Burr; Daniel Bertoni, Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security Issues, Government Accountability Office; David R. McLenachen, Director, Pension and Fiduciary Service, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; Lori Perkio, American Legion, Washington, D.C.; Emily Schwarz, Veterans Financial, Inc., Villanova, Pennsylvania; and Kris Schaffer, Billings, Montana.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 5 public bills, H.R. 5900–5904, were introduced. **Page H3577**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H3577–78**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H. Res. 679, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 436) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the excise tax on medical devices, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5882) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 112–518) and

H.R. 4471, to require analyses of the cumulative impacts of certain rules and actions of the Environmental Protection Agency that impact gasoline, diesel fuel, and natural gas prices, jobs, and the economy, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 112–519). **Page H3577**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative McClintock to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H3483**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:36 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H3486**

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest chaplain, Reverend Joseph Shea, St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Simi Valley, California. **Pages H3486–87**

Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2013: The House passed H.R. 5325, making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, by a yea-and-nay vote of 255 yeas to 165 nays, Roll No. 342. Consideration of the measure began on Thursday, May 31st. **Pages H3489–99, H3513–26**

Rejected the Boswell motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 185 ayes to 233 noes, Roll No. 341. **Pages H3524–26**

Agreed to:

Flake amendment that prohibits funds from being used by the Department of Energy to fund the Wind Powering America Initiative; **Pages H3493–94**

Stearns amendment that was debated on June 5th that prohibits funds from being 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 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 (by a recorded vote of 348 ayes to 60 noes, Roll No. 320); **Page H3496**

Shimkus amendment that was debated on June 5th that increases funding, by offset, for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission by $10,000,000 (by a recorded vote of 326 ayes to 81 noes, Roll No. 321); **Pages H3496–97**

Tipton amendment that was debated on June 5th that prohibits funds from being used to conduct a survey in which money is included or provided for the benefit of the responder (by a recorded vote of 355 ayes to 51 noes, Roll No. 322); **Pages H3497–98**

Luetkemeyer amendment that was debated on June 5th that prohibits funds from being used for the study of the Missouri River Projects authorized in section 108 of the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2009 (by a recorded vote of 242 ayes to 168 noes, Roll No. 323) **Page H3498**

Fortenberry amendment that was debated on June 5th that redirects $17,319,000 in funding within Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation (by a recorded vote of 328 ayes to 89 noes, Roll No. 325); **Pages H3513–14**

Reed amendment that was debated on June 5th that increases funding, by offset, for Non-Defense Environmental Cleanup by $36,000,000 (by a recorded vote of 223 ayes to 195 noes, Roll No. 330); and **Pages S3516–17**

Connolly amendment that was debated on June 5th that sought to reduce funding for Fossil Energy Research and Development by $25,000,000 and apply the savings to the spending reduction account (by a recorded vote of 208 ayes to 207 noes with 1 answering ''present'', Roll No. 340. Agreed by unanimous consent that the earlier roll call vote taken on the Connolly amendment be vacated). **Pages H3523–24**

Rejected:

Flake amendment that sought to prohibit funds from being used for the Batteries and Electric Drive Technology program; **Page H3493**

Rohrabacher amendment that was debated on June 5th that sought to prohibit funds from being used for the U.S. China Clean Energy Research Center (by a recorded vote of 181 ayes to 229 noes, Roll No. 319); **Pages H3495–96**

Jackson Lee (TX) amendment that was debated on June 5th that sought to increase funding, by offset, for the Army Corps of Engineers—Construction by $10,000,000 (by a recorded vote of 150 ayes to 260 noes, Roll No. 324); **Pages H3498–99**

Jackson Lee (TX) amendment that was debated on June 5th that sought to increase funding, by offset, for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy by $10,000,000 (by a recorded vote of 157 ayes to 260 noes, Roll No. 326); **Page H3514**

Kucinich amendment that was debated on June 5th that sought to prohibit funds from being used to provide new loan guarantees under section 1703 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and reduce the funds appropriated for the Title 17 Innovative Technology Loan Guarantee Program by $33,000,000 (by a recorded vote of 136 ayes to 282 noes, Roll No. 328); **Pages H3515–16**

Burgess amendment (No. 9 printed in the Congressional Record of June 1, 2012) that was debated on June 5th that sought to reduce funding for Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation by $100,000,000 and apply the savings to the spending reduction account (by a recorded vote of 168 ayes to 249 noes, Roll No. 329); **Page H3516**

Loretta Sanchez amendment that was debated on June 5th that sought to increase funding, by offset, for Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation by $16,000,000 (by a recorded vote of 182 ayes to 237 noes, Roll No. 331); **Pages H3517–18**

Polis amendment that was debated on June 5th that sought to reduce funding for National Nuclear Security Administration Weapons Activities by $298,221,000 and apply the savings to the spending reduction account (by a recorded vote of 138 ayes to 281 noes, Roll No. 332); **Page H3518**

Luján amendment that was debated on June 5th that sought to increase funding, by offset, for Defense Environmental Cleanup by $21,899,000 (by a recorded vote of 174 ayes to 244 noes, Roll No. 333); **Pages H3518–19**

Chabot amendment that was debated on June 5th that sought to eliminate funding for the Appalachian Regional Commission, the Delta Regional Authority, the Denali Commission, the Northern Border Regional Commission, and the Southeast Crescent Regional Commission and apply the $99,348,000 in savings to the spending reduction account (by a recorded vote of 141 ayes to 276 noes, Roll No. 334); **Pages H3519–20**

Blackburn amendment that was debated on June 5th that sought to reduce each amount made available by this Act by 1% (by a recorded vote of 157 ayes to 261 noes, Roll No. 335); **Pages H3520–21**

Mulvaney amendment that was debated on June 5th that sought to reduce each amount made available by this Act by 24%, except for certain specified accounts (by a recorded vote of 125 ayes to 293 noes, Roll No. 336); **Page H3521**

Flake amendment that sought to reduce each amount made available by this Act (other than an amount required to be made available by a provision of law) is hereby reduced by 0.27260690084897576 percent (by a recorded vote of 144 ayes to 274 noes, Roll No. 337); **Pages H3491–92, H3521–22**

King (IA) amendment that was debated on June 5th that sought to prohibit funds from being used to implement, administer, or enforce the requirements in subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Davis-Bacon Act) (by a recorded vote of 184 ayes to 235 noes, Roll No. 338); and **Pages H3522–23**

Lummis amendment that was debated on June 5th that sought to prohibit funds from being used to plan or undertake sales or any other transfers of natural or low enriched uranium from the Department of Energy that combined exceed 1,917 metric tons of uranium as uranium hexafluoride equivalent in fiscal year 2013 (by a recorded vote of 114 ayes to 302 noes, Roll No. 339). **Page H3523**

Point of Order sustained against:

DeFazio amendment that sought to prohibit funds from being used by the Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy to implement or administer any change to the requirement in section 9.104–1(d) of title 48, Code of Federal Regulations, that to be determined responsible, a prospective contractor must have a record of satisfactory compliance with antitrust laws. **Pages H3492–93**

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 on Thursday, May 31st.

Notice of Intent to Offer Motion: Representative Broun (GA) announced his intent to offer a motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 4348. **Page H3499**

Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2013: The House began consideration of H.R. 5855, making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013. Further proceedings were postponed. **Pages H3499–H3505, H3528–75**

Agreed to:

Flake amendment that increases funding, by offset, for U.S. Customs and Border Protection by $43,000; **Pages H3528–29**

Grimm amendment that increases funding, by offset, for the Urban Search and Rescue Response System by $7,667,000; **Pages H3533–34**

Runyan amendment that increases funding, by offset, for Firefighter Assistance Grants by $5,000,000; **Pages H3535–36**

Wasserman Schultz amendment that redirects $20,000,000 in funding within Immigration and Customs Enforcement to combat child exploitation; **Pages H3542–43**

Cravaack amendment that redirects $10,000,000 in funding within the Transportation Security Administration; **Pages H3548–49**

Dold amendment that increases funding, by offset, for the United States Coast Guard Operating Expenses by $5,200,000 for Great Lakes search and rescue operations; **Pages H3550–51**

Gardner amendment that makes such sums available to the Secretary of Homeland Security as may be necessary to comply with the Coast Guard's energy management requirements under section 543(f)(7) of the National Energy Conservation Policy Act; **Page H3552**

Clarke (MI) amendment that increases funding, by offset, for Federal Emergency Management Agency State and Local Programs by $10,000,000 (by a recorded vote of 211 ayes to 202 noes, Roll No. 348); **Pages H3544–45, H3568–69**

Poe amendment that increases funding, by offset, for Border Security Fencing, Infrastructure, and Technology by $10,000,000 (by a recorded vote of 302 ayes to 113 noes, Roll No. 352); and **Pages H3534–35, H3571**

Bishop (UT) amendment that increases funding, by offset, for Air and Marine Interdiction, Operations, Maintenance, and Procurement by $624,000 (by a recorded vote of 230 ayes to 186 noes, Roll No. 353). **Pages H3539–40, H3571–72**

Rejected:

Polis amendment that sought to reduce funding for Immigration and Customs Enforcement by $501,331,000 and apply the savings to the spending reduction account; **Pages H3545–46**

Broun (GA) amendment that sought to eliminate funding for the Transportation Security Administration and apply the $5,041,230,000 to the spending reduction account; **Pages H3546–47**

Flake amendment that sought to reduce funding for Federal Emergency Management Agency State and Local Programs by $412,908,000 and apply the savings to the spending reduction account; **Pages H3554–56**

Moore amendment that sought to increase funding, by offset, for the Office of the Secretary and Executive Management by $3,000,000 (by a recorded vote of 154 ayes to 260 noes, Roll No. 345); **Pages H3529–30, H3566–67**

Broun (GA) amendment that sought to reduce funding in various accounts and apply the total savings of $498,099,270 to the spending reduction account (by a recorded vote of 140 ayes to 273 noes, Roll No. 346); **Pages H3530–31, H3567**

Holt amendment that sought to increase funding, by offset, for Federal Emergency Management Agency State and Local Programs by $50,000,000 (by a recorded vote of 173 ayes to 240 noes, Roll No. 347); **Pages H3531–32, H3567–68**

Clarke (MI) amendment that sought to increase funding, by offset, for Federal Emergency Management Agency State and Local Programs by $10,000,000 (by a recorded vote of 159 ayes to 254 noes, Roll No. 349); **Pages H3534, H3569**

Hahn amendment that sought to increase funding, by offset, for U.S. Customs and Border Protection by $10,000,000 (by a recorded vote of 156 ayes to 261 noes, Roll No. 350); **Pages H3537–39, H3569–70**

Hahn amendment that sought to increase funding, by offset, for Federal Emergency Management Agency State and Local Programs by $75,000,000 (by a recorded vote of 144 ayes to 273 noes, Roll No. 351); **Pages H3556–57, H3570–71**

Loretta Sanchez amendment that sought to redirect $40,000,000 in funding within Immigration and Customs Enforcement to combat child exploitation (by a recorded vote of 167 ayes to 249 noes, Roll No. 354); **Pages H3541–42, H3572–73**

Jackson Lee (TX) amendment that sought to increase funding, by offset, for Federal Air Marshals by $50,000,000 (by a recorded vote of 60 ayes to 355 noes, Roll No. 355); **Pages H3549–50, H3573**

Higgins amendment that sought to increase funding, by offset, for Federal Emergency Management Agency State and Local Programs by $58,000,000 (by a recorded vote of 150 ayes to 266 noes, Roll No. 356); and **Pages H3557–58, H3573–74**

Bishop (NY) amendment that sought to increase funding, by offset, for Research, Development, Acquisition, and Operations by $75,000,000 (by a recorded vote of 166 ayes to 245 noes, Roll No. 357). **Pages H3559–61, H3574–75**

Point of Order sustained against:

Grijalva amendment that sought to increase funding, by offset, for U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Salaries and Expenses by $30,000,000. **Page H3537**

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 on Thursday, May 31st.

Motion to Instruct Conferees: The House agreed to the Flake motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 4348 by a yea-and-nay vote of 259 yeas to 154 nays, Roll No. 343. **Pages H3505–09, H3526–27**

Motion to Instruct Conferees: The House rejected the Doggett motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 4348 by a yea-and-nay vote of 192 yeas to 226 nays, Roll No. 344. **Pages H3509–13, H3527–28**

Suspensions—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures which were debated yesterday, June 5th:

Authorizing the Secretary of Commerce to convey property of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to the City of Pascagoula, Mississippi: S. 363, to authorize the Secretary of Commerce to convey property of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to the City of Pascagoula, Mississippi and **Page H3575**

Salmon Lake Land Selection Resolution Act: S. 292, to resolve the claims of the Bering Straits Native Corporation and the State of Alaska to land adjacent to Salmon Lake in the State of Alaska and to provide for the conveyance to the Bering Straits Native Corporation of certain other public land in partial satisfaction of the land entitlement of the Corporation under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. **Page H3575**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H3487.

Senate Referrals: S. 2061 was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary and S. Con. Res. 45 was held at the desk. **Page H3575**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes and 35 recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H3495–96, H3496, H3496–97, H3497–98, H3498, H3498–99, H3513–14, H3514–15, H3515–16, H3516,

H3516–17, H3517–18, H3518, H3518–19, H3519–20, H3520–21, H3521, H3521–22, H3522–23, H3523, H3523–24, H3525–26, H3526, H3526–27, H3527–28, H3566, H3566–67, H3567–68, H3568–69, H3569, H3569–70, H3570–71, H3571, H3571–72, H3572–73, H3573, H3573–74, and H3574–75. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 11:48 p.m.

Committee Meetings

AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS BILL FY 2013

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture held a markup of Agriculture Appropriations Bill FY 2013. The bill was forwarded, without amendment.

FINANCIAL SERVICES APPROPRIATIONS BILL FY 2013

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services held a markup of Financial Services Appropriations Bill FY 2013. The bill was forwarded, without amendment.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE'S LONG-TERM BUDGET OUTLOOK

Committee on the Budget: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''The Congressional Budget Office's Long-Term Budget Outlook''. Testimony was heard from Douglas Elmendorf, Director, Congressional Budget Office.

EPA ENFORCEMENT PRIORITIES AND PRACTICES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy and Power held a hearing entitled ''EPA Enforcement Priorities and Practices''. Testimony was heard from Bryan W. Shaw, Chairman, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality; Barry T. Smitherman, Chairman, Texas Railroad Commission; Stephen B. Etsitty, Executive Director, Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency; and public witnesses.

THE FUTURE OF AUDIO

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Communication and Technology held a hearing entitled ''The Future of Audio''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade began markup of H.R. 5865, the ''American Manufacturing Competitiveness Act of 2012''; and H.R. 5859, to repeal an obsolete provision in title 49, United States Code, requiring motor vehicle insurance cost reporting.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURE

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 4624, the ''Investment Adviser Oversight Act of 2012''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

EXAMINATION OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE'S FINAL RULE ON THE CARD ACT'S ''ABILITY TO REPAY'' REQUIREMENT

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit held a hearing entitled ''An Examination of the Federal Reserve's Final Rule on the CARD Act's 'Ability to Repay' Requirement''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

THE CASE OF AMERICAN JACOB OSTREICHER

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, and Human Rights held a hearing entitled ''The U.S. State Department's Inadequate Response to Human Rights Concerns in Bolivia: The Case of American Jacob Ostreicher''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

U.S.-KOREA ALLIANCE

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific held a hearing entitled ''What's Next for the U.S.-Korea Alliance?'' Testimony was heard from Jim Zumwalt, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, Department of State; Mark Peters, Deputy Laboratory Director for Programs, Argonne National Laboratory; and public witnesses.

INVESTIGATING WASTE, FRAUD AND ABUSE IN AFGHANISTAN

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled ''Investigating Waste, Fraud and Abuse in Afghanistan''. Testimony was heard from John Hutton, Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management, Government Accountability Office; Charles Johnson, Jr., Director International Affairs and Trade, Government Accountability Office; and Larry Sampler, Jr., Senior Deputy Assistant to the Administrator, Office of Afghanistan and Pakistan Affairs, U.S. Agency for International Development.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE AND COMMITTEE ACTIVITY REPORT

Committee on Homeland Security: Full Committee held a markup of H.R. 4251, the ''SMART Port Security

Act''; and Committee Activity Report. The bill was ordered reported, as amended, and the Committee Activity Report was adopted, without amendment.

NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS REPORT: ASSESSING THE STATE OF PREPAREDNESS

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications held a hearing ''The National Preparedness Report: Assessing the State of Preparedness''. Testimony was heard from Tim Manning, Deputy Administrator, Protection and National Preparedness, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security; Stanley J. Czerwinski, Director, Intergovernmental Relations, Government Accountability Office.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a markup of the following measures: H.R. 4377, the ''Responsibly And Professionally Invigorating Development (RAPID) Act of 2012''; H.R. 4018, the ''Public Safety Officers' Benefits Improvements Act of 2012''; H.R. 3668, the ''Counterfeit Drug Penalty Enhancement Act of 2011''; H.R. 4223, the ''Safe Doses Act''; H.R. 4369, the ''Furthering Asbestos Claim Transparency (FACT) Act of 2012''; and H.R. 5889 the ''Nuclear Terrorism Conventions Implementation and Safety of Maritime Navigation Act of 2012''. The following measures were ordered reported, as amended: H.R. 4377; H.R. 4018; H.R. 3668; and H.R. 4223. The following measure was ordered reported, without amendment: H.R. 5889. The Committee did not complete action on H.R. 4369.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Water and Power held a hearing on the ''Accelerated Revenue and Repayment Act''; and S. 997, the ''East Bench Irrigation District Water Contract Extension Act''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

ADDRESSING CONCERNS ABOUT THE INTEGRITY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR'S JOBS REPORTING

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Addressing Concerns About the Integrity of the U.S. Department of Labor's Jobs Reporting''. Testimony was heard from Carl Fillichio, Senior Advisor for Communications and Public Affairs, Department of Labor; John Galvin, Acting Commissioner, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Jane Oates, Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training Administration, Department of Labor; and public witnesses.

PROTECT MEDICAL INNOVATION ACT OF 2011; AND THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 436, the ''Protect Medical Innovation Act of 2011''; and H.R. 5882, the ''Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2013''. The Committee granted a closed rule for H.R. 436. The rule provides 90 minutes of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 112–23 shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Representatives Boustany, Levin, Jenkins, and Paulsen.

The resolution further provides a structured rule for H.R. 5882. The rule provides one hour of general debate on the bill equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill and provides that the bill shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill for failure to comply with clause 2 of rule XXI. The rule provides that the chair and ranking minority member or their designees may offer pro forma amendments for the purpose of debate at any time. The rule makes in order only those amendments to H.R. 5882 printed in the Rules Committee report. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points or order against the amendments printed in the report. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Representatives Crenshaw, Honda, Flake, Scalise and Gosar.

EXAMINATION OF FAA'S LAUNCH INDEMNIFICATION PROGRAM

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics held a hearing entitled ''An Examination of FAA's Launch Indemnification Program''. Testimony was heard from George Nield, Associate Administrator, Office of

Commercial Space Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration; Alicia Cackley, Director of Financial Markets and Community Investment Team, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

UNDERSTANDING THE REAL COSTS AND BENEFITS OF ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Energy and Environment held a hearing entitled ''EPA's Impact on Jobs and Energy Affordability: Understanding the Real Costs and Benefits of Environmental Regulations''. Testimony was heard from Cass Sunstein, Administrator, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Michael Honeycutt, Chief Toxicologist, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality; and public witnesses.

SBA'S MANAGEMENT OF ITS CAPITAL ACCESS PROGRAMS

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''SBA's Management of its Capital Access Programs''. Testimony was heard from Karen Mills, Administrator, Small Business Administration.

THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS: RETURN TO PPV

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Through the Looking Glass: Return to PPV''. Testimony was heard from W. Scott Gould, Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Department of Veterans Affairs; Linda A. Halliday, Assistant Inspector General for Audits and Evaluations, Office of the Inspector General, Department of Veterans Affairs; Maureen Regan, Counselor to the Inspector General, Office of Inspector General, Department of Veterans Affairs; and a public witness.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a hearing on the following measures: H.R. 2355, the ''Hallowed Grounds Act''; H.R. 2996, the ''Gulf War Syndrome 'Presumptive Illness' Extension Act of 2011''; H.R. 4299, the ''Quality Housing for Veterans Act''; H.R. 5735, to provide for the establishment of a Tomb of Remembrance at Arlington National Cemetery for interment of cremated fragments of the remains of members of the Armed Forces killed in Afghanistan, Iraq, or a subsequent conflict when the fragments are unidentifiable by use of DNA testing or other means because of the condition of the fragments, are unclaimed, or are identified and authorized by the person designated to direct disposition of the remains for internment in such memorial; H.R. 5880, the ''Veterans Disability Examination Access Improvement Act''; H.R. 5881, the ''Access to Veterans Benefits Improvement Act''; and H.R. 2720, to clarify the role of the Department of Veterans Affairs in providing a benefit or service related to the interment or funeral of a veteran, and for other purposes. Testimony was heard from the following Representatives: Stivers; Hartzler; Kissell; and Culberson; Kathryn Condon, Executive Director of Army National Cemeteries Program, Department of Defense; Thomas Murphy, Director of Compensation Service, Veterans Benefits Administration; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, JUNE 7, 2012

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety, to hold hearings to examine recommendations from the Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future for a consent-based approach to siting nuclear waste storage and management facilities, 10 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Peace Corps and Global Narcotics Affairs, to hold hearings to examine countering repression and strengthening civil society in Cuba, 10:45 a.m., SD–419.

Committee on Indian Affairs: to hold an oversight hearing to examine Universal Service Fund Reform, focusing on ensuring a sustainable and connected future for native communities, 2:15 p.m., SD–628.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider S. 250, to protect crime victims' rights, to eliminate the substantial backlog of DNA samples collected from crime scenes and convicted offenders, to improve and expand the DNA testing capacity of Federal, State, and local crime laboratories, to increase research and development of new DNA testing technologies, to develop new training programs regarding the collection and use of DNA evidence, to provide post conviction testing of DNA evidence to exonerate the innocent, to improve the performance of counsel in State capital cases, S. 285, for the relief of Sopuruchi Chukwueke, and the nominations of Robert E. Bacharach, of Oklahoma, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit, Paul William Grimm, to be United States District Judge for the District of Maryland, John E. Dowdell, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Oklahoma, Mark E. Walker, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District

of Florida, and Brian J. Davis, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 11:30 a.m., SH–219.

Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, markup of Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Bill, FY 2013, 10 a.m., 2358–A Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Military Personnel, hearing entitled ''Military Resale Programs Overview'', 2 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, Full Committee, markup of H.R. 4297, the ''Workforce Investment Improvement Act of 2012'', 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade, continued markup of H.R. 5865, the ''American Manufacturing Competitiveness Act of 2012''; and H.R. 5859, to repeal an obsolete provision in title 49, United States Code, requiring motor vehicle insurance cost reporting, 9 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Energy and Power, markup of H.R. 4273, the ''Resolving Environmental and Grid Reliability Conflicts Act of 2012''; and H.R. 5892, the ''Hydropower Regulatory Efficiency Act of 2012'', 10:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on Insurance, Housing and Community Opportunity, hearing entitled ''Oversight of Federal Housing Administration's Multifamily Insurance Programs'', 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Capital Markets and Government Sponsored Enterprises, hearing entitled ''Investor Protection: The Need to Protect Investors from the Government'', 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, markup of H.R. 4405, to impose sanctions on persons responsible for the detention, abuse, or death of Sergei Magnitsky, and for other gross violations of human rights in the Russian Federation, and for other purposes; H. Res. 506, calling upon the Government of Turkey to facilitate the reopening of the Ecumenical Patriarchate's Theological School of Halki without condition or further delay; H.R. 4141, to direct the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development to take appropriate actions to improve the nutritional quality, quality control, and cost effectiveness of United States food assistance, and for other purposes; H. Res. 526, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with respect toward the establishment of a democratic and prosperous Republic of Georgia and the establishment of a peaceful and just resolution to the conflict with Georgia's internationally recognized borders; H. Res. 583, expressing support for robust efforts by the United States to see Joseph Kony, the leader of the Lord's Resistance Army, and his top commanders brought to justice and the group's atrocities permanently ended; and H. Res. 663, expressing support for the International Olympic Committee to recognize with a minute of silence at every future Olympics Opening Ceremony those who lost their lives at the 1972 Munich Olympics, and for other purposes, 10 a.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Transportation Security, hearing entitled ''TSA's Efforts to Fix Its Poor Customer Service Reputation and Become a Leaner, Smarter Agency'', 10:00 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Oversight of the United States Department of Justice'', 9:30 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Full Committee markup of the following measures: H.R. 1103, the ''American Memorial Park Tinian Annex Act''; H.R. 1171, ''Marine Debris Act Reauthorization Amendments of 2011''; H.R. 3065, the ''Target Practice and Marksmanship Training Support Act''; H.R. 3100, the ''San Antonio Missions National Historical Park Boundary Expansion Act''; H.R. 3210, the ''RELIEF Act''; H.R. 3388, the ''Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Protection Act''; H.R. 3685, to amend the Herger-Feinstein Quincy Library Group Forest Recovery Act to extend and expand the scope of the pilot forest management project required by that Act; H.R. 3706, to create the Office of Chief Financial Officer of the Government of the Virgin Islands, and for other purposes; H.R. 4039, the ''Yerington Land Conveyance and Sustainable Development Act''; H.R. 4073, to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to accept the quitclaim, disclaimer, and relinquishment of a railroad right of way within and adjacent to Pike National Forest in El Paso County, Colorado, originally granted to the Mt. Manitou Park and Incline Railway Company pursuant to the Act of March 3, 1875; H.R. 4094, the ''Preserving Access to Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area Act''; H.R. 4171, the ''Freedom from Over-Criminalization and Unjust Seizures Act of 2012''; H.R. 4234, the ''Grazing Improvement Act of 2012''; H.R. 4400, to designate the Salt Pond Visitor Center at Cape Cod National Seashore as the ''Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. Salt Pond Visitor Center'', and for other purposes; and S. 270, the ''La Pine Land Conveyance Act''; 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Subcommittee on Government Organization, Efficiency and Financial Management, hearing entitled ''Assessing Medicare and Medicaid Program Integrity'', 9:30 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Contracting and Workforce, hearing entitled ''Scheduling Success? Issues and Opportunities for Small Businesses on the GSA Schedules'', 2 p.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Full Committee markup of the following measures: H.R. 4965, to preserve existing rights and responsibilities with respect to waters of the United States, and for other purposes; H.R. 5887, the ''Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Authorization Act of 2012''; H.R. 1171, the ''Marine Debris Act Reauthorization Amendments of 2011'';

H.R. 3742, to designate the United States courthouse located at 100 North Church Street in Las Cruces, New Mexico, as the ''Edwin L. Mechem United States Courthouse''; H.R. 4347, to designate the United States courthouse located at 709 West 9th Street in Juneau, Alaska, as the ''Robert Boochever United States Courthouse''; General Services Administration Capital Investment and Leasing Program Resolutions; and Summary of Legislative and Oversight Activities Committee Report, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Joint Meetings

Joint Economic Committee: To hold hearings to examine the current economic outlook, 10 a.m., SD–G50.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Thursday, June 7

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: The Majority Leader will be recognized. The Majority Leader intends to continue consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 3240, Agriculture Reform, Food, and Jobs Act, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill at 10:30 a.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Thursday, June 7

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Resume consideration of H.R. 5855—Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2013.

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