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Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, June 11, 2012, at 2 p.m.

House of Representatives

FRIDAY, JUNE 8, 2012

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

PRAYER

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

God of the universe, thank You for giving us another day.

Quicken our spirits so that we will know the blessings of living together in unity and peace. We have our personal aspirations and ideas of what is best. Grant that we might know the satisfaction from sharing our common concerns and experiencing the joy of mutual accomplishment.

Bless the Members of the people's House with success in bringing fruition to all efforts to work toward common solutions to the issues facing our Nation—solutions which seem so distant in these days.

During the days of the coming week, may the American people be able to communicate their hopes for the efforts of their congressmen and -women. May they understand as well that a unified nation is equally the work of each of us where we live.

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

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. BARROW led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

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

ENERGY POLICY THAT CREATES JOBS

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

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today the oil and gas industry in Colorado directly employs 50,000 people and supports over 190,000 jobs in our State. However, the Obama administration has increasingly put up barriers that drive out energy development on Federal lands—a practice that disproportionately impacts job creation in Colorado and other Western States.

For this reason, my colleagues and I have introduced the Domestic Energy and Jobs Act of 2012. My portion of this bill will ensure responsible, steady, and reliable exploration of our abundant resources every year, which will facilitate the job creation that comes from expanded energy development.

We have endured 38 straight months of higher than 8 percent unemployment. The fact that we are not fully benefiting from our energy resources here at home is simply wrong. I urge this administration to follow our lead in the House and support an energy policy that puts people back to work.

CLOSING OF SNOOKY'S RESTAURANT

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

Mr. BARROW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the passing of an institution in my district—Snooky's Restaurant in Statesboro, Georgia. Forty-one years ago, Bruce Yawn opened a family-style restaurant, along with his father, Snooky Yawn.

For 41 years, Snooky's wasn't just a place to get some great Southern cooking, it was a favorite gathering place for the folks who call Statesboro home, and it was home away from home for tens of thousands of young people who came from all over the State of Georgia to attend Georgia Southern University.

In fact, the Georgia Southern University football program was practically founded at Snooky's, where the legendary founding coach, Erk Russell, was a regular. Coach Russell and his many friends and admirers would sit around and talk about football, fishing,

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and farming—among other things—for hours.

Mr. Speaker, our country needs all the places like Snooky's that we can get, and we need to keep all of those that we can. So it's appropriate to thank Bruce Yawn, and all the other Bruce Yawns of the land, for the contribution they make to our sense of community.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BASS of New Hampshire). The Chair would remind Members and staff to take their conversations outside the Chamber.

VERA, VOICE OF TEXAS

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, each month I receive thousands of emails from my neighbors in Texas about issues that are important to them. Vera from Humble, Texas, wrote me this:

''American manufacturers do their part to improve the environment, and United States manufacturing is the leader in developing clean technologies. Policymakers should look very cautiously at new government programs that would expand environmental rules or impose entirely new regulatory regimes. The EPA's actions, such as those on ozone standards, chemical action plans, and cement emission regulations will increase costs, destroy jobs, and undermine U.S. manufacturers' ability to compete in the global marketplace. Our position and our prosperity will not hold if American manufacturing continues to be the victim of overregulation. Congress must commit to policies that ensure America's ability to compete and to succeed.''

Mr. Speaker, Vera is right. Regulators need to quit putting American businesses out of business because of unnecessary, expensive overregulation.

And that's just the way it is.

UNLESS CONGRESS ACTS IN 22 DAYS

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

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, unless Congress acts in the next 22 days, the interest rate for the subsidized Stafford student loan program is going to increase from 3.4 percent to 6.8 percent. Despite this approaching deadline, with over 7 million college students waiting for an answer, what is the House GOP leadership's response? To send us home today for the ninth week of recess since last January. Despite the fact that the Senate will be in session next week, and as was reported in the press last night, a real bipartisan compromise is going to be emerging. But, of course, we won't be able to act on it next week because we won't be here. The next time we're on the floor, this chart will be down to 11 days until the rate doubles.

Mr. Speaker, this work schedule by the Republican leadership would make Homer Simpson blush. It is time for us to go to work and find a compromise that is going to fix this issue for 7 million college students waiting for an answer all across America.

PRESIDENT'S POLICIES HURTING AMERICA

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, there are too many Americans out of work, and the President's policies only make things worse. There are fewer prime working-age adults in jobs than at any point in the two decades prior to the start of the recession. By combining those who are not actively seeking work, along with those who are involuntarily working part-time, the real unemployment rate checks in at 14.5 percent.

The President's policies have led to lower U.S. rankings on world indexes of economic freedom and business opportunity. The President's regulations are costing businesses billions. The EPA Utility MACT rule alone will cost $9.6 billion per year to the American consumer, according to the Agency's own estimates.

The President has stalled energy development on public lands, leaving us subject to foreign oil imports and high gas prices.

Mr. Speaker there are 28 bipartisan bills awaiting Senate action. It is long past time for the President and the Senate to join with the House to increase American jobs, opportunity, and competitiveness.

AMERICA'S TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, last night we debated the future of our national transportation system. There are two competing views. There are those of us who want to rebuild and build upon the Eisenhower legacy with a national transportation system. And then there are those on the ultra-right who say the Federal Government should not invest in the national transportation system. It should be devolved to the States.

Hey, we already tried that. This is 1956. This is the brand spanking new Kansas turnpike. Guess what? It ended in a farmer's field at the Oklahoma line because Oklahoma didn't build their section until the Eisenhower plan passed and the Federal Government made the investment. They want to go back to those good old days. That's going to work really well.

Those of us who believe in investing in a national transportation system, putting America back to work, being more competitive and more fuel efficient last night were accused of being Socialists. We're Socialists because we believe in that. Right, Dwight David Eisenhower was a Socialist? The U.S. Chamber of Commerce are Socialists?

The U.S. Chamber is adamantly opposed to the Broun instruction. They say the Chamber strongly opposes the Broun motion to instruct conferees and urges you to vote against this effort to slash funding for highways, transit and safety programs.

He would take it zero—no new investment on October 1.

That's bad for America.

□ 0910

FIND THE LEAK, MR. PRESIDENT

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

Mr. BROOKS. Mr. Speaker, today I call on the White House to get off the campaign trail, show leadership, do the President's job, and aggressively pursue the leakers of America's state secrets. These leaks have ranged from implicating the United States in Stuxnet, a computer virus that targeted nuclear centrifuges in Iran, to revealing a detailed ''kill list'' for terrorists targeted for assassination. Not only do these leaks compromise America's efforts to preserve our national security, they teach our allies not to trust us. Look at the doctor who helped the United States gather DNA evidence to locate Osama bin Laden. His reward? His identity was revealed, and he faces 33 years in a Pakistan jail.

Mr. Speaker, where is the outrage from the White House about these leaks? It's time for the President to plug the holes and protect America's national security.

INVEST IN AMERICA'S INFRASTRUCTURE

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

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to implore my colleagues to abandon their my-way-or-the-highway approach to the job-creating highway bill currently in conference. We cannot afford to kick the can down the road again.

During the recent recession, 1.9 million jobs were lost in the construction sector. There are still about 1.4 million unemployed construction workers. But reauthorizing a long-term highway bill, as is encouraged by the President, would begin to fix this problem.

In my district alone, 25 years ago, on April 5, 1987, the Thruway bridge collapsed at 10:50 a.m. on a Sunday morning near Fort Hunter, New York. Ten people died. They included three men

returning from a bowling tournament, a mother and a daughter heading to a baby shower, two Shriners, a married couple driving to Texas, and a truck driver heading to Wisconsin. The cause was failure to properly maintain the bridge.

No price can be put on the lives that were suddenly ended that very tragic day, but their memory should serve as a stark reminder that our failure here has real, painful, life-taking consequences.

Let's move forward and invest in America's infrastructure—to put construction workers back on the job, to help businesses grow, and to keep our drivers and truckers safe.

REMEMBERING JOSEPH WILLIAM AUBIN AND THOSE WHO HAVE SACRIFICED FOR AMERICA

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

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to note that this week U.S. Navy Technician Joseph William Aubin, a young man of Bridgeport, Connecticut, had his name added to the Vietnam Memorial Wall just down the way here 46 years after he died on a flight from the Philippines to Vietnam. This was a solemn and happy occasion as we recognized one in a long line of millions of men and women who have sacrificed for us and for our country.

But there's a lesson in this event. There will come a moment, undoubtedly, when the young men and women that are returning from Afghanistan and Iraq seem as lost in the midst of time as Joseph William Aubin does today. So this is really about us, and it's always been about us.

It's about them working for our safety, our liberty, and our values. And it is about us to make sure that we, as people, don't succumb to the fact that we drift, that memory fades, and that urgency is unsharpened. It is about us to make sure that 20 years from now we remember Joseph William Aubin and those like him who sacrificed.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include tabular and extraneous material on H.R. 5882.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 679 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. 5882.

The Chair appoints the gentleman from New Hampshire (Mr. BASS) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

□ 0915

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. 5882) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes, with Mr. BASS of New Hampshire 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 Florida (Mr. CRENSHAW) and the gentleman from California (Mr. HONDA) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Ladies and gentlemen of the House, we bring before the House today the 2013 appropriations bill for the Legislative Subcommittee. This is a bill that spends $3.3 billion, which is approximately 1 percent less than last year. That's a $33.4 million reduction from last year.

I think all of us know that we are living in difficult economic times in this country. Taxpayers want to know that when they send their money to Washington it's being spent wisely. We also know that government needs money to provide services, but right now government needs something more. The government needs a sense of discipline to rein in spending. The government needs a commitment to make sure that every task of government is accomplished and completed in a most efficient and most effective manner, more so than ever before.

Our subcommittee took this philosophy to heart, and we had a series of hearings. We listened to the Agency heads as they came before us and talked about their needs, their wants, their priorities. We considered all of that and made some very difficult, some tough, but I think workable, decisions that allow us to move forward.

I would remind the Members that over the last two cycles we have reduced spending on the Legislative Branch Subcommittee funding bill by almost 8 percent, and after we finish this bill, we will have decreased spending by nearly 9 percent.

So let me just give you all a summary of the highlights of this bill.

First and foremost, we fund the House of Representatives at $1.2 billion. That's the same level as last year. It's the same level that was requested by the House of Representatives. When people say, ''Well, why didn't you reduce the House any further?'' I would remind Members that over the last two cycles we have reduced funding for our own House by 10.5 percent. The Members' office accounts—the so-called Members' Representational Accounts—are funded at last year's level. Once again, when people say, ''Why didn't you cut those again?'' I would remind Members that we have cut those. The appropriations have been reduced by 13.5 percent for the office accounts. That takes us back to 2008 levels, which is a substantial cut.

We have certainly led by example. We have tightened our belts. We have reined in spending, and I think we can be proud of that. We also have language that allows Members, if they don't spend all of their office account, they can reduce the national debt with their leftover funds.

The Capitol Police receive about a $20 million increase. That will allow them to reduce the backlog in training that they have. It will also alleviate some of the salary shortfalls, because this is a year where we have the two national conventions and we also have the inauguration.

The Congressional Budget Office receives a very slight increase to acquire some much-needed equipment.

The Architect of the Capitol, which we fund, actually receives the largest reduction, about a 10 percent reduction. The Architect brings to us a series of projects that he would like to see funded. We can't fund them all, but we give priority to those that deal with health and safety issues because so many people work in the Capitol complex, so many visitors come here every year.

This subcommittee was concerned about the fact that we don't have the money right now to continue the rehabilitation of the Capitol dome, that great symbol of freedom that we see every day. We have spent $19 million to begin that rehabilitation project, and it's about $100 million to finish that. I'm confident we'll find the money very shortly and complete that project.

If you look at the Library of Congress, they receive a very modest increase.

The Government Accountability Office, the so-called watchdog of this Congress, they receive a slight increase to allow them to add 21 new full-time equivalent personnel. That will allow them to continue to write the reports that they write that tell us whether we're spending the money wisely or not.

□ 0920

And I think it will allow them to continue to meet the ever-increasing demands that we, as Members, place on them.

The Government Printing Office receives a cut, again, for the third straight year. They're doing a much better job of dealing with binding and printing of the information that they provide for us.

So, in a nutshell, Mr. Chairman, that summarizes the bill. I want to be sure and say thank you to all the members of the subcommittee, both the Democrats and Republicans, for the work

that they put in to bring this bill before us today.

I want to say a special word of thanks to my colleague, Mr. HONDA, the ranking member. I thank him for his bipartisan spirit as we work together to fund these agencies that we depend on every day.

And, finally, I certainly want to express the gratitude of all the members of the committee to our staff, both the Democratic side and the Republican side, for the tireless effort they put in to bring this bill before us.

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

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2013 (H.R. 5882)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2012 Enacted	FY 2013 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
TITLE I - LEGISLATIVE BRANCH					
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES					
Salaries and Expenses					
House Leadership Offices					
Office of the Speaker	6,943	6,943	6,943	---	---
Office of the Majority Floor Leader	2,278	2,278	2,278	---	---
Office of the Minority Floor Leader	7,433	7,433	7,433	---	---
Office of the Majority Whip	1,971	1,971	1,971	---	---
Office of the Minority Whip	1,525	1,525	1,525	---	---
Republican Conference	1,573	1,573	1,573	---	---
Democratic Caucus	1,554	1,554	1,554	---	---
Subtotal, House Leadership Offices	23,277	23,277	23,277	---	---
Transition to Calendar Year Funding					
Office of the Speaker	1,736	---	---	-1,736	---
Office of the Majority Floor Leader	569	---	---	-569	---
Office of the Minority Floor Leader	1,858	---	---	-1,858	---
Office of the Majority Whip	493	---	---	-493	---
Office of the Minority Whip	381	---	---	-381	---
Republican Conference	393	---	---	-393	---
Democratic Caucus	388	---	---	-388	---
Subtotal, Transition to Calendar Year Funding	5,818	---	---	-5,818	---
Members' Representational Allowances Including Members' Clerk Hire, Official Expenses of Members, and Official Mail					
Expenses	573,939	573,939	573,939	---	---
Committee Employees					
Standing Committees, Special and Select	125,965	126,365	125,965	---	-400
Committee on Appropriations (including studies and investigations)	26,666	26,666	26,666	---	---
Subtotal, Committee employees	152,631	153,031	152,631	---	-400
Salaries, Officers and Employees					
Office of the Clerk	26,114	22,370	22,370	-3,744	---
Office of the Sergeant at Arms	12,585	13,828	12,585	---	-1,243
Office of the Chief Administrative Officer	116,782	116,782	116,782	---	---
Office of the Inspector General	5,045	4,692	4,692	-353	---
Office of General Counsel	1,415	1,415	1,415	---	---
Office of the Chaplain	179	179	179	---	---
Office of the Parliamentarian	2,060	2,060	2,060	---	---
Office of the Parliamentarian	(1,466)	(1,466)	(1,466)	---	---
Compilation of precedents of the House of Representatives	(594)	(594)	(594)	---	---
Office of the Law Revision Counsel of the House	3,258	3,258	3,258	---	---
Office of the Legislative Counsel of the House	8,814	8,814	8,814	---	---
Office of Interparliamentary Affairs	859	859	859	---	---
Other authorized employees	347	485	485	+138	---
Historian	170	170	170	---	---
Subtotal, Salaries, officers and employees	177,628	174,912	173,669	-3,959	-1,243

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2013 (H.R. 5882)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2012 Enacted	FY 2013 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Allowances and Expenses					
Supplies, materials, administrative costs and Federal tort claims	3,696	3,696	3,696	---	---
Official mail for committees, leadership offices, and administrative offices of the House	201	201	201	---	---
Government contributions	264,848	270,905	272,548	+7,700	+1,643
Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery	17,112	17,112	17,112	---	---
Transition activities	1,722	4,125	4,125	+2,403	---
Wounded Warrior program	2,500	2,175	2,175	-325	---
Office of Congressional Ethic	1,548	1,548	1,548	---	---
Miscellaneous items	760	760	760	---	---
Subtotal, Allowances and expenses	292,387	300,522	302,165	+9,778	+1,643
Total, House of Representatives	1,225,680	1,225,681	1,225,681	+1	---
JOINT ITEMS					
Joint Economic Committee	4,203	4,219	4,203	---	-16
Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies	1,237	---	---	-1,237	---
Joint Committee on Taxation	10,004	10,004	10,004	---	---
Office of the Attending Physician					
Medical supplies, equipment, expenses, and allowances	3,400	3,433	3,467	+67	+34
Office of Congressional Accessibility Services	1,363	1,367	1,363	---	-4
Total, Joint items	20,207	19,023	19,037	-1,170	+14
CAPITOL POLICE					
Salaries	277,133	303,132	297,133	+20,000	-5,999
General expenses	63,004	70,637	63,004	---	-7,633
Total, Capitol Police	340,137	373,769	360,137	+20,000	-13,632
OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE					
Salaries and expenses	3,817	4,206	3,817	---	-389
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE					
Salaries and expenses	43,787	44,637	44,280	+493	-357
ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL					
General administration	101,340	102,601	90,755	-10,585	-11,846
Capitol building	36,154	97,072	28,591	-7,563	-68,481
Capitol grounds	9,852	18,502	17,152	+7,300	-1,350
House of Representatives buildings:					
House office buildings	94,154	83,964	83,964	-10,190	---
House Historic buildings revitalization fund	30,000	50,000	30,000	---	-20,000

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2013 (H.R. 5882)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2012 Enacted	FY 2013 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Capitol Power Plant	132,229	127,533	118,016	-14,213	-9,517
Offsetting collections	-9,000	-9,000	-9,400	-400	-400
Subtotal, Capitol Power Plant	123,229	118,533	108,616	-14,613	-9,917
Library buildings and grounds	46,876	53,594	30,660	-16,216	-22,934
Capitol police buildings, grounds and security	21,500	30,802	20,867	-633	-9,935
Botanic garden	12,000	12,140	12,140	+140	---
Capitol Visitor Center:					
CVC Operations	21,276	21,588	21,276	---	-312
Total, Architect of the Capitol	496,381	588,796	444,021	-52,360	-144,775
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS					
Salaries and expenses	420,093	430,051	422,024	+1,931	-8,027
Authority to spend receipts	-6,350	-6,350	-6,350	---	---
Subtotal, Salaries and expenses	413,743	423,701	415,674	+1,931	-8,027
Copyright Office, salaries and expenses	51,650	52,772	52,136	+486	-636
Authority to spend receipts	-35,513	-33,611	-33,611	+1,902	---
Subtotal, Copyright Office	16,137	19,161	18,525	+2,388	-636
Congressional Research Service, salaries and expenses	106,790	109,205	107,668	+878	-1,537
Books for the blind and physically handicapped Salaries and expenses	50,674	51,522	50,775	+101	-747
Total, Library of Congress	587,344	603,589	592,642	+5,298	-10,947
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE					
Congressional printing and binding	90,700	83,632	83,632	-7,068	---
Office of the Superintendent of Documents, salaries and expenses	35,000	34,728	34,728	-272	---
Government Printing Office Revolving Fund	500	7,840	4,096	+3,596	-3,744
Total, Government Printing Office	126,200	126,200	122,456	-3,744	-3,744
GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE					
Salaries and expenses	533,600	550,551	544,120	+10,520	-6,431
Offsetting collections	-22,304	-24,318	-24,318	-2,014	---
Total, Government Accountability Office	511,296	526,233	519,802	+8,506	-6,431
OPEN WORLD LEADERSHIP CENTER					
Payment to the Open World Leadership Center Trust Fund	10,000	10,000	1,000	-9,000	-9,000
JOHN C. STENNIS CENTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT					
Stennis Center for Public Service	430	430	---	-430	-430
Grand total	3,365,279	3,522,564	3,332,873	-32,406	-189,691

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am pleased we are considering the fiscal year 2013 Legislative Branch appropriations bill. Chairman CRENSHAW has been collegial in the development of this bill, and I appreciate his willingness to accept our input throughout the process.

The chairman's mark before us funds the legislative branch at $3.3 billion, a cut of 1 percent from fiscal year 2012, and this does not include Senate items. Even with a lower allocation, Chairman CRENSHAW was able to level-fund and even increase several areas important to the operation of the legislative branch. The House, overall, is held flat at $1.225 billion. The Capitol Police will receive $360 million, a nearly 6 percent increase. The Congressional Budget Office is funded at $44.3 million, at $493,000 above the fiscal year 2012 level. And the Government Accountability Office is funded at $519.8 million—$8.5 million, or nearly 2 percent, above fiscal year 2012.

While the levels are adequate for some agencies, the allocation required the subcommittee to propose no funding to continue the rehabilitation of the Capitol dome, this Nation's great symbol of democracy. This bill's lack of funding for this critical project is a direct result of the House Republicans' unilateral decision to cast aside the funding levels agreed to under the Budget Control Act. The majority's decision required the Appropriations Committee to absorb $19 billion in reductions across all of the bills.

One issue that I continue to be concerned about is the House General Counsel's defense of the discriminatory Defense of Marriage Act, DOMA. With the limited funding available for the House of Representatives, I think there are far more worthy uses of the precious taxpayers' resources than funding contracts for outside counsel to defend the highly controversial—and two U.S. district courts and a Federal appellate court have ruled unconstitutional—DOMA. I am concerned that the scarce resources available to the House will continue to be siphoned off in order to defend a law that continues to be found unconstitutional in the courts.

I am privileged to represent Silicon Valley, the center of technological innovation in this country. Since I joined the subcommittee, I have tried to push the House and other agencies to explore technological solutions to issues such as transparency, evacuation management, and data storage.

As you probably know, Federal agencies, including our own in the leg branch, can be slow to change and develop new technologies. This is mentioned in the report, which includes language on the issue of bulk-data downloads of legislative information, something I requested and secured language about in this bill in fiscal year 2009.

This effort is now being championed by leadership on both sides of the aisle, as it is a way to increase transparency by allowing the public to easily download and analyze government data. There are some concerns about cost and the ability to authenticate the data that the language in the report tries to address. I think, however, that these are relatively simple matters to overcome, as data is already being compiled in a format that can be easily distributed, and technology support staff has indicated that only a simple procedure is needed to make the bulk data available.

Furthermore, the GPO already employs an authentication standard for its own accessible bulk data through its FDSys, or the Federal Digital System, Web site that we could also utilize.

The House majority recently announced that it will immediately create a task force, as described in this bill, to expedite a report and implementation of public access to bulk legislative data. While I believe the time to implement this is now, I expect to be included in these efforts as ranking member of the subcommittee and a longtime advocate since before 2009.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, I want to reiterate my appreciation for the chairman's effort to work with my side of the aisle on issues where there was agreement. I am glad to see the congressional support Agencies, including the Congressional Budget Office, the Government Accountability Office, and the Congressional Research Service, are adequately funded.

Mr. Chairman, I want to thank the hardworking professional staff that has helped to craft this bill and assisted the subcommittee in a bipartisan manner over the course of the year: Liz Dawson, Chuck Turner and Jenny Kesiah on the majority side, along with Michael Kirlin with Chairman CRENSHAW's personal office, and Shalanda Young and Danny Cromer on our side of the aisle, along with Ken Takeda and Mark Nakamoto from my office.

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

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. LUNGREN), the chairman of the House Administration Committee.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of H.R. 5882, the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act. As chairman of the Committee on House Administration, which oversees many of the agencies affected by these appropriations, I am pleased we are continuing to uphold our pledge to reduce government spending, while providing the necessary security and support for each Member to fulfill their constitutional responsibilities.

Since taking control of the House, we've worked diligently to identify and eliminate wasteful spending and streamline and improve operations by using technology, thereby saving taxpayers millions. We've also worked to reduce spending on the production and printing of unnecessary publications, including an amendment offered by my colleague, Mr. HARPER, to reduce the number of copies of the U.S. Code printed for the House.

With the support of the Appropriations Committee, we will further improve House technology through an advancement of programs utilized by the Law Revision Counsel and the Office of the Legislative Counsel that modernize and improve their capabilities.

Utilizing new technologies, we will continue to increase the accuracy and accessibility of legislative proposals and changes to the U.S. Code. As the people's House, it is imperative we continue to use technological innovations to foster transparency and provide our constituents with timely and accurate information.

I'd like to thank the appropriators for their support in providing the resources necessary to enhance and streamline House operations and reduce overall expenses. And later, when we have an amendment on the floor that once again tries to make us go backward in our effort to get rid of waste produced in this House, I will stand and oppose that.

We have had a successful program of converting waste to energy, one of the most innovative programs in the entire country. We've convinced the other side of the Capitol, the Senate, to join us. We have thousands of tons of waste now not going into landfills but being converted to clean energy, one of the best examples of a technology that the EPA says is one of the cleanest in the country. We ought to be thankful for that. We ought not to go backwards. We ought to understand.

And in doing that, we have also given best or better customer service to those who utilize the various restaurants on the campus here in the Capitol. Those are things that we ought to be proud of and not be shy about the successes that we have had.

So I'll still be here on the floor to talk about one of those amendments, as we did just a year ago.

□ 0930

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Washington, the distinguished ranking member of the Committee on Appropriations, Mr. DICKS.

Mr. DICKS. First of all, I would like to pass along my appreciation to Chairman CRENSHAW and to Ranking Member HONDA for their willingness to work together in a very bipartisan manner. I also would like to commend the staffs of the majority and minority for their efforts in bringing this bill where we are today.

This bill's allocation is just slightly below last year's and is well within the range of what would have been expected had the majority stuck to the discretionary number agreed to in the

Budget Control Act. But for the most part, this bill has been protected from Ryan budget austerity.

Many programs and agencies important to the operation of Congress have been spared from harmful cuts. Support agencies, such as the Congressional Budget Office, the Congressional Research Service, and the Government Accountability Office are all adequately funded, which will allow them to continue operating without further reductions in staff or services. However, it is important to note that not every account has been spared.

As we all know, the Architect of the Capitol is in the middle of an extensive restoration effort. This bill's allocation does not provide the funds needed to begin the second phase of that effort but, rather, cuts the Architect of the Capitol significantly below last year's funding level. As I'd mentioned during the committee markup, I'd rather the dome remain a monument to our Nation's greatness than become a symbol for shortsighted austerity.

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

Mr. CRENSHAW. I think this is a good bill. I think it has been adequately explained.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Fiscal Year 2013 Legislative Branch Appropriations bill.

Although this measure is the smallest of the thirteen annual appropriations bills, it plays a giant role by funding some of the most vital areas of the United States Government.

In fact, the Legislative Branch Subcommittee is responsible for more than just the operations of the United States Congress.

The Subcommittee also is responsible for the preservation of our cultural heritage by the Library of Congress; the objective analysis of our budget and economic decisions by the Congressional Budget Office; the independent evaluation of the Federal Government's performance by the Government Accountability Office; and the publishing and dissemination of government information by the Government Printing Office.

In short, none of us here in Congress could represent our constituents effectively and make informed decisions in the national interest without the resources provided for in this bill.

As a Member of this Subcommittee, I want to commend Chairman CRENSHAW and Ranking Member HONDA for working together in a bipartisan fashion to craft this legislation.

I know that both of you were dealt a difficult hand with your Subcommittee allocation. Nevertheless, I am pleased that you were able to either level fund or provide small increases in the budgets of most accounts.

Many of the accounts under this Subcommittee's jurisdiction already have been cut to the bone. Further significant reductions would have seriously jeopardized their missions—some of which include finding cost savings and efficiencies throughout the government—and would have had an adverse impact on the services that we in Congress provide to our constituents.

I am glad that we were able to hold the line and prevent further harm.

I also am grateful by you and your staff's willingness to engage on the issue of the security of our District Offices and our District Staff.

I am especially pleased by the inclusion of report language I sponsored along with Representative LATOURETTE directing the House Sergeant at Arms, in coordination with the United States Capitol Police, to develop a series of recommendations and best practices on security features or enhancements for House District Offices to be made available to new and returning Members prior to the start of the 113th Congress.

Again, I want to thank Chairman CRENSHAW and Ranking Member HONDA on your work on this bill.

The CHAIR. All time for general debate has expired.

Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read for amendment under the 5-minute rule.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5882

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 Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I—LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses of the House of Representatives, $1,225,680,000, as follows:

HOUSE LEADERSHIP OFFICES

For salaries and expenses, as authorized by law, $23,275,773, including: Office of the Speaker, $6,942,770, including $25,000 for official expenses of the Speaker; Office of the Majority Floor Leader, $2,277,595, including $10,000 for official expenses of the Majority Leader; Office of the Minority Floor Leader, $7,432,812, including $10,000 for official expenses of the Minority Leader; Office of the Majority Whip, including the Chief Deputy Majority Whip, $1,971,050, including $5,000 for official expenses of the Majority Whip; Office of the Minority Whip, including the Chief Deputy Minority Whip, $1,524,951, including $5,000 for official expenses of the Minority Whip; Republican Conference, $1,572,788; Democratic Caucus, $1,553,807. *Provided*, That such amount for salaries and expenses shall remain available from January 3, 2013 until January 3, 2014.

MEMBERS' REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCES

INCLUDING MEMBERS' CLERK HIRE, OFFICIAL EXPENSES OF MEMBERS, AND OFFICIAL MAIL

For Members' representational allowances, including Members' clerk hire, official expenses, and official mail, $573,939,282.

COMMITTEE EMPLOYEES

STANDING COMMITTEES, SPECIAL AND SELECT

For salaries and expenses of standing committees, special and select, authorized by House resolutions, $125,964,870: *Provided*, That such amount shall remain available for such salaries and expenses until December 31, 2014.

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

For salaries and expenses of the Committee on Appropriations, $26,665,785, including studies and examinations of executive agencies and temporary personal services for such committee, to be expended in accordance with section 202(b) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 and to be available for reimbursement to agencies for services performed: *Provided*, That such amount shall remain available for such salaries and expenses until December 31, 2014.

SALARIES, OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

For compensation and expenses of officers and employees, as authorized by law, $173,669,084, including: for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Clerk, including not more than $23,000, of which not more than $20,000 is for the Family Room, for official representation and reception expenses, $22,370,252; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Sergeant at Arms, including the position of Superintendent of Garages and the Office of Emergency Management, and including not more than $3,000 for official representation and reception expenses, $12,585,000, of which $5,463,251 shall remain available until expended; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer including not more than $3,000 for official representation and reception expenses, $116,782,000, of which $3,937,000 shall remain available until expended; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Inspector General, $4,692,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of General Counsel, $1,415,000; for the Office of the Chaplain, $179,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Parliamentarian, including the Parliamentarian, $2,000 for preparing the Digest of Rules, and not more than $1,000 for official representation and reception expenses, $2,060,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Law Revision Counsel of the House, $3,258,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Legislative Counsel of the House, $8,814,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of Interparliamentary Affairs, $859,000; for other authorized employees, $484,832; and for salaries and expenses of the Historian, $170,000.

ALLOWANCES AND EXPENSES

For allowances and expenses as authorized by House resolution or law, $302,165,206, including: supplies, materials, administrative costs and Federal tort claims, $3,696,118; official mail for committees, leadership offices, and administrative offices of the House, $201,000; Government contributions for health, retirement, Social Security, and other applicable employee benefits, $272,548,016; Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery, $17,112,072, of which $5,000,000 shall remain available until expended; transition activities for new members and staff, $4,125,000; Wounded Warrior Program $2,175,000, to remain available until expended; Office of Congressional Ethics, $1,548,000; and miscellaneous items including purchase, exchange, maintenance, repair and operation of House motor vehicles, interparliamentary receptions, and gratuities to heirs of deceased employees of the House, $760,000.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 101. (a) REQUIRING AMOUNTS REMAINING IN MEMBERS' REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCES TO BE USED FOR DEFICIT REDUCTION OR TO REDUCE THE FEDERAL DEBT.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any amounts appropriated under this Act for ''HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—Salaries and Expenses—Members' Representational Allowances'' shall be available only for fiscal year 2013. Any amount remaining after all payments are made under such allowances for fiscal year 2013 shall be deposited in the Treasury and used for deficit reduction (or, if there is no Federal budget deficit after all such payments have been made, for reducing the Federal debt, in such manner as the Secretary of the Treasury considers appropriate).

(b) REGULATIONS.—The Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives shall have authority to prescribe regulations to carry out this section.

(c) DEFINITION.—As used in this section, the term ''Member of the House of Representatives'' means a Representative in, or a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress.

SEC. 102. (a) Section 109(a) of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1998 (2 U.S.C. 95d(a)) is amended by striking the period at the end and inserting the following: '', and for reimbursing the Secretary of Labor for any amounts paid with respect to unemployment compensation payments for former employees of the House.''.

(b) The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to fiscal year 2013 and each succeeding fiscal year.

SEC. 103. (a) Section 101(c)(2) of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1993 (2 U.S.C. 95b(c)(2)) is amended by striking ''and 'Allowances and Expenses' '' and inserting the following: '' 'Allowances and Expenses', the heading for any joint committee under the heading 'Joint Items' (to the extent that amounts appropriated for the joint committee are disbursed by the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives), and 'Office of the Attending Physician' ''.

(b) The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to fiscal year 2013 and each succeeding fiscal year.

OVERSIGHT OF OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

SEC. 104. (a) OVERSIGHT.—The Office of the Inspector General of the House of Representatives shall provide the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives with a copy of each audit and investigative report the Office produces, and shall consult regularly with such Committee with respect to the Office's operations.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall apply with respect to fiscal year 2013 and each succeeding fiscal year.

JOINT ITEMS

For Joint Committees, as follows:

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

For salaries and expenses of the Joint Economic Committee, $4,203,000, to be disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

For salaries and expenses of the Joint Committee on Taxation, $10,004,000, to be disbursed by the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives.

For other joint items, as follows:

OFFICE OF THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN

For medical supplies, equipment, and contingent expenses of the emergency rooms, and for the Attending Physician and his assistants, including: (1) an allowance of $2,175 per month to the Attending Physician; (2) an allowance of $1,300 per month to the Senior Medical Officer; (3) an allowance of $725 per month each to three medical officers while on duty in the Office of the Attending Physician; (4) an allowance of $725 per month to 2 assistants and $580 per month each not to exceed 11 assistants on the basis heretofore provided for such assistants; and (5) $2,603,000 for reimbursement to the Department of the Navy for expenses incurred for staff and equipment assigned to the Office of the Attending Physician, which shall be advanced and credited to the applicable appropriation or appropriations from which such salaries, allowances, and other expenses are payable and shall be available for all the purposes thereof, $3,467,000, to be disbursed by the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives.

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses of the Office of Congressional Accessibility Services, $1,363,000, to be disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate.

CAPITOL POLICE

SALARIES

For salaries of employees of the Capitol Police, including overtime, hazardous duty pay, and Government contributions for health, retirement, social security, professional liability insurance, and other applicable employee benefits, $297,133,000, to be disbursed by the Chief of the Capitol Police or his designee.

GENERAL EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Capitol Police, including motor vehicles, communications and other equipment, security equipment and installation, uniforms, weapons, supplies, materials, training, medical services, forensic services, stenographic services, personal and professional services, the employee assistance program, the awards program, postage, communication services, travel advances, relocation of instructor and liaison personnel for the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, and not more than $5,000 to be expended on the certification of the Chief of the Capitol Police in connection with official representation and reception expenses, $63,004,000, of which $2,700,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2015 to be disbursed by the Chief of the Capitol Police or his designee: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the cost of basic training for the Capitol Police at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center for fiscal year 2013 shall be paid by the Secretary of Homeland Security from funds available to the Department of Homeland Security.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

AUTHORITY TO TRANSFER AMOUNTS BETWEEN SALARIES AND GENERAL EXPENSES

SEC. 1001. During fiscal year 2013 and any succeeding fiscal year, the Capitol Police may transfer amounts appropriated for the fiscal year between the category for salaries and the category for general expenses, upon the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate.

FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR WORKERS COMPENSATION PAYMENTS

SEC. 1002. (a) IN GENERAL.—Available balances of expired United States Capitol Police appropriations shall be available to the Capitol Police to make the deposit to the credit of the Employees' Compensation Fund required by section 8147(b) of title 5, United States Code.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 1018 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2003 (2 U.S.C. 1907) is amended by striking subsection (f).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall apply with respect to appropriations for fiscal year 2013 and each fiscal year thereafter.

OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses of the Office of Compliance, as authorized by section 305 of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1385), $3,817,000, of which $527,500 shall remain available until September 30, 2014: *Provided*, That not more than $500 may be expended on the certification of the Executive Director of the Office of Compliance in connection with official representation and reception expenses.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

SEC. 1101. (a) The second sentence of section 415(a) of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1415(a)) is amended to read as follows: ''There are appropriated for such account such sums as may be necessary to pay such awards and settlements.''.

(b) The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to fiscal year 2013 and each succeeding fiscal year.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses necessary for operation of the Congressional Budget Office, including not more than $6,000 to be expended on the certification of the Director of the Congressional Budget Office in connection with official representation and reception expenses, $44,280,000.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

ACCEPTANCE OF VOLUNTARY STUDENT SERVICES

SEC. 1201. (a) Section 3111(e) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking ''(e)'' and inserting ''(e)(1)''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(2) In this section, the term 'agency' includes the Congressional Budget Office, except that in the case of the Congressional Budget Office—

''(A) any student who provides voluntary service in accordance with this section shall be considered an employee of the Congressional Budget Office for purposes of section 203 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (relating to the level of confidentiality of budget data); and

''(B) the authority granted to the Office of Personnel Management under this section shall be exercised by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office.''.

(b) The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to fiscal year 2013 and each succeeding fiscal year.

ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

For salaries for the Architect of the Capitol, and other personal services, at rates of pay provided by law; for surveys and studies in connection with activities under the care of the Architect of the Capitol; for all necessary expenses for the general and administrative support of the operations under the Architect of the Capitol including the Botanic Garden; electrical substations of the Capitol, Senate and House office buildings, and other facilities under the jurisdiction of the Architect of the Capitol; including furnishings and office equipment; including not more than $5,000 for official reception and representation expenses, to be expended as the Architect of the Capitol may approve; for purchase or exchange, maintenance, and operation of a passenger motor vehicle, $90,755,000, of which $999,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2017.

CAPITOL BUILDING

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of the Capitol, $28,591,000, of which $3,500,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2017.

CAPITOL GROUNDS

For all necessary expenses for care and improvement of grounds surrounding the Capitol, the Senate and House office buildings, and the Capitol Power Plant, $17,152,000, of which $7,300,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2017.

HOUSE OFFICE BUILDINGS

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of the House office buildings, $83,964,000, of which $19,362,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2017.

In addition, for a payment to the House Historic Buildings Revitalization Trust Fund, $30,000,000, shall remain available until expended.

CAPITOL POWER PLANT

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of the Capitol Power Plant; lighting, heating, power (including the purchase of electrical energy) and water and sewer services for the Capitol, Senate and House office buildings, Library of Congress buildings, and the grounds about the same, Botanic Garden, Senate garage, and air conditioning refrigeration not supplied from plants in any of such buildings; heating the Government Printing Office and Washington City Post Office, and heating and chilled water for air conditioning for the Supreme Court Building, the Union Station complex, the Thurgood Marshall Federal Judiciary Building and the Folger Shakespeare Library, expenses for which shall be advanced or reimbursed upon request of the Architect of the Capitol and amounts so received shall be deposited into the Treasury to the credit of this appropriation, $108,616,000, of which $23,404,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That not more than $9,400,000 of the funds credited or to be reimbursed to this appropriation as herein provided shall be available for obligation during fiscal year 2013.

LIBRARY BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

For all necessary expenses for the mechanical and structural maintenance, care and operation of the Library buildings and grounds, $30,660,000, of which $4,900,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2017.

CAPITOL POLICE BUILDINGS, GROUNDS, AND SECURITY

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of buildings, grounds and security enhancements of the United States Capitol Police, wherever located, the Alternate Computer Facility, and AOC security operations, $20,867,000, of which $2,840,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2017.

BOTANIC GARDEN

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of the Botanic Garden and the nurseries, buildings, grounds, and collections; and purchase and exchange, maintenance, repair, and operation of a passenger motor vehicle; all under the direction of the Joint Committee on the Library, $12,140,000: *Provided*, That of the amount made available under this heading, the Architect of the Capitol may obligate and expend such sums as may be necessary for the maintenance, care and operation of the National Garden established under section 307E of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1989 (2 U.S.C. 2146), upon vouchers approved by the Architect of the Capitol or a duly authorized designee.

CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER

For all necessary expenses for the operation of the Capitol Visitor Center, $21,276,000.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR WORKERS COMPENSATION PAYMENTS

SEC. 1301. (a) IN GENERAL.—Available balances of expired Architect of the Capitol appropriations shall be available to the Architect of the Capitol to make the deposit to the credit of the Employees' Compensation Fund required by section 8147(b) of title 5, United States Code.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall apply with respect to appropriations for fiscal year 2013 and each fiscal year thereafter.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Library of Congress not otherwise provided for, including development and maintenance of the Library's catalogs; custody and custodial care of the Library buildings; special clothing; cleaning, laundering and repair of uniforms; preservation of motion pictures in the custody of the Library; operation and maintenance of the American Folklife Center in the Library; activities under the Civil Rights History Project Act of 2009; preparation and distribution of catalog records and other publications of the Library; hire or purchase of one passenger motor vehicle; and expenses of the Library of Congress Trust Fund Board not properly chargeable to the income of any trust fund held by the Board, $422,024,000, of which not more than $6,000,000 shall be derived from collections credited to this appropriation during fiscal year 2013, and shall remain available until expended, under the Act of June 28, 1902 (chapter 1301; 32 Stat. 480; 2 U.S.C. 150) and not more than $350,000 shall be derived from collections during fiscal year 2013 and shall remain available until expended for the development and maintenance of an international legal information database and activities related thereto: *Provided*, That the Library of Congress may not obligate or expend any funds derived from collections under the Act of June 28, 1902, in excess of the amount authorized for obligation or expenditure in appropriations Acts: *Provided further*, That the total amount available for obligation shall be reduced by the amount by which collections are less than $6,350,000: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, not more than $12,000 may be expended, on the certification of the Librarian of Congress, in connection with official representation and reception expenses for the Overseas Field Offices: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, $7,068,000 shall remain available until expended for the digital collections and educational curricula program.

COPYRIGHT OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For all necessary expenses of the Copyright Office, $52,136,000, of which not more than $28,029,000, to remain available until expended, shall be derived from collections credited to this appropriation during fiscal year 2013 under section 708(d) of title 17, United States Code: *Provided*, That the Copyright Office may not obligate or expend any funds derived from collections under such section, in excess of the amount authorized for obligation or expenditure in appropriations Acts: *Provided further*, That not more than $5,582,000 shall be derived from collections during fiscal year 2013 under sections 111(d)(2), 119(b)(2), 803(e), 1005, and 1316 of such title: *Provided further*, That the total amount available for obligation shall be reduced by the amount by which collections are less than $33,611,000: *Provided further*, That not more than $100,000 of the amount appropriated is available for the maintenance of an ''International Copyright Institute'' in the Copyright Office of the Library of Congress for the purpose of training nationals of developing countries in intellectual property laws and policies: *Provided further*, That not more than $4,250 may be expended, on the certification of the Librarian of Congress, in connection with official representation and reception expenses for activities of the International Copyright Institute and for copyright delegations, visitors, and seminars: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any provision of chapter 8 of title 17, United States Code, any amounts made available under this heading which are attributable to royalty fees and payments received by the Copyright Office pursuant to sections 111, 119, and chapter 10 of such title may be used for the costs incurred in the administration of the Copyright Royalty Judges program, with the exception of the costs of salaries and benefits for the Copyright Royalty Judges and staff under section 802(e).

CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 203 of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 166) and to revise and extend the Annotated Constitution of the United States of America, $107,668,000: *Provided*, That no part of such amount may be used to pay any salary or expense in connection with any publication, or preparation of material therefor (except the Digest of Public General Bills), to be issued by the Library of Congress unless such publication has obtained prior approval of either the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives or the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate.

BOOKS FOR THE BLIND AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses to carry out the Act of March 3, 1931 (chapter 400; 46 Stat. 1487; 2 U.S.C. 135a), $50,775,000: *Provided*, That of the total amount appropriated, $650,000 shall be available to contract to provide newspapers to blind and physically handicapped residents at no cost to the individual.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

REIMBURSABLE AND REVOLVING FUND ACTIVITIES

SEC. 1401. (a) IN GENERAL.—For fiscal year 2013, the obligational authority of the Library of Congress for the activities described in subsection (b) may not exceed $178,958,000.

(b) ACTIVITIES.—The activities referred to in subsection (a) are reimbursable and revolving fund activities that are funded from sources other than appropriations to the Library in appropriations Acts for the legislative branch.

AUTHORITY TO TRANSFER AMOUNTS BETWEEN CATEGORIES OF APPROPRIATIONS

SEC. 1402. (a) IN GENERAL.—During fiscal year 2013 and any succeeding fiscal year, the Librarian of Congress may transfer amounts appropriated for the fiscal year between the categories of appropriations provided under law for the Library of Congress for the fiscal year, upon the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate.

(b) LIMITATION.—Not more than 10 percent of the total amount of funds appropriated to the account under any category of appropriations for the Library of Congress for a fiscal year may be transferred from that account by all transfers made under subsection (a).

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

CONGRESSIONAL PRINTING AND BINDING

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For authorized printing and binding for the Congress and the distribution of Congressional information in any format; expenses necessary for preparing the semimonthly and session index to the Congressional Record, as authorized by law (section 902 of title 44, United States Code); printing and binding of Government publications authorized by law to be distributed to Members of Congress; and printing, binding, and distribution of Government publications authorized by law to be distributed without charge to the recipient, $83,632,000: *Provided*, That this appropriation shall not be available for paper copies of the permanent edition of the Congressional Record for individual Representatives, Resident Commissioners or Delegates authorized under section 906 of title 44, United

States Code: *Provided further*, That this appropriation shall be available for the payment of obligations incurred under the appropriations for similar purposes for preceding fiscal years: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding the 2-year limitation under section 718 of title 44, United States Code, none of the funds appropriated or made available under this Act or any other Act for printing and binding and related services provided to Congress under chapter 7 of title 44, United States Code, may be expended to print a document, report, or publication after the 27-month period beginning on the date that such document, report, or publication is authorized by Congress to be printed, unless Congress reauthorizes such printing in accordance with section 718 of title 44, United States Code: *Provided further*, That any unobligated or unexpended balances in this account or accounts for similar purposes for preceding fiscal years may be transferred to the Government Printing Office revolving fund for carrying out the purposes of this heading, subject to the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding sections 901, 902, and 906 of title 44, United States Code, this appropriation may be used to prepare indexes to the Congressional Record on only a monthly and session basis.

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses of the Office of Superintendent of Documents necessary to provide for the cataloging and indexing of Government publications and their distribution to the public, Members of Congress, other Government agencies, and designated depository and international exchange libraries as authorized by law, $34,728,000: *Provided*, That amounts of not more than $2,000,000 from current year appropriations are authorized for producing and disseminating Congressional serial sets and other related publications for fiscal years 2011 and 2012 to depository and other designated libraries: *Provided further*, That any unobligated or unexpended balances in this account or accounts for similar purposes for preceding fiscal years may be transferred to the Government Printing Office revolving fund for carrying out the purposes of this heading, subject to the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate.

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE REVOLVING FUND

For payment to the Government Printing Office Revolving Fund, $4,096,000, to remain available until expended, for information technology development and facilities repair: *Provided*, That the Government Printing Office is hereby authorized to make such expenditures, within the limits of funds available and in accordance with law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 9104 of title 31, United States Code, as may be necessary in carrying out the programs and purposes set forth in the budget for the current fiscal year for the Government Printing Office revolving fund: *Provided further*, That not more than $7,500 may be expended on the certification of the Public Printer in connection with official representation and reception expenses: *Provided further*, That the revolving fund shall be available for the hire or purchase of not more than 12 passenger motor vehicles: *Provided further*, That expenditures in connection with travel expenses of the advisory councils to the Public Printer shall be deemed necessary to carry out the provisions of title 44, United States Code: *Provided further*, That the revolving fund shall be available for temporary or intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, but at rates for individuals not more than the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of such title: *Provided further*, That activities financed through the revolving fund may provide information in any format: *Provided further*, That the revolving fund and the funds provided under the headings ''Office of Superintendent of Documents'' and ''Salaries and Expenses'' may not be used for contracted security services at GPO's passport facility in the District of Columbia.

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Government Accountability Office, including not more than $12,500 to be expended on the certification of the Comptroller General of the United States in connection with official representation and reception expenses; temporary or intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, but at rates for individuals not more than the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of such title; hire of one passenger motor vehicle; advance payments in foreign countries in accordance with section 3324 of title 31, United States Code; benefits comparable to those payable under sections 901(5), (6), and (8) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4081(5), (6), and (8)); and under regulations prescribed by the Comptroller General of the United States, rental of living quarters in foreign countries, $519,802,000: *Provided*, That, in addition, $24,318,000 of payments received under sections 782, 3521, and 9105 of title 31, United States Code, shall be available without fiscal year limitation: *Provided further*, That this appropriation and appropriations for administrative expenses of any other department or agency which is a member of the National Intergovernmental Audit Forum or a Regional Intergovernmental Audit Forum shall be available to finance an appropriate share of either Forum's costs as determined by the respective Forum, including necessary travel expenses of non-Federal participants: *Provided further*, That payments hereunder to the Forum may be credited as reimbursements to any appropriation from which costs involved are initially financed.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR WORKERS COMPENSATION PAYMENTS

SEC. 1501. (a) IN GENERAL.—Available balances of expired Government Accountability Office appropriations shall be available to the Government Accountability Office to make the deposit to the credit of the Employees' Compensation Fund required by section 8147(b) of title 5, United States Code.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall apply with respect to appropriations for fiscal year 2013 and each fiscal year thereafter.

OPEN WORLD LEADERSHIP CENTER TRUST FUND

For a payment to the Open World Leadership Center Trust Fund for financing activites of the Open World Leadership Center under section 313 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2001 (2 U.S.C. 1151), $1,000,000.

TITLE II—GENERAL PROVISIONS

MAINTENANCE AND CARE OF PRIVATE VEHICLES

SEC. 201. No part of the funds appropriated in this Act shall be used for the maintenance or care of private vehicles, except for emergency assistance and cleaning as may be provided under regulations relating to parking facilities for the House of Representatives issued by the Committee on House Administration and for the Senate issued by the Committee on Rules and Administration.

FISCAL YEAR LIMITATION

SEC. 202. No part of the funds appropriated in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond fiscal year 2013 unless expressly so provided in this Act.

RATES OF COMPENSATION AND DESIGNATION

SEC. 203. Whenever in this Act any office or position not specifically established by the Legislative Pay Act of 1929 (46 Stat. 32 et seq.) is appropriated for or the rate of compensation or designation of any office or position appropriated for is different from that specifically established by such Act, the rate of compensation and the designation in this Act shall be the permanent law with respect thereto: *Provided*, That the provisions in this Act for the various items of official expenses of Members, officers, and committees of the Senate and House of Representatives, and clerk hire for Senators and Members of the House of Representatives shall be the permanent law with respect thereto.

CONSULTING SERVICES

SEC. 204. The expenditure of any appropriation under this Act for any consulting service through procurement contract, under section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, shall be limited to those contracts where such expenditures are a matter of public record and available for public inspection, except where otherwise provided under existing law, or under existing Executive order issued under existing law.

COSTS OF LBFMC

SEC. 205. Amounts available for administrative expenses of any legislative branch entity which participates in the Legislative Branch Financial Managers Council (LBFMC) established by charter on March 26, 1996, shall be available to finance an appropriate share of LBFMC costs as determined by the LBFMC, except that the total LBFMC costs to be shared among all participating legislative branch entities (in such allocations among the entities as the entities may determine) may not exceed $2,000.

LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE

SEC. 206. The Architect of the Capitol, in consultation with the District of Columbia, is authorized to maintain and improve the landscape features, excluding streets, in the irregular shaped grassy areas bounded by Washington Avenue, SW on the northeast, Second Street, SW, on the west, Square 582 on the south, and the beginning of the I–395 tunnel on the southeast.

LIMITATION ON TRANSFERS

SEC. 207. None of the funds made available in this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except pursuant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided in, this Act or any other appropriation Act.

GUIDED TOURS OF THE CAPITOL

SEC. 208. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), none of the funds made available to the Architect of the Capitol in this Act may be used to eliminate or restrict guided tours of the United States Capitol which are led by employees and interns of offices of Members of Congress and other offices of the House of Representatives and Senate.

(b) At the direction of the Capitol Police Board, or at the direction of the Architect of the Capitol with the approval of the Capitol Police Board, guided tours of the United States Capitol which are led by employees and interns described in subsection (a) may be suspended temporarily or otherwise subject to restriction for security or related reasons to the same extent as guided tours of

the United States Capitol which are led by the Architect of the Capitol.

DELIVERY OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

SEC. 209. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to deliver a printed copy of a bill, joint resolution, or resolution to the office of a Member of the House of Representatives (including a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress) unless the Member requests a copy.

DELIVERY OF CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

SEC. 210. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to deliver a printed copy of any version of the Congressional Record to the office of a Member of the House of Representatives (including a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress).

LIMITATION ON AMOUNT AVAILABLE TO LEASE VEHICLES

SEC. 211. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives to make any payments from any Members' Representational Allowance for the leasing of a vehicle, excluding mobile district offices, in an aggregate amount that exceeds $1,000 for the vehicle in any month.

AUTHORIZING COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY ON UNION SQUARE

SEC. 212. (a) CONTINUATION OF TYPES OF ACTIVITY PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any limitations on the use of the United States Capitol Grounds (including section 5104(c) of title 40, United States Code), the Chief of the United States Capitol Police (hereafter referred to as the ''Chief'')—

(A) may issue a permit authorizing a person to engage in commercial activity in Union Square if the activity is similar to the types of commercial activity permitted in Union Square prior to the transfer of jurisdiction and control of Union Square to the Architect of the Capitol under section 1202 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2012 (Public Law 112–74); and

(B) under the terms and conditions of such a permit, may require the person to whom the permit is issued to pay a fee to cover any costs incurred by the Architect of the Capitol as a result of the issuance of the permit, if the fees are similar to the fees collected by the Director of the National Park Service for commercial activity permitted in Union Square prior to such transfer of jurisdiction and control.

(2) REGULATIONS.—The Chief shall carry out this section in accordance with such regulations as the Capitol Police Board may promulgate pursuant to the Board's authority under section 14 of the Act of July 31, 1946 (2 U.S.C. 1969).

(b) CAPITOL TRUST ACCOUNT.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the Treasury of the United States an account for the Architect of the Capitol to be known as the ''Capitol Trust Account'', consisting of all fees collected by the Chief under subsection (a)(2).

(2) TRANSFER.—Immediately upon receiving any fees collected under subsection (a)(2), the Chief shall transfer the fees to the Capitol Trust Account.

(3) USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts in the Capitol Trust Account shall be available without fiscal year limitation for such maintenance, improvements, and projects with respect to Union Square as the Architect of the Capitol considers appropriate, subject to the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate.

(c) UNION SQUARE.—In this section, the term ''Union Square'' means the area for which jurisdiction and control was transferred to the Architect of the Capitol under section 1202 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2012 (Public Law 112–74).

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2012 (Public Law 112–74).

SPENDING REDUCTION ACCOUNT

SEC. 213. 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, excluding Senate items, exceeds the amount of proposed new budget authority is $0.

This Act may be cited as the ''Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2013''.

The CHAIR. No amendment to the bill shall be in order except those printed in House Report 112–518 and except pro forma amendments offered at any time by the chair or ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their designees for the purpose of debate.

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 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 CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 1, printed in House Report 112–518.

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

The CHAIR. The gentleman from Florida is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CRENSHAW. I know there is an amendment that is going to be offered by Mr. GOSAR from Arizona, and I understand that he is just outside the Chamber at this very moment.

So I thought I would take a minute, while he comes to the floor, to just remind everyone of the great job that this subcommittee has done in working through all of the issues in order to bring them before the House. There are several amendments that are going to be offered here today, and we will certainly take those into consideration. From my standpoint, some of those amendments are good amendments, and there are some that I will oppose.

As we begin that process, I just want to, once again, thank everyone who has spent so much time and energy in bringing this to the House floor. In recognizing that this is the branch that funds the House of Representatives, which encompass all of the agencies that we look to to give us support, we wanted to make sure that they have adequate funds, because when they do a good job, it helps us to do a good job.

Mr. DICKS. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. CRENSHAW. I yield to the gentleman from Washington.

Mr. DICKS. If we have another Member, could we go out of order by unanimous consent? Is that a problem?

Mr. CRENSHAW. In response to your question, I think it is in order, Mr. DICKS. I know that I, Mr. HONDA, and you as well, Mr. DICKS, could strike the last word and make a comment or two if you'd like. Mr. HONDA might want to say a word.

Mr. DICKS. Apparently, we would have to go back in the House and ask unanimous consent if we wanted to go out of order on this. Maybe it's just better to wait for the gentleman from Arizona to get here.

Since we're here, what is the plan for phase two of the Capitol, of the dome restoration? How does the chairman see this?

Mr. CRENSHAW. That's an excellent question. We ought to take a little time.

Mr. DICKS. I thought it was.

Mr. CRENSHAW. As you know, phase one is in process, and that's the skirt of the dome. You can see some of the work that's being done there. The next phase is much more expensive. I think it's a little over $100 million. As you know, we have an inauguration that's coming. So, during the inauguration, I would hope that we wouldn't have a lot of construction going on to impair the view of that beautiful dome. It is my desire that, as soon as the inauguration is over, we can find the funds, which is a priority of this subcommittee. We might even break that up into two or three phases, but certainly that work needs to be done.

As you have often pointed out, when you look up and see that magnificent structure, it looks wonderful. But when you get up close, there are some problems that we need to deal with. We want to deal with those as soon as we can, so I think it's just a matter of priority.

Mr. DICKS. There is no emergency requirement here? I mean, this work is work that can be done over a staged period of time, and there is no real serious problem that could have an adverse effect on the Capitol, is there?

Mr. CRENSHAW. No, I don't think there is anything that makes it an emergency.

I think, clearly, like a lot of these projects that ought to be funded, the Architect has a long list of projects, and this is certainly one of those, so we want to be able to deal with that. It is a priority of this subcommittee, and we've talked about that. We want to make sure, as soon as we can, that we'll have the money to do that.

The CHAIR. The time of the gentleman from Florida has expired.

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

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

Mr. DICKS. I yield to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. BOREN).

Mr. BOREN. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of H. Res. 397, to reinstate the House Page Program, which was terminated in August of 2011.

This is in the context of the Legislative Branch appropriations. Unfortunately, this amendment was not made

in order, but we're going to work with the committee as we go forward.

The House Page Program was an institution older than Congress, itself. Dating back to the first Continental Congress in 1774, House pages supported Congress by delivering messages, answering phones in the cloakrooms, and serving on the House floor. Young people who served as House pages had the chance to see the inner workings of our government from a perspective many people did not. I had the opportunity to serve as a page for Senator Robert Byrd in 1988, and it is a summer I will never forget. The experience was instrumental in my motivation to become a public servant.

The House Page Program was not only a great opportunity for young people to learn about our government, but the enthusiasm of these young people also reminded us every day of why we are here.

□ 0940

In a time when we are trying to come together and find bipartisan solutions to our Nation's problems, pages serve as a reminder of our future. As we legislate on the House floor, pages served as witnesses to lawmaking that will affect their generation. They remind us to consider viable long-term solutions to the problems facing America.

In September of 2011, Minority Leader NANCY PELOSI proposed a new intern initiative to replace the House Page program. While this is a step in the right direction, I believe it is necessary to restore the tradition of young people serving Congress, even before they attend college.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to bring pages back to our Halls.

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

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MR. GOSAR

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 1 printed in House Report 112–518.

Mr. GOSAR. I have an amendment at the table.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 18, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $1,235,000)''.

Page 36, line 10, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $1,235,000)''.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 679, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chairman, I rise today and speak of my simple and straightforward amendment.

My amendment would reduce funding at the United States Botanic Garden to the levels appropriated in 2009, which equals just over a $1.2 million cut. That money would then be transferred to the spending reduction account so that we can take one more step towards reining in Federal spending.

I will be the first to say I appreciate the Botanic Garden and its beauty. I believe it is a great program, and I am personally interested in botany. But Members of Congress are often faced with difficult choices, especially given our current fiscal crisis. There are programs that are constitutionally mandated and other programs that are nice but are not constitutionally mandated. This is one program that is nice, but it cannot be immune from the fiscal pressures facing our government.

While the Botanic Garden is a wonderful attraction, Congress must seek to limit excess spending in the name of getting our fiscal house in order. No line item can be overlooked in making these assessments and decisions, including our own office budget, as we on the House side have demonstrated.

Mr. Chairman, so many families are tightening their belts during these trying economic times. Congress must do the same and make cuts where it can.

I ask each of the Members to vote in favor of the Gosar amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to this amendment.

The CHAIR. The gentleman from Florida is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I want to urge my colleagues to vote against this amendment.

One of the reasons we have committee structure is so that the members of the subcommittee that I chair—and Mr. HONDA is the ranking member. As I said earlier, we sit down. We listen to the AGG heads and the Architect of the Capitol, which is in charge of the budget for the Botanic Garden. They make difficult choices. They come to us, and we make difficult choices.

As I've said, we have reduced spending in the Legislative Branch Subcommittee for 3 years in a row. We are now at a point where it is almost 9 percent less than it was 3 years ago. So if you just decide you want to stand up and cut another 10 percent of this budget and then say you really like the Botanic Garden, it seems to me that this is a function of the Architect of the Capitol.

It costs $12 million a year to have the Botanic Garden. A million people a year come to visit it and enjoy the beauty. If you're just going to stand up and say, Let's just cut 10 percent across the board, let's just start with the Botanic Garden, I don't know why you don't just cut 10 percent from the Capitol Police and 10 percent from some other areas. It just seems to be shortsighted.

We've gone through this process already. The Architect of the Capitol has said, I'm not going to ask for additional money to do some of the repairs I need to do. There's a need for a new roof and there's a need for some other things. They said, We're not going to ask for that because we're operating under the philosophy that we all believe here, that we ought to do more with less; we ought to try to do the best we can. So here we are.

I would just say that they're doing a good job. They're trying to control their costs. If we cut them any further, you really cripple them. You'll say to them that they can't have as many staff members, they'll have to close the Botanic Garden certain parts of the year. I think they've done a good job of managing their money. They have not asked for more dollars.

With that, I would urge Members to defeat this amendment, and I yield 2 minutes of my time in opposition to the gentleman from California (Mr. HONDA).

Mr. HONDA. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. Chairman, I also rise in opposition to the amendment which seeks to cut $1.2 million from the Architect of the Capitol's Botanic Garden.

The hardest hit agency in this building is the Architect of the Capitol, which was cut by $52.5 million, or 11 percent, making it impossible to fund the Capitol dome restoration in this bill. However, the chairman found a small amount of funding to try to keep up with the maintenance of the Botanic Garden. Nevertheless, Members attack because they can get a good headline in the papers for cutting a garden.

To that effect, the author of this amendment put out a press release after offering this same amendment last year. In that press release, Representative GOSAR stated:

> The Botanic Garden has proven its ability to use tax dollars in a cost-effective and efficient way.

If the Botanic Garden has indeed proven it's ability to use its tax dollars in a cost-effective manner, why is the gentleman targeting this agency?

The public should know that after this amendment, we still won't finish the dome restoration. We still have to rehabilitate the Cannon House Office Building. The gentleman from Arizona wants to make sure the Botanic Garden is added to the scrap heap of buildings that we are unable to keep in working condition.

Our constituents sent us here to do real work and look for real solutions to the deficit, not to make political points by attacking institutions like the Botanic Garden, which was established back in 1820. As a Member of Congress, we have a responsibility to ensure that our Nation's heritage is kept intact for future generations by both tackling unnecessary spending, but also by making investments in our future.

With that, Mr. Chairman, I urge defeat of this amendment.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. DICKS).

Mr. DICKS. I thank the gentleman.

Just so we have a historical perspective of what we're talking about here today, the United States Botanic Garden is rooted in the Nation's heritage. During the late 18th century, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and

James Madison shared the dream of a national Botanic Garden and were instrumental in establishing one on The National Mall in 1820.

It just seems to me that even though we're in difficult fiscal times—and I could make an argument that we should be spending money on projects to put people to work, including the dome. But this has a historic significance to our country—George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and James Madison.

To me, we can find $1.23 million to do the repair work that is necessary to keep this in good condition for the American people. This is a priority. I hope that we will all resoundingly defeat the gentleman's amendment.

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong opposition to this amendment.

The Botanic Garden is a national treasure.

The history of the Botanic Garden starts over 200 years ago. Originally, the idea for a Botanic Garden came from George Washington himself.

Congress formally established the Garden in 1820 and it is one of the oldest botanic gardens in North America.

The Botanic Garden is dedicated to demonstrating the aesthetic, cultural, economic, therapeutic and ecological importance of plants to the well-being of humankind.

More than 750,000 visitors a year experience the Botanic Garden's plants displays, innovative exhibits, and special programs.

The Botanic Garden maintains 13,000 accessions, which equates to about 26,000 plants.

Its noteworthy collections include medicinal plants, rare species, orchids, carnivorous plants, cacti, bromeliads, cycads and ferns. Some of the plant specimens date back to the Garden's original 1842 founding collection.

There is no better place to gain an understanding of the essential relationship of plants to human life than at the Garden. Through living displays that feature the biodiversity of plants from around the world, the Garden brings to light the many benefits derived from plants including oxygen, food, medicine, fiber, fragrance, shelter, and inspiration.

Education is also a critical mission of the Botanic Garden. It creates opportunities to inspire our visitors to learn about the importance of plants and presents a variety of educational programming to visitors, teachers, and students.

The Botanic Garden partners with the Smithsonian Institution, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the National Wildlife Federation, the National Gardening Association and other domestic and international botanic gardens on its outreach programs to maximize its educational impact.

Mr. Chairman, this botanic collection is a global treasure.

Globally, about one in every eight known plant species is threatened or nearing extinction. In the United States, the figure rises to about three in every ten plant species.

Humans are inextricably interwined with plants and other life forms, locked in a dynamic, co-dependent struggle for survival. It is in our own self-interest to pay them more attention.

Moreover, the Botanic Garden has a backlog of capital renewal and deferred maintenance projects of over $14.5 million, which is $2.5 million more than its total budget in this bill.

If Mr. GOSAR's amendment is accepted, it is likely to cost more taxpayer dollars as staff will likely have to be furloughed, the number of deferred maintenance projects will increase, and there will be less educational opportunities for students.

While we have serious fiscal challenges in this country, the U.S. Botanic Garden is not part of the problem.

Let's prosecute Wall Street wrong doings and recoup the billions upon billions used on bailouts rather than pick on the U.S. Botanic Garden.

I urge my colleagues to reject this misguided amendment.

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

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

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

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

□ 0950

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

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

Mr. HONDA. I yield to my colleague, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR).

Ms. KAPTUR. I just want to thank Congressman HONDA, the ranking member, for yielding me just a brief moment here to oppose this amendment and put comments on the record.

I oppose the Gosar amendment and the cuts to the United States Botanic Garden. Unless you've actually walked through the aisles and looked at the extraordinary collections, and exhibits, including specimens that preserve the genomes of extinct plants; and if you haven't really understood why medical science depends on many of the medicinal plants that are held there for posterity; and if you haven't really appreciated the importance of the botanical sciences to human life; and if you haven't understood the work of the Botanic Garden that links to hundreds of communities across this country trying to help communities raise food, even inside urban borders and food deserts—then you really can't come to appreciate the importance of the fragility of life and how significant this botanical collection is to our country. This is a collection and capability that has been understood since George Washington's time over decades and indeed centuries. Our predecessors appreciated the importance of botanical sciences to human life even with science as rudimentary as it was at our Nation's founding. The site itself is nestled right adjacent to the Capitol, demonstrating the importance to the American people that those who came before us understood—the importance of the linkage between human life and plant life. Some of the most important scientific breakthroughs that we've had in medicine, for example, come from the plant kingdom.

I think that though the gentleman may have a good goal in mind in trying to handle our accounts in a more responsible way, this is a very irresponsible way to do it. Why? Because if the botanic garden has to cut existing contracts, or if they have to lay off workers, or put off longer deferred main tenancy, in the end what appears to be a cut may actually prove to be a budgetary increase over time in additional costs. Truly this cut is rather draconian cuts to the Architect of the Capitol.

I just wanted to say in a prior iteration of his amendment, the gentleman actually issued a press release saying the Botanic Garden has proven its ability to use tax dollars in a cost-effective and efficient way. I don't know how he might have changed his mind on that, but I think for the good of the country, for the future of medical science, for the linkage of this scientific collection to communities across the country, the Botanical Garden has proven its worth.

I want to thank the gentleman for yielding, and I appreciate the opportunity to place my remarks on the record.

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

AMENDMENT NO. 2 OFFERED BY MR. BROUN OF GEORGIA

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 2 printed in House Report 112–518.

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

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 22, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $878,000)''.

Page 36, line 10, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $878,000)''.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 679, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BROUN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, this amendment is very simple. It would reduce the proposed funding for salaries and expenses of the Congressional Research Service, or CRS, back to fiscal year 2012 levels this year.

Mr. Chairman, we have to look at savings at every line of these appropriations bills, no matter how big or small they may be. This amendment would take almost a million dollars and transfer that money to the spending reduction account. Also, keep in mind that I'm not asking to cut anything. I'm not making any single cut in funding from CRS. I'm only asking that they receive the same amount of

money that they are getting this very year.

We are in far worse shape than we were 1 year ago economically. Our national debt has hit almost $16 trillion, yet this Congress continues to blow through trillions of dollars with a reckless disregard for our economic reality.

Mr. Chairman, I think CRS should have to pitch in and do their part by spending no more money next year than they're spending this year. It's called tightening the belt. Families have to do it, States have to do it, and branches of the Federal Government should also have to do it. We have to stop spending money that we do not have. I ask that my colleagues support this amendment as a step in the right direction for doing just that.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to the gentleman's amendment.

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

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Chairman, this amendment would cut the funding level of the Congressional Research Service by $878,000, returning it to the 2012 level.

He said that he's not doing anything to harm it because it's the same level as last year, but everybody knows that every year the cost of living, the cost of doing services, increases. So a flat, across-the-board push ahead kind of a budget is really a decrease. It's subtle, but it's still a decrease. I just want to let the gentleman know that that's the fact.

The other fact is the CRS is a research arm of the congressional Members. It's a research arm that we're able to use to do the kind of research that our folks really depend upon and is nonpartisan, is not biased in one way or another, and they are very professional in doing so. If we're expected to do the right kind of work for our constituency and then also for our country on issues, then we should be able to expect good work from our CRS.

In fact, Chairman CRENSHAW and his staff should be commended for recognizing the funding shortfall that CRS has incurred in recent years.

As other congressional staff can attest, CRS is really essential to help Members to be able to perform the duties by this kind of a nonpartisan research and policy analysis. I believe this divided Congress should take more advantage of this unbiased resource and not reduce its capacity. Therefore, I oppose the amendment and urge my colleagues do so also.

I yield back the balance of my time.

[From the Washington Times, June 6, 2012]

CONGRESSIONAL STAFFERS, PUBLIC SHORTCHANGED BY HIGH TURNOVER, LOW PAY

(By Luke Rosiak)

The most powerful nation on Earth is run largely by 24-year-olds.

High turnover and lack of experience in congressional offices are leaving staffs increasingly without policy and institutional knowledge, a Washington Times analysis of a decade of House and Senate personnel records shows—leaving a vacuum that usually is filled by lobbyists.

Most Senate staffers have worked in the Capitol for less than three years. For most, it is their first job ever. In House offices, one-third of staffers are in their first year, while only 1 in 3 has worked there for five years or more.

Among the aides who work on powerful committees where the nation's legislation takes shape, résumés are a little longer: Half have four years of experience.

When Americans wonder why Congress can't seem to get anything done, this could be a clue. It's also a sharp difference from the average government employee: Unlike many state and federal workers with comfortable salaries, pensions and seemingly endless tenures, those in the halls of power are more likely to be inexperienced and overworked.

Low pay for high-stress jobs with less-than-stellar prospects for advancement takes a toll on institutional memory and expertise.

While senators make $174,000, staff assistants and legislative correspondents—by far the most common positions in the Senate—have median pay of $30,000 and $35,000, respectively, significantly less than Senate janitors and a fairly low salary for college graduates in a city as expensive as Washington.

Historical pay records were transcribed from book form by the website Legistorm.

The size of committee and members' staffs have remained the same over the past decade, and salaries have often not risen with inflation—or at all.

The average legislative counsel in the House made $56,000 last year, less than in 2007. While pay for parking-lot attendants in the House increased from $26,000 to $49,000 in the past decade, pay for staff assistants, who make up the bulk of the House's workforce, rose from $26,000 to $30,000. That puts them in the bottom fifth of the region's college-educated workforce.

It means that young workers have proximity to enormous power while surviving on a meager budget—dual forces that come together to push congressional staffers through the ''revolving door'' to highly paid K Street lobbyists. In the revolving door, former congressional staff and members use their personal connections and insider knowledge to attempt to pull the levers of power on behalf of a paying client. A former congressional staffer is among the most valuable assets a company desiring legislative change can buy.

But it also means that staffers are often forced to rely on lobbyists while they still work for Congress, sometimes for the purest of reasons: While lobbyists with decades of experience in energy policy or other arcane areas are common, such depth of experience is nearly nonexistent on Capitol Hill. Though 10 years of experience in a home-state office, which handles constituent services and other less stressful concerns, is not rare, a person with a decade of experience is few and far between in Washington.

WITHOUT A FOUNDATION

''Who are congressional staff going to turn to?'' asked Daniel Schuman, a former Congressional Research Service (CRS) lawyer who now studies policy at the nonpartisan Sunlight Foundation. ''The experienced staff aren't there. But lobbyists and think tanks are beating down the door: 'Here's the legislation, here are the research materials and I've got the co-sponsors lined up.' ''

As policy questions more frequently hinge on the nuances of technical matters, members of Congress are operating without the researchers and topical experts on which they have relied to cast informed votes.

With the shuttering of the Office of Technology Assessment, a 200-member congressional support agency that closed in 1995 under House Speaker Newt Gingrich, members who are largely lawyers and rhetorical masters are asked to differentiate between competing proposals that only scientists might be able to evaluate effectively.

The technology office researched and summarized scientific and technological matters, ranging from acid rain to wireless phones, for members who, with an average age of 64 in the Senate and 58 in the House, are legislating on matters such as the Internet, which most spent much of their lives without. Typical of its work products was a decades-ago warning on the effect of technology on copyright law, a question lawmakers contentiously grappled with this year.

''It helped us to . . . better oversee the science and technology programs within the federal establishment,'' said then-Rep. Amo Houghton, New York Republican, who served nine terms before retiring in 2005. The role of CRS, which provides research on topics beyond science and technology, has also been rolled back.

Brian Darling, a former Senate staffer who is now senior fellow for government studies at the conservative Heritage Foundation, said he strongly supports smaller government, but sometimes symbolic cuts can backfire.

''Cutbacks at CRS to me don't make a lot of sense, with their institutional knowledge. They put out a great nonpartisan work product. When crafting the legislative branch appropriation bill, members of Congress are trying to show they want to cut spending, but there can be repercussions,'' he said.

Though it seems paradoxical, a lack of knowledge and resources by congressional staffers can make for waste, Mr. Schuman said, citing an inability to conduct oversight, agency regulations that are left unchallenged, loopholes slipped into laws that are giveaways for special interests and poorly implemented programs.

He pointed to the creation of the Department of Homeland Security.

''The department is a mess because people didn't understand what would happen when you merge so many different agencies with different cultures,'' he said. ''It is bloated, inefficient and maladroit.''

A failure by Congress to ''understand the laws it passed'' and ''innovations in the private sector'' also led ultimately to a huge crunch and the massive bailouts with taxpayer money, he said.

UP AND OUT

Consider the class of 2005. Of 186 Senate staff assistants who started that year, 82 percent had left by last year, 13 percent were still in the same position and the remaining 5 percent have moved up a notch. Of Senate legislative correspondents starting the same year, 83 percent have departed and the rest moved up.

In the House, of 105 people who started as legislative assistants, four made chief of staff in six years. Seven out of 10 left, and almost all the rest got other promotions.

As that group has come or gone, multiple other layers of congressional staff have been churned through. Among staffers who moved on from Congress in early 2010, three-quarters of departing staff assistants and legislative correspondents had two years or less under their belts.

Even policy wonks in the most nonpolitical of positions, ''professional staff'' in the Senate committees where most legislative work gets done, last only five years on average, from the time they got their first job in Congress to the time they found a new employer.

''When people get married or have kids, around 35, you either jump up in pay by $50,000 or you get out of there because you can't make it anymore. Making that money for 10 years puts people behind for the rest of their lives in terms of retirement,'' Mr. Schuman said.

Most college-educated workers in the D.C. area earn $81,000 or more, with an average salary of $93,850, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. For college grads under 30, the median salary is $42,000.

Some 300 staffers who started in 2005 or 2006 are already registered federal lobbyists, a Times review of records indicated. They are preparing detailed policy papers, and in some cases drafting proposed legislation, for their former colleagues, and they have the time and resources to do a more thorough job than those still there—though one that has a slant in favor of their new, more generous employer.

''Staff are incredibly vulnerable to this. They're trying to do a very complicated job with limited resources,'' Mr. Schuman said.

As the federal government has grown dramatically over the decades, the Congress in charge of overseeing it has stayed the same or shrunk. A recent 10 percent reduction to congressional offices' budgets is the latest major reduction.

''When times are going bad, lawmakers say we have to cut Congress. But when things are going great, no one says it's time to hire more staff. You get the Congress you pay for,'' Mr. Schuman said.

Mr. Darling acknowledged that salaries made it nearly impossible for Congress to have many workers with significant experience. But he likened the limitation to ''term limits'' for staff. He decried the deferred compensation system that inspires some Hill staffers to make next to nothing for a few years so they can cash in big as a lobbyist afterward, but praised the idealists who toiled there.

''There's a perception that government workers are underworked, and that's far from the case in Congress. In fact, they tend to burn out and leave for higher-paid positions,'' said Mr. Darling. Executive-branch bureaucrats could take a lesson from their grueling workload, he added.

''The way Congress runs is the way the federal government should run.''

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Well, my good friend from California said this is a decrease in spending, but it's not. It's just keeping the spending at the current levels for 1 more year. It makes sense.

We are in hard economic times as a nation. We're broke as a nation. We're spending more money than we're bringing in.

Members on both sides of the aisle certainly use the Congressional Research Service, and it's a good service for all of us. But we all have to tighten our belts. I hear Members on both sides talk about we need to make cuts, we need to balance our budget, we need to start dealing with the deficit and debt. I agree, we do.

This reminds me of some mantra that went on back during our founding period with a slightly different twist. Back in those days of founding our Nation, they were talking about taxes. The mantra was, Don't tax me, don't tax thee, tax that fellow behind the tree. Well, today it's, Don't cut me, don't cut thee, cut the fellow behind the tree. But there's not a person behind the tree.

We all need to tighten our belts. This is just a very small, not cut, but a stabilization of spending for the CRS. So I encourage my colleagues to make one small little, itty-bitty step towards financial reality and financial sanity by saying let's just freeze the spending level for CRS for 1 year.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

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

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

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

AMENDMENT NO. 3 OFFERED BY MR. HOLT

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 3 printed in House Report 112–518.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Chairman, I have amendment No. 3 at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 24, line 13, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $218,379) (increased by $218,379)''.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 679, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

□ 1000

Mr. HOLT. My amendment seeks to address a problem we face here in the legislative branch: the congressional supply of pocket-sized copies of the U.S. Constitution and Declaration of Independence is exhausted.

My amendment reduces and then reinserts $218,379 from the budget for the Government Printing Office to address this shortage so that they can provide these pocket Constitutions and Declarations. It is the exact cost of the last printing of the pocket version of the Constitution.

But the money is not the root of the problem. The funding exists to print more pocket Constitutions today or tomorrow. What is lacking is the authority for the Government Printing Office to do so. The approval of this amendment appears to be the best parliamentary approach that we have right now to solve this immediate problem.

Last week, as I prepared to visit a school in New Jersey where we would hold a ceremony of oath of citizenship for new citizens, I asked my staff to make sure we had pocket Constitutions to distribute to them. I always carry one. I find many of my constituents want to as well. When I discovered that the supply was exhausted and none have been printed for this Congress, I thought we should address that problem now. Except for the dozens of copies that might be on a shelf in Members' offices or the few that are in a bag in the back of my station wagon, Members find that they cannot get these pocket Constitutions for love nor money.

Everyday, like so many of my Republican and Democratic colleagues, I point to this Constitution. When I meet with students, I ask them, What is the greatest invention of humans? And they, knowing I'm a scientist, will sometimes come up with some technological answer. I would argue our greatest invention is our constitutional system of government. Our brilliant, resilient, self-correcting system of government, dreamed up in Philadelphia so many years ago, functions remarkably well over the centuries. And this simple, 45-page pocket Constitution that Members have been able to share with their constituents for generations allows everyone to understand better that brilliant system of government.

Over my time here in the House, I have eagerly distributed these pocket Constitutions to students, new citizens, and many constituents who ask for them so that they can have their own. And who better to distribute these copies than a Representative working under the authority of article I of this ingenious document.

A self-governing country works only if we citizens believe that it does. A self-governing country works only if the citizens provide the motive force for it to work. And familiarity with the copies of this ingenious, powerful, essential document provide the motivation and the mechanism for our government to work.

Since 2009, when Members of the 111th Congress each received a thousand copies of this pocket edition of the U.S. Constitution, Members of the House have not received any new pocket Constitutions. That means despite the fact that we began this Congress, the 112th, by reading the Constitution in this House Chamber, which I was pleased to participate in, no Member of the 112th Congress has been provided with any additional constitutions. So with no new copies of the pocket Constitution since 2009, except these few that I have here, it is long past time to fix this simple problem with this simple amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I seek time in opposition, although I'm not necessarily opposed.

The CHAIR. The gentleman from Florida is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CRENSHAW. I want to say thank you to the gentleman for bringing this to the attention of the House and just from an informational standpoint make Members aware that in February this House passed what we call the Printing Resolution, which calls for the printing of the pocket Constitutions that he's talking about. The other body now has that piece of legislation. Like a lot of other pieces of legislation that that body finds itself in possession of, nothing has happened.

So I think it's appropriate for some of us to encourage the other body to take up the Printing Resolution, solve the problem. And, actually, I was told just this morning that I think the point of your amendment has actually had an impact because the other body, I am told, has indicated that they plan to move ahead with the Printing Resolution that we sent them earlier this year. So I think all in all, that's been positive.

Mr. HOLT. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. CRENSHAW. I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. HOLT. As I said in my remarks, the problem is not money; the problem is authorization. That can be accomplished by this joint resolution from the Joint Committee on Printing to the Government Printing Office, or it could be resolved through the appropriations, as I'm attempting to do now.

And I should point out, as the gentleman refers to the other body, it is out of pride of this body that we say we will do what we should do and the Senate will do what they will do and we will try to get together to move legislation forward. It is our job here today to do what we can do and to educate the public about this ingenious system of government that has been so successful for 2 centuries. We should do this.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Reclaiming my time, I yield 2 minutes to Mr. LUNGREN, the chairman of the House Administration Committee.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. The gentleman is correct, we did pass a resolution over to the other body. It is customary that either body determine what their printing needs are, but we do have to normally have a resolution for it.

Under Mr. HARPER's direction, with the Joint Committee on Printing, we actually reduced our request by 50 percent to save money, but also to give adequate printing of what we thought was needed. The other body initially decided that they didn't need any more copies. They have now reassessed that and at the last minute have indicated to us that they see the need for doing that and have promised us that they will act on our resolution.

So this is a hope that maybe this is one thing that they can agree on sending out of their body this year and over to us. But in the meantime, the gentleman's amendment is appropriate. Let us not lose the Constitution over this.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the ranking member, Mr. HONDA.

Mr. HONDA. Thank you for yielding.

I won't need the full 2 minutes because I think that the proponent, Congressman HOLT, has done an excellent job in expressing our sentiment about the importance of the pocket Constitution. I appreciate the chairman of the authorizing committee, Congressman LUNGREN, and my chairperson for taking the initiative in moving forward on this and prodding the other body to make sure that they act on Resolution 90.

So I would urge all Members to vote ''yes'' on this amendment.

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

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

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 4 OFFERED BY MR. SCALISE

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 4 printed in House Report 112–518.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 29, line 21, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $1,000,000)''.

Page 36, line 10, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $1,000,000)''.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 679, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. SCALISE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Louisiana.

Mr. SCALISE. The amendment that I bring forward zeroes out the Open World Leadership Center. This is a subset of the Library of Congress. This is an agency that's received millions of dollars over the years—in fact, $123 million over the past 10 years—to bring foreign government leaders from countries like Russia and others to the United States, something that might be a good idea but, frankly, when you consider the fact that we're running massive deficits, have a mountain of debt that keeps building up, we have to cut back programs that we just can't afford to do. And clearly, this is one of those programs.

I do applaud the chairman and the committee for reducing this account. Although it's been reduced, there's still a million dollars remaining in the account. Ultimately, what we do is completely eliminate that funding. The reason that we're doing this, if you go back—and we've looked at the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD over the years, going back to 2009—Congress has been very clear to this agency, the Open World Leadership Center, that it's time for them to stop receiving government money.

□ 1010

Just look at the comments from April 21 of 2010. At the time, Chairman WASSERMAN SCHULTZ said:

> Our subcommittee's stated goal has been that we would begin to wean you off your reliance on Legislative Branch funding, so it is somewhat difficult for me to understand why you have asked for $2 million more in funding.

This is an agency, Mr. Chairman, that has shown an unwillingness to work with Congress who for years now has said it's time for you to stop getting government money. This isn't some new development. This is something that Republicans and Democrats have agreed on for years, and it's finally time for that government funding to end. And if they want to continue doing the work they do, they can still go seek private funding, which, by the way, Congress encouraged them to do years ago, but they refused to do that because they still had the ability to get government money. As long as we leave a million in this account, we continue to allow this agency, the Open World Leadership Center, to function when we've now, as a policy decision, finally said it's time for them to go.

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

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition.

The CHAIR. The gentleman from Florida is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Everything the gentleman said is true except for the fact that what we are doing in this bill is actually shutting down the Open World program. When you do that, there are some costs involved in the final shutdown, and that's why last year this was funded at $10 million. To shut down the program, we basically took away $9 million, left $1 million there to terminate the existing contracts that we have. There's some final compensation that has to be paid. They have to close some offices. There are potential unemployment claims.

And so the point of this bill is to do exactly as the gentleman suggests, and that is to shut down this program which probably at one time was a very worthwhile program and was, I guess, a program that you could afford. But in today's world, this is a program that, under this legislative subcommittee, doesn't seem to be the right place to find funding. There were attempts in the past to fund it under the State-Foreign Operations Subcommittee.

But bottom line, the goal of this committee is to shut down this program because we can't afford it anymore. Even if you pass this amendment, it still costs a million dollars to shut down the program. The Congressional Budget Office scores it as a million dollars.

So I would say we ought not to pass this amendment. We ought to continue the process that has been started to shut down this program, and these dollars will be used to do just that.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Chairman, I continue to reserve.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the ranking member, the gentleman from California (Mr. HONDA).

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Chairman, the gentleman's amendment attempts to cut $1 million in the bill for the Open World program, and I want to emphasize the word ''attempts.'' I also want to emphasize that it's not my intent to support the idea of shutting down the program; it's the issue of the process of the gentleman's resolution.

Now, according to the Congressional Budget Office, the official bookkeeper of Congress, this amendment would net to zero. They believe that the organization would need at least $1 million to ramp down the organization. That's the CBO's impartial analysis. That means that this amendment has no effect. Maybe the gentleman did not know that, or maybe he disagrees with the Congressional Budget Office, but the Congressional Budget Office is a fine arbiter, and it has concluded that this amendment would not save one red cent. Again, this is a process of zeroing out, and you need that money.

But let me emphasize again that it is not my intent to support the idea of closing down the program at all; it is just my comment on the process.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MORAN), the former ranking member of the Legislative Branch.

Mr. MORAN. I thank my friend from Florida very much.

Mr. Chairman, not only do I oppose the amendment, I don't think we should be shutting down this program. This was a bipartisan program one of whose principal sponsors was Senator Ted Stevens from Alaska. What it does is to give voice to leaders within countries who are suffering under oppressive forms of government.

I just met with the Ukrainian delegation. My friend, Mr. CRENSHAW, may have had an opportunity to meet with them as well. They come through the Congress of the United States and the executive branch. They learn how our government works. And at a time when we are spending two-thirds of a trillion dollars on military security, this is the kind of program that can promote smart power by working with leaders in other countries. They want freedom of the press. They want democracy. They can't stand what communism did to their countries, but they don't want the kleptocracy of Russia. They don't want Russian domination. They want to be like the United States, and they want to come here and learn how to adopt the best principles that empower our democracy.

It's a good program. It's not much money, and the dividends that it yields are far greater than anything it costs us. I certainly agree we ought not eliminate the $1 million placeholder, but I wish we would not eliminate this program at all because it's a program we ought to be proud to fund.

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Chairman, I'm prepared to close, and I would first like to address some of the issues that were brought up during this discussion.

As it relates to the idea of having exchanges with people from foreign countries, that's why we have a State Department. And, in fact, the State Department has programs that do just that.

The Open World Leadership Center is a program run by the Library of Congress. If this program were so important to national security and relations with foreign countries, then the State Department would pick it up, but they haven't chosen to do that because they already do programs that are similar. But they probably do it a lot more effectively, and it's a lot more coordinated with the State Department because it's run out of the State Department.

So now you have a separate, duplicative program that Congress, both Republican and Democrat Members, for 3 years now has been saying, It's time for you to go.

And I go back again to the June 2009 committee hearing. The committee recommendation begins a phaseout of Legislative Branch financial support for the Open World program. That was the committee recommendation in 2009. Republicans weren't running the House back then. That was under Democratic leadership.

And of course in 2010, the chairman at the time, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ from the opposing party said:

> Our subcommittee's stated goal has been that we would begin to wean you off your reliance on Legislative Branch funding.

Yet that same year, they asked for $2 million more.

This is an agency that just doesn't get it, and this represents what's wrong with Washington when we're going broke. We are going broke right now. Every single day, every dollar spent here in Washington, 42 cents of that dollar is borrowed money, borrowed from countries like China, sending the bill to our kids and our grandkids. And here we've got a program that even Congress, Republican and Democrats, said it's time for the program to end, and yet they still have a million dollars sitting in their budget.

So what you would have is seven employees. They have a staff of seven people. So you've taken $10 million away, and I applaud, again, the chairman for doing that. So you've said there will be no more program. There will be no more exchange. That's been a decision already made by the committee, the subcommittee. But you're leaving seven people to be paid to do absolutely nothing with money we don't have.

Now, how many small businesses across the country that have been facing these tough economic times are given a million-dollar check by the Federal Government to close down? Unfortunately, so many businesses have closed down because times are tough, but they don't get a million dollars from the Federal Government to do it, especially with money borrowed from China.

And now I would go to address the CBO issue. We actually asked CBO about this amendment. We asked them on Monday. Here's a letter from CBO. On Monday they said:

> At this point, we estimate that your amendment would have no score.

So there is no cost to doing this, but it is a million dollars less that we'll be borrowing from China. And at some point they say a million dollars here, a million dollars there, pretty soon you're talking about real money.

We need to start making these tough decisions, and, frankly, this one isn't that tough. We ought to eliminate this program.

And I yield back the balance of my time.

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

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

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

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

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

□ 1020

AMENDMENT NO. 5 OFFERED BY MR. MORAN

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 5 printed in House Report 112–518.

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

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

> At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:
>
> LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS FOR POLYSTYRENE PRODUCTS
>
> SEC. ____. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to obtain polystyrene products for use in food service facilities of the House of Representatives.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 679, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MORAN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Chairman, this amendment, which I am offering jointly with Congress Members WELCH and PINGREE, would ban polystyrene products in our food service facilities here in the House.

Mr. Chairman, in 2011, the new Republican majority in the House instituted the use of polystyrene containers in our food service facilities. This amendment would prohibit the use of funds to purchase polystyrene products for use in the House cafeteria and eateries.

Removing polystyrene would show our concern for the health of our visitors and our employees, and for the future of our environment. We should be using recyclable and biodegradable products and avoiding polystyrene foam packaging.

Over 20 years ago, McDonalds and other for-profit fast-food restaurants replaced polystyrene foam with recyclable and paper board containers. The House of Representatives is the only place within the Capitol Complex to revert back to Styrofoam products. Neither the Senate, the Library of Congress, nor the Capitol Visitors Center

food services use polystyrene food products out of concern for the health of their patrons. We should be leading by example, and this amendment provides a way through which we can show environmental responsibility to the thousands of constituents who visit our offices each year. We should be concerned about their health and that of our employees.

Polystyrene is also very difficult to recycle. Most polystyrene containers end up taking up inordinately large amounts of space in landfills or incinerators. The problems with polystyrene include cancerous chemicals used during manufacturing, minimal recycle ability, enormous space taken up in landfills, and toxic byproducts released during incineration.

An EPA report on solid waste named the polystyrene manufacturing process the fifth-largest creator of hazardous waste. Toxic chemicals leak out of these Styrofoam containers into the food and drinks they contain and thus endanger human health and reproductive systems. That's our employees and our visitors to the House office buildings we're endangering. With this amendment, we can reduce environmental hazards and landfill waste, and protect the public's health.

I encourage my colleagues to support what I think should be a no-brainer amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I claim time in opposition to the amendment.

The CHAIR. The gentleman from Florida is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I just want to say that we don't use any appropriated funds to buy polystyrene containers. I just want to make that point that we don't use any appropriated money to do that.

I want to recognize a valued member of the subcommittee, the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT), for 2 minutes.

Mr. CALVERT. I thank the Chairman.

My friend's—and he is my friend, Mr. MORAN—amendment is certainly misguided and costly and a step backwards. Let's talk about the facts.

The House composting program in the last Congress increased our operating costs by half a million dollars a year, all for the luxury of using, remember, weak utensils that literally melted in your soup, and ineffective cups, soda cups, not including the extra paper insulators to keep your hands from burning once you use those ineffective paper cups. The cups, by the way, were two to three times more expensive than polystyrene foam cups.

And the environmental benefits. Peer reviewed studies confirm that foam food and beverage containers—which are recyclable and, by the way, are still used by McDonalds—use significantly less energy and water than their supposed eco-friendly alternatives. They use fewer raw materials, create less solid waste, and the carbon emission differences are nominal.

If Mr. MORAN would like to eliminate polystyrene in the House he needs to be right upfront with the American people and let them know how much this is going to cost them. In fact, this product costs less and is a better product. And I think that's something that we ought to do here in the government is find ways of saving money and produce a better outcome.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Chairman, I would say to my good friend from California, this amendment doesn't reintroduce the composting program, and it doesn't deal with those utensils—which I admit, some of them were not the best—but this deals with the polystyrene containers only, which is the greater source of concern for the health of our visitors and our employees.

At this time, I'd like to yield 1 minute to our friend and colleague from Maine (Ms. PINGREE).

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. I thank my colleague, Mr. MORAN, for allowing me to speak and join him with this amendment today.

I rise in support of this amendment, which would prohibit us from using taxpayer money to stock the House cafeterias with polystyrene, or, as most Americans call it, Styrofoam. Maybe to some this seems like a small thing, but stocking our cafeterias with Styrofoam sends a terrible message.

When I was first elected to Congress in 2008, it was such a pleasure to see biodegradable materials in the cafeteria: cardboard containers, paper cups, even bamboo forks—which maybe didn't always work right, but they still were recyclable and biodegradable. We ate out of containers that looked a lot like what we now see in most fast food restaurants.

When the Republicans took control, that instantly changed and we are back to eating from Styrofoam. When my constituents read about it they were, frankly, quite shocked. They couldn't imagine why Congress was moving backwards.

Styrofoam takes hundreds of years to biodegrade and is a suspected carcinogen because of the chemical it leaches into food and liquid. I urge my colleagues to support our amendment to get rid of Styrofoam in the House cafeterias.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished chairman of the House Administration Committee, the gentleman from California (Mr. LUNGREN).

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Last year we had this argument. Last year, it was criticism of the fact that I had approved a contract that got rid of the composting and instead that started a pilot project, I believe, in the gentleman from Virginia's district, where we are taking all of this and we are converting it from waste energy in the gentleman's district—one of the exemplary programs in the country. We're not putting this into a landfill; we are actually converting it. In fact, these products are one of the best means of creating energy from waste.

The second thing is, this is a condemnation of an industry that employs about 50,000 Americans around the country that deal with the production of this product. I would say they have come to me and said: Can you at least defend us with the facts, that the FDA has to approve use for sale of these products that come into human contact. If it were carcinogenic, it would not be allowed.

The fact of the matter is, we used common sense. We actually took up a recommendation by the Democrats when the Republicans took over. One of the recommendations that was made in writing was that we eliminate the composting program because it cost too much money, it was unsuccessful, and in fact it caused more energy than it was supposed to save. We did that. I thought you were going to thank us for following your suggestion. We even put it in the gentleman's district—proud employees of the gentleman's constituency are reducing this waste to energy, and yet the gentleman comes before us and says the program that you have in my district, doggone it, we just don't want it. Sometimes people around here can't take yes for an answer.

Mr. MORAN. Well, certainly the gentleman makes a compelling argument here in terms of employment. But it is clear that when you talk to people who regularly use our cafeterias, that they are concerned about the health effects of polystyrene containers. In fact, there's a Facebook group that's been created called Stop the Styrofoam Invasion: Bring Cardboard Back to the House Cafeteria. Now, I'm sure these gentlemen see that effort on Facebook.

Communities across the country have rallied against polystyrene products, and bans have been instituted in cities and counties in California, Massachusetts, Illinois, Maine, Washington, Oregon, New Jersey, and New York.

□ 1030

Now, these are not statewide bans in all of these States. Many of them, they're cities and counties. But this is not something that is unique to the people supporting this amendment. Across the country, people are realizing that it is not healthy to use polystyrene as a material. It does take up too much land space in many places in the country, and we really ought to support this amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

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

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

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

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

AMENDMENT NO. 6 OFFERED BY MR. HARPER

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 6 printed in House Report 112–518.

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

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is 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 to provide an aggregate number of more than 50 printed copies of any edition of the United States Code to all offices of the House of Representatives.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 679, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. HARPER) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Mississippi.

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Chairman, this amendment would limit the printing of paper copies of the U.S. Code for the United States House of Representatives to 50 copies.

As chairman of the Joint Committee on Printing, I have been working to cut wasteful printing, and the U.S. Code is a prime example of what needs to be cut. Every 6 years, the United States Code is reprinted to incorporate new statutory changes.

Currently, the 2012 edition of the U.S. Code is slated to be printed by GPO in fiscal year 2013. However, the printing and production of the Code takes anywhere from 14 to 16 months, guaranteeing that the Code is outdated before it even is in print.

Mr. Chairman, my amendment would reduce the House's allotment from 213 to 50 copies. This reduction will ensure the long-term preservation of hard copies in the House, while freeing up over $369,000 for FY2013, money that would be better spent modernizing and improving access to legislative information, including the Code.

The printed copies of the U.S. Code in the House are used less each day because of increasingly available, more up-to-date electronic alternatives. This amendment is a simple overdue reduction in unnecessary printing.

I want to thank Chairman LUNGREN, as well as the appropriators, for their support of these efforts; and I encourage my colleagues to support this amendment.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HARPER. I yield to the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Thank you for yielding. I just want to thank you for bringing this to our attention. I think it's well-intentioned. I think it's a good idea.

I'm just curious as to how you decided to have 50 copies instead of 213.

Mr. HARPER. Well, there's certainly an assessment of the number of copies and the need and each agency that controls those and gets those. And we believe that on the distribution of those copies, as you look at it, that those agencies that get them, which include 43 copies to House Leg Counsel, 48 copies to House Law Revision Counsel, 13 copies to the House Committee on Appropriations, the House Legislative Resource Center receives four copies, House Parliamentarian receives three, and then the list goes on from there as to how we have those.

I certainly do believe that the House Committee on Appropriations, for example, is not going to need 13 full copies for those. Those are things that, even going back to law school days, you learn how to share the available copies.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HARPER. I will certainly yield to the gentleman.

Mr. CRENSHAW. How many copies will the Appropriations Committee get under your amendment?

Mr. HARPER. Well, under the amendment we do not determine how many copies each will get. If we do a pro rata reduction in the numbers that go to each one, I think we could come to an agreement as to what those numbers will be.

Mr. CRENSHAW. If the gentleman will further yield, I just want to say I think that's a very good amendment.

Mr. HARPER. Thank you, sir.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. HARPER).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 7 OFFERED BY MR. FLAKE

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 7 printed in House Report 112–518.

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

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is 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 for Members' Representational Allowances, the salaries and expenses of House Leadership Offices, or the salaries and expenses of Committee Employees may be used to purchase paid advertisements on any Internet site other than an official site of the Member, leadership office, or committee involved.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 679, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. FLAKE. This amendment would simply prohibit Members, Committees, and leadership offices from using taxpayer-funded MRAs to purchase online advertisements. These ads are little more than a tool to boost name identification. They blur the lines between official duties and campaign activities. I believe, and I think most of us would concede, it's an inappropriate use of taxpayer money.

I know that some will stand up and say we've got to advertise town halls and whatever else that we're doing.

Let me tell you, all the online advertising that is being paid for by the taxpayers from Members' offices right now, town halls and those other notices represent a tiny fraction of that. Most of it are things like this, ads reading: Congressman X is fighting the madness. Click on this, and then it sends them to their official page, just boosting their name ID.

Representative X is working to lower gas prices by increasing American energy production. Find out more and like my page today.

Another one: Congressman X is committed to creating jobs, driving down spending, and shrinking the size of the Federal Government. That's pure electioneering or campaigning. The taxpayers have no reason to fund that kind of purchase in online advertising.

We already see the abuse that takes place with regard to franking. When you receive in the mail a four-color glossy that you can't even tell the difference between that these days and a campaign mailer, unless you look and see the very, very fine print that is there on the bottom of the mailer: paid for at taxpayer expense.

Enter the Internet world and the potential for abuse is that much greater when Members can target ads. Say if I wanted to run for Governor next, I could say that I want an ad to pop up or my name to pop up when somebody types in a Google search for Arizona Governor. I would submit to you that kind of thing is happening right now, and we've got to stop it before it brings a dark cloud over this body.

We all know what happened with earmarks in years past. It got so rampant and the corruption set in that we had to get rid of it completely. Let's stop this before it really balloons. There is abuse going on right now, but let's stop it before it gets big.

I urge adoption of the amendment and reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I rise to claim time in opposition.

The CHAIR. The gentleman from Florida is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, Members of the House, if the gentleman has a problem with communicating with constituents, then I think he ought to take his gripes to the Franking Commission.

I think everyone knows in this House that Members have an office account, and the philosophy is that you have an office account, you run your office. You are held accountable for how you spend those dollars. Some dollars are spent for salaries, for equipment, for rent, and for communications.

When the communications are paid for with taxpayers' dollars, they are

subject to review by what's called the Franking Commission. That is a bipartisan commission, made up of Democrats, made up of Republicans. And before any kind of communication is put forward—whether it's a newsletter, maybe it is a postcard—before anything goes out, there are very strict guidelines that the Franking Commission uses to decide what goes in to those communication pieces.

Under the rules, Members are allowed to use their MRA, their office account, that's funded by taxpayers dollars. They can, if they want to announce they're going to have a town hall meeting, they can send out a postcard, they can send out a letter. They can actually buy advertising in a newspaper, as long as it meets the requirements of the Franking Commission. And they are very strict about how big your name can be and how many pictures you can have.

□ 1040

You can also buy time, buy advertising on the radio. If you want to say, ''I'm going to have a meeting, and we're going to decide whether or not to appoint people to the military academies,'' you can do that. You can also use the Internet for that. Quite frankly, in today's world, that's how most people get their information. I'm not a tech guy, but I understand that social media is how a lot of young people and old people, as well, communicate.

If you want to communicate through the Internet, then you should have the same rules and regulations that apply to the print. You have to go to the Franking Commission, and they approve it. Again, Democrats and Republicans, they're making sure that these are official notices. They can direct you to your own Web site. Most Members have Web sites, and they can announce things on there.

So it seems strange to me to single out this new social media, which is where the world seems to be going. That's how people get their information. It's a lot cheaper to communicate on the Internet than it is to mail a letter or to mail a post card. It seems to me this is just an effort to micromanage how the Members use their MRAs, and you single out the one area in which the world seems to be going. So it's like a step backwards to say that you can communicate, that you can buy advertising on the radio, that you can buy an ad in a newspaper as long as you comply with these franking rules but that you can't do it with the Internet. It just seems like a strange way to go. Once again, all of this is subject to review by the Franking Commission, made up of Democrats and Republicans, in order to make sure that all of that is appropriate.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FLAKE. In response, the gentleman mentioned people want to announce town halls and whatnot. That is a tiny, tiny fraction of what occurs in the money being spent, taxpayer money, through franking on the Internet. It's things like this, and I'll just read a few.

This is from a Member:

> ''Like'' my Facebook page to find out what I'm doing to create jobs, to reduce spending, and to put our economy back on track.

How is that necessary for the taxpayer to fund? Come on. Let's get real here.

Another one:

> I want to know, do you support a balanced budget amendment to the United States Constitution?

I don't really want to know that. Members just want to get traffic, name IDs to their Web pages.

Now, I'm not a Luddite here. I have my own Web page. I have a Facebook account. I do all of that, but I do it where it's appropriate—with campaign funds, not with official funds to campaign.

The gentleman mentioned that we ought to just kind of trust the Member—there is a Franking Commission—and let everybody do it. I should mention that, in 1997, when this bill came to the floor, Members thought there was some abuse going on with the franking of mail, so a requirement was put in to add the ''printed at taxpayer expense.'' That was done by amendment on this bill on this floor in 1997. Also, there was abuse with franking too close to an election. So, with an amendment in this bill on this floor in 1997, there was put in a requirement that there is a 90-day blackout period in which you can't do it.

So there is a recognition that sometimes you go too far here. I can tell you that Members are going too far. I would invite anyone to go down to the Franking Commission and take a look at what's going on, to take a look at what Members are sending.

We're going to be voting on this quickly. So I would submit, if you're coming to the floor or watching this debate, you don't want to be on the other side of this issue, because we will be here, sooner or later, banning this practice. I hope it's sooner rather than later.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from California, the chairman of the House Administration Committee, Mr. LUNGREN.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. I would just like to advise all Members that we have full-time employees working under the direction of Members of the Franking Commission and the House administration every single day who review the products of the offices of Members.

There is a limitation on the number of references you can make to yourself. There is a limitation on the number of pictures you can have. There is a limitation on how large the pictures can be. There is a limitation on some of the language that there can be. We try not to censor, but we try to make a distinction between that which is partisanly political and that which is a communication to our membership.

If someone is trying to suggest that we ought not to be allowed to ask our constituents ''What is your position on a balanced budget amendment?'' I'd like to say that you have that right. If you don't want to ask that question, you don't have to ask that question, but that's for Members to be able to do that.

Frankly, I think the idea that somehow we ought to limit our communications to the old-fashioned snail mail is just wrong. What we've attempted to do is to use the principles that have been established by the Franking Commission over the years to the new technology. That is simply what we have done. It is no more or no less. If people want to complain about particular messages that have come out, we can look at that. In fact, we turn down many, many suggested pieces to be sent out by Members of Congress. We have tried to adjust to the new communications, and the gentleman's amendment would not allow us to use a new means of communication.

Mr. FLAKE. May I inquire as to the time remaining?

The CHAIR. The gentleman from Arizona has 30 seconds remaining.

Mr. FLAKE. In closing, I would just say we have a Franking Commission. They are making determinations like this, and we're still getting this stuff. We're still getting people saying, Congressman X—fighting the madness. ''Like'' my Facebook page now.

I would suggest that the bipartisanship of this Franking Commission is part of the problem. Both parties say, They're doing it, so we'll do it, too, and we'll both turn the other way.

That's why we get into problems with this. I'm just saying, please, get ahead of the curve here, and get ahead of where the taxpayers are going to be on this issue. I urge the support of the amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

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

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

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIR

The CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, proceedings will now resume on those amendments printed in House Report 112–518 on which further proceedings were postponed, in the following order:

Amendment No. 1 by Mr. GOSAR of Arizona.

Amendment No. 2 by Mr. BROUN of Georgia.

Amendment No. 4 by Mr. SCALISE of Louisiana.

Amendment No. 5 by Mr. MORAN of Virginia.

Amendment No. 7 by Mr. FLAKE of Arizona.

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

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MR. GOSAR

The CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) 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 CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 213, noes 193, not voting 25, as follows:

[Roll No. 371]

AYES—213

Adams
Amash
Amodei
Austria
Bachmann
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Benishek
Berg
Biggert
Bilbray
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bono Mack
Boren
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Carney
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chandler
Coffman (CO)
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Cooper
Costa
Cravaack
Critz
Davis (KY)
DeFazio
Dent
DesJarlais
Donnelly (IN)
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Gallegly
Gardner
Garrett
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Heck
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Himes
Hochul
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Israel
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Keating
Kelly
Kind
King (IA)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kline
Lamborn
Landry
Lankford
Latta
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Long
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Mica
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Owens
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Petri
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Polis
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rigell
Rivera
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross (FL)
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schilling
Schmidt
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shuster
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Terry
Thornberry
Tipton
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Webster
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Woodall
Yoder
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOES—193

Ackerman
Aderholt
Alexander
Altmire
Baca
Bachus
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bonner
Boswell
Brady (PA)
Brown (FL)
Butterfield
Calvert
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carson (IN)
Carter
Castor (FL)
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Conyers
Costello
Courtney
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeGette
DeLauro
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Dold
Doyle
Dreier
Edwards
Ellison
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Fortenberry
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Garamendi
Gerlach
Gonzalez
Granger
Green, Al
Grijalva
Grimm
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Harper
Hastings (FL)
Hayworth
Heinrich
Higgins
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Kildee
King (NY)
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Luján
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Maloney
Markey
Matsui
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Napolitano
Olver
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Roskam
Ross (AR)
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schock
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Shimkus
Simpson
Sires
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stark
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiberi
Tierney
Tonko
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Wolf
Womack
Woolsey
Yarmuth
Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—25

Akin
Andrews
Baldwin
Bass (CA)
Bilirakis
Cardoza
Coble
Denham
Filner
Gohmert
Green, Gene
Hirono
Holden
Kucinich
Labrador
Lewis (CA)
Mack
Meehan
Miller (FL)
Neal
Paul
Platts
Shuler
Slaughter
Towns

□ 1112

Ms. RICHARDSON, Mrs. CAPPS, and Messrs. DOLD and DREIER changed their vote from ''aye'' to ''no.''

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

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Chair, due to attending Corrections Professionals National Memorial Service, I missed the following rollcall vote: No. 371 on June 8, 2012. If present, I would have voted: rollcall vote No. 371—Gosar (R–AZ) Amendment, ''aye.''

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 371, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted ''no.''

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Chair, on rollcall No. 371, had I been present, I would have voted ''no.''

AMENDMENT NO. 2 OFFERED BY MR. BROUN OF GEORGIA

The 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 ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 214, noes 189, not voting 28, as follows:

[Roll No. 372]

AYES—214

Adams
Alexander
Amash
Austria
Bachmann
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (NH)
Benishek
Berg
Biggert
Bilbray
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bono Mack
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Costa
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
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Gardner
Garrett
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hurt
Israel
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Kelly
King (IA)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kline
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Latham
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Long
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson

Palazzo
Paulsen
Pence
Peterson
Petri
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Ribble
Rigell
Rivera
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Roskam
Ross (FL)
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Smith (NE)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Walberg
Walsh (IL)
Webster
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOES—189

Ackerman
Aderholt
Altmire
Amodei
Baca
Bachus
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bonner
Boren
Boswell
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Butterfield
Camp
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Chu
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cohen
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costello
Courtney
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Forbes
Frank (MA)
Fudge
Garamendi
Gerlach
Gonzalez
Green, Al
Grijalva
Grimm
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Heinrich
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hochul
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Hunter
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kildee
Kind
King (NY)
Langevin
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
LaTourette
Latta
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Luján
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Maloney
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Napolitano
Olver
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Pearce
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Pingree (ME)
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Renacci
Reyes
Richmond
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross (AR)
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stark
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Tonko
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walden
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Wittman
Woolsey
Yarmuth
Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—28

Akin
Andrews
Baldwin
Bass (CA)
Bilirakis
Cardoza
Cicilline
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Deutch
Filner
Gohmert
Green, Gene
Hirono
Holden
Kucinich
Labrador
Lewis (CA)
Mack
Meehan
Neal
Paul
Platts
Richardson
Shuler
Slaughter
Towns

□ 1117

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Chairman, on rollcall No. 372, I inadvertently voted "no". I meant to vote "aye." Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 372, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

AMENDMENT NO. 4 OFFERED BY MR. SCALISE

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

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 204, noes 203, not voting 24, as follows:

[Roll No. 373]

AYES—204

Adams
Alexander
Amodei
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (NH)
Benishek
Bilbray
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Coffman (CO)
Conaway
Costa
Cravaack
Crawford
Culberson
DeFazio
Denham
DesJarlais
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Gallegly
Gardner
Garrett
Gibbs
Gingrey (GA)
Goodlatte
Gowdy
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Hochul
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Kelly
Kind
King (IA)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kline
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Lankford
Latham
Latta
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Long
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McIntyre
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Owens
Palazzo
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Peterson
Petri
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Quayle
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rigell
Rivera
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (FL)
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schilling
Schmidt
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Terry
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Upton
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Wasserman Schultz
Webster
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Woodall
Yoder
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOES—203

Ackerman
Aderholt
Altmire
Amash
Andrews
Baca
Becerra
Berg
Berkley
Berman
Biggert
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Boren
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Butterfield
Calvert
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Chu
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costello
Courtney
Crenshaw
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (KY)
DeGette
DeLauro
Dent
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Dreier
Edwards
Ellison
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Farenthold
Farr
Fattah
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Garamendi
Gerlach
Gibson
Gonzalez
Gosar
Granger
Green, Al
Grijalva
Grimm
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Harper
Hastings (FL)
Hayworth
Heck
Heinrich
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kildee
King (NY)
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
LaTourette
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Luján
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Maloney
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McKeon
McNerney
Meeks
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Napolitano
Olver
Pallone
Pascrell
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Pingree (ME)
Polis
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Rogers (KY)
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
Sires
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stark
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tierney
Tonko
Tsongas
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Wolf
Womack
Woolsey
Yarmuth
Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—24

Akin
Baldwin
Bass (CA)
Bilirakis
Cardoza
Cicilline
Coble
Davis (IL)
Filner

Gohmert
Green, Gene
Hirono
Holden
Kucinich
Labrador
Lewis (CA)
Mack
Meehan
Neal
Paul
Platts
Shuler
Slaughter
Towns

□ 1121

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 373, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

AMENDMENT NO. 5 OFFERED BY MR. MORAN

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

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 178, noes 229, not voting 24, as follows:

[Roll No. 374]

AYES—178

Ackerman
Altmire
Baca
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Benishek
Berkley
Berman
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Boswell
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Chu
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costello
Courtney
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
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)
Hayworth
Heinrich
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hochul
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Kaptur
Keating
Kildee
Kind
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Luján
Lynch
Maloney
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
Meeks
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Napolitano
Olver
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Pingree (ME)
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reichert
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Rigell
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Sires
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stark
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Tonko
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Woolsey
Yarmuth
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOES—229

Adams
Aderholt
Alexander
Amash
Amodei
Andrews
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Berg
Biggert
Bilbray
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
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Costa
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
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
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 (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Kelly
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kline
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Lankford
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
LoBiondo
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Peterson
Petri
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Reed
Rehberg
Renacci
Ribble
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 (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 (IN)

NOT VOTING—24

Akin
Baldwin
Bass (CA)
Bilirakis
Cardoza
Cicilline
Coble
Filner
Gallegly
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Green, Gene
Hirono
Kucinich
Labrador
Lewis (CA)
Mack
Meehan
Neal
Paul
Platts
Shuler
Slaughter
Towns

□ 1125

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 374, 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. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 374 on agreeing to the Moran Amendment to H.R. 5882, the Fiscal Year 2013 Legislation Branch Appropriations Act, I am not recorded because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

AMENDMENT NO. 7 OFFERED BY MR. FLAKE

The CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) 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 CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 148, noes 261, not voting 22, as follows:

[Roll No. 375]

AYES—148

Ackerman
Adams
Altmire
Austria
Bachus
Bartlett
Bass (NH)
Benishek
Berkley
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Boswell
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Campbell
Carney
Castor (FL)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chandler
Coffman (CO)
Cooper
Cravaack
DeFazio
DeGette
Dent
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly (IN)
Duncan (TN)
Emerson
Eshoo
Flake
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Gallegly
Gardner
Garrett
Gibbs
Gibson
Gowdy
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Harris
Hartzler
Higgins
Hochul
Israel
Jenkins
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Jones
Jordan
Kaptur
Kildee
Kind
King (IA)
Kissell
Kline
Lamborn
Latham
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Long
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Marchant
Markey
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McNerney
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Mulvaney
Myrick
Noem
Owens
Palazzo
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Pence
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Petri
Polis
Posey
Quayle
Quigley
Rehberg
Reichert
Ribble
Roe (TN)
Rohrabacher
Rooney
Ross (AR)
Ross (FL)
Royce
Ruppersberger
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schilling
Schmidt
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Southerland
Speier
Stearns
Stutzman
Sullivan
Sutton
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (PA)

Tiberi
Tipton
Turner (NY)
Upton
Van Hollen
Walsh (IL)
Walz (MN)
Wilson (SC)
Womack
Young (FL)

NOES—261

Aderholt
Alexander
Amash
Amodei
Andrews
Baca
Bachmann
Barletta
Barrow
Barton (TX)
Becerra
Berg
Berman
Biggert
Bilbray
Bishop (GA)
Black
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Brown (FL)
Bucshon
Buerkle
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cassidy
Chu
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
DeLauro
Denham
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dold
Doyle
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Edwards
Ellison
Ellmers
Engel
Farenthold
Farr
Fattah
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Garamendi
Gerlach
Gingrey (GA)
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gosar
Granger
Graves (GA)
Green, Al
Grijalva
Grimm
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hanna
Harper
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Heinrich
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Keating
Kelly
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Lance
Landry
Langevin
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
LaTourette
Latta
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Lowey
Lucas
Luján
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Maloney
Manzullo
Marino
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCotter
McHenry
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meeks
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neugebauer
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Olver
Pallone
Paulsen
Pearce
Pelosi
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Rahall
Rangel
Reed
Renacci
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Rigell
Rivera
Roby
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rokita
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Runyan
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schock
Schwartz
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Smith (NE)
Stark
Stivers
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Tierney
Tonko
Tsongas
Turner (OH)
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Webster
Welch
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (FL)
Wittman
Wolf
Woodall
Woolsey
Yarmuth
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—22

Akin
Baldwin
Bass (CA)
Bilirakis
Cardoza
Cicilline
Coble
Filner
Gohmert
Green, Gene
Hirono
Kucinich
Labrador
Lewis (CA)
Mack
Meehan
Neal
Paul
Platts
Shuler
Slaughter
Towns

□ 1129

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 375, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Chair, on rollcall Nos. 371, 372, 373, 374 and 375 I was delayed and unable to vote. Had I been present I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 371, "aye" on rollcall No. 372, "aye" on rollcall No. 373, "no" on rollcall No. 374, and "aye" on rollcall No. 375.

□ 1130

The CHAIR. Under the rule, the Committee rises.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT) having assumed the chair, Mr. BASS of New Hampshire, 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. 5882) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes, and, pursuant to House Resolution 667, he reported the bill back to the House with sundry amendments adopted in the Committee of the Whole.

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.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Madam Speaker, I have a motion to recommit at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentlewoman opposed to the bill?

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. I am opposed.

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

The Clerk read as follows:

Ms. Pingree of Maine moves to recommit the bill H.R. 5882 to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with the following amendment:

Page 3, line 11, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by $3,099,244)".

Page 4, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by $3,099,244)".

Ms. PINGREE of Maine (during the reading). I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Maine?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Madam Speaker, every day my colleagues on the other side of the aisle talk about cutting spending. In fact, a fair number of them came here after getting elected by promising to slash wasteful spending and be good stewards of the taxpayer dollars. And they have voted for some pretty big spending cuts.

They cut spending on food stamps, making it harder for struggling families to put a meal on the table. They cut spending on unemployment benefits, making it harder for the millions of Americans who are looking for work to make ends meet. They cut spending on Pell Grants, making it harder for working families to put their kids through college.

But the problem is these cuts my colleagues have passed put the entire burden on working families and seniors who are already struggling to get by and none of it on big oil companies or wealthy money managers. The problem is the burden of spending cuts is not now being shared equally or distributed fairly.

Today, Madam Speaker, I am offering my colleagues a chance to share that burden by cutting our own spending on fancy taxpayer-funded mailings that our constituents don't always want us to send. The amendment I'm offering represents a 10 percent cut in our franking budget. This would mean giving up expensive, glossy, self-promoting mailings and getting back to straight talk to our constituents. Don't get me wrong: Part of our job is communicating with our constituents and letting them know about the work we are doing here in Washington and in our home districts.

In my office, we've designated simple, straightforward mailings in-house to communicate directly with our constituents. We've designed them in-house. We've been able to cut the costs of this communication dramatically but still effectively communicate. In fact, we've recently sent an update to veterans explaining the programs available to them, and two or three constituents have received their lifetime veterans benefits because of that update.

Asking working families to sacrifice and bear the burden of spending cuts while protecting big banks, Big Oil, and congressional perks is one of the reasons our approval rating is at an all-time low.

Madam Speaker, we all agree we need to get budget deficits under control, but asking seniors, young people, and working families to feel the pain while passing tax cuts for the rich, protecting tax breaks for Big Oil, and spending millions of dollars on glossy, self-promoting mailers is unfair, and Americans know it.

If we want the American public to think we can be responsible and serious about cutting wasteful spending, we will pass this amendment today and take a big chunk out of our franking budget.

Let me be clear: this is the final amendment to the bill. It will not kill the bill or send it back to committee. If adopted, the bill will immediately proceed to final passage as amended. And if adopted, the American people might have a little more faith that the people they send to Congress are really serious about cutting wasteful spending, and not just protecting the perks that they think will get them reelected.

I urge you to vote ''yes'' on my final amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to the motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Florida is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Madam Speaker, I want to urge my colleagues to vote ''no'' on this motion to recommit and vote for this very good bill.

Now, I'm not surprised that the Democrats don't like this bill. This funding bill spends less money than last year, and last year's bill spent less than the year before. So for 3 straight years we've reduced spending in the legislative branch. We've reduced spending on ourselves. So don't tell us we haven't shared in the pain. We are doing in this bill what we ask every agency or State government to do. We are doing in this bill what every American family does. We are setting priorities. We are tightening our belt. We are reining in spending. We are doing more with less. No wonder they don't like it.

So I say let's pass this bill, reject this motion to recommit, and cast a vote for fiscal responsibility by voting ''yes.''

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

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Madam 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 passage of the bill and the motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 4348.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 101, noes 309, not voting 21, as follows:

[Roll No. 376]

AYES—101

Ackerman
Altmire
Andrews
Baca
Bass (CA)
Berkley
Berman
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Boswell
Brady (PA)
Capps
Carney
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Clarke (MI)
Clyburn
Cohen
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Critz
Cuellar
Davis (CA)
DeFazio
Deutch
Doggett
Donnelly (IN)
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Garamendi
Gonzalez
Green, Al
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Higgins
Hinojosa
Hochul
Holden
Israel
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Kaptur
Keating
Kildee
Kind
Kissell
Langevin
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lynch
Maloney
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McGovern
McIntyre
McNerney
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Napolitano
Owens
Pallone
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Polis
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Sherman
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stark
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Tierney
Tonko
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Walz (MN)
Waxman
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NOES—309

Adams
Aderholt
Alexander
Amash
Amodei
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Benishek
Berg
Biggert
Bilbray
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Brown (FL)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Capuano
Carnahan
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chu
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Courtney
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crowley
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
DeGette
DeLauro
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dingell
Dold
Doyle
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Ellmers
Emerson
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gallegly
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Goodlatte
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grijalva
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Gutierrez
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Heinrich
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Himes
Hinchey
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Kelly
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McDermott
McHenry
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meeks
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Moore
Moran
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Olver
Palazzo
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Pearce
Pence
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Quayle
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Reyes
Ribble
Richardson
Richmond
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)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Terry
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Webster
Welch
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Woolsey
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—21

Akin
Baldwin
Bilirakis
Cardoza
Cicilline
Coble
Filner
Gohmert
Gosar
Green, Gene
Hirono
Kucinich
Labrador
Lewis (CA)
Mack
Meehan
Neal
Paul
Shuler
Slaughter
Towns

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1153

Messrs. DINGELL and LEVIN changed their vote from ''aye'' to ''no.''

Ms. WILSON of Florida and Mr. HINOJOSA changed their vote from ''no'' to ''aye.''

So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall 376, 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. Members will record their vote by electronic device.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 307, nays 102, not voting 22, as follows:

[Roll No. 377]

YEAS—307

Ackerman
Adams
Aderholt
Alexander
Altmire
Amodei
Andrews
Austria
Baca
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta

Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (CA)
Bass (NH)
Benishek
Berg
Berkley
Berman
Biggert
Bilbray
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonamici
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brooks
Brown (FL)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Carter
Cassidy
Castor (FL)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Clyburn
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Costa
Courtney
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Crowley
Culberson
Davis (CA)
Davis (KY)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dingell
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Ellmers
Emerson
Eshoo
Farenthold
Fattah
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garamendi
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Goodlatte
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Green, Al
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hahn
Hall
Hanabusa
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heinrich
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Himes
Hochul
Hoyer
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Kaptur
Kelly
Kildee
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kline
Lamborn
Lance
Landry
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Long
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Lungren, Daniel E.
Maloney
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McCotter
McHenry
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meeks
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Palazzo
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Pearce
Pelosi
Pence
Perlmutter
Peterson
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Quayle
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reed
Rehberg
Renacci
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)
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Ryan (WI)
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schmidt
Schock
Schrader
Scott (SC)
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Southerland
Speier
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Tonko
Tsongas
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Van Hollen
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waxman
Webster
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NAYS—102

Amash
Becerra
Blumenauer
Broun (GA)
Burgess
Butterfield
Campbell
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Chandler
Chu
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Cohen
Conyers
Cooper
Costello
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (IL)
Doggett
Doyle
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Farr
Flake
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Fudge
Gonzalez
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Heck
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Holden
Holt
Honda
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Keating
Kind
Langevin
Lee (CA)
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lummis
Lynch
Markey
Matheson
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mulvaney
Nadler
Napolitano
Olver
Owens
Peters
Pingree (ME)
Polis
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Reichert
Reyes
Richmond
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schilling
Schwartz
Schweikert
Sherman
Stark
Stearns
Sutton
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Velázquez
Waters
Watt
Welch
Wittman
Woolsey
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—22

Akin
Baldwin
Bilirakis
Cardoza
Cicilline
Coble
Filner
Gohmert
Gosar
Graves (MO)
Green, Gene
Hirono
Kucinich
Labrador
Lewis (CA)
Mack
Meehan
Neal
Paul
Shuler
Slaughter
Towns

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1200

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 for:

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall vote No. 377, I was unable to make it to the floor in time for the vote due to a previously scheduled meeting with constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall 377, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

MOTION 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 Georgia (Mr. BROUN) 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 82, nays 323, not voting 26, as follows:

[Roll No. 378]

YEAS—82

Adams
Amash
Bachmann
Black
Blackburn
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Campbell
Carter
Chabot
Chaffetz
Conaway
Culberson
Duncan (SC)
Fincher
Flake
Fleming
Flores
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Garrett
Gingrey (GA)
Goodlatte
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Hastings (WA)
Heck
Hensarling
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Jones
Jordan
King (IA)
Kingston
Lamborn
Latta
Manzullo
Marchant
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
Miller (FL)
Mulvaney
Myrick
Neugebauer
Olson
Pence
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ross (FL)
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Smith (TX)
Stutzman
Sullivan
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Walsh (IL)
West
Westmoreland
Wilson (SC)
Woodall
Yoder

NAYS—323

Ackerman
Aderholt
Alexander
Altmire
Amodei
Andrews
Austria
Baca
Bachus
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (CA)
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Benishek
Berg
Berkley
Berman
Biggert
Bilbray
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Cassidy
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Chu
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman (CO)
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
Doggett
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Ellmers
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Farenthold
Farr
Fattah
Fleischmann
Forbes
Fortenberry
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gallegly
Garamendi
Gardner
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gonzalez
Gosar
Green, Al
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grijalva
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hall
Hanabusa
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (FL)
Hayworth
Heinrich
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hochul
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Hultgren
Hunter
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly
Kildee
Kind
King (NY)
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kline
Lance
Landry
Langevin
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Long
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer

Luján
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Maloney
Marino
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meeks
Mica
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olver
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Pearce
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Platts
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Reyes
Ribble
Richardson
Richmond
Rigell
Rivera
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (AR)
Rothman (NJ)
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Southerland
Speier
Stark
Stearns
Stivers
Sutton
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Tipton
Tonko
Tsongas
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Webster
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woolsey
Yarmuth
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—26

Akin
Baldwin
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Cardoza
Cicilline
Coble
Filner
Fitzpatrick
Gohmert
Green, Gene
Hirono
Johnson, Sam
Kucinich
Labrador
Lewis (CA)
Mack
Meehan
Neal
Paul
Roybal-Allard
Shuler
Slaughter
Tiberi
Towns
Whitfield

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1206

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 against:

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall 378, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, on rollcall vote No. 378, the Broun of Georgia Motion to instruct, I voted "yea" when I intended to vote "nay." I apologize for any confusion and ask that the RECORD reflect my true intention.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote Nos. 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, and 378. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote Nos. 374, 376, and 377. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote Nos. 371, 372, 373, 375 and 378.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. AKIN. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 376, 377 and 378 I was delayed and unable to vote. Had I been present I would have voted "no" on rollcall No. 376 "aye" on rollcall No. 377 and "aye" on rollcall No. 378.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, June 8th, 2012, I missed rollcall votes 371–378 for unavoidable reasons. Specifically, I was in Palm Harbor, Florida, in my congressional district, to attend my son's high school graduation. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: rollcall No. 371: "yea" (Gosar of Arizona Amendment), rollcall No. 372: "yea" (Broun of Georgia Amendment), rollcall No. 373: "yea" (Scalise of Louisiana Amendment), rollcall No. 374: "nay" (Moran of Virginia Amendment), rollcall No. 375: "nay" (Flake of Arizona Amendment), rollcall No. 376: "nay" (On motion to recommit H.R. 5882 with instructions), rollcall No. 377: "yea" (Passage of H.R. 5882—Legislative Branch Appropriations Act for FY 2013), rollcall No. 378: "nay" (On Broun of Georgia motion to instruct conferees).

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2942

Mrs. NOEM. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 2942.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from South Dakota?

There was no objection.

TO ALLOW THE CHIEF OF THE FOREST SERVICE TO AWARD CERTAIN CONTRACTS FOR LARGE AIR TANKERS

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture be discharged from further consideration of the bill (S. 3261) to allow the chief of the forest service to award certain contracts for large air tankers, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

There was no objection.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 3261

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. WAIVER.

Notwithstanding the last sentence of section 3903(d) of title 41, United States Code, the Chief of the Forest Service may award contracts pursuant to Solicitation Number AG–024B–S–11–9009 for large air tankers earlier than the end of the 30-day period beginning on the date of the notification required under the first sentence of section 3903(d) of that title.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of S. 3261. This bill waives the congressionally mandated 30-day notification period before the Forest Service can issue new contracts for aircraft for its air tanker fleet.

There is some urgency to this bill given the catastrophic wildfires that are afflicting the western United States. The west is currently experiencing a drought that has drastically increased the hazards of wildfire this year. A wildfire in New Mexico has already burned more than 400 square miles and is still raging.

The Forest Service must modernize its fleet of air tankers and must do so immediately. The fleet is using several tankers that have been in service for 50 years or longer. The agency intends to issue four contracts for seven new tankers, and this bill will allow the agency to move forward more quickly during this critical time.

Two tankers were lost this past weekend. Only nine tankers remain to fight fires at this time, which is inadequate to deal with wildfire threats our western communities face.

A tanker was forced to make a crash landing in Nevada this weekend when its landing gear failed.

Sadly, we learned the danger of flying these missions when a Forest Service tanker crashed in southern Utah this past weekend, killing both pilots.

I want to take a moment to recognize the pilots of these planes, Todd Neal Tompkins and Ronnie Edwin Chambless, both of Boise, Idaho. I hope their families know that we appreciate their service and sacrifice in making our communities safer.

This is a simple step Congress can take to assist the Forest Service during this critical period.

The bill was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill just considered.

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

There was no objection.

ADJOURNMENT TO TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, June 12, 2012; when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. on Friday, June 15, 2012; and when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday, June 18, 2012.

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

There was no objection.

□ 1210

PROTECTING INNOCENT LIFE

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

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Speaker, last week this body took up H.R. 3541, the

Prenatal Nondiscrimination Act, which would prohibit abortion on the basis of an unborn baby's gender. Many advanced nations around the world already have laws restricting sex-selection abortions.

The United States of America should not allow abortions to be performed to select an unborn child's sex. Recognizing the importance of all life, I voted in favor of the bill and had high hopes it could be signed into law. Sadly, the measure failed to reach the majority needed for passage.

As unbelievable as it may sound, some Members of Congress were unwilling to vote to restrict abortions based on sex. Aborting a baby based upon its gender undermines one of our Nation's founding principles that all human beings are created equal.

Every Representative, every physician, every American needs to be reminded that at the center of our struggle is the protection of human life. We cannot live in a nation where some human life is valued and other life is not. All life has value, and the casual taking of life is morally wrong.

Let's join together to pray for the protection of the unborn. The intersection of prayer and action can produce amazing results. Through prayer and perseverance we can accomplish our goals and innocent human life can be protected.

MOST PRESSING LEGISLATIVE ITEMS WERE NOWHERE TO BE FOUND

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, some of the most pressing legislative items were nowhere to be found on the floor this week. We had an opportunity to make headway on critical legislation. Unfortunately, the leadership provided no action, not solutions, not action, only obstruction and delay.

First, student loan interest rates will double on July 1 if we do nothing, and we have done nothing.

Secondly, after losing 28,000 construction jobs last month, Congress still has not passed a highway bill, notwithstanding the fact that the Senate passed a bill with 75 percent of its Members in support, half of the Republican Conference in support, but it's nowhere on this floor as construction jobs languish and people look for work.

Speaker BOEHNER is now saying we might have to wait until November, even though it would create thousands of construction jobs. It seems to be ''my way or no highway.''

Third, we're headed for a fiscal cliff if Congress can't achieve a serious deficit reduction this year, and we've seen appropriations bills this week that break the budget agreement.

This has been another wasted week by a do-nothing Congress, and we're about to begin a weeklong recess once again. Congress could do better. Congress must do better. Americans expect Congress to do better. It ought to take action now, not delay until it's too late.

SYRIA

(Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, we can do better. As we work to ensure the tranquility of this great land and the opportunity for those who desire and deserve jobs, I frankly, think, it is likewise a devastating disaster, a crisis, that the world has not risen to stop the bloodshed in Syria.

I realize that we are not ready to engage in war, and I say that we do not have to. Syrian Americans are just pleading for the world to intervene, for Dr. Assad to step down, for the ceasefire to take place, and for the killing of women and children to stop.

I join with the administration to ask for Dr. Assad to be removed. I ask the Arab League, I ask the surrounding neighbors to stand up against this increasing violence. To the Syrian Americans that I have stood with in Houston, I stand with you until Dr. Assad is removed and the violence is stopped.

The United Nations has moved towards a resolution of peace, and Russia and China must stop standing in the way and watching bloodshed pour. Remember, children are dying.

Dr. Assad in Syria must leave and peace must come.

PRESIDENT REAGAN'S WESTMINSTER ADDRESS

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

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark an important anniversary. Thirty years ago today, President Ronald Reagan delivered one of his most important speeches. He delivered an address to Westminster in which he talked about the imperative of our supporting the notion of self-determination around the world, and he called for the establishment of one of the most important national security items that we have in place today. It's known as the National Endowment for Democracy.

Mr. Speaker, in that speech, President Reagan said:

> We must be staunch in our conviction that freedom is not the sole prerogative of a lucky few, but the inalienable and universal right of all human beings. The objective I propose is quite simple to state: to foster the infrastructure of democracy, the system of a free press, unions, political parties, universities, which allows a people to choose their own way to develop their own culture, to reconcile their own differences through peaceful means.

Three decades later, the vision that Ronald Reagan put forward in that famous speech is not only alive, but it's well and thriving all over the world. I would like to congratulate, congratulate all of those who have been part of the effort that was launched by that speech 30 years ago today by Ronald Reagan.

To the people all over the world who want to determine their futures, we stand with them in their quest for self-determination.

STUDENT LOAN INTEREST RATES

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

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, on July 1, student loan interest rates are due to double. We also have seen numerous very short-term transportation bills as an extended longer transportation bill, which could give real certainty to workers and firms, is sitting there in the Senate and is ignored by the House.

Despite the fact that the transportation bill is sitting there, we haven't taken the proper action, and student loan rates are due to rise, you wouldn't know it from being on the House floor. You wouldn't know it because the majority has not taken up these issues that are the most pressing issues to the American people.

I'm not here to say that the Republicans are sabotaging the economy in order to get an advantage in the election. But there are a lot of people who believe that is the case. If the Republican majority wants to make sure that the people of America know that they're operating on their best behalf, I urge them to take action to preserve low interest rates for students to go to college, to pass a transportation bill, and take up the one that the Senate has already passed.

Jobs are the key, but you wouldn't know it from being in this body, based on the action—or inaction—of the majority.

REPUBLICAN INACTION

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

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, our country continues to recover from the worst recession we've faced in generations. This progress is being made despite the best efforts of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle who stated that their singular goal is not creating jobs, but in making President Obama a one-term President. In the 18 months since they took the majority, the Republicans have had one constant, and that's been to obstruct, obstruct when it comes to commonsense legislation to move the country forward.

Having a transportation bill, passing a long-term surface transportation bill would put 2 million people back to work.

They are obstructing in their unwillingness to keep college loans affordable, making sure that on July 1, 7 million students across this country will have their student loan interest rate double.

They have been obstructionist when it comes to the Paycheck Fairness Act, the simple task of making sure that women who do the same job with the same experience are paid the same money.

Obstruction, obstruction, obstruction. They could have done their part to make things happen for the American people, but they haven't done that.

Mr. Speaker, the actions of this Congress will speak louder than words. It's time for the Republicans to show their concern for the American people and not just with partisanship.

Stop the obstruction. Let's create jobs for the American people.

□ 1220

STARTUP JOBS ACT 2.0

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

Mr. DOLD. This week, I joined with some of my colleagues to introduce the bipartisan Startup Jobs Act 2.0.

Mr. Speaker, students come to America from all over the world. They earn advanced degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Then, upon graduating, they're forced to leave our country—forced to go back home and, in essence, compete against us. With them goes their knowledge, their ideas, and their aspirations to change the world. Many of these students want to stay here in America to make something of themselves here because America is still the best place for ideas to become realities. These ideas become solutions, which turn into job-creating companies.

According to a study by the National Foundation for American Policy, immigrants founded or cofounded almost half of the top 50 venture-backed companies in the United States. Since our Nation's founding, immigrants have flourished right along with our economy. America becomes a richer and more dynamic society by encouraging the best and the brightest from all over the world to set up shop here on our soil. That is why I'm honored to be an original cosponsor of the bipartisan, bicameral Startup Jobs Act 2.0 that will help America get back to work.

THE GOP'S ORPHANS

(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. Mr. Speaker, if Congress were a musical, then House Republicans would be Little Orphan Annie, singing, ''The sun will surely come out tomorrow,'' because with the urgent challenges facing this Nation, with Americans staring at an impending fiscal cliff and economic calamity, the GOP has simply said, ''Maybe we'll get to it tomorrow.''

Let's revisit the little orphans the GOP has left behind:

Needed transportation and jobs bill.

The Medicare doc payment fix.

The debt ceiling extension.

The student loan interest rate hike.

The sequester's arbitrary, indiscriminate cuts.

The farm bill.

Postal reform.

The expiration of the Bush tax cuts, the AMT taxes, and the payroll tax cut which would collectively cost families $4,000 more next year.

The impact to our economy and these poor little orphans is a staggering $7 trillion. The nonpartisan CBO has said failure to act on these will send America back into a recession.

The Republicans need to recognize that every orphan deserves a home and work with us on responsible bipartisan solutions, or it's going to be ''a hard knock life for us.''

PASS THE TRANSPORTATION BILL AND PUT AMERICANS BACK TO WORK

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

Mr. COHEN. Much emphasis has been put on the deficit and that we do need to deal with the deficit. But at the same time, one way to deal with it is to stimulate the economy. There's no better way to stimulate the economy than a transportation bill that repairs our infrastructure, puts people to work here in America, and improves the ability of industry to move its product and for consumers to get product. Yet the transportation bill that's been passed in the House and passed in the Senate—differing bills—is stuck in a conference committee.

We need to pass a transportation bill and put America back to work with American-made products by American workers. My city of Memphis is a transportation center. We know highways and runways move product and move people and make sense. So I urge our leaders to see that the conference committee comes back, doesn't have extraneous provisions, and does what is necessary to put America back to work and passes the highway bill.

AMERICAN JOBS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MULVANEY). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. GARAMENDI. We all like to think about ''what if''—what if I had actually gotten an A rather than an F in that high school class? What if I had hit that home run instead of struck out? The what-if game is part of our life. But I want to take that up today in a very, very serious way. This is about what if this Congress, led by our Republican colleagues, had taken up and passed President Barack Obama's American Jobs Act.

Last September, the President made a very bold proposal to put Americans back to work, a comprehensive piece of legislation that covered many, many different parts of the American economy. It's called the American Jobs Act. Fully paid for, not increasing the deficit at all, but paid for with the elimination of unnecessary tax breaks for Big Oil, unnecessary tax cuts for the extraordinarily wealthy 1 percent of Americans, a fully paid-for American Jobs Act proposed by the President last September.

What if? What if this House under our Republican leadership had taken up the elements of the American Jobs Act, modified them, as is our nature and our responsibility, but nonetheless passed those very significant proposals that would, according to economists, create somewhere between 1.3 and 1.9 million jobs immediately? Not some day in the future, but now. What if we had done that last September? What if our Republican leadership had allowed those measures to come before the committees and on this floor to be signed by the President? Then 1.3 million Americans or maybe even 1.9 million Americans would have a job today.

We're going to talk today about the most tragic what-if this Nation is pondering at this moment. What if the American Jobs Act had been implemented?

Let's talk about what it is. What are the elements of the American Jobs Act? Bear with me, if you will, as we go through these. I'll go through them rather quickly, and then we'll come back and touch on them as we go on.

If you've been watching here in the gallery or if you are watching C–SPAN, you would have heard my Democratic colleagues talk about the transportation bill. The President said last fall, We need to have a transportation bill, and we need it now. We need to put men and women back to work in the construction industry repairing our bridges, building our highways, paving our airports, building the infrastructure that this Nation needs.

The student aid bill. We know that if America is going to compete, we have to have the best educated workforce in the world. And so the President proposed a student aid bill, legislation that would provide additional sources of funding so students can go to school in community colleges, in 4-year schools, and in the master and doctorate programs.

The President took up one of the great conundrums and problems that this Nation faces from our competitors. Yes, China. China manipulates its currency, and the President said that has

to stop. He asked for the House of Representatives and the Senate to pass a piece of legislation dealing with the manipulation of the Chinese currency, which gives them somewhere between a 20 and 25 percent price advantage on all the things that they manufacture and import into the United States. He said, Do something about that. Give me, the administration, the power to deal, to put a tariff on those Chinese goods if the Chinese Government continues to manipulate its currency.

He said we ought to buy American-made products. We ought to use our money, our taxpayer money, to buy American-made goods.

□ 1230

I have a piece of legislation that would do just that, and I'll talk about that before this hour is done.

Buy America. Enhance the Buy American provisions. Do away with the waivers that have created a 12-lane freeway for foreign products to find their way into America despite the laws.

The President said that there are millions of homes in America that are inefficient, that leak energy and cost the homeowner or the renter vast amounts of money. He said we could put people to work putting in new windows, caulking, putting insulation in the attics. We could put people to work and, in the process, reduce our consumption of energy and create jobs.

He said there ought to be a permanent research and development tax credit so that our industries would stay ahead of the competition around the world, so that they would know year after year after year that the research and development tax credit would be there and the more that they invested in research, the more that they took that research and developed products, the more jobs would be created, and they didn't have to worry that, well, maybe, it won't be there next year, so this 5-year research program, we won't do it. No, he wants certainty. His American Jobs Act would have given certainty. But the leadership in this House refused to take up all of those provisions.

The President went on and said we need a payroll tax cut for businesses and for the worker. We did a little of this. Businesses didn't get a tax break on their payroll; however, the men and women that do work and do get a salary did get half of what the President proposed.

He said we ought to put veterans to work. And fortunately, on Veterans Day last year, we did pass a bill to do that, and we should consider even more.

285,000 teachers have lost their jobs this year across America. The President said that we cannot survive as a stable, growing country with a just society if we don't educate our kids, and so he said let's put those teachers back to work, 280,000 of them, and police and firemen along with them, so that we would have the public protection.

He said that in addition to a transportation enhancement, an additional $50 billion over and above the transportation bill, we ought to put people to work and give a jump start. Just like you would with a dead battery on your car, he wanted to put those jumper cables on the American construction industry, $50 billion, get it up and going.

And he said we need a permanent infrastructure bank.

I'll finish this up quickly, because it gets to be a rather long what-if. But, oh, what if. What if we had done these things?

How about rebuilding our schools and houses, again putting people to work. And how about allowing Americans to refinance their homes to stop the inevitable decline of the housing industry as more and more people were forced into bankruptcy and losing their homes.

It's the American Jobs Act, proposed by the President of the United States last September, and to this day, two of those policies have been adopted. What if? What if?

The economists say 1.3 million Americans would be working today if this legislation had been allowed to be brought to the floor of this House, had been allowed to be brought to the Senate and the President to sign it.

And don't forget this: It was fully paid for. It was fully paid for. The deficit would not have been increased. However, the oil companies would not have $12 billion of your money in addition to what they've taken at the gasoline pump—the wealthiest industry in the world. We'd get our tax dollars back, and we'd put people to work.

And for those with a million dollars of annual income after all of the deductions, after all of the credits, for those with a million dollars of annual income, their taxes would have gone up to pay for putting 1.3 million Americans back to work. What if?

I'd like now to call upon my colleague from the State of Oregon who for years has fought for transportation, one of the senior members on the Transportation Committee.

Mr. DEFAZIO, you were here late last night fighting one of the most foolish proposals I have heard of, to cut the transportation budget by $37 billion. Thank you for fighting that fight and informing us. Fortunately, this House rejected that foolish proposal.

I yield to the gentleman from Oregon.

Mr. DEFAZIO. I thank the gentleman.

I would just key in on one of the aspects of the President's proposal, and that would be long-term legislation to invest $450 billion in our crumbling infrastructure.

Now, some people say to me, well, Congressman, I don't work in construction. I say, these aren't just construction jobs. We have the strongest Buy America requirements in the area of transportation investments. Underline two words: ''investments'' and ''jobs.''

Now, those investments, if made under Buy America in, say, transit vehicles, involve engineering, manufacturing. They involve steel manufacturing. They involve sophisticated fabrication of vehicles, the tires for buses, all of those sorts of things. We could put millions of people back to work and begin to revive the devastated American manufacturing sector and for once keeping the Chinese from stealing our jobs because of the Buy America protections.

But, no, the Republicans don't want to do that. They don't really like the Buy America provisions in the bill, and they don't want to make the investments.

We were here till midnight last night. The gentleman from Georgia proposed that we end all new Federal investment in transportation infrastructure on October 1. There would not have been one penny more. All of the money that he would allow in next year's budget would only be enough to pay for ongoing projects.

When the States finish a project, we reimburse them. We authorize the projects; the States build them; we reimburse them. The money that he would limit us to would only pay for projects already ongoing. That would bring it all to a halt, despite the fact the system is falling apart. We're living off the legacy of Dwight David Eisenhower, a mid-20th century legacy. It's falling apart. It needs to be rebuilt. We also need to build out a 21st century infrastructure to more efficiently move goods and people and compete with our competitors.

Now, I heard a lot of nonsense last night, and 82 Republicans voted for this today, so this is a problem. The Republican Conference is having an internal war among themselves. They have 82 Members who believe the Federal Government—the Federal Government, the people of the United States assembled, the 50 States and territories—should not invest in transportation and infrastructure, that it should be done by the 50 States. It should be devolved. That's crazy. That's crazy. In the 21st century, we're going to have a 50-State transportation policy?

And how are the States going to pay for it? We tried that, until 1956. We had a turnpike built in Kansas that ended at the Oklahoma border, because Oklahoma didn't have the money, until Eisenhower passed the legislation and the Federal Government could invest. They want to go back to those good old days.

And then they prattle on about, well, these are just government jobs, government. They hate government. No, they're not government jobs. The government does not build bridges; the government does not build transit systems; the government does not build highways, gentlemen. They don't build any of those things. We go out and contract through the States for the lowest qualified bidders under Buy America requirements to build these projects with American workers and American products.

So let's stop all this nonsense on the Republican side of the aisle about the

government can't create jobs. The investments the government makes can create jobs in the private sector.

We have an infrastructure that's falling apart. The President wants to rebuild it. The Senate even wants to rebuild it on a bipartisan basis. But, no, the Republicans in the House of Representatives have stopped forward progress on this legislation, forgoing potentially millions of jobs. It's a shame. I only hope that the Senate and the President can prevail on this issue.

I thank the gentleman for bringing this to the attention of the House.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. DEFAZIO, for years you have been fighting for infrastructure. I didn't watch last night's debate as you fought fiercely to prevent one of the most foolish pieces of legislation—well, there have been many foolish pieces of legislation proposed by our colleagues, but you couldn't be more correct.

□ 1240

Let me just put this up. I came across this yesterday. Basically what this is is it's a diagram of the employment in the construction industry. We had about, what is that, 5,570,000 men and women working in the construction industry in January, and here we are in May and we're just over 5,500,000—some 20,000, almost 30,000 have lost their jobs. And the proposals that our Republican colleagues are making would guarantee that once these projects are finished, it would be over, nothing more.

But the President laid out not only a transportation bill, but he laid out a very robust jump-start to it—$50 billion of additional money invested. Now, let's understand, this is not government money; this is an investment by the American people. It is their gasoline tax, their diesel tax. It is their investment in the highways and bridges and transportation systems of this Nation. Well, I guess if you're anti-tax and you're anti-roads and you're pro-gridlock, you're guaranteeing that the economy will slow down and eventually, who knows, even collapse.

Fortunately, there's a gentleman here from the great Mid-Northwest, Mr. KEITH ELLISON. You've been on this issue for a long time. I know in your area you've been very, very concerned about the issues that are in the American Jobs Act. Please join us.

Mr. ELLISON. I want to thank you, Congressman, for making the issue of jobs the front and center issue.

We've been here all week long, and one of the things that I find just shocking is that we have not dealt with the issues that are really in front of the American people. And the number one issue is jobs.

We haven't dealt with future jobs that students could perhaps get if they got the education, which has to do with the doubling of interest rates on student loans, which is due in a few weeks unless the Republican majority acts. We certainty have not taken up a transportation bill that would extend extensive work to people. As many as 280,000 education jobs are on the chopping block in the upcoming school year due to pressure on State budgets.

So the bottom line is that this is an interesting week that we live in because there is no doubt—no one of the 435 Members of this body are under any doubt—student loan rates are doubling, unemployment is record high, and yet we didn't deal with any of these critical issues. I'm really shocked. I'm astounded. I'm under the impression that we're all here to work hard.

I'm one of those who doesn't like to sort of imply or even say that the Republicans are sabotaging jobs for political advantage because it's hard for me to imagine that any true public servant would ever do something like that, but there are a lot of folks out here who believe that is the case. I want our Republican colleagues to disprove that premise by getting some pro-job, pro-education legislation that we all can agree on.

Another thing that I'm glad to talk about is with regards to the Obama job plan. Under the American Jobs Act, Obama has laid out a plan. He has set forth a set of ideas, and one of the elements that I want to talk about a little bit is the job program for the long-term unemployed.

Obama has talked about dealing with the issues of the long-term unemployed, people who have been out of work, and you know, who have been chronically out of work for a long time—they call them the 99ers. It's modeled after an unemployment program in Georgia. Under that program, workers continue to collect unemployment benefits, plus a small stipend to cover transportation and other expenses at no expense to the employer. After 8 weeks of training, the company may hire the person or not, and it can amount to a free tryout.

So I think that the Obama administration, under the American Jobs Act, is being responsive to the needs of the American people. I think the same cannot be said for the House of Representatives under the Republican majority. Under the American Jobs Act, the Republicans could bring it up today. Some of these ideas are things that they have proposed, and they won't even take those up. So this is really disappointing.

I think people who have been chronically unemployed for weeks and weeks and maybe perhaps years—I talked to a woman who has been out of work for 2½ years. This woman has a college degree, she is a highly trained professional from my district—Lauren, if you're watching, you know that I'm talking about you. I think the American Jobs Act has just what the doctor ordered if the Republican majority will take it up.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Well, Mr. ELLISON, in your community and my community, people want to go to work. They want a job. They want to be able to be part of the American machine that creates the wealth of this economy. They want to have the opportunity to provide the money for their family, take care of their needs. They take pride in their work. They're hardworking people, but they can't make it.

We have a long, long tradition in America that dates back really to the very first day of the American modern government. The day George Washington was sworn into office he undertook an industrial policy. I know our Republican colleagues like to talk about the Founding Fathers. Well, they really ought to listen to the Founding Fathers. And if they had listened to the Founding Fathers, they would have paid attention to the President's proposal on the American Jobs Act, because here's what George Washington did: he turned to his Treasury Secretary, Alexander Hamilton, and said, Mr. Hamilton, we need to grow this economy. We need to put people to work. We need to be a strong Nation, a strong economy, and I want you, Mr. Hamilton, to develop a policy to do that.

Hamilton came back a few months later with an industrial policy, 13 different items on about five pages—now it would probably take 5,000 pages, but nonetheless, he did it. Do you know what was in it? What was in that industrial policy that Hamilton presented to Washington and to Congress—and mostly implemented over the next decade or so—were policies that—let me put this back up. Let's see here. How many of these were in it? And here's the great ''what if?''

There was a transportation part to those policies—in fact, two different ones. One, Hamilton said if we're going to grow this economy, we need to have good roads, we need to have good canals, and we need to improve our ports. He proposed legislation that did become law—some of it by the States, some of it by the national government—that created the canal systems, put the roads in place, and improved the ports of America. Very beginnings of this Nation. Pay attention, my colleagues who like to talk about the Founding Fathers: the Founding Fathers said we need America to have a transportation program.

Currency reform was on the agenda. Yes, it was. Hamilton, Treasury Secretary, said we need to pay attention to the currency issue. There was a huge fight going on at the time about the Federal bank, about the currency issues, but he said we needed a common currency, and we needed to be aware of the international exchange rates that were going on so that we were not put at a disadvantage.

There was a Buy American program. Hamilton told George Washington and the Founding Fathers that we needed to put in place a Buy America provision. You just heard our colleague from Oregon talking about a robust Buy American provision—and sometime before I end I'll talk about my legislation

that says if it's our tax dollars, it's going to be spent on American-made equipment and American jobs. We're not going to use our tax dollars to buy foreign equipment. That's precisely what Alexander Hamilton told George Washington in the very first Congress of this Nation, and they began to implement it.

Energy efficiency wasn't there. He did, however, talk about this one, this was one of the 13. He said we needed to have a robust research and development program—they called them patents at that time. We need to be ahead of everybody else. He wanted to put in policies, and they did become law. And here we have it today, just on these issues alone, these six issues.

The Founding Fathers said transportation. They said watch the currency. They said Buy American. And they said we need to be ahead with research and patents and be on the cutting edge of technology.

□ 1250

What if President Barack Obama's American Jobs Act had been taken up by the Republican leadership that control this House?

What if they had listened to the Founding Fathers and actually implemented what the President wanted to put in place? 1.3 million, 1.3 million jobs, perhaps as much as 1.9 million jobs Americans would be working today. The great ''what if'' question of our time.

What if they had listened to the Founding Fathers?

Mr. ELLISON, I know you have more to say.

Mr. ELLISON. Well, Congressman, if we had listened to the Founding Fathers, we'd be quite aways ahead. It's interesting, in the political rhetoric you hear, some people claim the Founding Fathers, but they don't claim the real Founding Fathers, the ones who actually had the foresight to make America a strong economic country by making sure that the government played an important role in making sure our economy was working, by promoting transportation, patents, currency protection and things like that.

But I would say that as we work here today, and as we think about all of the things that our Nation needs, none are more important than putting Americans back to work, I think. The American Jobs Act is a plan set forth by the President, and he's set this forth at a time when he's reaching his hand out. He's extending his hand. He's trying to get the Republican majority in the House to work with him.

But apparently they just won't do so because they have ideological and political considerations. One of those ideological things is that they just don't think the government is any good. They don't think the government can do any good. They don't think the government can help. And so we see proposals and amendments to simply eliminate the Federal role out of transportation. And of course we've seen them eliminate the Federal role out of environmental protection. We've seen a whole host of things like this.

You would think that the reason we have high unemployment is because of ''job-killing regulations.'' They love this refrain. I'm sure Frank Luntz is very proud. He's a pollster who comes up with clever phrasing that they use a lot. But it's not job-killing regulations.

Any small business person will tell you the key to their success is customers. The key to customers is people who have jobs, who have some money to spend. If you've got no customers and your customers are broke, then they're not going to buy your cakes, your pies, and those folks are not going to be able to pay the taxes they need to keep our valued public employees working, teachers, firefighters, police officers, public health nurses, people who make the water and the meat safe to eat and drink.

They like to throw around terms like ''socialism,'' but what we argue for is a mixed economy, a balance between the private sector and government, which enhances the performance of both, all in service to the American people.

So today I am in favor of us getting a strong, long-term, 6-year transportation bill. I am absolutely in favor of helping our students who are fearing that education is getting out of their economic reach. Absolutely, we have to be there to reform currency, to level the playing field with China.

We should buy American. What's wrong with buying American? I think buying American's good. I rather prefer buying American. In fact, whenever I get a product and it says ''Made in America,'' I get a warm fuzzy all over.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Wouldn't you love to go into K-Mart or Target and see on the shelves ''Made in America''?

Mr. ELLISON. Made in America.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Made in America. That's why the currency reform is so important.

Mr. ELLISON. If it was made in America, maybe we could make it in America.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Americans would make it if we made it in America. We'd have those middle class jobs. That's where it is.

Mr. ELLISON, thank you very much. I know you've got a plane; you've got to get back to Minneapolis. Thank you so much for joining us.

This is part of the Democratic agenda. This is something we've been working on now for well over 2 years, and we call it ''Make It in America.'' This is rebuilding the American middle class. This is about the American middle class coming back.

Over the last 20 years, we've seen a decline in American manufacturing. In the early nineties, we were a little more than 19 million, almost 20 million, Americans in the manufacturing sector. Those were middle class jobs, where you can go to work, earn a living, live a middle class life, buy your bass boat, take the kids on a vacation.

Today, we're just over 11 million middle class manufacturing jobs in America. So looking at this dismal situation, a couple of years ago, shortly after I arrived here, we began looking at what do you do about this. Why did this happen? Why is it that the American manufacturing sector declined?

We did our studies. We did the economic analysis. But mostly, we looked at public policy. We looked at the laws of this land. We looked at what was going on in the public policy sector; and what we found was the policies of this Nation discouraged manufacturing and, in fact, rewarded American corporations that would offshore jobs, literally, actually, giving American corporations a reduction in their taxes for every job they offshored. Total about $16 billion a year.

I know; you don't believe that. How could there be such a policy? That was my question. What? You mean to tell me that the tax policy of the United States gives a tax break to American corporations when they ship a job offshore?

Can't be. In fact, it was. And so in the last year, the last months of the Democrats' control of this House in 2010, we undertook to change that. We put a bill on this floor that would eliminate $12 billion of that $16 billion tax break that American corporations had for offshoring jobs. It passed without one Republican vote. Not one Member of the Republican Party voted to end a tax break for American companies that offshored jobs.

The Senate took it up; it passed. President Obama signed that legislation.

Public policy matters. Public policy matters a great deal.

We've talked here today about the Buy American provisions, been in law for 30, 40 years, that basically say, if it's our taxpayer dollars, it ought to be used to buy American equipment.

Over the years, probably beginning in the eighties and carrying on, those provisions began to gain loopholes, one after another, so that at the end of 2010, the loophole was a 12-lane freeway that you could drive any project through and buy whatever you wanted to buy from wherever it came from. So much so that in San Francisco, when the Oakland Bay Bridge between Oakland and San Francisco had to be rebuilt because of earthquake safety issues—some of it fell down in the Loma Prieta earthquake—the largest construction project, public works project ever in California. The main central steel column for a uniquely designed bridge, $1 billion or more, Chinese steel, Chinese welders, 6,000 jobs in China to save 10 percent.

It turns out the steel was faulty, the welds were faulty, the jobs were still in China and the inspectors were Chinese.

□ 1300

If we'd have had a Buy American provision that meant anything at all, we

would have had 6,000 jobs in America; the inspectors would have been American; and there would be American jobs.

So my legislation, H.R. 613, says this: If it is your tax money, it's going to be spent on American-made equipment, American-made steel, and the jobs will be in America.

Where is that bill? It hasn't even been taken up for a hearing in the Transportation Committee.

We're nibbling around the edges here. Of every bill that comes through this floor that's relevant to this issue, we try to shoehorn into it a Buy American provision. We try to increase the Buy American laws. We try to make certain that your tax money is going to be spent on American-made equipment. That's our agenda.

Have we been successful? No. No, we've not.

When the half-baked, worthless transportation bill was brought to the floor by our Republican colleagues, who could not even get agreement in their own caucus, we tried to put a provision on, an amendment on, and it was rejected. It was rejected.

Americans want to go to work. Public policy matters. Will your tax dollars be spent buying Chinese steel? I'll give you another example.

In Los Angeles, they went out to buy new light rail cars. Two bids were the final bids. One was by Siemens—yes, a German company that has a manufacturing plant for light rail cars in Sacramento, California. Siemens said that their light rail cars would have a minimum of 80 percent American-made content. A Japanese company came in and said, We'll do it for 60 percent. There was a slight difference. I think there was about a 2 percent difference in the bids.

So what did the MTA, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, do? It chose the Japanese company. American jobs were lost immediately in Sacramento as a result of that decision.

Now, whose money is going to be spent buying those cars, those light rail cars? Whose money is it? Your money. It's your tax money. Good for Japan. They're going to get some jobs. Bad for Sacramento. Layoffs have already occurred, and there are more to come.

Do you want another example? I'll just use California. That's where I'm from.

The Bay Area Rapid Transit System, BART: $3.2 billion for new trains over 10 years. $3.2 billion. Two bids. One, Bombardier, a fine Canadian company, said they would build them with 66 percent American-made content. Okay, that's good. It's not good enough because Alstom, a French company, said they would build them with 90 percent American-made content. Yes, it's a little more expensive, but we're talking $1 billion of American jobs here.

The Bay Area Rapid Transit System said, Well, the Federal Government says it's 60 percent, and we're going to have to go with 66. I said and thousands of Californians said and New Yorkers, which is where most of these jobs would be, that Alstom has a plant in New York to manufacture light rail and heavy rail cars. They said, Wait, let's take 2 months—2 months—and let's rebid this, and let's see what we can do. Alstom was prepared to lower their bid if they would have had an opportunity, and $1 billion of American jobs are not here. They're somewhere else around the world.

Public policy matters. Public policy matters.

I think it's about time to wrap up here, so I'm going to go back to where we started.

What if the House of Representatives under the control of our Republican colleagues—totally under their control and the Senate also under the control of the Republicans because it takes 60 votes there—what if the President's American Jobs Act had been taken up and passed? We'll modify it, and don't forget it was fully paid for, 100 percent paid for with no increase in the deficit. The economists said clearly that 1.3 million would immediately result from the President's American Jobs Act. What if?

What does it mean to you in your community? Would that road have been built? Would you have had the job paving that road? repairing and painting that bridge? down at the local school, painting the school? cleaning up the playgrounds? putting new toilets into the restrooms or, specifically, a new laboratory in the high school—not a lavatory but a laboratory? What if?

What if we had put aside partisan politics?

Keep this in mind that the Republican leader of the Senate, on the day or shortly after President Obama was inaugurated, said that his number one goal was to make sure that this was a one-term President. So how do you do that? Well, when the President proposes an American Jobs Act that would employ 1.3 million Americans immediately, you make certain that it doesn't become law. You slow it down. Everything has to be 60 votes in the Senate; and here in this House, you do not even take it up. You don't allow a vote on it.

You don't do a transportation bill. You don't take the $50 billion injected immediately into infrastructure—totally paid for. You don't do it even though that would employ tens of thousands of Americans. You make certain that the 288,000 teachers who have been laid off across America are not rehired so that my daughter's classroom is not 22 students but 35 students.

How do you destroy a President? You make certain that this economy doesn't move. You take his American Jobs Act, and you sit on it. That's what has happened. The great ''what if.''

What if we put Americans back to work? Yes, maybe Obama would get reelected—maybe I'd get reelected—but I'll tell you this: Americans would be working. Americans would be working. What if?

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

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. CICILLINE (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today after 11 a.m. on account of official business in district.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

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.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 9 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Tuesday, June 12, 2012, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

6381. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Acetone; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2008-0039; FRL-3944-2] received May 11, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6382. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Managment Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Fluxapyroxad; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2010-0421; FRL-9346-7] received May 11, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6383. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Penflufen; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2010-0425; FRL-9341-8] received May 11, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6384. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Propylene oxide; Tolerance Actions [EPA-HQ-OPP-2005-0253; FRL-9346-8] (RIN: 2070-ZA16) received May 11, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6385. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendments to Sterility Test Requirements for Biological Products [Docket No.: FDA-

2011-N-0080] received May 11, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6386. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Withdrawal of Revocation of TSCA Section 4 Testing Requirements for One High Production Volume Chemical Substance [EPA-HQ-OPPT-2005-0033; FRL-9350-2] (RIN: 2070-AD16) received May 11, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6387. 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; Delaware, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania; Determinations of Attainment of the 1997 Annual Fine Particulate Standard for the Philadelphia-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE Nonattainment Area [EPA-R03-OAR-2011-0714; FRL-9670-3] received May 11, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6388. 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; Delaware; Amendments to the Control of Nitrogen Oxides Emissions from Industrial Boilers and Process Heaters at Petroleum Refineries [EPA-R03-OAR-2011-0642; FRL-9671-9] received May 11, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6389. 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; Permit to Construct Exemptions [EPA-R03-OAR-2012-0292; FRL-9671-7] received May 11, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6390. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Agency, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Oklahoma: Incorporation by Reference of Approved State Hazardous Waste Management Program [EPA-R06-2011-0484; FRL-9652-9a] received May 11, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6391. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Quality: Widespread Use for Onboard Refueling Vapor Recovery and Stage II Waiver [EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-1076; FRL-9671-3] received May 11, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6392. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Revisions to Federal Implementation Plans To Reduce Interstate Transport of Fine Particulate Matter and Ozone [EPA-HQ-OAR-2009-0491; FRL-9671-4] (RIN: 2060-AR35) received May 11, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6393. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Implementation of the 2008 National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Ozone: Nonattainment Area Classifications Approach, Attainment Deadlines and Revocation of the 197 Ozone Standards for Transportation [EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-0885; FRL-9667-9] (RIN: 2060-AR32) received May 11, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6394. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Standardized and Enhanced Disclosure Requirements for Television Broadcast Licensee Public Interest Obligations; Extension of the Filing Requirement For Children's Television Programming Report (FCC Form 398) [MM Docket No. 00-168; MM Docket No. 00-44] received May 10, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6395. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Version 4 Critical Infrastructure Protection Reliability Standards [Docket No.: RM11-11-000; Order No. 761] received May 9, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6396. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Special Local Regulations; Patriot Challenge Kayak Race, Ashley River, Charleston, SC [Docket No.: USCG-2011-1095] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received May 14, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6397. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Non-Compliant Vessel Pursuit Training Course, Wando River, Charleston, SC [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0138} (RIN: 1625-AA00) received May 12, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6398. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Update of Weighted Average Interest Rates, Yield Curves, and Segment Rates [Notice 2012-36] received May 16, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6399. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Basis Reporting by Securities Brokers and Basis Determination for Debt Instruments and Options [Notice 2012-34] received May 16, 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. UPTON: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 4480. A bill to provide for the development of a plan to increase oil and gas exploration, development, and production under oil and gas leases of Federal lands under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Secretary of Defense in response to a drawdown of petroleum reserves from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve; with an amendment (Rept. 112–520, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Energy and Commerce discharged from further consideration. H.R. 901 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committees on Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Armed Services discharged from further consideration. H.R. 4480 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, and ordered to be printed.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself and Mr. GRIMM):

H.R. 5929. A bill to amend the Investment Company Act of 1940 to change the asset coverage ratio and treatment of preferred stock for business development companies, to allow business development companies to purchase, otherwise acquire, or hold certain securities, and to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission to revise rules under the Securities Act of 1933 relating to business development companies; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. MCKINLEY (for himself, Mr. GRIMM, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, and Mr. KILDEE):

H.R. 5930. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the rehabilitation credit for commercial buildings and to provide a rehabilitation credit for principal residences; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CRAWFORD:

H.R. 5931. A bill to ensure the continuation of successful fisheries mitigation programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. BUERKLE (for herself, Mr. PAUL, and Mr. KELLY):

H.R. 5932. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow 529 tuition programs with respect to elementary and secondary education expenses; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 5933. A bill to amend section 1120A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to modify the comparability of services requirements; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA (for himself, Mr. SABLAN, and Ms. BORDALLO):

H.R. 5934. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to include certain territories and possessions of the United States in the definition of State for the purposes of chapter 114, relating to trafficking in contraband cigarettes and smokeless tobacco; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FORTENBERRY:

H.R. 5935. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of Energy from enforcing regulations pertaining to certain battery chargers; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GARAMENDI (for himself, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. AMASH, and Mr. PERLMUTTER):

H.R. 5936. A bill to amend the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 to provide for the trial of covered persons detained in the United States pursuant to the Authorization for Use of Military Force or the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 and to repeal the requirement for military custody; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LANCE (for himself, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, Mr. MORAN, Mr. CLARKE of Michigan, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. NORTON, Ms. MOORE, Mr. RANGEL, and Mr. HONDA):

H.R. 5937. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to raise awareness of, and to educate breast cancer patients anticipating surgery regarding, the availability and coverage of breast reconstruction, prostheses, and other options; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut (for himself and Ms. DELAURO):

H.R. 5938. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the dollar limitation on the exclusion for employer-provided dependent care assistance; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PASTOR of Arizona:

H.R. 5939. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 North Taylor Lane in Patagonia, Arizona, as the ''Jim Kolbe Post Office''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. CAMPBELL, and Mr. ELLISON):

H.R. 5940. A bill to establish pilot programs to encourage the use of shared appreciation mortgage modifications, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. PLATTS (for himself, Mr. TOWNS, and Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia):

H.R. 5941. A bill to obtain an unqualified audit opinion, and improve financial accountability and management at the Department of Homeland Security; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PRICE of Georgia (for himself, Mr. KIND, and Mr. ROSS of Arkansas):

H.R. 5942. A bill to repeal certain changes to contracts with Medicare Quality Improvement Organizations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. WELCH):

H.R. 5943. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for an extension of the Medicare-dependent hospital (MDH) program and the increased payments under the Medicare low-volume hospital program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. RICHMOND:

H.R. 5944. A bill to strengthen entrepreneurial education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. MILLER of Michigan (for herself, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. WALZ of Minnesota, and Mr. HUNTER):

H. Con. Res. 129. Concurrent resolution recognizing 375 years of service of the National Guard and affirming congressional support for a permanent Operational Reserve as a component of the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. CHU (for herself, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. HONDA, Mr. ISSA, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. CLAY, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. SCHIFF, and Mr. JACKSON of Illinois):

H. Res. 683. A resolution expressing the regret of the House of Representatives for the passage of laws that adversely affected the Chinese in the United States, including the Chinese Exclusion Act; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRIMM:

H. Res. 684. A resolution expressing support for designation of March 29 as Vietnam Veterans Day; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Ms. HOCHUL (for herself, Ms. SLAUGHTER, and Mr. HIGGINS):

H. Res. 685. A resolution recognizing the 200th anniversary of the War of 1812 and the ensuing 200 years of peace and cooperation between the United States and Canada; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan introduced a bill (H.R. 5945) for the relief of Jing Roberts; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENTS

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 Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 5929.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. MCKINLEY:

H.R. 5930.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

According to Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution: The Congress shall have power to enact this legislation to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes.

By Mr. CRAWFORD:

H.R. 5931.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the enumerated powers listed in Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Ms. BUERKLE:

H.R. 5932.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8, clause 1 (''The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises . . .''), and the 16th Amendment.

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 5933.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA:

H.R. 5934.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV Section 3 Clause 2 ''The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States.''

By Mr. FORTENBERRY:

H.R. 5935.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority for this bill is pursuant to Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. GARAMENDI:

H.R. 5936.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Art. 1, Section 8

By Mr. LANCE:

H.R. 5937.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut:

H.R. 5938.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8.

By Mr. PASTOR of Arizona:

H.R. 5939.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress to establish Post Offices and post roads, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 7 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. PETERS:

H.R. 5940.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Commerce Clause (Art. I, §8, cl. 3) of the United States Constitution provides that the Congress shall have the power to regulate interstate and foreign commerce. This legislation regulates the mortgage markets, which involve significant interstate and foreign commerce, with investors from around the world purchasing mortgages securitized by the Government Sponsored Enterprises.

By Mr. PLATTS:

H.R. 5941.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 and Clause 18

By Mr. PRICE of Georgia:

H.R. 5942.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 9, Clause 7

Imposes Congressional accountability for the spending of the other branches of government. Congress has the duty to fund and provide oversight to the federal administrative agencies, including the Department of Health and Human Services and direct the manner in which they expend taxpayer funds.

By Mr. REED:

H.R. 5943.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 16, to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying to execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any Department or Office thereof.

By Mr. RICHMOND:

H.R. 5944.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is introduced pursuant to the powers granted to Congress under the General Welfare Clause (Art. 1 Sec. 8 Cl. 1), the Commerce Clause (Art. 1 Sec. 8 Cl. 3), and

the Necessary and Proper Clause (Art. 1 Sec. 8 Cl. 18).

Further, this statement of constitutional authority is made for the sole purpose of compliance with clause 7 of Rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and shall have no bearing on judicial review of the accompanying bill.

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan:

H.R. 5945.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 4 of the United States Constitution states that ''The Congress shall have Power to establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization, and uniform Laws on the subject of Bankruptcies throughout the United States.''

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution states that ''The Congress shall have Power to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.''

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 303: Mr. COLE.
H.R. 733: Mr. HEINRICH.
H.R. 777: Mr. TURNER of New York and Mr. SCHRADER.
H.R. 860: Mr. DENHAM and Mr. BUTTERFIELD.
H.R. 876: Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 905: Mr. WEBSTER.
H.R. 942: Mr. SENSENBRENNER and Mr. CRAWFORD.
H.R. 1112: Mr. KLINE.
H.R. 1116: Mr. CARNAHAN and Ms. KAPTUR.
H.R. 1236: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 1240: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 1259: Mr. SCHILLING.
H.R. 1265: Mr. ROSS of Arkansas.
H.R. 1474: Mr. FARENTHOLD.
H.R. 1475: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 1489: Ms. HIRONO.
H.R. 1537: Mr. CARNAHAN.
H.R. 1639: Mr. STUTZMAN and Mr. AMODEI.
H.R. 1672: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SIRES, and Mr. FILNER.
H.R. 1733: Mr. HONDA.
H.R. 1956: Mr. HENSARLING and Mr. MCCAUL.
H.R. 2028: Mr. QUIGLEY and Mr. ELLISON.
H.R. 2077: Mr. POMPEO.
H.R. 2168: Ms. TSONGAS.
H.R. 2180: Ms. SLAUGHTER.
H.R. 2327: Mr. MILLER of Florida.
H.R. 2355: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 2925: Mr. BURGESS.
H.R. 3057: Ms. SUTTON.
H.R. 3179: Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas and Ms. SCHWARTZ.
H.R. 3395: Mr. PETRI.
H.R. 3496: Mr. POLIS.
H.R. 3497: Mr. LOEBSACK.
H.R. 3506: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.
H.R. 3522: Mr. ENGEL and Mr. AL GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 3627: Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas.
H.R. 3667: Mr. LATTA.
H.R. 3767: Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.R. 3798: Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts and Mr. MCNERNEY.
H.R. 3873: Mr. WELCH.
H.R. 4066: Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, and Mr. BUCSHON.
H.R. 4122: Mr. ISRAEL.
H.R. 4132: Ms. HOCHUL.
H.R. 4171: Mr. PITTS.
H.R. 4186: Mr. GRIMM, Mr. WEBSTER, Mr. ROSS of Florida, and Mr. REICHERT.
H.R. 4202: Mr. CARSON of Indiana and Mr. MCNERNEY.
H.R. 4273: Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 4278: Mr. MICHAUD.
H.R. 4286: Mr. FILNER, Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas, Mr. RUSH, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia and Ms. MOORE.
H.R. 4287: Ms. WOOLSEY and Mr. ELLISON.
H.R. 4341: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 4362: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.
H.R. 4383: Mr. CONAWAY, Ms. JENKINS, Mrs. CAPITO and Mr. REED.
H.R. 4385: Mr. COBLE, Mr. NUNNELEE, Mrs. NOEM, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. YOUNG of Indiana, Mr. FLAKE and Mr. SMITH of Texas.
H.R. 4965: Mr. BONNER, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. SCHOCK and Mr. MCCLINTOCK.
H.R. 5186: Mr. HOLT.
H.R. 5195: Mr. MCKINLEY.
H.R. 5381: Mr. QUAYLE.
H.R. 5647: Mr. COURTNEY and Mr. LEVIN.
H.R. 5799: Ms. SLAUGHTER.
H.R. 5840: Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. STARK, Mr. HOLT and Ms. CHU.
H.R. 5870: Mr. STARK.
H.R. 5872: Mr. WOODALL, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. HANNA and Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas.
H.R. 5892: Mr. WALDEN and Mr. GARDNER.
H.R. 5893: Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California and Ms. CHU.
H.R. 5901: Mr. ELLISON, Mr. GUTIERREZ and Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 5906: Mr. PERLMUTTER.
H.R. 5911: Mr. LOEBSACK and Mr. WESTMORELAND.
H.R. 5912: Mr. NUNNELEE, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. BISHOP of Utah and Mr. GARDNER.
H. Con. Res. 127: Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia and Mr. SULLIVAN.
H. Res. 506: Mr. KEATING.
H. Res. 618: Mr. MICHAUD.
H. Res. 665: Mr. GRIMM.

DELETIONS OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were deleted from public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 2942: Mrs. NOEM.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HEALTH CARE COST REDUCTION ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2012

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today out of concern regarding the Protect Medical Innovation Act of 2011 (H.R. 436).

I am extremely disappointed that this bill, which addresses important issues, was needlessly injected with partisanship.

The medical device industry is integral to both our health care system and our economy.

Regardless of our political leanings, we should all be able to agree that it is in all of our best interests to support a thriving domestic medical device industry.

I have met with a variety of people on this issue—innovators, manufacturers, patients, consumer advocates, and many other stakeholders.

I understand their concerns about the impact that this policy would have, especially on small firms and in California, and wish we had the opportunity to look at a range of options to address them.

Unfortunately, in the bill before us, the House Majority has once again found a way to poison a bill by slashing important insurance provisions in the Affordable Care Act.

Yet again they have shown that they are willing to disregard American families in order to get a pithy sound bite and further their own divisive agenda.

By removing protections for low- and moderate income families who receive subsidies to purchase private health insurance, this bill pits American families verse manufacturers.

It essentially punishes people for improving their situation by getting a new job or a raise.

The result? According to the Congressional Budget Office, an estimated 350,000 families would be added to the uninsured ranks, and others would be left debating between going for a promotion or paying a hefty tax bill.

Health care is a right deserved by all, and shouldn't come with fear of punishment.

And the idea of asking American families to choose between having health insurance and improving their financial situations is preposterous.

Through this bill, the other side has shown that they are more concerned with dismantling health care reform than ensuring that the American people have access to health care.

And therefore I cannot vote for it.

IN HONOR OF BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take the time today to commemorate the 30 years of dedication and service provided by Big Brothers Big Sisters of Santa Cruz County. Through its mentoring services, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Santa Cruz County has been a leader in prevention-based services to over 4,500 children and youth in our community since its founding in 1982.

By working to increase their sense of self-esteem and confidence, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Santa Cruz County has proven effective in keeping children and youth in school, away from drugs and alcohol, out of the juvenile justice system, and, thus able to make healthier, more constructive life choices.

Youth matched to Big Brothers or Big Sisters have been provided with caring, supportive, and positive adult role models who offer opportunities and options not otherwise available. Thousands of volunteer hours have been spent by carefully screened and trained mentors who provide one-on-one guidance, friendship, positive role-modeling, and support to youth in Santa Cruz County.

The commitment of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Santa Cruz County grants not only new-found opportunities and support to at-risk youth, but a sense of purpose and satisfaction to those who guide them, resulting in the enrichment of the family as well as the greater community. As is their goal, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Santa Cruz County has and will continue to create new opportunities to place appropriate mentors with youth from the increasing number of families in need.

The continued success of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Santa Cruz County can be attributed to the dedicated staff and volunteers who have helped generate support and enthusiasm in our community and who have worked admirably for the benefit of others.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself and my colleagues in the House, I would like to thank and congratulate the staff and volunteers of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Santa Cruz County on 30 wonderful years of service.

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT OF MANO FREY, VICE PRESIDENT AND REGIONAL MANAGER OF THE LABORERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION OF NORTH AMERICA, NORTHWEST REGION

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, Mano Frey originally hails from Yakima, Washington, where he grew up with a relatively small family of ten sisters and seven brothers.

After graduating high school, Mano attended Seattle University where he majored in civil engineering. In 1970, Mano took a small break during his senior year to set off with his close friend for Alaska. Their destination? The now-famous city of Valdez, Alaska.

After experiencing the wonders and magnificence of what some call "old Alaska," Mano decided to delay college in favor of joining Laborers' Local 341. Almost immediately he was dispatched to pour concrete for a new school using a 90lb pavement breaker.

Soon, Mr. Frey became a steward for the drillers and powder men at the main terminal camp for the Trans Alaska Pipeline. The job, which at the time was the biggest in world history, had over 25 thousand people working on the line from Prudhoe Bay to Valdez.

His reputation grew within the union's leadership and in 1977 he was appointed to be the area's business agent. A year later they asked him to transfer to the union's headquarters in Anchorage. Soon after Mano became the union's president. In 1981, he attained the job of Business Manager, a position he held until he became International Vice-President and Regional Manager for LIUNA's Northwest Region.

During his time in Alaska, Mano left his mark as a leader. On more than one occasion, Mr. Frey was recognized by the Alaska Journal of Commerce as being one of the top ten most powerful people in Alaska. He was the first and only labor leader to be given the Public Service Gold Pan Award by the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce.

For a decade, Mano Co-Chaired the premier advocacy group Arctic Power, which advocated for the opening of the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) to oil exploration. To bring significant economic development to the State of Alaska and Nation.

Leading the program, Mano oversaw the huge advocacy effort to open the nation's largest oil reserve. Legislation to open ANWR has passed the House 12 times due in no small part to the work of advocacy groups like Arctic Power and the Alaska Congressional Delegation. The bill even passed the Senate once, only to be vetoed by President Clinton soon afterwards.

But, in his own inimitable style, Mano never lost faith and continued to push for the opening of ANWR, with the knowledge that if you ever let up on your goals, you certainly will never reach them.

It was with that same determination that Mano served as the Alaska AFL–CIO's executive president from 1984 until 2003. During his tenure, Mano also had the privilege of serving on the National AFL–CIO's Executive Council. Upon his retirement from the Alaska AFL–CIO, and in recognition of all the years of hard work and dedication to the working men and women everywhere, the organization named him President Emeritus.

In 2003 Mano became a Vice President and Regional Manager for the Laborers International Union of North America. He served this organization and its members with honor. He demonstrated on numerous occasions that he not only cared about how all of the Local unions under his jurisdiction fared, but that the most important mission was the welfare and quality of life of the members and their families.

On behalf of all the working men and women of Alaska and beyond, whose lives

you enriched and livelihood you protected, I thank and wish you a happy retirement as you transition into your next chapter in life.

KATHRYN ELLIOT WILLIAMS

HON. MARTHA ROBY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, the strength of a community is derived from leaders who contribute selfless gifts in an effort to benefit others. Service, grace, and support are namely a few of the many gifts and talents one can offer. Those who build on a foundation of service are truly the most valuable and remarkable individuals within our communities.

Kathryn Elliot Williams, my dear childhood friend, was a true servant of her community. All of those who knew Elliot were familiar with her giving nature. From a very young age, Elliot displayed a magnificent sense of eagerness to assist those around her. Described by others as ''an inspiration to all,'' she set forth on a path to enrich others through her talents and gifts. However, a few weeks ago, Elliot lost a courageous battle with ovarian cancer.

She traveled an honorable journey for 36 years. In that time, she touched many lives through teaching, encouraging and serving. Her students, friends, neighbors and members of her church were those who benefited most. Their words describe Elliot the best:

''We honor her as a friend, wife, mother and professional and mostly a leader of Christianity,''

''What a wonderful and brave woman,''

''There are so many amazing and wonderful things she accomplished for others,''

''Elliot never wavered when presented with obstacles,''

''A beautiful, kind person, she was truly an amazing woman,''

''Delightful even in the face of adversity,''

''She was honest, earnest and a true friend.''

Elliot, a leader in her community and her home, stood as an example for all of those she encountered. Her actions resemble a challenge for each one of us to discover our God-given gifts and share them with everyone around us.

Elliot's husband, son and daughter, and her parents will memorialize a loving wife, mother, and daughter who shared her talents with the world. Elliot's community will remember a gentle and compassionate leader dedicated to the goodwill of others.

I honor Elliot for her ability to provide light, hope, and grace to those surrounding her. She was a community servant who rose to the challenge, lent support, and encouraged others. I thank her for her friendship and I know her life has shepherded future leaders to follow her Christ-centered example of service and goodwill.

HONORING DR. RON L. HOPPING

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Dr. Ron L. Hopping of Clear Lake, Texas. At the end of this month, Dr. Hopping will be installed as 91st President of the American Optometric Association (AOA) during their 115th annual meeting in Chicago, Illinois. This is a prestigious and well-deserved title for a man of great determination and success in his career of Optometry.

Dr. Hopping earned his Bachelor's degree from Southern California College of Optometry and completed his Master's degree in Public Health from the University of Texas in 1982. He is also the recipient of the President's Award for Outstanding Service from ten different state presidents and earned the distinction of Texas Optometrist of the Year in 2002. Dr. Hopping also received the Outstanding Faculty Award at the University of Houston, College of Optometry.

Among his many impressive accolades, Dr. Hopping is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry, as well as a Diplomate in Cornea and Contact Lenses. Dr. Hopping has also earned the title of Distinguished Practitioner by the National Academies of Practice in Optometry.

Dr. Hopping held several positions and served on numerous boards, including the American Optometric Association Board of Trustees. He served as a full-time faculty member with the rank of Assistant Professor at the University of Houston, College of Optometry and President of the Texas Optometric Association in 1996. Dr. Hopping also served as chair of the AOA Information and Member Services Group, and on the AOA Communications Group Advisory Committee.

Currently, Dr. Hopping is a member of the AOA Executive, Investment, Agenda and Personnel Committees. His board liaison assignments include the Meetings Center and affiliate associations in Alaska, California, Hawaii, Nevada, and Oregon. Dr. Hopping is also the liaison for the Armed Forces Optometric Society, Southern California College of Optometry and Western University of Health Science College of Optometry.

Dr. Ron L. Hopping distinguishes himself through his many contributions to his profession. His previous achievements and dedication provide the foundation for what I predict will be an extremely successful term as President of the American Optometric Association. It's a privilege to extend a heartfelt congratulation to the 91st President of the American Optometric Association, Dr. Ron L. Hopping. Thank you for enriching the lives of many through your work.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 300TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHATHAM

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 300th anniversary of the founding of Chatham, Massachusetts, a small, quaint town that has long been synonymous with the beauty of Cape Cod.

In 1606, Samuel de Champlain was the first European to traverse the area now known as Chatham. At the time of Champlain's arrival and until William Nickerson purchased land in 1656, the area was inhabited by the Monomoyick people. In 1664, William Nickerson settled his family in the area and eventually founded the town forty-eight years later on June 11, 1712.

The first 100 years of Chatham's recorded history indicate a struggle to establish a stable population and economy. The French and Indian Wars and the smallpox epidemic of 1760 claimed lives and money from the residents of the new town. After the Revolutionary War, however, fishing exports, whaling, ship building and salt production flourished, fueling the growth of the local economy.

By the late 1800's, the town began to benefit from the growing popularity of seaside vacationing. Wealthy vacationers and summer residents provided the basis for the new economic growth, and the popularity of this seaside haven among vacationers continued to expand throughout the 20th century. By 1950, the summer population of 5,000 greatly outnumbered 2,457 year-round residents.

Present day Chatham has continued its expansion and popularity. The small-town charm and pristine coastline have kept generations of vacationers and summer residents coming back each year.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating the 300th anniversary of Chatham, Massachusetts. May this beautiful Massachusetts town flourish for many years to come.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5325) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, at its best, the Energy and Water Appropriations bill sets forth a forward-looking agenda for our national investment in ports and waterways, clean energy development, environmental reclamation, scientific innovation, the responsible management of our nuclear weapons stockpile and our ongoing commitment to nuclear nonproliferation. Unfortunately, in too many places, H.R. 5325 falls short of that forward-looking agenda.

As Ranking Member of the Budget Committee, I fully understand the need to cut federal spending. Indeed, I supported last year's Budget Control Act, which cut about $1 trillion in federal spending over the next ten years. However, we also need to compete in clean energy, science, innovation and advanced manufacturing—and that is where this legislation misses the mark.

For example, this legislation cuts funding for clean energy and energy efficiency by $374 million below FY 2012 and $886 million below the President's request. The budget for the Department of Energy's Office of Science is cut $64 million below current levels and $167 million below the President's request. And the Advanced Research Projects Agency, or

ARPA–E—which is doing transformational, potentially game-changing work on behalf of our nation's long term energy security—is provided only $200 million, which is $75 million below FY 2012 and $150 million below the President's request.

Additionally, the underlying bill contains a misguided policy rider blocking the Administration from restoring long-standing Clean Water Act protections for stream and wetlands across the country—and an amendment was adopted during floor debate which will block enforcement of common sense light bulb energy efficiency standards.

Mr. Chair, we can do better. I urge a no vote.

RECOGNIZING COLONEL HERMAN ''HANK'' TILLMAN FOR HIS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Herman ''Hank'' Tillman who passed away on February 19th 2012. Colonel Tillman received 41 citations and medals over a 31 year career of service in our nation's military, making him one of Maryland's most decorated war heroes. He served in World War II, Korea and Vietnam.

Colonel Tillman was born in Baltimore, MD in 1922. He graduated from Baltimore Polytechnic Institute and went on to attend Johns Hopkins University. While enrolled in night classes at Johns Hopkins and working throughout the day in the engineering department at Baltimore Gas and Electric Company, the United States was attacked at Pearl Harbor. Six weeks later, he enlisted.

Colonel Tillman first received his wings in December 1942 as part of the ''Pearl Harbor Anniversary Class,'' and by the age of 20, he was piloting the B–17 Flying Fortress, at the time the world's biggest bomber. In two years, he flew 52 missions many of which were deep behind enemy lines. He made Captain at 21 and shortly after his 23rd birthday he was promoted to Major. He received the Purple Heart and the Distinguished Flying Cross in 1943 for safely landing his plane and crew despite heavy damage from German fire and serious shrapnel injuries to his leg.

After his distinguished service in WWII concluded, Colonel Tillman returned home to his high school sweet heart, Elizabeth Anne Brown. They were married on June 25th, 1944 at Brooklyn Baptist Church. They had three children—Paula, Bruce, and Terri—and Betty left her position with the Coast Guard to care for the kids full-time while Colonel Tillman served abroad.

Colonel Tillman's continued service in the Air Force took him to Korea and Vietnam. He later told the Baltimore Sun, '''I was a career person,' he says, 'As an Air Cadet graduate, I had taken the [officer's] oath. To me, commitment and oaths mean something, just like a marriage oath.'" In Vietnam he flew 105 combat missions, most of which were in unarmed recon jets through heavily guarded enemy airspace. He received the Silver Star for a reconnaissance flight through heavy anti-aircraft fire near Mugia Pass that allowed attack planes to pinpoint enemy targets.

Colonel Tillman retired from the Air Force in 1972 after compiling 5,000 hours of flying time and earning 23 medals for bravery. He started a family business in Baltimore called Tillman Tool Company and later retired with his wife Betty to Kent Island, Maryland.

Colonel Tillman led an accomplished and fulfilled life. I would like to take this moment to thank him for his service to the United States, and to pass along my condolences to his proud family. Although we can never repay the debt our nation owes Colonel Tillman and other veterans like him, their sacrifices will always be remembered.

IN HONOR OF MARION OSHER SANDLER

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Marion Osher Sandler—a prominent leader, a generous supporter of many humanitarian causes, and a dear friend who died June 1st. Her passing is a great loss to our community and the nation.

Marion Osher was born to immigrant parents who valued both business and philanthropy and encouraged those values in her as well. When Marion married Manhattan lawyer Herb Sandler in 1961, a beautiful family and a lifelong partnership in business and philanthropy was begun.

Marion and Herb together turned a two-branch Oakland savings and loan into Golden West Financial Corporation, with more than 11,000 employees. They ran Golden West for 43 years, she, the marketing and consumer brains of the firm, he the strategist. Marion Sandler was the first and longest serving woman CEO of a Fortune 500 company in the United States.

The Sandlers' success enabled them to give back to the community by funding progressive political organizations and non-profits, particularly those that uplift the disadvantaged and underserved, such as Human Rights Watch and the American Civil Liberties Union. They helped found The Center for Responsible Lending, which is devoted to protecting homeowners, The Center for American Progress, and ProPublica, an investigative journalism organization.

Marion and Herb also supported lifesaving medical research, most recently donating $20 million to the University of California, San Francisco. The Sandler Neurosciences Center will house world leading clinical and research programs such as The Institute of Neurodegenerative Diseases, the UCSF Department of Neurology, the W.M. Keck Foundation Center for Integrative Neuroscience, and the UCSF Memory and Aging Center.

Marion Osher Sandler lived the American dream. With a deep belief in a brighter future, she used her enormous gifts and talents to expand opportunities for all. She leaves behind a phenomenal legacy of service.

Marion had many friends in the United States Congress. I hope it is a comfort to her family, including her beloved husband Herb, her children Susan and James, her grandchildren Leah and Elijah, and her brothers Bernard and Harold Osher, that so many mourn their loss and appreciate Marion's life.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 300TH ANNIVERSARY OF ABINGTON

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 300th Anniversary of Abington, Massachusetts, a town that represents the pioneering spirit that helped launch America.

In 1650, the land that would eventually become Abington was purchased from the great leader Massasoit and the Wampanoag tribe. The shoemaking, lumbering and milling trades all helped the town develop in its early days, as colonists forged their way in their new home. As our young nation approached its most difficult trial—the Civil War—Abington became closely associated with the Abolition movement, holding open-air Abolition meetings as early as the 1840s. It also expanded its hold on certain trades. During the Civil War, half of the Union Army's shoes were manufactured in Abington. And the town's contribution to the lumber and milling industries greatly contributed to the Commonwealth's economic development.

The development of the Old Colony Railroad in 1845 connected Abington to Boston, allowing residents to easily commute between the two places. Approximately 25 years later, Abington was divided, with Rockland and Whitman becoming independent towns. Today, with a population of over 15,000 residents, Abington still stands as an important town and a proud suburb of the Commonwealth's capital.

Among its storied history, however, is an even more important fact. The Town of Abington has an unwavering tradition of loyalty with an exceptional record of community service dating back to the Civil War, when residents tried to help better the lives of those who had fled to the Union. The town has also been recognized for its contributions to the Old Colony & Fall River Railroads, which service residents throughout the state.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating the town of Abington and the entire Abington community on the celebration of their 300 years of service to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and to the United States. May this beautiful Massachusetts town flourish for many years to come.

HONORING MR. JOHN SAKELLARIS

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. John Sakellaris, in recognition of his years of service to both the Greek-American community and to all New Jerseyans. It gives me great pleasure to join with the Federation of Hellenic American Organizations of New Jersey in celebrating his achievements at their annual banquet.

Mr. Sakellaris was born in Volada on the island of Karpathos and came to America with the last wave of immigration of the decade 1965–1975. He has distinguished himself in his devotion to community involvement, both in the Karpathian community and beyond, serving as a friend and a model of accomplishment. Notably, his outstanding two-year service as chairman of the Karpathian Federation resulted in such a considerable increase of funds that the Foundation was able to purchase the ''Karpathian Home'' in New Jersey. He has also achieved success as a restaurant owner, first with the ownership of Al's Diner in Jersey City and afterwards Lyndhurst Diner in Lyndhurst.

As a founding member of Pan Gregorian Enterprises in New Jersey, Mr. Sakellaris was instrumental in the formation of the Federation of Hellenic American Organizations of New Jersey. Through his tireless work with Andres Comodromos, Tassos Efstratiades and the founding Board members, Mr. Sakellaris helped to establish a sound and productive organization. He served as Executive Vice President of the Federation and currently is a Chairman of the Board of Pan Gregorian Enterprises of New Jersey.

Throughout his career, Mr. Sakellaris remained enthusiastically involved in political life, taking an active role in supporting several Philhellene political figures in New Jersey, such as Senator Bill Bradley, Senator Robert Menendez and Governor Jim Florio. In 1986, he joined the Michael Dukakis for President Committee, becoming one of the strongest supporters of the Greek American presidential candidate.

John Sakellaris has also served the Greek Orthodox Church in many capacities, including his service as a president of the Association of Voladioton ''Saint Anargyroi'' and president of the parish council of Saint Demetrios Church in Jersey City. He was also a member of the Metropolitan Council of the Metropolis of New Jersey. For his selfless service, Mr. Sakellaris was awarded the title of Archon of the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the remarkable work of Mr. John E. Sakellaris, whose service and tireless efforts have touched the lives of the entire Greek-American community in New Jersey. I join with the grateful members of the Federation of Hellenic American Organizations of New Jersey, and all of my constituents in northern New Jersey, in thanking him for his innumerable contributions to the community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on June 5, 2012, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall votes 315, 316, 317, and 318. If present, I would have voted ''no'' on rollcall votes 315 and 317, and ''yea'' on rollcall votes 316 and 318.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

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. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Chair, I oppose the amendment shifting funds from the Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility (MOX).

On September 1, 2000, the United States and Russia signed the US-Russia Plutonium Disposition Agreement, with each nation agreeing to dispose of 34 metric tons of surplus weapons-grade plutonium. Since that time, the United States Department of Energy (DOE) has made the decision to disposition the weapons-grade plutonium by means of a Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility (MOX) which is currently under construction at DOE's Savannah River Site (SRS), near Aiken, South Carolina.

In addition to providing a means to enable the United States to honor its international obligation to Russia, MOX will generate nearly $50 billion worth of nuclear fuel rods over its lifespan which will be sold by the federal government.

The facility, which is more than halfway completed, currently employs 2,600 individuals at the site and is responsible for over 2,000 additional jobs across 42 states which are directly related to the project.

Finally, the MOX facility plays a great role in the energy future of the United States. The nuclear fuel rods MOX will produce will provide power to the homes of millions of Americans.

The MOX facility is a vital asset to our country and I stand committed to taking every measure necessary to ensure that this worthwhile program is fully funded.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 375TH ANNIVERSARY OF DUXBURY

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 375th anniversary of the town of Duxbury, Massachusetts, a beautiful coastal haven on the State's historic South Shore.

While the town itself was incorporated in 1637, people have inhabited the area for as much as 12,000 years. The Wampanoag tribe called the area now known as Duxbury ''Mattakesset,'' meaning ''place of many fish.'' Indeed, Duxbury is blessed with bountiful natural resources, including not only fish but shellfish, cranberries, rivers, ponds and idyllic beaches. Its English name was chosen by Myles Standish—an officer serving as a military advisor to the Pilgrims—who named it after Duxbury Woods in Great Britain.

Colonists in Duxbury fought in several early American wars, and during the Revolutionary War, the town maintained a militia of 60 minutemen under the leadership of Ichabod Alden. One of Duxbury's first natives, George Partridge, went on to represent the State of Massachusetts at the Continental Congress and was elected to the First Continental Congress.

The fishing industry developed rapidly after the Revolutionary War, when fishing rights were granted following the Treaty of Paris. What began as a small operation involving no more than a few families with two-masted schooners eventually grew into the largest ship-building port in the world. At the peak of the shipbuilding era, Duxbury boasted 20 shipyards and produced an average of 10 large sailing vessels every year. Eventually, swift clippers that required deep harbors superseded the brigs built in the shallower waters surrounding Duxbury, and the center of American shipbuilding shifted to Boston. However, several historical monuments to this era remain standing today.

The shift in the shipbuilding industry made way for a new industry to dominate Duxbury's economy—tourism. Thanks to its coastal location and natural beauty, Duxbury soon became a popular summer resort destination. Several area landmarks were built during this period, including the 130-foot Myles Standish Monument. The elegant Standish Hotel, originally built to accommodate the influx of summer visitors, survives today as two private residences.

Duxbury's population further boomed with the construction of Route 3, which made Boston and the surrounding region more accessible. The rapid growth that occurred in subsequent years helped shape Duxbury into the vibrant community it is today.

Mr. Speaker, the 375th anniversary of Duxbury is an opportunity both to reflect on its past accomplishments and look forward to its future. Its long history embodies the richness of American history and the indomitable spirit of the American people. May this remarkable Massachusetts town flourish for many years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, my vote on the amendment to H.R. 5855 offered by Congressman TED POE was not recorded due to a technical error. I intended to vote ''no.''

URBAN AREAS SECURITY INITIATIVE FUNDING

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. REYES. Mr. Chair, I rise to support the amendment offered by Mr. HIGGINS that would increase funding to the Federal Emergency Management Agency's State and Local Program by $58 million to allow communities such

as the one I represent, El Paso, Texas, to be eligible for Urban Areas Security Initiative, UASI, funding under the FY2013 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill.

As you know, UASI provides funding to address the unique planning, organization, equipment, and training needs of high-threat, high-density urban areas. The program assists in building an enhanced and sustainable capacity to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from acts of terrorism.

Unfortunately, the FY12 Homeland Security Appropriations bill contained provisions that would arbitrarily deny funding to more than 50 cities like El Paso, Texas. These hinder the progress that communities like El Paso, have made to prevent, protect against, respond to and recover from terrorist attacks and could potentially undermine the ability of these cities to safeguard their communities.

As former Chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, I know very well the importance of providing our cities with adequate resources to prepare, prevent, and protect against attacks. This is a time for our communities to remain vigilant. It is unwise to cut off resources by including arbitrary language that restricts funding for cities like El Paso, which sits on the U.S.-Mexico border across from what is arguably one of the most violent cities in Mexico—Ciudad Juarez. Yet, despite this, El Paso is ranked the safest large city in the U.S. I attribute this to the great work of law enforcement in our community which is supported by resources provided by UASI under the Department of Homeland Security's State and Local Grants programs. UASI has directed more than $21.8 million to El Paso since 2007. Additionally, El Paso—Juarez is a major center for manufacturing and international trade and commerce. El Paso is home to one of the largest ports of entry on the U.S./Mexico border, and is recognized as one of the top trading points in the entire United States. El Paso is home to Fort Bliss, one of the United States largest military bases and the Department of Defenses top ranked military asset.

In 2010, El Paso, Texas received $5,389,900 as part of the UASI program and an additional $75,000 through the UASI Nonprofit Security Grant Program to help nonprofit organizations at high risk of attack and located within one of the UASI-eligible areas.

With continued violence in Mexico and other potential security threats in our area, these funds are especially critical. As our local governments continue to face budget difficulties, these federal grants help ensure that our local law enforcement agencies have the resources they need to ensure El Paso remains the safest large city in the U.S.

El Paso has a track record of wisely investing UASI funds in projects such as an emergency notification system, an information fusion center, urban search and rescue teams, hazardous materials specialty teams, and critical interoperable communications infrastructure upgrades.

The UASI grant has provided the El Paso Region with equipment such as: chemical and hazardous materials detectors, thermal imaging cameras, personal protective equipment, command units, generators, tactical ballistic helmets and vests, security systems, response vehicles, emergency notification system, and even medical cache for H1N1 pandemic, as well as numerous other projects.

The grant funds have also assisted in coordination exercises, including: ranged interdepartmental communication and training, agency communication and training, and EOC exercises to regional cross-discipline and multi-agency training scenarios. All of the exercises are compiled and analyzed through After Action Reports, which are indispensable as training tools to reflect our areas of strength and weakness. In addition, the grant has also funded training such as National Incident Management System, Bomb Team, Hazmat, and other training exercises deemed eligible on the grant.

El Paso area communities have all benefited from the regional UASI by significantly increasing their capabilities. The funds allowed for the purchase of equipment and training such as those outlined by the Department of Homeland Security's National Planning Scenarios and Target Capabilities Lists. I urge my colleagues to support Mr. HIGGINS amendment, the Urban Area Security Initiative, to ensure that our communities and our country remain safe. Mr. Higgins' amendment ensures that communities like mine in El Paso, Texas receive the support they need from the UASI program.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment and help continue to keep our large cities safe.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF EVERETT ''BUD'' RANK, JR.

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Mr. Everett ''Bud'' Rank, Jr., lifelong Valley farmer and former Clovis Unified School District Trustee. Mr. Rank left us on the same property along the San Joaquin River in northeast Fresno where he was born in 1921.

Mr. Rank spent much of his life working with the Future Farmers of America, where he helped organize the Clovis chapter of the organization. He was then president of that chapter, as well as a member of many other farming organizations, including the Farm Bureau California Young Farmers and Ranchers, Clovis Young Farmers, the Clovis Grange.

As a Clovis High School graduate, schools and children were his greatest contribution to the local community, as his wife says. He served three terms as head of the Clovis Unified Board of Trustees in the late 60's and early 70's. To honor his work in education, Bud Rank Elementary School in Clovis was named after him in 2006.

Mr. Rank worked two tours of duty within the Agriculture Department, as Western regional director of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service in the 1970s, and as the head of ASCS and executive vice president of the Commodity Credit Corp. in the 1980s. He also served as a member of both President Nixon and Reagan's administrations' Agricultural Departments, all while being an avid golfer and ardent family man.

He is survived by his wife Evelyn, their three daughters, two grandchildren and one great granddaughter.

I applaud Mr. Rank for his years of tireless work on behalf of agriculture and education.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great appreciation that I ask my colleagues to stand with me in honoring Mr. Rank's remarkable life and his work in advancing our education system and agricultural productivity in the Valley. Please join me today in recognizing the commitment, dedication, and success of Mr. Everett ''Bud'' Rank, Jr.'s life.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union 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:

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Chair, I rise today in reluctant opposition to H.R. 5855, Homeland Security Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2013. H.R. 5855 provides $39.1 billion in discretionary funding for Department of Homeland Security (DHS), a decrease of $484 million below last year's level and a decrease of $393 million below the President's request.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) appropriations bill includes funding for all components and functions of DHS, including Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), Coast Guard (USCG); Secret Service (USSS), the National Protection and Programs Directorate (NPPD), which includes Infrastructure Protection and Information Security (IPIS) and the Federal Protective Service (FPS), the Office of Health Affairs (OHA); the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC), the Science and Technology directorate (S&T), the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office (DNDO), departmental management, Analysis and Operations (A&O), and the Office of the Inspector General (OIG).

Mr. Chair, I would like to thank my friends Chairman ROBERT B. ADERHOLT and Ranking Member DAVID E. PRICE on their hard work on the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act. Although this bill provides adequate funding for some programs that I support, they are far outweighed by some unexplainable provisions in the bill.

This bill underfunds the Federal Air Marshals program by $50 million which will reduce coverage on high-risk flights. The Administration has echoed my sentiment in a recent statement on administration policy. I also have reservations about extending a civilian pay freeze through fiscal year 2013. This is neither sustainable nor desirable.

As a Member of the House Homeland Security Committee, I cannot support this bill. We as Members of Congress have a responsibility to protect our communities from any possible danger. For this reason, there is no higher priority than to adequately fund our homeland security, particularly our first responders such as firefighters.

Firefighters are often the first responders to any and every emergency. As we saw on 9/11 firefighters are dedicated to saving lives and we must provide them with the resources to maintain their morale and readiness. Stringent budget cuts on the local level have left fire departments understaffed, unprepared, and unequipped to perform their duties to highest level.

Fire Prevention and Safety (FP&S) and Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant programs attempt to ameliorate this deficiency. In this bill both grant programs are once again underfunded. This legislation only funds up to 25 percent of the necessary funds required to effectively support local fire departments with hiring firefighters, providing modern safety gear, modern fire trucks, and other vital tools to our first responders.

It makes no sense to weaken our Homeland Security program by cutting their resources in a time when terrorist threats continue to put our Nation at risk. We as Members of Congress must unite and assist our brave first responders in their efforts to help contain any threats by providing them with all necessary resources, rather than turn our backs and leave them without sufficient funding.

Mr. Chair, DHS is charged with safeguarding America against diverse and relentless adversaries. Charged with this difficult but important task, providing DHS with the necessary provisions is a no brainer. But this bill has come short of providing those provisions. I urge my colleagues to oppose H.R. 5855 so we have that opportunity to provide our first responders with those provisions.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CAPE COD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 90th Anniversary of the Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber of Commerce plays an essential role in the Cape Cod community, networking local businesses and offering visitors an insider's perspective on much of what the Cape has to offer.

Founded in 1922, the Chamber of Commerce has grown to represent almost 1,400 members. From charities and museums to banks, churches and wildlife sanctuaries, the Chamber represents a diverse array of organizations on the Cape that help to define its unique character. These businesses provide vital services to both residents and visitors. Without the hard work the Chamber has done over the course of its long history, and without the numerous organizations it represents, the business community on the Cape could never have developed the vitality and ingenuity that makes it so remarkable.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking the Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce and its CEO, Wendy Northcross—as well as the hundreds of business and organizations that make it all possible—for their years of hard work. I am certain the Chamber's and their member organizations' futures will be bright.

UNCERTAINTY DESTROYS JOBS

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, in Wednesday's Washington Examiner, columnist John Stossel quoted economist John B. Taylor of the Hoover Institution who stated ''Unpredictable economic policy—massive fiscal 'stimulus' and ballooning debt, the Federal Reserve's quantitative easing with multiyear near-zero interest rates, and regulatory uncertainty due to Obamacare and the Dodd-Frank financial reforms—is the main cause of persistent high unemployment and our feeble recovery.''

Over the past three and a half years, our economy has not improved: our unemployment rate has remained above eight percent, our small business owners have been forced to pay higher taxes, and our government spending continues to spiral out of control, destroying jobs.

The President and his liberal allies in the Senate continue to support legislation that creates more barriers resulting in economic uncertainty. This sense plays a tremendous role in our economy's inability to recover quickly. It is past time for the President and the Senate to work with House Republicans and pass legislation aimed to create jobs through private sector growth.

In conclusion, God bless our troops and we will never forget September 11th in the Global War on Terrorism.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, I was delayed and unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted ''aye'' on rollcall No. 362, ''aye'' on rollcall No. 363, ''aye'' on rollcall No. 364, ''aye'' on rollcall No. 365, ''aye'' on rollcall No. 366, ''aye'' on rollcall No. 367, ''aye'' on rollcall No. 368, ''no'' on rollcall No. 369, and ''aye'' on rollcall No. 370.

TRIBUTE TO KYLE McCULLOUGH

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay special tribute to Kyle McCullough. Kyle, a 28-year-old Wasco County resident, is a former Army Special Forces soldier who served this country with honor and distinction. In Ramadi in 2006, he fought in one of the toughest engagements our forces encountered during Operation Iraqi Freedom. And now Kyle is currently in the process of reenlisting in the Army.

While at home, his mind is not far from his comrades in harm's way overseas. In recent conversation with his little brother, USMC 1st Lt. Kristoffer ''Turf'' McCullough, currently serving in Afghanistan, he was asked: ''Do people even remember that we're over here?''

Kyle, as ever his nature, jumped into action. In May, Kyle walked a distance of 198 miles over eight days from his home in Dufur to the Oregon coast in Seaside to raise awareness for the troops. That's an average of 24.5 miles every day, or two miles longer than the driving distance between Hood River and The Dalles.

During the trek, Kyle not only raised a few blisters on the bottom of his feet, but he also raised money for the Hood River-based Gorge Heroes Club, which provides care packages to deployed troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. With the money Kyle raised, the Gorge Heroes Club will be able to provide 1,250 soldiers overseas with morale-boosting care packages from home.

Media throughout the northwest covered Kyle's walk—and it was not lost on deployed servicemen and women overseas, either. Oregon National Guard Major Jack Gillentine, stationed in Kabul, said in a recent letter to the Gorge Heroes Club, ''Thank you very much for the packages you sent us. Some of the non-perishable food goes on our trucks for missions when we cannot get to a chow hall. I especially wanted to say thank you to Kyle McCullough. I read the article and I appreciate his huge effort. Thank you for all you do.''

The Gorge Heroes Club supported more than 5,000 troops last year alone. As a direct result of Kyle's dedication and willingness to persevere through pain and exhaustion, troops deployed around the globe will continue to receive these much needed morale boosting care packages.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my fellow colleagues join me in recognizing Kyle McCullough. He has earned the thanks of a grateful Nation not only for his courage on the battlefield, but for his homefront support of his fellow servicemen and women who every day put their lives on the line for our way of life.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CAPE VERDEAN HISTORICAL TRUST AND ITS SO SABI! EXHIBIT

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Cape Verdean Historical Trust, its members and the upcoming So Sabi! exhibit. On June 16th, So Sabi! will open its doors and invite the public to explore Cape Verdean music, art and literature and the influence of the oldest Creole culture in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

So Sabi! allows all residents of Massachusetts—those of Cape Verdean descent and those not—to learn and appreciate the impact those first immigrants have had on shaping the modern culture and economy of our Commonwealth, where nearly 300,000 descendents of Cape Verdean immigrants make their home. My district, which includes Cape Cod, the Islands of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket, and the towns of Southeastern Massachusetts, is home to the fastest growing Cape Verdean populations in the United States. This comes as no surprise, given the stark similarities in lifestyle and resources between the Commonwealth and this island community.

In the mid 19th century, Cape Verdean migrants flocked to New England ports on whaling vessels in pursuit of prosperity and opportunity. Today, many of Massachusetts' fishermen still bear the names of their Cape Verdean grandparents. These settlers easily transitioned into the fishing and agricultural sectors—helping the early whaling, commercial fishing and cranberry industries blossom with their sailing and harvesting expertise. In fact, several Cape Verdean publications and journals live on in Southeastern Massachusetts—allowing Cape Verdean-Americans to keep their culture's stories and traditions alive.

It brings me great pride to note that the opening of So Sabi! coincides with the second Millennium Challenge Corporation compact awarded to the nation of Cape Verde. This historic award marks the first time that the Millennium Challenge Corporation has approved a second compact for any country. This decision was based on Cape Verde's remarkable achievements in reducing poverty through sustainable economic growth and domestic efforts that the nation has made as a result of its first grant. I was proud to support Cape Verde's endorsement for a second compact, and prouder still to recognize the magnitude of Cape Verde's accomplishments in my capacity as a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Mr. Speaker, as the Cape Verdean Historical Trust proudly unveils its So Sabi! exhibit in honor of Massachusetts' Cape Verdean culture and the nation of Cape Verde welcomes its second compact from the Millennium Challenge Corporation, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the historical and educational significance of the June 16th event.

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

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in strong opposition to the Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 4348 offered by the gentleman from Georgia, Mr. BROUN. The draconian cuts directed by this motion would cripple the Nation's infrastructure and leave hundreds of thousands of people unemployed.

The language of the gentleman's motion is confusing at best. The exact amount suggested to be cut differs due to interpretation of the word ''funding.'' By limiting the Highway Trust Fund's expenditures in FY 2013 to $37.5 billion, the gentleman's motion would essentially bankrupt the Fund because $37.5 billion is less than the amount needed to reimburse State and public transit agencies for obligations incurred in prior fiscal years.

The Federal Government already owes $38.8 billion for projects that were implemented in the previous fiscal year, or are currently under construction. If we do not authorize the funds necessary to pay these debts, the government will be in default.

Spending cuts of this magnitude would cut more than 1.6 million jobs in a field with more than 2.2 million people already out of work. At the beginning of the spring and summer construction season the unemployment rate in the industry was at 14.2%, and in May alone jobs fell by 28,000. It would be foolish to vote for a motion that will have the effect of putting more Americans out of work. That would be the result if the Broun Motion were adopted.

The motion by the gentleman from Georgia ignores the long-term underinvestment in our nation's surface transportation. Investments in transportation support economic growth, increase productivity and enhance America's competitiveness in the global economy.

A strong national infrastructure is what will bring this country back from the recession we are currently fighting through. The Highway Transit Fund is essential for not only providing a safe transportation network, but creating millions of jobs for hardworking Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I understand that my colleagues and I are working during a time of economic constraints, and I understand that we must make spending cuts across the board in order to control the debt we have accumulated.

However, this motion is an irresponsible move, and if implemented would have disastrous consequences. The Highway Trust Fund would no longer have the ability to carry out highway, highway safety and public transit projects or activities. This would have long lasting negative effects on our nation's infrastructure and economy.

Mr. Speaker, this motion is bordering on absurd. I cannot believe that a member of congress means to drive our nation into default, and cripple our infrastructure in the process. I stand before you today to ask my colleagues, regardless of their political ideology, to ignore the motion put before you. This is what is best for our nation, and our economy.

RECOGNIZING THE OUTSTANDING MILITARY SERVICE OF MAJOR GENERAL ROBERT H. MCMAHON ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the thirty-four year career of Major General Robert H. McMahon, who will retire this month after a distinguished and remarkable career in the Air Force. I commend Major General McMahon's career and offer my sincerest appreciation for his service in defense of our nation.

Major General McMahon led the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center since 2010, where he was responsible for worldwide logistics support for the C–130 and C–5 transport aircraft, the F–15 and other aircraft critical to our nation's defense. The Warner Robins Air Logistics Center is the largest industrial complex in the state of Georgia and is a critical component to the sustainment of our nation's Air Force.

Major General McMahon began his Air Force career in 1978 after graduating from the U.S. Air Force Academy. He was recognized with numerous awards throughout his Air Force career, including the Distinguished Service Medal with oak leaf cluster and the Defense Superior Service Medal.

Over the past several years, Major General McMahon applied tremendous skill and leadership to transform the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center into a world class sustainment and logistics center. As a result, he has distinguished himself as one of the nation's most innovative and effective Air Force commanders. During his tenure, the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center achieved tremendous improvement in its sustainment mission, resulting in a ninety-eight percent on-time delivery rate of aircraft to the warfighter. Major General McMahon consistently demonstrated one of the key tenets of leadership, the ability to inspire and motivate the airmen and workers under his command.

Currently Major General McMahon and his wife Hope reside in the 8th Congressional District which I represent, where they will no doubt remain a pillar of the Middle Georgia community. I extend my warm congratulations and appreciation to Major General McMahon for his tireless service to our nation and wish him well in retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on rollcall vote Nos. 294–296. Had I been present, I would have voted the following way: rollcall No. 294, H.R. 5651—the Food and Drug Administration Reform Act of 2012 by Rep. UPTON, ''yes''; rollcall No. 295, H.R. 420—the Service Member Family Protection Act by Rep. TURNER, ''yes''; rollcall No. 296, H.R. 915—the Jaime Zapata Border Security Task Force Act by Rep. CUELLAR, ''yes.''

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIM GRIFFIN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I was detained and missed rollcall vote No. 362 on Thursday, June 7, 2012. If I had been present, I would have voted ''aye'' for King Amendment No. 1 to H.R. 5855, the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act.

HEALTH CARE COST REDUCTION ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2012

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I oppose H.R. 436 but I am opposed to the Medical Device Excise Tax. I support the Affordable Care Act, but just like all bills, it was not perfect.

In Texas, the medical device industry supports nearly 55,000 jobs. It is an industry at the cutting edge of technological innovation

and is critical to addressing many of the health challenges we face now and will in future. I believe this industry, just like any other, should pay their fair share, but I am worried that a tax like this will chill innovation. The tax is on revenue and not profits, which will have a disproportionate effect on small and mid-sized companies. Medical devices are incredibly expensive to develop and it takes a lot of revenue to offset overhead. By taxing revenue, instead of profit, it adds additional costs. Most business taxes are calculated on the profits after expenses, but this one is not.

A company near our district in Houston, Cyberonics, employs hundreds of Americans. A few years ago, I toured their facilities. I was surprised to learn that they did all of their manufacturing in-house, in Houston. This is an increasingly rare way to do business, but one we should encourage. Their company is a good example of American innovation and entrepreneurship. I am concerned that the way this tax is structured, it will negatively impact Cyberonics and companies like it. We should be taking steps to support research, design, and manufacturing job growth in our country.

While I oppose this tax, I am also opposed to the way this bill pays for the repeal of the tax. We should not replace a poorly designed policy with more poorly designed policies. This bill shifts the cost on to low and middle income earners and potentially risks their health insurance coverage under ACA.

We should find a better way to fix this and I want to work with my colleagues to craft a compromise that will not endanger American jobs but at the same time won't shift significant costs on to those who can least afford it.

RECOGNIZING ADELITA FIGUEROA-MUNOZ

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Mrs. Adelita Figueroa-Munoz, the County Extension Agent for Family and Consumer Sciences of Hidalgo County.

She has worked tirelessly to educate the community of south Texas for more than forty years, and is deserving of recognition and honor.

Mrs. Adelita Figueroa-Munoz, born and raised in Alice, Texas, earned her bachelor of science in vocational home economics at Texas A&M University in Kingsville and went on to the Pan-American University of Texas to receive a master's degree in counseling.

She joined the Texas Agri-Life Extension Services in 1971, and for much of her career, Mrs. Figueroa-Munoz has promoted healthy habits through programs like Better Living for Texans, which provides education in the areas of nutrition, food safety, and food resource management to food stamp recipients, and multiple cancer awareness campaigns like Put it Out and Cultivando la Salud.

In 2004, Mrs. Figueroa-Munoz became the County Extension Agent for Family and Consumer Sciences and continued to serve south Texas by providing workshops to both youth and adults to teach important skills for success, including the Benefits of Teamwork, Communication Skills, Stress Management, Goal-Setting, and Leadership Development.

Mrs. Figueroa-Munoz has borne the privileges and responsibilities of her position with dedication and excellence for over forty years, and she may take great pride in her work.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the commitment to service exhibited by the County Extension Agent for Family and Consumer Sciences, Adelita Figueroa-Munoz.

RECOGNIZING THE NEW HAMPSHIRE LNA OF THE YEAR

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. BASS of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Talbot Blanchard, a licensed nursing assistant, LNA, from the Upper Connecticut Valley Hospital in Colebrook, New Hampshire. Talbot was recently honored by the New Hampshire Hospital Association as the 13th Annual LNA of the Year Award.

As a medical/surgical LNA, he was previously named "Employee of the Year" at the Upper Connecticut Valley Hospital after his first year on the staff and was chosen for the New Hampshire Hospital Association award from among a dozen finalists from throughout the state.

Blanchard is a "career change" nurse who previously spent 29 years at the Ethan Allen furniture plant in Beecher Falls, Vermont. It was a change that today benefits the residents of Colebrook and the surrounding communities as is evident by the comments made by his peers during the nomination process. Talbot is known for "bringing brightness and energy to his patients during their darkest and sickest hours."

It is the care and dedication of medical staff like Talbot Blanchard that allows New Hampshire hospitals to be among the finest institutions in the nation. I ask you to join me in recognizing Talbot Blanchard for his accomplishments, along with recognizing the care and service provided by thousands of nurses and medical staff every day in New Hampshire and throughout our country.

IN RECOGNITION OF JUNE AS NATIONAL SCOLIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, with respect and admiration I, along with my colleague, Ms. TSONGAS gather today to recognize June as National Scoliosis Awareness Month, and to reaffirm our commitment to fighting a potentially debilitating medical condition that afflicts over 7 million Americans.

National Scoliosis Awareness Month brings together all members of the scoliosis community, including physicians, patients, families, and businesspeople to raise awareness and educate the public about this condition. Diagnosing scoliosis is a simple procedure that takes less than 30 seconds, and early detection allows physicians to monitor the condition and, if necessary, begin treatment before serious complications—including chronic back pain and impacted heart and lung function—even begin. Raising awareness is therefore crucial to the fight against scoliosis.

Between two and three percent of the American population suffers from scoliosis, and the number of family and friends who are impacted by this condition numbers many millions more. While serious complications of scoliosis are largely preventable, affordable care and public awareness are necessary in order to maximize the effectiveness of treatment. National Scoliosis Awareness Month promotes a positive public awareness message that elevates the visibility of scoliosis and empowers those individuals whose lives have been touched by this condition. It is a time for us to recommit ourselves to reducing its impact in the future.

Mr. Speaker, please join us in recognizing June as National Scoliosis Awareness Month, and in thanking organizations such as the National Scoliosis Foundation and the Scoliosis Research Society, as well as their many supporters, for making it all possible.

JUSTICE FOR OFFICER KEVIN WILL—HOUSTON POLICE OFFICER

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on an early Sunday morning last May, one of Houston's finest, Officer Kevin Will, was investigating a hit-and-run accident. Suddenly, a different vehicle sped by and blazed past the police barriers at the accident where Officer Will was investigating. Immediately, before being struck, Officer Will yelled at a witness to jump out of the way, saving that citizen's life just before the officer's life was stolen from him. Only 38 years old, Officer Will left behind a pregnant wife and two stepchildren.

The driver of that speeding vehicle was foreign outlaw Johoan Rodriguez. The killer was in the United States illegally, having been deported once for another crime, but came back and committed another crime. This drunk and high driver blew through the safety lights of the police cruiser, striking and killing Officer Will.

Today, justice was served for Officer Kevin Will and his family. Johoan Rodriguez was sentenced to 55 years in prison. Let this be a statement to the lawless that criminal conduct is not accepted by Americans no matter where you are from. Those who wreak havoc on our communities and kill law enforcement officers will always be met by the long arm of American justice.

And that's just the way it is.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union 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:

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Chair, I rise today to express my opposition to H.R. 5855, the ''Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2013.'' The need to find savings in the Federal budget must not be at the expense of homeland security. I am troubled that H.R. 5855 provides $39.1 billion for the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) activities, which is $393 million below what the President sought for the Department to continue to carry out its homeland and non-homeland security missions and $484 million below what was provided for Fiscal Year (FY) 2012.

H.R. 5855 also sends a troubling message about the majority's commitment to honoring its promises. Last year, Democrats and Republicans came together to pass the Budget Control Act. Both sides made sacrifices to achieve a compromise that would keep the government running and address Federal budgetary challenges. H.R. 5855 reneges on the commitments Republicans made last year by reducing the funding allocation for the Department of Homeland Security beyond what is required by statute and below the amount the Department has stated it needs. This ''bait and switch'' is unjustified and undermines the security of our Nation.

As a result of the Republicans' misguided priorities, several programs critical to our national security are underfunded. For example, H.R. 5855 provides $45.4 million in funding for Infrastructure Compliance Programs for FY 2013, which is about $29 million below the President's request and $48 million below the FY 2012 enacted level. Under H.R. 5855, DHS will not have resources necessary to implement the long-awaited final rule for ammonium nitrate or fully-implement the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS) program. As the author of the originating legislation for the ammonium nitrate security program and co-author of the originating legislation for the CFATS program, I strongly believe that these programs are at a crossroads and support is essential for them to realize Congressional intent and address vulnerabilities that put ordinary Americans at risk.

H.R. 5855 also misses a critical opportunity to put a struggling border security and immigration enforcement program on a path to success. It rejects the President's proposal to transfer the US–VISIT program to Customs and Border Protection and Immigration and Customs Enforcement and, instead, sets up a new bureaucratic office—the ''Office of Biometric Identity Management'' within the National Protection and Programs Directorate, where it has languished for nearly a decade. The terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 highlighted the need to identify and remove visitors to the U.S. who are legally admitted to this country but fail to depart when their visas expire, as four of the 9/11 terrorists were overstays. In response, Congress enacted the USA PATRIOT Act of 2001, which directed the deployment of an entry-exit system ''with all deliberate speed and as expeditiously as practicable.'' While the US–VISIT program has begun to capture biometric data of foreign travelers entering the U.S. at air, land, and sea ports, it has repeatedly failed to make progress in deploying a biometric exit system for travelers departing the U.S. This failure to fully implement the program has undermined DHS's ability to verify with certainty which travelers have departed this country. Inexplicably, H.R. 5855 rejects aligning this program with the agencies responsible for border and immigration enforcement, thereby sending the message that the House is not serious about tackling the alien overstay problem.

With respect to homeland security grants, I would note that H.R. 5855 provides $1.7 billion for State, local, and tribal grant programs, which is $412 million above FY 2012, but still falls short of where it needs to be. In FY 2010 and 2011, Congress recognized the first responders and first preventers on the State, local and tribal levels and provided $3 billion and $2.23 billion respectively. And, like last year, this bill punts responsibility for allocating funding to the 12 targeted grant programs to the Secretary of Homeland Security. Last month, FEMA released the National Preparedness Report. The report found a direct link between grant investments and the development of preparedness capabilities. In areas that have seen substantial grant investment—from emergency communications to medical surge capabilities to emergency planning—State governments reported measurably improved preparedness capabilities. The report also found that in areas where we have not invested, we are less prepared. The report makes clear: targeted homeland security grants work. I fear that if we continue to fail to fund these important grant programs adequately, capabilities that we have spent over a decade developing will be lost.

Finally, I am disturbed that H.R. 5855 is full of political sweeteners intended to rally support from the extreme right-wing faction of the Republican party. From slashing funding for the Transportation Security Agency, to increasing funding for the 287(g) program, to abortion limitations in ICE detention facilities, H.R. 5855 is full of politically-driven provisions that distract from pressing homeland security matters and divert resources from addressing them.

I recognize that the appropriators were faced with a difficult task in drafting this spending bill, and I appreciate the efforts of Chairman ADERHOLT and Ranking Member PRICE to draft a bill to adequately fund the Department of Homeland Security's activities in FY 2013. The funding allocation being what it is, however, this bill could never fully meet our nation's homeland security needs. Therefore, I must oppose H.R. 5855.

IN RECOGNITION OF ST. PAUL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH AND DR. EPHRAIM WILLIAMS

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church and Dr. Ephraim Williams, who has been its Pastor for 41 years. As church members gather together to celebrate the completion of mortgage payments on the church's Family Life Center and the leadership of Dr. Williams, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring St. Paul's important role in the Oak Park neighborhood and the larger Sacramento community.

Since 1971, St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church has been a valuable community resource. Its congregation has grown 50-fold since its founding, and now has over 5,000 members. It has provided healthcare, tutoring, and employment assistance, facilitated charity in the community, established mentorship programs for local youth, and much more. St. Paul's dedication and service to its community has been nothing short of exemplary.

This month, Dr. Williams will welcome congregation and community members in celebrating the completion of mortgage payments on the Family Life Center, a community center promoting active, healthy, and community-centric lifestyles. The facility includes classrooms, space for childcare and the arts, and hosts many community events. I am confident that the Family Life Center will continue to be a shared treasure of the Sacramento area.

Dr. Williams' work in the community has earned him many awards and a great deal of recognition, from the California Legislature, the City of Sacramento, the Black American Political Association, and others. In 2011 he was awarded the Key to the City by the Mayor of Sacramento in recognition of his service as pastor. His leadership has made the St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church a staple in the City of Sacramento.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church and Dr. Ephraim Williams, as they celebrate their 41st year as a congregation and the completion of mortgage payments on the Family Life Center. I am confident that this church will continue its service to the Sacramento community under his stellar leadership. I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church's outstanding work in providing the community with invaluable services.

RECOGNIZING MS. JERRELLE FRANCOIS FOR HER DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AS VICE CHAIR OF THE BALTIMORE CITY BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Ms. Jerrelle Francois for her years of dedication to the people of Maryland, including

her 7 years as Vice Chair of the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners.

Ms. Francois has a long history of service in Maryland. Beginning as a teacher at Cherry Hill Junior High School, she went on to become a Department Head, Assistant Principal, Principal and Assistant Superintendent. While holding these positions, Ms. Francois worked to establish policies and procedures for improving K–12 curriculum and instruction, as well as system-wide special student support services. Throughout her career, Ms. Francois has received numerous awards and commendations including the Richard R. Green Award, the nation's highest urban education honor, given in recognition of exceptional contributions to urban schools and students.

In 2006, Ms. Francois was appointed as the Vice Chair of the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners. Utilizing her decades of experience at every level of the public school system, Ms. Francois has provided a valuable perspective which has opened up many new opportunities to students. Ms. Francois' work in Baltimore City Public Schools has been integral to the education and success of thousands of City school children. Under her leadership and guidance, Baltimore City Public Schools have made significant improvements in the scope and effectiveness of their education programs.

Through all of the promotions, accolades, and awards, Ms. Francois has stayed true to her commitment to educate the youth of Baltimore City. She has dedicated her life to improving public education and has enriched and guided the lives of thousands of children. The State of Maryland is forever grateful for all that she has done. As Ms. Francois retires from Baltimore City Public Schools, I would like to thank her for her unwavering dedication and service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, June 2, 2012, I missed a rollcall vote. Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on No. 377.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL CANCER SURVIVORS DAY

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the National Cancer Survivors Day celebration that will be cosponsored by Falmouth Hospital, Cape Cod Healthcare, and the Falmouth Public Library.

National Cancer Survivors Day is an annual and honored worldwide celebration of life that is held in hundreds of communities across the globe. Participants in these events unite on the first Sunday in June to show that life after a cancer diagnosis can be meaningful and productive. The local Cape Cod event, to be cosponsored by Falmouth Hospital, Cape Cod Healthcare and Falmouth Public Library, is part of a biannual celebration for cancer survivors and caregivers of upper Cape Cod. At the event, the "Survivors Quilt," or the Quilt of Hope, will be unveiled, which is made up of handmade squares contributed by local cancer survivors to celebrate their resilience and determination.

The cosponsors of the Cape's National Cancer Survivors Day event are local leaders who have led the effort to eradicate cancer and to assist cancer patients, their caregivers, and survivors. Cape Cod Healthcare, which is one of the top ten healthcare systems in the nation, provides the latest diagnostic imaging technology at health facilities throughout the Cape. As for Falmouth Hospital, its cancer program has received significant endorsements from accreditation agencies, such as the Commission on Cancer and the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers. Falmouth Hospital's Clark Cancer Center provides local access to the latest, most sophisticated, and most reliable cancer therapies available, and is the only hospital in which many Cape Cod residents can receive such treatments. Additionally, the hospital's Seifer Women's Health and Imaging Center, along with the Wilkens Outpatient Medical Complex in Hyannis, are the two Cape Cod Healthcare centers that provide certain types of digital screening and diagnostic services to Cape residents. The work of these organizations is invaluable to the local community, as the American Cancer Society estimates that Massachusetts will see over 38,000 new cancer diagnoses this year.

Mr. Speaker, it brings me great pride to honor these local organizations in their continuous fight against cancer and to commemorate their celebration of National Cancer Survivors Day. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the importance of their work in the local community as well as the significance of National Cancer Survivors Day.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL MARINA DAY

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the significance and contributions of local marinas across the country as we commemorate National Marina Day on June 9, 2012. Every day across this great nation, folks take advantage of waterways for a variety of reasons, including commerce, sport, and recreation. National Marina Day is a special opportunity to highlight the valuable role that marinas play in communities across America as gateways to some of our country's most exceptional waterways.

The First District of Virginia is a region where waterways are an important part of life for many folks, from the Potomac, Rappahannock, and York Rivers to the great Chesapeake Bay itself. For many citizens, marinas serve as gateways to these grand waterways, places where folks can reacquaint themselves with nature and learn valuable lessons of environmental stewardship, all while mastering the practical skills and expertise associated with operating a boat. Many of these life lessons were instilled in me during summers on Virginia's Northern Neck, which I have called home for many years, and they are lessons that I have found to be beneficial in all aspects of my life. Marinas have provided the opportunity for folks from all walks of life to experience all of the substance that our natural waterways have to offer, and I am pleased to recognize their contributions and unique imprint on our communities as we commemorate National Marina Day.

HONORING MONTANA'S WORLD WAR II VETERANS

HON. DENNY REHBERG

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. REHBERG. Mr. Speaker, today, it is my distinct privilege to welcome a very special group of men to our nation's Capital. And while it is incumbent upon us to honor them, the truth is, they honor us with their presence here.

On June 15, 2012, nearly 100 veterans of the Second World War will arrive in Washington, D.C. through the Honor Flight program. Since 2005, Honor Flight has worked to bring WWII veterans to visit their war memorial at the foot of the Washington Monument, and a few feet from the White House. In that first year, 137 veterans participated in the program. By last year, that total annual participation has swelled to 18,055.

And while each of the veterans who has participated deserves our thanks and our honor, this particular group is very special to me in particular because it marks the very first time Honor Flight has brought out a group of veterans from Montana.

You won't find a state that's more proud of our veterans than Montana. And we have a lot of them. In fact, you won't find many states that have more as a percentage of our population.

On December 7, 1941 the United States was pulled into the war and Montanans answered the call to service. Within the first year, 40,000 Men and women from the Treasure State enlisted. By the end of the war, 57,000 had served—nearly 10 percent of the state's entire population at the time, one of the highest rates in the country.

They served in every branch and in every theater of the conflict. And too many of them never made it back to Montana, although I think that heaven must be a little something like a peaceful sunset over the Yellowstone River.

But Montana's veterans didn't sacrifice in vain. They bled and died to defeat the greatest threat to freedom the world has ever seen. They fought across the bloody islands of the Pacific and in the frozen forests of Europe. They fought in the air, land and sea. Some even fought below the waves. And they won.

Today, the men and women who fought and won that war are justifiably part of what is called The Greatest Generation. The sacrifices of men who arrive in Washington, D.C. are the reason for this honorable title. It is not something we gave to them, it's something they earned.

As they visit this city and reflect on what it stands for as a beacon of freedom to the

world, I think the rest of us should remember that the reason liberty still exists is because good men stood up to tyranny. They are the greatest of the Greatest Generation, and on behalf of all Montanans, I want to thank them.

57,000 Montanans served during World War II. Just under 100 are here this week. Please join me in welcoming and honoring:

Herbert Alvin (Billings, MT); Roy Bloom (Kalispell, MT); William Boyer (Billings, MT); George Brown (Billings, MT); John Bullis (Hardin, MT); William Butler (Billings, MT); Marion Callen (Forsyth, MT); Galen Calvert (Missoula, MT); Murel Clancey (Ennis, MT); Frank Clark (Billings, MT); Paul Creek (Billings, MT); Donald Cullen (Helena, MT); Hubert Cummings (Billings, MT); Irvin Cuthbertson (Billings, MT); Ernest Devries (Joliet, MT); John Donovan (Billings, MT); Thomas Dragoo (Billings, MT); Duane Erickson (Glendive, MT); Allen Fox (Twin Bridges, MT); Arnold Funk (Helena, MT); John Gabelman (Butte, MT); William George (Missoula, MT); Cleburne Gilliland (Billings, MT); Harvey Glover (Billings, MT); Harold Godtland (Butte, MT); Robert Graham (Billings, MT); James Gunnels (Laurel, MT); Francis Gustafson (Billings, MT); Robert Haraden (Bozeman, MT); Delbert Hartford (Alder, MT); Donald Hecox (Bozeman, MT); Jack Henley (Hamilton, MT); Adam Herauf (Billings, MT); Victor Hergett (Laurel, MT); Thomas Hoffman (Billings, MT); Q.P. Hudson (Billings, MT); Frank Jasisko (Great Falls, MT); Herbert Kindsfater (Laurel, MT); Kenneth Kjelstrup (Kalispell, MT); Dale Lamphear (Laurel, MT); Ray Lau (Three Forks, MT); John Liggett (Roundup, MT); Chester Lindblom (Plentywood, MT); Albert Litle (Billings, MT); Herbert Livingston (Billings, MT); Louis Loushin (Butte, MT); Phillip Lyons (Butte, MT); Marvin Mackey (Libby, MT); Richard Marshall (Twin Bridges, MT); Arthur Merrick (Helena, MT); Marvin Metzler (Billings, MT); Jack Moriarty (Sheridan, WY); Roy Morrison (Billings, MT); Leo Mullen (Butte, MT); Kenneth Mumme (Sheridan, MT); John Murphy (Anaconda, MT); Donald Nafus (Billings, MT); Robert Noll (Missoula, MT); Vernon O'Leary (Helena, MT); Roland Olijnyk (Billings, MT); Paul Olsen (Billings, MT); Delphine Olson (Billings, MT); Albert Ottolino (Billings, MT); Harlon Owens (Billings, MT); Douglas Parrott (Roundup, MT); Robert Paye (Billings, MT); Russell Peery (Helena, MT); Walter Pfister (Roundup, MT); Drury Phebus (Baker, MT); James Phipps (Emigrant, MT); Walter Popp (Billings, MT); Jimmie Ramsey (Bozeman, MT); John Reamy (Billings, MT); Richard Redle (Columbus, MT); Francis Riebe (Polson, MT); Carl Rivera (Billings, MT); Robert Ruthford (Superior, MT); Gladys Sandborgh (Butte, MT); Ron Scharfe (Missoula, MT); Ferdinand Schell (Lewistown, MT); Paul Schuyler (Roberts, MT); Orval Scow (Helena, MT); Dennis Scranton (Miles City, MT); J. William Smith (Billings, MT); Wade Smith (Butte, MT); James Snider (Forsyth, MT); Otto Staack (Butte, MT); Norman Sulenes (Billings, MT); Harold Van Sickle (Billings, MT); William Van Wieren (Billings, MT); Joseph Wedlake (Butte, MT); Kenneth Williams (Laurel, MT); Paul Winhofer (Glendive, MT); David Wittman (Billings, MT); Margaret Woolston (Billings, MT).

RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF CHARLES AND LUCILLE WARD

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to recognize Charles and Lucille Ward on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary.

On June 9, 1962, Charles and Lucille were married in Brewton, Alabama, a little town just north of the Northwest Florida panhandle, at the East Brewton Baptist Church. Since that day, Charles and Lucille have spent their lives devoted to their family, their faith, and their community. Charles honorably served his country for four years as a member of the United States Air Force until 1956 before beginning his career farming with the Ward Brothers Farm. He retired from the farm in 1998. Lucille, in addition to supporting her family as a mother and homemaker, served her community as an employee of the Santa Rosa County School System, retiring after 20 years of service. Throughout their careers and their fifty years together, their faith and family have remained first in their lives.

Charles and Lucille are proud parents to five children, Michael Ward, Doug Ward, Julie McGowin, Dean Ward, and Tina Fendley; eleven grandchildren, Preston Jernigan, Grayson Jernigan, Ashley Hernandez, Cassie Ward, Jack McGowin, Shawn McGowin, Alex McGowin, Becky Ward, Emily Ward, Madison Fendley, and Andrew Fendley; and one great-grand child, Anna Hernandez.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize Mr. and Mrs. Ward on their golden wedding anniversary and thank them for their service to the Northwest Florida community and our great nation. My wife Vicki and I would like to wish all the best to Charles and Lucille, as well as their entire extended family, on this truly special occasion. May God continue to bless them for many years to come.

HEALTH CARE COST REDUCTION ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2012

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 436 is primarily focused on dismantling the Affordable Care Act, which is why I will oppose it today.

Medical devices offer important benefits to individuals throughout the country. In some cases they save lives; in other cases, they improve the quality of life. An important part of the Affordable Care Act was to expand access to the benefits of medical devices by making health insurance more affordable. Indeed, as a result of the Affordable Care Act, over 30 million more Americans will have access to affordable care. This is good for the individuals, and it is also good for the manufacturers of these devices, who will now have more people who can afford their products.

Now, the medical device industry apparently wants to keep the benefits of having more insured people capable of benefiting from their products without contributing to the effort that allows those individuals to afford their coverage in the first place. If every group that joined the effort to expand insurance coverage took that approach, the entire health care reform effort would fall apart—which is precisely the outcome the Republican majority is seeking with this legislation.

Additionally, rather than finding a different way to pay for extending affordable health insurance to over 30 million Americans, this repeal—and the rest of the bill—is offset by eliminating existing protections for middle and lower-income citizens who receive tax credits for insurance they purchase on the exchange, a change the nonpartisan Joint Committee on Taxation estimates will increase the ranks of the uninsured by 350,000.

While I would support the provision in this bill allowing health care flexible spending account holders to recover up to $500 in unspent funds from their FSAs if it came before the House as a freestanding bill, the vast majority of this legislation is clearly aimed at undermining the Affordable Care Act.

Accordingly, I urge a "no" vote.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, June 7th, 2012, I missed rollcall votes 358–370 for unavoidable reasons.

Specifically, I was in Palm Harbor, Florida, in my congressional district, to attend my son's high school graduation.

Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: rollcall no. 358: "yea" (On ordering the previous question), rollcall No. 359: "yea" (Adoption of H. Res. 679, providing for the consideration of H.R. 436—Protect Medical Innovation Act of 2012), rollcall No. 360: "nay" (On motion to recommit H.R. 436 with instructions), rollcall No. 361: "yay" (Passage of H.R. 436—Protect Medical Innovation Act of 2012), rollcall No. 362: "yay" (First King of Iowa Amendment), rollcall No. 363: "yay" (Second King of Iowa Amendment), rollcall No. 364: "nay" (First Blackburn of Tennessee Amendment), rollcall No. 365: "yay" (Second Blackburn of Tennessee Amendment), rollcall No. 366: "yay" (Sullivan of Oklahoma Amendment), rollcall No. 367: "nay" (Turner of New York Amendment), rollcall No. 368: "nay" (Second Polis of Colorado Amendment), rollcall No. 369: "nay" (On motion to recommit H.R. 5855 with instructions), rollcall No. 370: "yay" (Passage of H.R. 5855—Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act for FY 2013).

IN REMEMBRANCE OF LIEUTENANT COMMANDER WESLEY A. BROWN

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a truly inspirational man, Lieutenant Commander Wesley Anthony Brown, the first African American to graduate from the U.S. Naval Academy. Sadly, Lt. Cmdr. Brown passed away on Tuesday, May 22, 2012. On Wednesday, June 6, 2012, a public memorial service was held in Annapolis, Maryland, where more than 250 people gathered to honor his life and legacy.

Lt. Cmdr. Brown was born on April 3, 1927 in Baltimore, Maryland to William and Rosetta Brown. During his senior year at Dunbar High School in Washington, D.C., he was Cadet Corps Battalion Commander. He then went on to attend college at Howard University.

In 1945, Lt. Cmdr. Brown entered the U.S. Naval Academy as the sixth African American man admitted in its 100-year history. He would be the first to endure until the end the hazing, the torment, and the hostility bred by racial inequality. He would be the first to hold his head high and keep true to himself amid the tension. He would be the first to graduate.

Despite the publicity surrounding this great accomplishment, Lt. Cmdr. Brown remained humble throughout his life. He honored those in whose footsteps he had followed and he spoke words of encouragement to those who followed in his footsteps.

Lt. Cmdr. Brown served in the Korean and Vietnam Wars as a Navy civil engineer. He worked on many construction projects all over the world until his retirement in 1969. He then worked as a facilities analyst at Howard University until 1988.

George Washington Carver once said, ''How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and strong because someday in your life you will have been all of these.'' Lt. Cmdr. Brown went far in life because he treated people the right way—with dignity, honor and respect even when he was not treated the same way in return. He has been an inspiration to all of us and we are blessed to have had him touch our lives.

Lt. Cmdr. Wesley A. Brown accomplished many things in his life but none of this would have been possible without the enduring love and support of his loving wife, Crystal; his children, Wesley, Jr., Gary, Wiletta, and Carol; and his seven grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, my wife, Vivian, and I would like to extend our deepest sympathies to Lt. Cmdr. Brown's family during this difficult time. May they be consoled and comforted by their abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2012

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Paycheck Fairness Act, a bill that strengthens the Equal Pay Act of 1963 and seeks to remedy the discrepancies in the wages of men and women in America.

In 2009, the first bill that President Obama signed into law was the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. Creating equal pay for women was one of the top priorities of Congress in 2009 and it was my honor to support this bill. The Lilly Ledbetter act pioneered the first steps at tackling the issue of sex-based discrimination, but our duty to American women in the workforce is not complete. Now more than ever, with women increasingly taking on the role as the breadwinner in many American households, this issue no longer affects just women; it affects entire families. For almost 50 years, we have been combating this issue. In El Paso women make up 45 percent of the labor force, with similar numbers around the country, but women earn only 77 cents on the dollar compared to men. If this gap in earnings is not reduced, everyday expenses, the ability to support their families and retirement funds will be negatively affected.

Continuing his commitment to securing equal pay for women, President Obama is pressing for us to turn this basic right, equal pay for equal effort, into a reality with the Paycheck Fairness Act. With the creation of the National Equal Pay Task Force that is cracking down on any violations of equal pay laws, the President is pressing forward with his efforts. Like President Obama, we must continue to fight for equal payment opportunities for our nation's women and in turn their families. Senate Republicans are blocking passage of the Paycheck Fairness Act which advocates for the fair treatment of almost half of our labor force. I support the Paycheck Fairness Act and its intent to increase penalties against those who participate in gender-based discrimination, and I urge Senate Republicans to stop their resistance on this issue.

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

The House passed H.R. 5882, Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2013.

Senate

Chamber Action

The Senate was not in session and stands adjourned until 2 p.m., on Monday, June 11, 2012.

Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 16 public bills, H.R. 5929–5944; 1 private bill, H.R. 5945; and 4 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 129; and H. Res. 683–685, were introduced. **Pages H3698–99**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H3700**

Report Filed:

A report was filed today as follows:

H.R. 4480, to provide for the development of a plan to increase oil and gas exploration, development, and production under oil and gas leases of Federal lands under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Secretary of Defense in response to a drawdown of petroleum reserves from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–520, Pt. 1). **Page H3698**

Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2013: The House passed H.R. 5882, making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, by a yea-and-nay vote of 307 yeas to 102 nays, Roll No. 377.

Pages H3665–90

Rejected the Pingree (ME) 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 101 ayes to 309 noes, Roll No. 376. **Pages H3688–89**

Agreed to:

Holt amendment (No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 112–518) that adjusts funding for Congressional Printing and Binding under the GPO to address the availability of pocket versions of the United States Constitution for Members of the House;

Pages H3679–80

Harper amendment (No. 6 printed in H. Rept. 112–518) that limits the print copies of the U.S. Code for the House of Representatives to 50 copies;

Page H3683

Gosar amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 112–518) that reduces the budget for the Botanic Garden by $1,235,000 for Fiscal Year 2013, so that it is appropriated resources at 2009 levels (by a recorded vote of 213 ayes to 193 noes, Roll No. 371);

Pages H3676–77, H3685

Broun (GA) amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 112–518) that reduces funding for the Congressional Research Service by $878,000 (FY 2012 Level) and transfers $878,000 to the Spending Reduction Account (by a recorded vote of 214 ayes to 189 noes, Roll No. 372); and

Pages H3677–79, H3685–86

Scalise amendment (No. 4 printed in H. Rept. 112–518) that reduces by $1,000,000 the amount provided for the Open World Leadership Center and directs that $1,000,000 to the Spending Reduction Account (by a recorded vote of 204 ayes to 203 noes, Roll No. 373). **Pages H3680–81, H3686–87**

Rejected:

Moran amendment (No. 5 printed in H. Rept. 112–518) that sought to prohibit the use of polystyrene products in food service facilities in the House of Representatives (by a recorded vote of 178 ayes to 229 noes, Roll No. 374) and

Pages H3681–83, H3687

Flake amendment (No. 7 printed in H. Rept. 112–518) that sought to prohibit funding for the purchase of paid online advertisements by Members, committees, and leadership offices (by a recorded vote of 148 ayes to 261 noes, Roll No. 375).

Pages H3683–84, H3687–88

H. Res. 679, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 436) and (H.R. 5882), was agreed to yesterday, June 7th.

Motion to Instruct Conferees: The House rejected the Broun (GA) motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 4348 by a yea-and-nay vote of 82 yeas to 323 nays, Roll No. 378. The motion was debated yesterday, June 7th. **Pages H3690–91**

Allowing the Chief of the Forest Service to award certain contracts for large air tankers: The House agreed to discharge and pass S. 3261, to allow the Chief of the Forest Service to award certain contracts for large air tankers. **Page H3691**

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, June 12th; when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. on Friday, June 15th; and when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday, June 18th. **Page H3691**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes and six recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H3685, H3685–86, H3686–87, H3687, H3687–88, H3689, H3689–90, and H3690–91. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 1:09 p.m.

Committee Meetings

MEDICARE CONTRACTORS' EFFORTS TO FIGHT FRAUD

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled "Medicare Contractors' Efforts to Fight Fraud—Moving Beyond 'Pay and Chase' ". Testimony was heard from Robert A. Vito, Regional Inspector General, Office of Evaluations and Inspections, Office of Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services; Kathleen M. King Director, Health Care, Government Accountability Office; Ted Doolittle Deputy Director, Center for Program Integrity, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services.

STANDARDS FOR MEDICAL IMAGING AND RADIATION THERAPY TECHNOLOGISTS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health, hearing "Examining the Appropriateness of Standards for Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy Technologists". Testimony was heard from John Spiegel, Director, Medicare Program Integrity Group, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee completed markup of H.R. 4369, the "Furthering Asbestos Claim Transparency (FACT) Act of 2012". The bill was ordered reported, as amended.

UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND AND ITS IMPACT ON AMERICAN INDIANS AND ALASKA NATIVES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs held a hearing entitled "Federal Communications Commission's rule on the Universal Service Fund and its impact on American Indians and Alaska Natives". Testimony was heard from Geoffrey Blackwell, Chief, Office of Native Affairs and Policy, Federal Communications Commission; and public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks, Forest and Public Lands, hearing on the following measures: H.R. 3641 "Pinnacles National Park Act"; H.R. 3894, the "Pullman Historic Site National Park Service Study Act"; H.R. 4606, to authorize the issuance of right-of-way permits for natural gas pipelines in Glacier National Park, and for other purposes; H.R. 5544, the "Minnesota Education Investment and Employment Act"; and H.R. 5791, the "Emergency Water Supply Restoration Act". Testimony was heard from the following Representatives: Farr; Jackson (IL); Cravaack; and Flake; Leslie Weldon; Deputy Chief, United States Forest Service; Victor Knox, Associate Director for Park Planning, Facilities and Lands, National Park Service; Denise Dittrich, Minnesota House of Representatives; Jerry Muenzer, Supervisor, District Four, San Benito County Board of Supervisors; and public witnesses.

FRAMEWORK FOR EVALUATING CERTAIN EXPIRING TAX PROVISIONS

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures held a hearing entitled "Framework for Evaluating Certain Expiring Tax Provisions". Testimony was heard from Jim White, Director, Tax Issues, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2012

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of June 11 through June 15, 2012

Senate Chamber

On *Monday,* at 2 p.m., Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 3240, Agriculture Reform, Food, and Jobs Act. At 4:30 p.m., Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Andrew David Hurwitz, of Arizona, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination at approximately 5:30 p.m.

If cloture is not invoked on the nomination of Andrew David Hurwitz, Senate will agree to the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill at 2:15 p.m., on Tuesday, June 12, 2012. If cloture is invoked on the nomination of Andrew David Hurwitz, that upon the disposition of the nomination, Senate will agree to the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Appropriations: June 12, Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies, business meeting to mark up proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies, 2:30 p.m., SD–124.

June 12, Subcommittee on Financial Service and General Government, business meeting to mark up proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for Financial Services and General Government, 3:30 p.m., SD–138.

June 13, Subcommittee on Department of Defense, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of the Defense, 10:30 a.m., SD–192.

Committee on Armed Services: June 12, Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, 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 season, 2:30 p.m., SR–232A.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: June 13, to hold hearings to examine risk management, focusing on JPMorgan Chase and Co, 10 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: June 14, to hold hearings to examine competitiveness and collaboration between the United States and China on clean energy, 9:30 a.m., SE–366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: June 13, 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, 10 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Finance: June 14, to hold hearings to examine Medicare physician payment policy, focusing on lessons from the private sector, 10 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: June 13, 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 Jan Nicholas Anania, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Suriname, all of the Department of State, 2:45 p.m., SD–419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: June 12, to hold hearings to examine equality at work, focusing on the "Employment Non-Discrimination Act", 10 a.m., SD–106.

June 13, Full Committee, business meeting to consider any pending nominations, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: June 14, Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security, to hole hearings to examine saving taxpayer dollars by curbing waste and fraud in Medicaid, 10 a.m., SD–342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: June 14, to hold an oversight hearing to examine new taxes on tribal self-determination, 2:15 p.m., SD–628.

Committee on the Judiciary: June 12, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD–226.

June 14, Full Committee, 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 nomination of Brian J. Davis, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: June 13, to hold hearings to examine economic opportunity and transition legislation, 10 a.m., SR–418.

Select Committee on Intelligence: June 12, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

June 14, Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

Special Committee on Aging: June 13, to hold hearings to examine empowering patients and honoring individual's choices, focusing on lessons in improving care for individuals with advance illness, 2 p.m., SD–562.

House Committees

No meetings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

2 p.m., Monday, June 11

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 3240, Agriculture Reform, Food, and Jobs Act. At 4:30 p.m., Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Andrew David Hurwitz, of Arizona, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination at approximately 5:30 p.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Tuesday, June 12

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: The House will meet in pro forma session at 10 a.m.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Akin, W. Todd, Mo., E1030
Bass, Charles F., N.H., E1032
Becerra, Xavier, Calif., E1028
Bilirakis, Gus M., Fla., E1035
Bishop, Sanford D., Jr., Ga., E1036
Capps, Lois, Calif., E1025
Costa, Jim, Calif., E1029
Cuellar, Henry, Tex., E1032
Farr, Sam, Calif., E1025
Graves, Sam, Mo., E1034
Green, Gene, Tex., E1031
Griffin, Tim, Ark., E1031
Keating, William R., Mass., E1026, E1027, E1028, E1030, E1030, E1032, E1034
McCollum, Betty, Minn., E1028
Matsui, Doris O., Calif., E1033
Miller, Jeff, Fla., E1035
Neugebauer, Randy, Tex., E1031
Olson, Pete, Tex., E1026
Pelosi, Nancy, Calif., E1027
Poe, Ted, Tex., E1032
Rehberg, Denny, Mont., E1034
Reyes, Silvestre, Tex., E1028, E1036
Richardson, Laura, Calif., E1029, E1031
Roby, Martha, Ala., E1026
Rothman, Steven R., N.J., E1027
Sarbanes, John P., Md., E1027, E1033
Austin, David, Ga., E1031
Thompson, Bennie G., Miss., E1033
Van Hollen, Chris, Md., E1026, E1035
Walden, Greg, Ore., E1030
Wilson, Joe, S.C., E1028, E1030
Wittman, Robert J., Va., E1034
Young, Don, Alaska, E1025

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