

ways. His encyclopedic knowledge of University activities and his intelligent, openhanded advice has greatly helped me advocate on behalf of the University of Iowa, its students, and its faculty and staff. My staff and I will always cherish his graciousness, his wisdom, and his thoughtfulness.

On behalf of all Iowans, I would like to thank Derek for his years of service to the University of Iowa, the State of Iowa, and our nation. I know I join his colleagues, friends, and loved ones in wishing him well in his retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2012

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote 472. If present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote 472.

RECOGNIZING SHERIFF TOMAS S. HERRERA

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2012

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Sheriff Tomas S. Herrera, a distinguished individual who has served in law enforcement for 36 years in South Texas. He has dedicated his career to assisting the Texas community through his involvement in various coalitions, councils and distinguished positions centered on efforts to protect Texas and our southwest border.

Sheriff Herrera was born in Eagle Pass, Texas and is a graduate of Eagle Pass High. Mr. Herrera began his law enforcement career in 1974 and served as the Justice of the Peace until 1976. A year later he began his 16-year service as Chief Deputy under the late Sheriff Tom Bowles. Mr. Herrera was a key instrument in the planning and building process of the new jail facility named after the late Tom Bowles. In addition, Sheriff Herrera served as Municipal Court Judge from 1995 to 1997. After holding dual positions as Constable and Deputy Constable, Mr. Tomas S. Herrera was sworn in as the Honorable Sheriff of Maverick County in 2005.

Mr. Herrera is a highly regarded member of the South Texas community and has many notable career accomplishments. In an effort to assist the Federal Government in Homeland Security to protect our borders from terrorist activities or threats, he established the newly created Texas Border Sheriff's Coalition in Laredo, Texas in 2005. Under this newly created Coalition, he held the title of Secretary/Treasurer on the Executive Committee. Additionally, two years later Sheriff Herrera and other community individuals initiated the construction of a 688-bed detention facility.

Mr. Herrera held key positions within the community and State of Texas, including an appointment by the Sheriff's Association of Texas President by Sheriff Tomas Kerss to the Texas Jail Commission Committee. Sheriff

Herrera also served as Chairman of the Texas Border Sheriff Coalition in 2007 and was appointed by Governor Rick Perry to the Border Security Council. From 2008 to 2009 Mr. Herrera was appointed as the Board of Director for the Southwest Border Sheriff Coalition (SWTBSC). Today, Sheriff Herrera continues to contribute to the community by being a member of the Sheriff's Association of Texas. He was reappointed last year by the NSA President Sheriff Paul H. Fitzgerald to a 5th term to the Immigration/Border Security Committee. Mr. Herrera was also recently appointed by President of the Sheriffs', JW Jankowski to the Jail Advisory Committee. Mr. Herrera is married to Magdalena P. Herrera and together they have three children and seven grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored and privileged to have this time to recognize Mr. Tomas S. Herrera's extraordinary commitment and service in South Texas. His tremendous efforts to protect and serve the community have made a significant impact in the State of Texas.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT GENERAL DENNIS J. HEJLIK

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate native Iowan Lieutenant General Dennis Hejlik of the United States Marine Corps on his illustrious 44-year military career that will be coming to a close on Monday at an awards dinner at the Marine Barracks in Washington, DC.

Before he was a three-star general and commander of Marine Corps Forces Command, Lieutenant General Hejlik, then known around town as Dennis, grew up on a farm near Garner, Iowa, with his nine brothers and sisters. He would go on to graduate from Garner-Hayfield High School in 1965 and attend North Iowa Area Community College before beginning his military career when he enlisted in the Marines Corps in 1968. Four short years later, Lieutenant General Hejlik was commissioned through the Marine Corps Platoon Leaders Course. Since joining the Marines, Lieutenant General Hejlik has gone on to become an honor graduate of the Basic School, the Amphibious Warfare School, the Marine Corps Command and Staff College, and the Naval War College.

Lieutenant General Hejlik has earned numerous decorations for his service over the last four decades including the Defense Superior Service Medal with Gold Star, Meritorious Service Medal with two Gold Stars, the Navy Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and the Leftwich Award, just to name a few. Since his humble beginnings in Iowa, his time with the Marine Corps has brought him to all corners of the globe, most recently culminating to his current position as the commander of Marine Corps Forces Command in Norfolk, Virginia and Marine Corps Forces Europe in Boblingen, Germany.

Mr. Speaker, our country owes Lieutenant General Hejlik a great debt of gratitude for his decades of service and sacrifice. His unwavering commitment to serving his country and fellow Americans embodies the Iowa spirit. I

know all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in thanking Lieutenant General Hejlik and congratulating him on his truly stellar career. I wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors as he begins a new chapter in his life.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2012

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$15,874,046,715,877.56. We've added \$5,247,169,666,964.48 to our debt in just over 3 years. This is debt our Nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. BILL PASCHELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5856) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes:

Mr. PASCHELL. Mr. Chair, as Co-Chair of the Congressional Brain Injury Task Force, I have spent the last eleven years I have fought for patients with brain injuries, both on and off the battlefield. We all know that traumatic brain injury (TBI) is the signature wound of the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, and while we made great progress on ensuring our soldiers have the best care, there is still more work to be done.

An Institute of Medicine study was released last week about the effects of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) on our troops who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan. I am particularly concerned with the report's analysis of the Department of Defense's efforts to identify and treat PTSD. The 2010 Defense Authorization required this study as well as mandated the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to report a response to this report the relevant Committees by no later than January 1, 2013.

As this report shows, there is still more work to be done when it comes to caring for our soldiers suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. The report notes that the prevalence of PTSD in 2.6 million service members who have served in Iraq or Afghanistan is at a staggering rate of 13% to 20%. This statistic points to the importance of finding better ways to identify and treat this ailment. The report's many recommendations include the need for the Department of Defense to collect data on the delivery and effectiveness of all prevention, screening, diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitative services currently in use to determine

best practices, as well as ensuring that PTSD screening occurs once a year. The report also points out barriers to care faced by returning soldiers to accessing care.

It is clear that the Department of Defense must do more to ensure that soldiers who suffer from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder are identified, the effectiveness of treatments are tracked, and that returning soldiers suffering from PTSD are encouraged to come out of the shadows. Making sure that funding for Defense Health programs and research into Post Traumatic Stress Disorder addresses the concerns raised in the IOM report is extremely important. This year's Defense Appropriations bill provides \$125 million for traumatic brain injury and psychological health research, and \$30 million for suicide prevention and outreach programs. We must continue to make the investments in these critical areas to ensure the health and safety of all our returning soldiers.

I hope that going forward, these recommendations will be factored into the research and funding undertaken by the Department of Defense-Defense Health Programs. With continued work and adequate funding for research and treatment for PTSD and TBI, I know our service members will be able to attain improved health outcomes, live more productive and satisfying lives, and ultimately, save our nation millions of dollars in future care costs.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF HE
XIANGDONG, COUNSELOR, CON-
GRESSIONAL LIAISON OFFICE
FOR THE CHINESE EMBASSY

HON. ENI F. H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2012

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished service of my good friend, He Xiangdong, Counselor for the Congressional Liaison Office of the Chinese Embassy.

Counselor He graduated from Wuhan University in 1985. From 1985–1994, he was editor for the World Affairs Magazine in Beijing. From 1994–1996, he was Second Secretary of the Chinese Embassy in Oman. From 1996–1999, he served as First Secretary and Chief of the Political Section for the Chinese Embassy in Saudi Arabia. From 1999–2004, he was First Secretary of the Policy Planning Department in the Foreign Ministry of China.

Since 2004, he has been assigned to work with the U.S. Congress to strengthen relations between China and the U.S., and having worked closely with him in my official capacities as Chairman and Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, I am proud of Counselor He's accomplishments and the indelible mark he has made in furthering relations between our countries.

Counselor He is to be commended for his exemplary service for and on behalf of the People's Republic of China. He has served his nation well.

On a personal note, I will miss him, and I extend to him my highest regards.

A TRIBUTE TO BENJAMIN HURD

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Benjamin Hurd of Ames, Iowa for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

The Eagle Scout rank is the highest advancement rank in scouting. Only about five percent of Boy Scouts earn the Eagle Scout Award. The award is a performance-based achievement with high standards that have been well-maintained over the past century.

To earn the Eagle Scout rank, a Boy Scout is obligated to pass specific tests that are organized by requirements and merit badges, as well as completing an Eagle Project to benefit the community. The work ethic Benjamin has shown in his Eagle Project, and every other project leading up to his Eagle Scout rank, speaks volumes of his commitment to serving a cause greater than himself and assisting his community.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young man and his supportive family demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. I am honored to represent Benjamin and his family in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating him in obtaining the Eagle Scout ranking, and will wish him continued success in his future education and career.

TRIBUTE TO DOLORES HUERTA

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2012

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to my dear friend Dolores Huerta, who recently received the Presidential Medal of Freedom. This coveted honor is the highest civilian award for service to the nation. It recognizes individuals who have made an especially meritorious contribution to the security or national interests of the United States, world peace, cultural or other significant public or private endeavors.

Dolores is a world renowned activist and is regarded as the most prominent Chicana labor leader in the United States. She is currently the President of the Dolores Huerta Foundation, whose mission is to build active communities in disadvantaged areas and to work towards fair and equal access to healthcare, housing, education, jobs, civic participation and economic resources with an emphasis on women and youth. Dolores gives a voice to the voiceless and countless Americans owe a debt of immense gratitude to her for making their causes her own.

I met Dolores in 1972 when I was a member of the California State Legislature and she was the vice president and co-founder of the United Farm Workers of America. Over the last forty years, I have had the pleasure of working with her on many issues.

In 1955, when she was only twenty-five years old, she found her calling as an organizer while serving in the leadership of the

Stockton Community Service Organization (CSO), a grass roots organization that battled segregation and police brutality, led voter registration drives, pushed for improved public services, and fought to enact new legislation. Through her tireless lobbying efforts, she succeeded in getting the citizenship requirements removed from pension and public assistance programs. She was the leading force in the passage of legislation allowing voters to vote in Spanish, and the right to take the driver's license examination in their native language.

She has been arrested twenty-two times for participating in non-violent civil disobedience activities and strikes to protect farmers and women, which has resulted in great benefit to both groups. Due to her solid support for the grape strikes, farm workers won health and benefit plans for the first time, and those who had lived, worked, and paid taxes in the United States for many years were granted amnesty. Dolores fought tirelessly to provide a better working environment and stop the abuse of female immigrants across the U.S.-Mexican border, and she lobbied law enforcement agencies in both countries to stop the brutal rape and the murder of these immigrants.

Dolores was given the Outstanding Labor Leader Award in 1984 by the California State Senate. In 1993, she was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame. That same year she received the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) Roger Baldwin Medal of Liberty Award; and the Eugene V. Debs Foundation Outstanding American Award, and the Ellis Island Medal of Freedom Award. She is also the recipient of the Consumers' Union Trumpeter's Award. In 1998, she was one of three Ms. Magazine, "Women of the Year", and the Ladies Home Journal's, "100 Most Important Women of the 20th Century." She received three honorary doctorate degrees for her extraordinary life work.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, I ask you to join me in honoring Dolores Huerta for her outstanding contribution to our community. Few Americans in our history have done more to protect workers and safeguard women's rights than Dolores Huerta. We are a better country because Dolores continues to play a vital role in shaping our laws and values.

HONORING MR. WILLIAM
KAMPELMAN

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2012

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a World War II Veteran, Mr. William Kampelman. He passed away in St. Louis, Missouri on Saturday, July 7, 2012. He will be deeply missed.

After serving in World War II, Mr. William Kampelman founded an electrical business in Webster Groves, Missouri. Then he strengthened the community of Webster Groves by working for the Webster Groves Public Library.

He was the beloved husband of the late Phillis Kampelman; father of Ann Amato, Bill, and Pat Quarles; and grandfather, great-grandfather, uncle, and friend.

Mr. Speaker, I stand today to honor the life of William Kampelman. I invite my colleagues