

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MARTIN HEINRICH**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 2, 2012*

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. Speaker, on July 31, 2012, I unfortunately missed three votes, which included rollcall Nos. 537, 538 and 539.

If I had been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote 537.

If I had been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote 538.

If I had been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote 539.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF CONGRESS  
ON GOVERNANCE OF THE INTERNET

SPEECH OF

**HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join Representative ESHOO, Representative BONO MACK, Representative UPTON, and Representative WALDEN as an original co-sponsor of this resolution.

The Internet has been a unique and powerful driver of social and economic progress. A critical element of that success has been the open manner in which the Internet is governed. Rather than relying on centralized control by governments, the Internet instead adopts a multi-stakeholder model in which all who have an interest can have a voice in the Internet's operation.

Lately, however, the multi-stakeholder model towards Internet governance has been under assault on the global stage. In a few months at the World Conference on International Telecommunications in Dubai in December, the International Telecommunication Union may consider proposals that could fundamentally alter the way the Internet operates. Some of these proposals, if adopted, would undermine the successful decentralized approach to Internet governance and impose a government-controlled management regime, thereby threatening citizens' access to content and information via the Internet as well as the global free flow of information online.

We cannot allow this to happen.

The Obama Administration has worked diligently to ensure that the Internet remains a tool for the global dissemination of ideas, information, and commerce. In doing so, the Administration continues the work of previous Administrations of both parties in protecting a global open Internet as a tool that benefits citizens around the world.

In May, the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology held a hearing to examine proposals that would change the Internet governance model.

At that hearing we heard from witnesses from the Administration and experts with a long history of working on issues relating to Internet governance. The witnesses all agreed that the United States must continue to resist

any proposals that would undermine the multi-stakeholder model. Their testimony reinforced my belief that Democrats and Republicans in Congress must stand united with the Administration in its efforts to resist proposals that would undermine the existing multi-stakeholder approach.

I am pleased that so many Democrats and Republicans have signed on as co-sponsors of this resolution.

This large, bipartisan coalition of co-sponsors demonstrates that there is support across the political spectrum for continuing the multi-stakeholder model that allows the Internet to thrive. We urge the Administration to continue to resist international efforts to allow greater government control of the Internet, and I urge my colleagues to vote for this resolution.

RECOGNIZING FLEX-A-LITE ON  
THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 2, 2012*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Flex-a-lite company, a Fife, Washington manufacturer for their 50 years of American manufacturing. The company has continuously set itself apart from its competition in the automotive industry by promoting strong domestic sales and rarely outsourcing manufacturing abroad.

Eddy Davis, along with his son-in-law, Rainer Willingham, founded Flex-a-lite in 1962. The company dramatically changed the automotive world, by inventing the very first flexible fan created from hand-cut fiberglass roofing material. In 1978, the founders patented the first electric fan and three generations later, the company continues to prosper.

The current president of Flex-a-lite and granddaughter of Eddy Davis, Lisa Chissus, has said that the business has been able to overcome hardships during tough economic times because Flex-a-lite remained loyal to three key factors: innovation, quality, and smooth succession.

The company has consistently produced new, innovative products and continues to bring new ideas to the table. Flex-a-lite takes great pride in their top quality products that are made and sold in the United States. It is clear that the business's family-owned values have helped to successfully guide the company for a half century.

Mr. Speaker, it is with honor that I recognize the Flex-a-lite company. I am confident that Flex-a-lite will flourish for years to come.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT INGRAM,  
BALDWIN COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 2, 2012*

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Mr. Robert Ingram, who is retiring as Presi-

dent and CEO of the Baldwin County Economic Development Alliance. Under his leadership Baldwin County became the top "micropolitan statistical area" in the state and the 27th out of 576 in terms of economic strength ratings for the United States.

Robert's record in economic development is considerable. He is a Past Chairman of the 17-state Southern Economic Development Council, and in 2001, 2003, 2006 & 2007 received the organization's highest award, the Chairman's Award of Distinction. Robert is a past president of the Mississippi Jaycees, past National Vice President of the United States Jaycees, and past International President of the University of Southern Mississippi Alumni Association. He previously served as President of the Mississippi Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives and President of the Mississippi Economic Development Council. Robert holds the Professional Community Economic Developer designation, is a graduate of the Community Development Institute, and served on the National Board of Directors of CDI. In 2010, he was named by Janus Economics, an international economic development consulting firm, as the first Janus Fellow, in recognition for his service to the profession.

Robert has also served as Senior Vice President of Economic Development for the Metro-Jackson Chamber of Commerce, has coordinated the marketing/recruitment effort of the three-County, Metro Economic Development Alliance, served as President/CEO of the Greenwood/Leflore Industrial Board and served as Economic Development Assistant to the President of the University of Southern Mississippi. Robert holds both a Bachelors and Masters Degree in Business Administration from Southern Miss.

On the volunteer side Robert has served as president of a chamber of commerce and chairman of an economic development foundation. In the private sector he has been a senior business developer and commercial lending officer in a major financial institution and made multi-million dollar business loans. In the public sector he has worked in economic development for the State of Mississippi and has created a comprehensive county economic development agency and 501(c) 6 subsidiary "from scratch". He also served as Mayor of the City of McComb, Mississippi, where he both reorganized local government and helped consolidate local economic development agencies. On the entrepreneurial side, he was one of seven organizers and a charter director and officer of Pike County National Bank.

In his current position, Robert oversees the day to day operation of the Alliance and works closely with private and public sector leaders on countywide and regional community/economic development related issues critical to the future of south Alabama. Robert was active in the regional work of the Coastal Recovery Commission and currently serves on the Board of the Coastal Alabama Leadership Foundation.

On behalf of the people of Alabama and my colleagues in the Alabama Delegation, I would like to extend my personal appreciation to Mr. Ingram for his service to Alabama's past, present, and future through his leadership with the Baldwin County Economic Development Alliance.