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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. FORTENBERRY).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC.,
February 15, 2013

I hereby appoint the Honorable JEFF FORTENBERRY to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

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

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 of 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 Congress men 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 pro tempore. 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 pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. CARTWRIGHT) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CARTWRIGHT 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 PRO TEMPORE

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

IMMIGRATION REFORM

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

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I had a career in the military with a combined 21 years between the United States Army, the Army Reserve, the United States Marine Corps, and the Marine Corps Reserve.

During the course of my military career, I met so many extraordinary young men and women who served our country in uniform and who made tremendous sacrifices in defense of our freedom. I strongly believe that the highest expression of citizenship in America is exemplified by those who serve in our Armed Forces.

In my hometown of Aurora, Colorado, I've recently met young people who grew up in Aurora, went to school in our community, and know of no other country than America. Some of them want to join the military, but because of their immigration status, they cannot.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that they should be allowed to join and given an opportunity to earn their citizenship by serving our country, their country, in the military.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES SHOULD BE A TOP PRIORITY

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

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in advance of the Forward on Climate Rally this Sunday here in Washington, D.C., to support the thousands of people en route to this town right now and to urge this Congress to keep environmental issues among our top priorities.

As President Obama stressed in his State of the Union address earlier this week, there is an undeniable trend of warmer climates and a rise in the frequency of natural disasters which cause devastation across this Nation.

We are headed in the wrong direction, and we need serious action to protect our planet. We can fight global warming while still growing our economy. We can do it by investing in clean, renewable resources like wind and solar with equipment produced right here in the United States of America.

By dealing seriously with environmental issues, we can boost our economy, decrease our reliance on foreign oil, and leave a better world for our children. These should be our top priorities as Members of Congress, as citizens, and as parents, and it is time these issues receive the attention that they deserve.

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FEDERAL LAND GRABBING OF UTAH

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

Mr. STEWART. Today I rise in defense of the people of Utah as I introduce the Utah Land Sovereignty Act, a bill that will prohibit the establishment of national monuments in Utah except by the express authorization of Congress.

More than 60 percent of the State is controlled by the Federal Government. This is not uncommon in western States. And now we know that President Obama intends to use the Antiquities Act to further extend these Federal landgrabs.

Recently, the former Secretary of the Interior suggested and encouraged him to do this. This is another example of the arrogance of the Federal Government and their cavalier attitude towards those of us in western States.

It's time for the President to realize that Federal landgrabs have real consequences for real people.

TERRELL BENTON, JR.

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

Mr. BARROW of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the 50 years that Terrell W. Benton, Jr., has served as a member of the State Bar of Georgia.

Terrell Benton earned both undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Georgia and, as one colleague put it, is ''the very model of what a lawyer should be.''

Terrell Benton believes that all deserve effective representation in our courts. That may be common today, but in 1964, my daddy's first year on the bench, not everybody felt that way. In that year, Terrell defended a black man the State was trying to put to death for killing a white man. He was convicted of the crime he committed, but he was spared the death penalty thanks to Terrell. That would have been no small feat for the most accomplished lawyer in that time and place, but considering that Terrell was just 1 year out of law school made it all the more remarkable.

Today, Terrell is general counsel to three school districts and serves on a host of civic boards.

I know I speak for lawyers everywhere when I thank Terrell Benton for his commitment to equal justice for all and for his 50 years of service to our profession.

THE PATH TO PROSPERITY IS STILL ACHIEVABLE

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, during Tuesday night's State of the Union address, the President spoke to the American people, and Michael Gerson in yesterday's Washington Post has judged ''it was a pervasive lack of substance and seriousness.''

Four years ago this month, the President explained that the deficit was unsustainable, but then proceeded to triple the deficit, putting American families at risk. Sadly, his words do not reflect his actions.

House Republicans recognize the urgency in putting our fiscal house back in order. Over $16 trillion in national debt is irresponsible. Not only does it threaten senior citizens with the value of the dollar, it places an undue burden on future generations at risk for higher taxes, and it destroys job creation due to economic uncertainty.

The path to prosperity is still achievable. Now is the time for the President to change course and work with Congress to secure solutions enabling small businesses to create jobs.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

□ 0910

ACHIEVING THE REPUBLICAN POLICY OF SEQUESTER

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, we are on the brink of achieving the Republican policy of sequester. Why do I say it's the Republican policy?

Because on July 19 of 2011, 229 Republicans voted for their Cut, Cap, and Balance bill, which said that the alternative to cutting spending in a rational way would be the irrational imposition of sequester, which cuts across the board irrespective of priorities. It's the wrong thing to do. It will hurt America. It will hurt our economy. It will hurt the growth in jobs.

I am here to tell you, if Democrats were in charge of the House of Representatives, that sequester would not happen; but we've been here 6 weeks, and not a single piece of legislation has been brought to this floor by the majority to stop sequestration from happening, to substitute a rational fiscal policy for an irrational one.

So when sequester hits, as unfortunately as it may, as tragically as it may, as unacceptably as it may, the American people need to know this is Republican policy included in legislation for which 98 percent of them voted on July 19, 2011.

COUNTERING A NUCLEAR NORTH KOREA

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

Mr. COTTON. Mr. Speaker, North Korea's nuclear test earlier this week signals an increasingly dangerous and defiant stance that the United States and our allies must confront and defeat.

The resolution before the House today condemns the North Korean Government's flagrant and repeated violations of multiple United Nations Security Council resolutions and condemns its repeated provocations that threaten international peace and stability. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

I must add that the constraints we face in countering a nuclear North Korea highlight the urgent need to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons capabilities. Iran already exports murder around the world, props up illegitimate regimes like Bashir al-Assad in Syria and supports and sponsors terrorist organizations like Hezbollah and Hamas. Imagine what Iran would do when acting under the umbrella of a nuclear deterrent.

The United States already faces in North Korea one outlaw regime with nuclear weapons. We cannot allow a second outlaw regime to join them.

NATIONAL ENGINEERS WEEK

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

Mrs. NEGRETE McLEOD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of a resolution authored by Mr. LIPINSKI of Illinois honoring National Engineers Week.

In his State of the Union address, the President emphasized the importance of educating students in the sciences, technology, engineering, and math fields so that they are prepared for the high-tech and high-paying jobs of the future.

STEM education is vital for the economic growth of my district and for the Nation. Just last month, a new report found that in the past 11 years high-tech jobs in my district and in the surrounding areas have grown by 18.6 percent. Many of these jobs are requiring engineers and students who pursue STEM education.

Yet while most parents of school-aged students believe that STEM education should be a priority in the United States, only half agree that it is actually a top priority. That is why I ask my colleagues to support the celebration of National Engineers Week in order to raise awareness of STEM education and its importance to our country's economic future.

EMPORIA STATE UNIVERSITY

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

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 150th anniversary of the founding of Emporia State University in Emporia, Kansas.

Founded on this very day in 1863, with a mission of providing outstanding educators for the State of

Kansas, Emporia State is much recognized to this day for its outstanding teachers college. One-third of the degrees earned each year at Emporia State are graduate degrees—the highest rate of any university in Kansas.

Today, I join more than 5,900 current students and 75,000 alumni in congratulating Emporia State University on their first 150 years, and I wish them the very best in the next 150 years.

VOTING RIGHTS ACT CHALLENGE

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

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, our right to vote is the very foundation of our democracy. In passing the Voting Rights Act, Congress relied on an extensive record of discrimination in voting.

Section 5 is one of the act's most important provisions. It requires covered jurisdictions to submit planned changes in their election laws to Federal officials and judges for prior approval. The areas covered by section 5 were covered the old-fashioned way—they earned it—by implementing poll taxes, literacy tests, gerrymandered election districts, and other schemes.

If the Supreme Court invalidates section 5 in its upcoming decision in Shelby County v. Holder, it would essentially allow jurisdictions with a history of discrimination to implement any discriminatory voter scheme and to then place the burden on the victims to raise the money to bring a lawsuit and to, meanwhile, suffer under the discriminatory scheme until the Court rules. Then, without section 5, those same jurisdictions could create another scheme and repeat the whole process.

Mr. Speaker, at a time when America has staked so much of its international reputation on the need to spread democracy around the world, we must ensure its vitality here at home and preserve section 5 of the Voting Rights Act.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on the motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record vote on the postponed question will be taken later.

CONDEMNING NORTH KOREAN NUCLEAR TEST

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 65) condemning the Government of North Korea for its flagrant and repeated violations of multiple United Nations Security Council resolutions, for its repeated provocations that threaten international peace and stability, and for its February 12, 2013, test of a nuclear device, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 65

Whereas, on February 12, 2013, North Korea exploded a nuclear device;

Whereas reports indicate that the nuclear test was apparently more powerful than North Korea's previous tests in 2006 and 2009;

Whereas North Korea's nuclear test, and its recent ballistic missile test, are violations of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1695 (2006), Resolution 1718 (2006), Resolution 1874 (2009), and Resolution 2087 (2013);

Whereas North Korea's ballistic missile program poses a threat to United States allies and interests in the Asia Pacific region;

Whereas North Korea's ballistic missile program has demonstrated an increasing ability to reach the United States, and could constitute a grave threat to the security of the American people;

Whereas North Korea has violated the July 27, 1953, Armistice Agreement that ended the Korean War, and has since committed unprovoked acts of war against South Korea by sinking the warship Cheonan, killing 46 of her crew, and by attacking civilian targets on the island of Yeongpyeong, killing four residents, among many other willful violations and outrages;

Whereas the Government of North Korea has been implicated repeatedly in the illicit laundering of monetary instruments, in international narcotics trafficking, and in the counterfeiting of United States currency and intellectual property;

Whereas North Korea has demonstrated a willingness and ability to proliferate its ballistic and nuclear technology to a variety of countries, including Iran and Syria, both United States designated state sponsors of terrorism;

Whereas the Government of North Korea commits gross human rights violations against the North Korean people, including maintaining a system of gulags that imprison thousands of citizens, and policies that have resulted in starvation deaths of over 2,000,000 people; and

Whereas the Government of North Korea has repeatedly violated its commitments to the complete, verifiable, and irreversible dismantlement of its nuclear weapons program, including the Agreed Framework of 1994, the Joint Statement of September 19, 2005, and the agreement of February 13, 2007: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) condemns the Government of North Korea for its flagrant and repeated violations of multiple United Nations Security Council resolutions, for its repeated provocations that threaten international peace and stability, and for its February 12, 2013, test of a nuclear device;

(2) expresses solidarity with the people of North Korea who suffer severe oppression, denial of basic human rights and political liberties, and material deprivation;

(3) reaffirms the commitment of the United States to its alliances with Japan and South Korea, which are critical for the preservation of peace and stability in Northeast Asia and throughout the region;

(4) calls upon the People's Republic of China, North Korea's closest ally and trading partner, to pressure North Korean leaders to curtail their provocative behavior, abandon and dismantle their nuclear and missile programs through the curtailing of vital economic support and trade to North Korea that support the Government of North Korea, and comply with all relevant international agreements and United Nations Security Council and International Atomic Energy Agency resolutions;

(5) calls on the People's Republic of China to take immediate actions to prevent the transshipment of illicit technology, military equipment, and dual-use items through its territory, waters, and airspace that could be used in North Korea's nuclear weapons and ballistic missile programs; and

(6) calls on the United States Government—

(A) to apply all available sanctions on North Korea, cooperate with United States allies and other countries to impose additional sanctions on North Korea, and secure a new United Nations Security Council resolution imposing stronger sanctions;

(B) to utilize aggressively the range of available legal authorities and resources to defend United States interests against North Korean illicit activities; and

(C) to support the President's commitment to strengthen the United States ballistic missile defense system to protect the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) each will control 20 minutes.

The chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on this resolution.

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

There was no objection.

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

What I want to share with the body is that, on February 12 of 2013, North Korea successfully carried out a nuclear test—a test in flagrant violation of numerous international sanctions and of numerous agreements that North Korea has made in the past.

This test, which is the third time that North Korea has exploded a nuclear device, is a stark reminder that Kim Jong Un is determined to develop his nuclear arsenal while depriving North Koreans of their most basic human rights. When I say their ''most basic human rights,'' we had an opportunity to speak with the former propaganda minister of North Korea, who told us that 1.9 million North Koreans starved while this regime, in violating every agreement it had made with the international community, plowed forward with a plan to develop nuclear weapons.

North Korea has literally spent billions on its nuclear and its three-stage ICBM program, and that is all money that could have provided enough food to feed this country for years. If you've ever been in North Korea, you've seen

that the children there are malnourished. As a matter of fact, up to 50 percent of the children are so malnourished that it is estimated that it's going to affect their future development and their ability to really think conceptually because of the degree of deprivation there.

In the meantime, it also continues to build up its military. This week's test comes only 2 months after the launch of a North Korean intercontinental missile, leaving no doubt in my mind that decades of fruitless negotiations, frankly, have been a failure.

North Korea is a pariah state that has attacked its neighbors many times. Just last month, Ranking Member ELIOT ENGEL of New York and I had the opportunity to visit the wreckage of the South Korean naval vessel Cheonan, and there we saw the evidence where 46 South Korean sailors lost their lives in 2011—victim to a North Korean torpedo that was fired at that ship. I cannot imagine the anguish that this despicable act has caused for so many of those parents of those young sailors in South Korea.

□ 0920

The shared sacrifice that South Koreans and Americans have endured as a result of North Korean aggression is a sacred, inseparable bond between our two peoples. This resolution appropriately stands by South Korea and Japan, our allies in northeast Asia.

As North Korea continues to disregard international norms, it's important for this House to speak out, but we must do more. In the coming weeks, I will introduce legislation that targets North Korea's ability to access hard currency.

In my conversations with President Lee Myung-bak of South Korea and President-elect Park Geun-hye, I have always stressed the importance of targeted sanctions so that we can bring about change inside North Korea. When dictators cannot pay their generals, they cannot test nuclear weapons and launch missiles. This was an important lesson of the financial sanctions we put on Banco Delta Asia and other banks in the past that have dealt with the North Korean regimes; and, as a result of that imposition at the time, it brought to a halt the ability of the North Korean regime to pay its generals.

Mr. Speaker, America's policy on North Korea has been a bipartisan failure. We can no longer just hope that North Korea is going to give up its weapons in exchange for aid. It is time we come together to hold this regime responsible for all the pain and suffering that it has caused, and do so by imposing this access to hard currency restriction. I cannot envision a scenario where Kim Jong Un voluntarily gives up the one weapon that, frankly, keeps his dynasty in power.

Reports indicate that North Korea's nuclear program is getting more powerful and its missiles are flying further. If North Korea is allowed to continue down this path, frankly, we all lose. The time to act is now.

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

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I rise in strong support of H. Res. 65, as amended. I would like to thank our chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Mr. ROYCE, for his leadership in addressing the threat posed by North Korea. I'm proud to be the lead Democratic cosponsor of this resolution. I believe it's very important for the House to speak with a strong bipartisan voice in condemning North Korea's recent nuclear test.

This test was an unnecessary provocation that raises tensions in northeast Asia and poses a threat to the national security of the United States and our allies in the region. The test also violates numerous U.N. Security Council resolutions, and I urge the Security Council to promptly pass a new resolution with additional sanctions to punish the North Korean regime.

In particular, I call on China and Russia to work constructively with other members of the Security Council to show the world that the world is united in opposing North Korea's unacceptable behavior. I recently traveled to Asia with Chairman ROYCE, and this is one of the key issues we discussed with senior Chinese leaders. China must do more. They're the ones that can rein in North Korea. They must do so, and they must do so immediately.

The North Korean regime must understand that the development of ballistic missiles and nuclear weapons will never make it a strong and prosperous nation. Instead of wasting millions of dollars on these weapons of mass destruction, it should focus on feeding its own impoverished people.

I have visited North Korea, the capital of North Korea, Pyongyang, on two occasions, and I can tell you that the North Korean regime would do better to help its own people, give them the things that they deserve, rather than spend its time and money on exploding nuclear devices in violation of what the international community believes. The new young dictator of North Korea, Kim Jong Un, must understand that the United States and our allies will not stand idly by and allow them to continuously violate what the international community thinks is acceptable.

I agree with Chairman ROYCE that for too long they have played this game. They have talked and talked and gone on and gone on and nothing has really been done, and they continue to violate international law. Unfortunately, Iran is playing the same game, and we cannot allow that to happen either—Iran getting a nuclear weapon.

So given the threat posed by North Korea, the United States must remain vigilant and further strengthen cooperation with our allies of South Korea and Japan. As the chairman said, we were in South Korea just a few days ago and we saw the evidence of provocation, of North Korea torpedoing a ship from South Korea, killing 50-some-odd members of the military of South Korea in an unprovoked attack. This is an outlaw regime, and it really must be handled properly.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I just want to take a moment and thank Mr. ENGEL for the forceful leadership that he gave us on this issue as we were meeting with the Governments of China and Japan and South Korea.

Mr. Speaker, I would now yield 2 minutes to the gentlelady from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN), chairman of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa and our chairman emeritus, who has been very engaged on North Korea policy.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. I thank our esteemed chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, as well as our ranking member, my good friend, Mr. ENGEL of New York.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution, authored by Mr. ROYCE and Mr. ENGEL, condemning North Korea for its most recent nuclear test.

Kim Jong Un, like his father and his grandfather before him, continues to thumb his nose at the United States, at South Korea, and Japan—indeed, the international community as a whole—by flagrantly violating U.N. Security Council resolutions. Pyongyang continues to pursue its goals of nuclear armament while leaving its citizens malnourished, starving, and suffering from diseases.

Without an appropriate response, North Korea will continue to launch rockets, as it did this past December, will continue to conduct nuclear tests, and will continue to undermine U.S. national security interests, as well as threaten our allies in the region. It is clear that North Korea is not now, nor has it ever been, an honest broker and has never lived up to its international obligations.

The time for engagement has long since passed, Mr. Speaker. Kim Jong Un has made his priorities clear: to obtain a nuclear weapon and to support, finance, and equip rogue regimes such as Iran and Syria. Such support to these state sponsors of terrorism should be more than enough for us in the United States to redesignate North Korea on the terrorist list.

I introduced a bipartisan bill earlier this week, the North Korea Sanctions and Diplomatic Nonrecognition Act of 2013, that would do exactly that. This is a critical moment for our allies in Asia, and the United States must reaffirm our unwavering support to our allies, South Korea and Japan.

I urge my colleagues to join us in condemning North Korea for its repeated provocations and violations of U.N. Security Council resolutions.

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

Mr. ROYCE. I yield the gentlelady an additional minute.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. I thank the gentleman for the time.

So, therefore, I call upon the administration to take appropriate action necessary and stand in solidarity with our South Korean and Japanese allies as they continue to live under the increasing threat of a nuclear North Korea.

I thank the chairman and the ranking member for their leadership on this issue, and our Foreign Affairs Committee will continue to pursue this terrible, vexing problem doggedly.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I just want to say that we can hear that Members on both sides of the aisle are speaking with one voice in unison, and I urge, again, the Congress to speak on a bipartisan basis to say that this is not acceptable and that we condemn in the strongest possible terms what North Korea has done.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE. If I might yield, Mr. Speaker, 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT), chairman of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific.

□ 0930

Mr. CHABOT. I'd like to add my voice to thanking the leadership, Chairman ROYCE, Ranking Member ENGEL, and former full chair, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, for their leadership on this very important issue.

I rise in strong support of this resolution condemning the actions of a pariah state and its dictatorial leader for brazenly violating international sanctions, multiple United Nations Security Council resolutions, and repeatedly threatening the peace and stability of the Korean Peninsula.

North Korea's test of a nuclear bomb on February 12, following its test of a ballistic missile in December, was a clear indication that it is continuing its quest for the ability to threaten the United States, South Korea, and other neighbors in the region.

It has become evident that the current international sanctions are not working, but rather, emboldening Pyongyang to expand its arsenal and proliferate nuclear and ballistic technologies to dangerous allies in the Middle East.

This resolution is only the first step in an effort to cripple the North Korean regime's ability to carry on with its illicit nuclear activities. I look forward to working with Chairman ROYCE and my colleagues on additional legislation that puts in place much tougher and more effective sanctions to sever Kim Jong Un's ability to threaten the international community.

Mr. Speaker, the long-suffering people of North Korea are starving and being deprived of the most basic of human rights while their latest dictator squanders the nation's precious resources and threatens his neighbors and the surrounding region. The civilized world must take notice and take action.

I thank the chairman for his leadership on this issue, and I urge support of the resolution.

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

Mr. Speaker, I would just like to urge my colleagues to support this resolution condemning North Korea's nuclear test. This threat, I would point out, is not just a threat to Northeast Asia; it's a global threat that demands our attention.

North Korea has demonstrated a willingness—in the past they've demonstrated a clear ability to proliferate nuclear and missile technology. We think about their proliferation to countries, nuclear proliferation to Syria. We think about their nuclear technology and their missile technologies for proliferation to Iran.

We cannot wait for the next nuclear test, Mr. Speaker, or the news that North Korea has successfully miniaturized a nuclear weapon. We already saw the statement that this was a smaller nuclear weapon in the past. We saw the official KCNA news outlet for the North Korean regime make the statement that their target for their ICBM program was the United States.

Lastly, many of us remember the video that came out last week, that very odd video that shows a North Korean sleeping, dreaming about an ICBM attack. The ICBM is launched. It ends up following the curvature of the Earth and hitting New York City in this video with that very odd background music playing. But it just shows an attitude.

I think that we cannot stand idle and tell ourselves that further sanctions have no prospect of success, especially when we saw how effective, for that brief period of time where the Treasury Department was so concerned about the counterfeiting of $100 bills that they actually forced deployment of those financial sanctions on those institutions which the North Koreans used in order to have access to hard currency.

We saw, at that time, the result and the protest from North Korea, and the result inside North Korea when there was not the money to pay the military or carry out the types of programs that they do in terms of their missile and nuclear testing.

So it's time to be honest with the American people that, frankly, our current North Korean policy is not working. It hasn't worked for a long time. Going forward, we need to move away from that failed North Korean policy to one with energy and creativity and focus. And I think we need to learn from what worked in the past until, unfortunately, those sanctions were lifted shortly after they were deployed because of the protests from North Korea.

So let's tackle North Korea's illicit activities, its missile and drug proliferation, where, between that and its counterfeit currency program, that's how it gets close to 50 percent of its hard currency. This regime will do anything for money, obviously. As South Koreans will tell you, it's a gangster regime.

But let's interfere with those shipments. Let's disrupt the bank accounts that are used. Let's ramp up the radio broadcasts into the country, where there is evidence the information wall is cracking. Thirty-seven percent of those people that flee the regime today say they're listening to broadcasts or they're accessing information that is telling them about what's happening in the outside world and what's really going on in their own country. And that's the kind of information we have to get into this regime.

Let's help the refugees who are literally dying to escape the prison above the 38th parallel. Weakening the regime is the only way to make the Korean Peninsula secure. So we must come together and do whatever is necessary to deprive Kim Jong Un of his nuclear weapons.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 65 and I strongly condemn the most recent North Korea nuclear weapons test.

It is unacceptable that the North Korean regime continues to ignore repeated calls from the United Nations Security Council and the international community to halt its pursuit of nuclear weapons. Despite repeated overtures from the international community, the North Korean regime continues to blatantly ignore all attempts to create a permanent peace on the Korean Peninsula.

By conducting this nuclear weapons test, the North Korean regime has decided to brazenly disregard the Agreed Framework of 1994, the Joint Statement of September 19, 2005, the Agreement of February 13, 2007, and four United Nations Security Council resolutions. On February 12, 2013 the United Nations Security Council met again and unanimously condemned the North Korean regimes most recent nuclear weapons test.

This most recent test threatens to destabilize the entirety of Northeast Asia and is a direct threat to U.S. national security. That is why I encourage President Obama and the international community to take swift action against this irresponsible and dangerous behavior. I support new and stronger sanctions against North Korea to show that we mean business. We cannot simply continue to expand previously passed sanctions—they are not working.

My heart goes out to the people of North Korea. On a daily basis, the North Korean people are subject to countless violations of their human rights including forced labor, starvation and wrongful imprisonment. Ignoring the plight of their own people, the North Korean regime would rather continue to isolate themselves, instead of reengage the international community to find meaningful and commonsense solutions. It is my hope that for the sake of their starving people, that the North Korean regime will halt any additional nuclear weapons tests.

Mr. Speaker, as the proud Representative of one of the largest Korean American populations in the country, many of whom fear for the safety of their friends and family abroad, I urge my colleagues to support this vital resolution. We must not stand idly by as North Korea continues to threaten U.S. national security and our friends and allies in the region.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, all of us condemn this reckless, provocative nuclear test by North Korea. North Korea's pursuit of a nuclear capability is destabilizing and not in the interest of the people of that nation, who suffer daily under one of the worst dictatorships the world has seen.

Yet even as we condemn this test and seek to prevent future ones, we must not make the mistake of believing—as this resolution asserts—that supporting more money for a ballistic missile defense system is the answer. America has wasted literally tens of billions of dollars since the 1980s in pursuit of a ballistic missile shield that is not technically feasible and is viewed as destabilizing by our international partners, especially Russia. While I support this resolution's condemnation of North Korea's test, I do not support its call for spending more money on a failed missile defense effort.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 65, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

ELIMINATION OF 2013 PAY ADJUSTMENT

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 66, I call up the bill (H.R. 273) to eliminate the 2013 statutory pay adjustment for Federal employees, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 66, the bill is considered read.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 273

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

SECTION 1. ELIMINATION OF 2013 PAY ADJUSTMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 147 of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011 (Public Law 111–242; 5 U.S.C. 5303 note), as amended by section 114(a) of the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2013 (Public Law 112–175; 126 Stat. 1316), is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(1), by striking the matter after ''ending on'' and before ''shall be made'' and inserting ''December 31, 2013,''; and

(2) in subsection (c), by striking the matter after ''ending on'' and before ''no senior executive'' and inserting ''December 31, 2013,''.

(b) ELIMINATION OF DELAYED ADJUSTMENT.—Section 114(b) of the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2013 is repealed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 273 and to include extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

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

Good-paying, full-time jobs should not be limited to those fortunate enough to work for the Federal Government.

At a time when hardworking American taxpayers are struggling to find work and keep their heads above water, the Federal Government offers its workforce sufficient and generous pay and job security. This is not to imply that they're overpaid. This is not to imply that they're overcompensated. That's a discussion for another day.

But certainly, at a time in which the American people saw their household income drop by $4,000, that has not happened in the Federal workforce. Year after year, the Federal workforce has received step increases and other pay increases. And with the exception of a relatively limited pay freeze done under President Obama's executive order, they, in fact, have received consistent pay increases and their benefits have been maintained.

At this time, we are faced with sequestration. Sequestration for our men and women in uniform means aircraft do not fly, ships do not get maintained, and, yes, furloughs may very well happen. To avoid furloughs, to avoid arbitrarily cutting the most junior individuals or stripping away our military's ability to protect us, it is a small price to pay to, consistent with the President's previous pay freeze, to hold pay increases of Federal employees for one more year.

□ 0940

It is my sincere hope that, working together, we will both resolve the budget shortfalls and get America working again over the next year. But at a time when most—a great many—of the average Federal workers make more than their private sector counterparts, when a great many make more than $100,000 a year, at a time in which Members of Congress, appropriately, have frozen their own pay year after year, it is a price that we have the authority—and we ask the Federal workforce to agree with us that in fact this is a year not to raise the pay of Federal workers. Last year, we spent $11 billion on non-merit pay increases for Federal workers. It's the right time to say no increases other than those specifically deemed by specific merits under statute are important.

My colleagues on the other side of the aisle will not agree with this, I have no doubt. But let me say one thing. I know that Mr. CUMMINGS and I do agree that we have to find viable alternatives to stripping away the capability of our military to maintain our safety. We have to find viable alternatives to cutting the important work on medicines and other lifesaving Federal programs that in fact our seniors and all of our citizens rely on. We could do this today, or we could cut the National Institutes of Health. We could do this today, or we could park two or three of our aircraft carriers and lay off the crews. I don't think the other side has any question that a viable alternative to those kinds of across-the-board cuts are clearly important.

So I ask the minority to join with me today in realizing that this is not what we want to do. This is what we need to do if we're going to prevent arbitrary cuts that in fact will touch Americans, in many cases, in all the wrong ways.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to H.R. 273. Given the many critical challenges our Nation faces, I and many of my colleagues hope that the 113th Congress would bring a new era of shared purpose that would enable us to work together to grow the Nation's economy, create jobs, and invest in our country's future. There are only 5 legislative days, Mr. Speaker, left before the across-the-board cuts required by sequestration will take effect. Rather than seeking solutions to the urgent challenges we face, our Republican friends are wasting 2 days simply renewing their attacks on middle class, hardworking Federal employees.

H.R. 273 has one purpose: it would extend the current freeze on Federal employees' pay for a third consecutive year. Mr. Speaker, Federal workers—the same Federal workers who care for our veterans, the same ones that clean our offices, the same ones that find cures to devastating diseases at NIH, the same ones that secure our borders, the same ones that regulate our drug supply—have already contributed more than $100 billion towards reducing the deficit and funding unemployment benefits for millions of American workers. No other group of Americans has contributed more to reducing the deficit. No other group has contributed more to ensuring our government remains strong. No other group has worked harder to ensure we're securing our Nation from threats. No other group has worked harder to provide the services on which our fellow citizens depend.

If H.R. 273 becomes law, the same middle class, hardworking workers

would be required to contribute another $11 billion towards deficit reduction, for a staggering total of nearly $115 billion. These are the same workers who have had their pay frozen for years. And these are the same workers who are now facing the very real threat of furloughs and layoffs if Congress fails to resolve sequestration by March 1. It's estimated that 1 million employees will suffer furlough days. The administration estimates that the arbitrary across-the-board budget cuts for Federal agencies that would be required under sequestration will result in the furlough of, again, a million employees.

We are at a tipping point in our Nation. The American people have reelected President Obama and voted in favor of policies that will support continued growth, create new and expanded job opportunities, and ensure the safety and health of our great Nation. However, here in the House, the voters are not being heard, and we continue to waste time considering measures that will only make our fellow Americans less financially secure, less secure in their health care, less secure in their children's education, and less secure in their jobs.

One of the arguments that we consistently hear is that we need certainty. People need to know exactly what is going to happen in their lives. We've heard that argument over and over and over again. Yet when it comes to Federal employees, we leave them in the lurch, not knowing how much the next paycheck will be. At the same time, House Republicans have refused to consider asking the richest among us to contribute a dime more. And that's one of the most painful things about this entire thing. A lot of times when I'm interviewing people to come to our staff, a lot of them tell me, Congressman, we don't mind not taking paychecks from the private sector because we want to do good for the public sector. And they say that they want to simply feed their souls. They want to do something significant. They want to affect broad groups of people. But yet this is what they get.

We could have spent today considering a proposal to eliminate tax breaks used by oil and gas companies and hedge fund managers. We could have spent today considering a limit to itemized deductions for the wealthiest Americans. Instead, House Republicans continue to return to the same hardworking middle class American workers over and over and over again.

The problem is that these repeated cuts will impair the ability of the government to carry out its mission and service to the American people. Social Security is located in my district, and I have seen and talked to our Social Security employees, as they are my neighbors. And they tell me that they have seen cut after cut with regard to employees. And now you've got people who once had three people doing a job, now there's one. And the cuts continue. They don't mind working, they don't mind sacrifices. But they said that if you're going to make us sacrifice, then let's have some equal sacrificing from people who can afford the cuts.

As President Obama has emphasized, ''our economy succeeds and our economy grows when everybody's getting a fair shot and everybody's getting a fair shake.'' I urge my colleagues to move beyond this partisan agenda of denigrating our Nation's public servants and join together to address the real issues Americans elected us to solve.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

The loyal opposition is entitled to their opinion but they're not entitled to their facts. Let's go through some facts.

The ranking member may not remember January 1. I know it was a long time ago—over a month. On January 1, with the President's blessing and insistence, we raised the taxes on the highest income producers and on family businesses by 5 percent on their ordinary income and by 5 percent on their capital gains. Capital gains would be a 33 percent increase, from 15 to 20 percent.

These were not small increases. These were huge. I didn't vote for them. My ranking member did. I didn't vote for them because in fact the President deliberately said, Oh, no, we're not going to touch anything else in taxes, except to stick it to the rich. And he did. And this body did. That was a decision. But I hope my ranking member will remember that a month ago and a few days we had a huge tax increase—of the President's choosing.

□ 0950

It had been offered up by Republicans to work together to find loopholes, but that was rejected in favor of a stick-it-to-the-rich tax increase that he chose.

There was $500 billion worth of revenue that would have been generated per year—$5 trillion over 10 years—if the President had been willing to go back to Bill Clinton-level taxes on all. He was not. So it is the height of hypocrisy to come in 30 days—actually, in about 1 day—and begin talking about the next round of tax increases on a relatively limited group of our population, the 1 percent or 3 percent, and in fact start reducing their ability to have working capital for new oil exploration, for new natural gas exploration, the things that the President, just a few days ago, standing in front of where you are today, lauded as great. We're becoming oil self-sufficient. We are natural gas self-sufficient. We are, in fact, able to move to cleaner fuels for our energy.

But let's break something else down. My opponent—and I keep saying opponent, he's my ranking member, but he is the loyal opposition here—he talks about $100 billion. I think we need to break it down. That's $100 billion over 10 years. It's not even $10 billion in the first year. His $100 billion of sacrifices, many of those sacrifices won't even occur because people aren't going to necessarily be here for all 10 years, because next year or the year after, this Congress might be able to increase pay to make up for what we have to hold back this year. We may have that good time and good employment and good ability to do that, and I would join with the Member to try to find that way.

But the fact is what actually is being asked to be given up by the typical Federal worker—the one that the President is calling such a huge sacrifice—is $274 per employee per year.

With that, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. ROSS), who has been a leader on this issue and who understands the hardworking men and women of the Federal workforce and why this is necessary.

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Chairman, I thank you for your efforts and leadership on this particular issue.

Mr. Speaker, at a time when our country is more than $16 trillion in debt, I rise today in support of H.R. 273 and in support of my colleague from Florida's efforts to hold the Federal Government more accountable to taxpayers.

As a former chair of the Oversight and Government Reform Subcommittee on the Federal Workforce, I held hearings about the discrepancies in compensation and benefits between Federal employees and private sector employees. And it's interesting to see what we found out. For example, the Congressional Budget Office found that the total compensation for Federal employees was 16 percent greater than that for the private sector employees. The CBO has also reported that Federal employee benefits were 48 percent more costly than the private sector employees' benefits.

As a former small business owner, I'm shocked to learn how serious these discrepancies truly are. In the private sector, I've had the responsibility to make a payroll, balance my budget, and reduce spending during difficult economic times. At a time when our children and our grandchildren are funding the Federal Government with a credit card, Members of Congress have a responsibility to make the tough choices and reduce spending. That is why, during my time as chairman, I oversaw 2 years of Federal pay freezes.

However, these Federal pay freezes were not my idea. In fact, it was a bipartisan idea. The President, in his Simpson-Bowles Commission on Fiscal Responsibility, recommended a 3-year pay freeze for Federal employees. As a proponent of the Simpson-Bowles plan, I am happy that the House will be following through today on this recommendation.

Our talented Federal workforce performs exceptional duties critical to the effective day-to-day operation and functioning of our government. However, the government must also examine every area of its budget during

these difficult economic times in order to become more accountable to taxpayers.

Just so we're clear, this legislation also freezes pay for Members of Congress—that's right, Members of Congress, including my own—for the remainder of the year. If we are asking families of the Federal workforce to bear some of this burden and to live within their means, so should we, as Members of Congress, do the same.

With that in mind, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this bipartisan Bowles-Simpson recommendation and vote ''yes'' on the bill.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, the Republicans keep citing the Simpson-Bowles Commission in support of the bill. The Simpson-Bowles Commission was a comprehensive deficit-reduction proposal that called for shared sacrifice from all groups of Americans. I see only one group of Americans being asked to sacrifice in this bill, and that's Federal employees.

The studies conducted by the Congressional Budget Office, the American Enterprise Institute, and the Heritage Foundation rely upon U.S. Census Bureau's current population survey, which consists of self-reported data from surveys of households. This data is not as reliable as the data tracked by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, which is used by the President's Pay Agent to set the annual Federal pay adjustments.

I now yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentlelady from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON).

Ms. NORTON. I thank my friend from Maryland for yielding.

In furtherance of a point he was making, you can cite different studies on this question, so let me cite the authoritative study, the Federal Salary Council, 2012, a finding that Federal employees were paid nearly 35 percent less than employees in similar occupations in the private sector. This study was compiled by experts in labor relations and pay policies, and it used data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Federal employees have not asked for a pass, but there is no way to justify singling them out as a solitary target alone, repeatedly picked out and picked on for cuts, apart from the rest of the Federal budget.

Three years of frozen pay is a punishing cut in pay. Yet our Federal workforce—although much smaller than it was 25 years ago—is so efficient that they are serving millions more here and abroad. Each of these hardworking civil servants, the best educated and most specialized public employees in the country, either themselves perform essential services the country cannot do without, or render vital support for these services.

The majority has graduated from demonizing Federal employees; they now want their pay. They don't have the support from the country to cut Federal pay, so for 3 years they have found a backdoor way to do exactly that with never-ending pay freezes.

Mr. Speaker, if enough was ever enough, enough freezes is enough this year.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I'd now like to yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DESANTIS), a member of the committee and a newcomer, but not someone who hasn't watched this play out time and time again as people call $274 a catastrophe for the Federal workforce.

Mr. DESANTIS. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for your leadership on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, we must change the way this government spends money. We have to be responsible with the money that the government makes our citizens send to Washington, D.C. Taxpayers deserve our best efforts to put our Nation on a sustainable fiscal path.

Now, this bill represents a small, but commonsense, measure that will save taxpayers $11 billion. It reverses the President's executive order at the end of last year which provides an automatic pay increase for nonmilitary Federal employees, the Vice President, and members of the President's Cabinet.

□ 1000

It also extends the freeze on pay for Members of Congress through the rest of the calendar year. This policy, as has been pointed out by some of my colleagues, implements one of the recommendations of the bipartisan Simpson-Bowles Commission. Many government employees do great work. Forestalling an automatic pay increase is not a reflection on their work, but simply recognizes our current fiscal reality and the fact that government salaries must bear some relationship to the private sector salaries that support them.

It should be stressed that this is a modest measure. This does not prevent pay increases based on promotion or longevity or bonuses for Federal employees from their agencies. Indeed, during the last 2 years when this freeze has been implemented, the average Federal salary increased by an average of $3,328, while the average private sector employee saw an increase of just $1,404—if she was even lucky enough to have a job at all.

I hope this body will make decisions in the coming weeks that will put the Federal Government on a path to a budget that will reach balance within the next 10 years. If we can get our fiscal situation stabilized, we can lay a foundation for robust economic growth and private sector job creation which will benefit employees of all stripes, government and private alike.

Mr. CUMMINGS. I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH).

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Maryland for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I want to get away from the abstract here about studies that talk about who's making what. I've got three VA facilities in my district: the Brockton VA Hospital, the Jamaica Plain Veterans Hospital and the West Roxbury Veterans Hospital. I spend a lot of time at the VA. Earlier this week, I had a chance to go through and talk to a lot of my VA folks: the nurses, the docs, the therapists, the nursing assistants, and the orderlies.

Right now, we are trying to deal with the traumatic brain injury and PTSD issue at the VA, which is increasingly pernicious. We've got a lot of folks who are doing a lot of tours in Iraq and Afghanistan coming home, four, five, six tours of duty, and they've got problems. So we're relying on our folks at the VA to take care of our sons and daughters who are coming home, and they're hurting.

Well, I just want to talk about one young woman who is a nursing assistant down in Brockton at the VA. She's a GS–3. That's who we're talking about. We're going to freeze her pay for the 3rd year in a row. And she is trying her hardest to take care of our veterans. She's a GS–3 under the system. She makes $27,322 a year. That's what that young woman makes. She's a nursing assistant. She's working in a psychiatric ward trying to take care of our sons and daughters who are coming home who need help, and we're freezing her pay by this bill. I'm talking about real people doing real work for brave Americans.

This is a disgrace. This is an absolute disgrace that we're doing this. I thought that maybe after the President's election and the new Congress coming in we'd get by this stuff. It is just disheartening to see this thing go on. This is the 3rd year in a row that this young lady's pay is going to be frozen. Not only that, but we don't have enough folks coming into the VA system because we're keeping the wages down. We can't compete with the private hospitals that are paying a lot more money. The docs at the private hospitals in my district, and I've got a bunch of them, the nurses and the therapists, they're all making a lot more money than the folks at the VA. And we're driving down the wages of these people and not taking care of them.

I don't want to point out the stuff about the pay for Congress. We ought to have our pay frozen. I have voted six times to freeze Congress' pay since I've been here in Congress, and we should do that. We shouldn't do it for a few months, like this bill does. We should freeze it right through the end of the Congress, because we should lead by example. I really believe that. We should freeze congressional pay.

I have a bill here that will do that right through the end of the Congress. I know it doesn't make some of my colleagues happy and their spouses happy, but I think it's something we ought to do. So let's get away from this stuff, beating up Federal employees. Let's try to do the right thing. It's an honorable thing, public service. We ought to

take care of our folks at the VA. Don't freeze their pay.

I ask my friends across the aisle to please join with me in voting against this measure.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I said earlier, and now I have to repeat it, the other side is entitled to their opinion but not their facts.

Mr. Speaker, that's the number. Almost half a million out of 2 million of our Federal workforce receive over $100,000, but the gentleman from Massachusetts chose to pick a GS–3. Okay, fine. This is an entry-level, unskilled position. But let's understand something. It still pays better than the minimum wage job that you're hoping to get in some cases, and it pays more than an awful lot of jobs out there. As a matter of fact, it pays about the average for somebody who has no special skills coming in. But we won't even debate that. We won't debate any of that.

Let's have the facts, the truth. That woman receives a step increase every year. She has gotten a pay increase every year, like the rest of most of the workforce. As a 3 level, she's getting a step increase. So to say that she didn't get a pay raise is just not true. If my colleague from Massachusetts were better informed, he would have said that himself rather than leaving that fact out of the pay raise that was achieved, because step increases occur even during pay freezes.

With that, I will yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS).

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the chairman in bringing this forward and the comments that have been had.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to support this legislation because I believe the American people have had enough hypocrisy. This is not about Federal workers. This is about financial reality. This is what we've got to look at right now. What I have told my staff, and I have told many in our district too many times that we cannot let the emotion of the moment miss the honesty of the moment.

Last month, many Americans saw their own paychecks decrease as a result of a payroll tax increase. While average Americans were feeling the effects of this tax increase at home, the President was pushing through a pay raise for Federal employees and, yes, including Members of Congress.

There are hardworking men and women in my district who are struggling to make ends meet. They would love a raise, but, unlike the administration, they don't have the power to unilaterally take taxpayer dollars and increase their own paycheck. Instead, they have sacrificed, made cuts, and they've gotten rid of the extras in their daily lives and found ways to live within their means.

They have done these things using a process that the President could learn from. Families across the State of Georgia and across the Nation sit down and decide their priorities, and they make tough decisions on how to spend their money. I cannot support the government taking on more debt to give raises to Members of Congress and the Federal employees at this time.

I submitted an amendment on this to Rules Committee extending this pay freeze through the end of next year. I'm glad to see my friend from across the aisle from Massachusetts would agree with me on that, because I believe we need to resolve this issue and move forward with serious reforms to address our Nation's fiscal crisis. Just as millions of Americans have done for their entire lives, Washington needs to learn to make do.

America does not need pay raises for bureaucrats. They need real leadership. They need real reform and a real commitment to putting our country back on a path of prosperity. American taxpayers deserve no less.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, Mr. LYNCH mentioned a nurse taking care of veterans. I just want to say that it's not about somebody being unskilled. She's taking care of some folks who have served us and need skillful workers, and $27,000, I don't know whether anybody has looked at daycare here lately, but just daycare can cost you $27,000.

Mr. ISSA. Will the gentleman yield for a question?

Mr. CUMMINGS. I don't have much time, unless you're going to give me some time. If you give me some time, I'd be happy to yield. I've got a number of speakers.

Mr. ISSA. I'll wait.

Mr. CUMMINGS. I yield 2 minutes to my distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY).

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Maryland for yielding.

I rise today in strong opposition to H.R. 273, a deeply flawed bill that punishes all Federal workers across the Nation by not even allowing them to have a half of a percent salary increase.

Once again, the majority is showing America that they do not care about the suffering of middle class Federal employees after they have already accepted a 2-year pay freeze and a freeze on retirees' cost-of-living adjustments.

□ 1010

Federal employees are intelligence analysts who defend America's borders; they are nurses and doctors who care for our veterans; they are scientists who conduct lifesaving research, which is producing remarkable results and generating new jobs across this country; and they provide countless other Federal services to all of our constituents.

It is wrong to intentionally target our Nation's best and brightest public servants by giving them good reason to quit their government job and move to the private sector.

My friends, the sad truth is that this bill is not really about deficit reduction. It is just the latest act in more bad political theater that does nothing to strengthen our economy.

My honorable colleague, Federal employees are my constituents and your constituents. They are hurting. We should not be wasting time on political nonsense like this.

I urge my friends on both sides of the aisle to put our country before our politics. Let's defeat this reckless and unfair bill, and then let's sit down together to force a reasonable compromise that will reduce the deficit, avoid the sequester, and restore economic security for middle class families.

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

Mr. Speaker, again the facts speak louder than the rhetoric. The .4 percent is less than a quarter of the exit rate in the Federal workforce of the private sector, one of the reasons people in the private sector are fighting to figure out how to get a job that pays better. This is our exit in the public sector.

They're not leaving because they weren't paid enough. There's no draconian cuts.

Mr. CLAY. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. ISSA. Not any more than your Member did.

The fact is this is the truth, and the facts speak louder. Only 22 percent of the Federal workforce believes that their pay is linked to performance. Of course the Federal workforce doesn't like not getting $274 more for the remainder of this year. Neither do I.

Mr. CLAY. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. ISSA. You'll have your time.

Mr. CLAY. I don't have time.

Mr. ISSA. The fact is we have a problem, and the problem is everyone wants to call a total of about $1 billion of not increases as somehow draconian.

The .4 percent, they're not leaving the workforce. That's the important thing.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to know how much time we have.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Maryland has 15½ minutes remaining.

Mr. CUMMINGS. I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY).

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Maryland.

The distinguished chairman of this committee says that we're entitled to our opinions, but not our own facts while he calls upon our friend from Florida, a former member of our committee, who cherry-picks from the Simpson-Bowles committee, the same committee that said we need a $4 trillion hit on the debt over the next 10 years and it has to be a balance between revenue and spending cuts. My friend from Florida and my friend from California fail to cite that fact. That's a fact.

The chairman just put up a sign talking about the exit rate in the Federal

workforce. What he doesn't tell you is that 47 percent of the existing Federal workforce is eligible for retirement over this next decade because of the baby boom demographic. How will we replace them, especially the higher-skilled set?

My friend from California, like me, came from the private sector before he came here. He was more successful than I. Very successful. I applaud him for that. But I would hope that in that success we don't lose sight of that GS–3 making $27,000 a year serving our veterans at a veterans hospital.

It's easy when we don't suffer low wages to perhaps lose perspective about the real need, even in our Federal workforce. And at the higher end, the more we disparage our Federal workforce, the more we make it less attractive. The more we treat them like a piggy bank, the less attractive that service will be.

We are a far, far distance from when John Kennedy called Americans to public service because he saw it, as did so many of that generation, as a noble calling.

We haven't just asked for a few hundred dollars from every Federal worker. We have attempted or succeeded in freezing their wages 3 years in a row. Another fact that my friend from California, the distinguished chairman of our committee, conveniently does not point out is that we have done more than that, and we've attempted to do more than that. We've funded the payroll tax cut with $15 billion of cuts for prospective Federal employees in the pension programs. We attempted for the first time ever—unheard of, no nexus—to fund transit in the transportation bill to the tune of $50 billion in cuts from existing pension programs, breaking an existing contract. That's a fact too. Maybe an inconvenient one.

Federal workers deserve the dignity of the work they provide. Federal workers need to be respected for serving our constituents. The losers in this debate won't just be them; it will be the people they serve.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to myself.

It is the minority's job to find facts that, in fact, we may not have said. I appreciate them doing that rather than flinging opinions and statements about people's intent.

Mr. ROSS stood here, though, and he told us facts. And he has a bill, a Simpson-Bowles-type bill that is comprehensive. He isn't just here picking facts. He picked apart Simpson-Bowles and put together a comprehensive savings bill that, in fact, was modeled after Simpson-Bowles. If he were here, I would have given him time to say just that, because he's a leader in our Congress.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CUMMINGS. I yield just 1 minute to myself.

I just want to say, Mr. Speaker, I hope that our Members before they vote on this bill will take a moment and talk to their own employees and find out why they're in Federal Government and why they really work for the government. That's all I want them to do. And I guarantee you nine out of 10 of them will say, because we love what we do, because we want to make a contribution.

With that, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WOLF).

Mr. WOLF. I rise in opposition to the bill.

I saw the movie ''Zero Dark Thirty.'' In the movie, the woman, Maya, who is working for 10 years to find Osama bin Laden and the entire team, Maya's pay raise and pay has been frozen—and the team—for the last 10 years.

There's a scene in the movie—I don't want to ruin it if you haven't seen it—but seven CIA employees were killed in Khost, Afghanistan. I went to the memorial service in my congressional district in Langley where I watched the young kids. One little kid had a blazer on and khakis. I watched him come in. The team that replaced the team that was killed in Khost had a pay freeze for 3 years. The FBI agent who stopped that young boy from being killed down in Alabama and just ran up a Taliban terrorist up in California, pay raise? No. A freeze for 3 years.

Over the last 5 years, one ICE agent killed, one Secret Service agent killed, three ATF agents killed, one DEA agent killed, two U.S. Marshals killed, air traffic controllers that put the safety for my family and your family and our constituents as they fly through the sky, the NIH.

My family has been devastated by cancer. My father and mother died of cancer. Cancer has impacted my family. Dr. Collins mapped the human genome system that will save many of you and the lives of your sons and daughters because of basically following that system, working on liver cancer, prostate cancer, breast cancer, ovarian cancer, which my mom died of. You will drive people like that—Dr. Collins and his team will have been frozen for 3 years.

With regard to NASA, we just went through the 10th anniversary of the *Challenger* explosion. Those astronauts that sit on that rocket, those now and in the future, if you have NASA facilities in your district and they sit on that Soyuz rocket that goes up, they froze their pay for 3 years.

□ 1020

The firefighters out in the West who you'll call on and beg to come and fight when the storms come this summer—and they're coming—have been frozen. There's the Weather Service. For those of you from Florida and in the tornado area and in the hurricane area, the weathermen stay around the clock, working—frozen for 3 years. There was Border Patrol Agent Brian Terry and the people who worked with him, who are on the border where violent gangs come across the border—frozen for 3 years. There is the DEA and others.

There are the doctors out at Walter Reed. If you go out and visit Walter Reed or go visit your VA hospitals, the doctors and the nurses who are working with the wounded warriors, people who have lost their limbs in Afghanistan and Iraq—frozen for 3 years.

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

Mr. CUMMINGS. I yield the gentleman an additional 15 seconds.

Mr. WOLF. I recognize the good intentions of the gentleman in what they're trying to do. It's not justice and it's not fair. I urge a ''no'' vote for this bill.

Mr. ISSA. I yield myself just 1 minute.

I know the gentleman didn't mean to when he was talking about Maya, but he did say that her pay has been frozen for 10 years. I'm sure he meant 2 years and, if we enact this, a third year. Mr. WOLF is a dedicated servant of this country, but he did say a couple of things that I'd like to touch on.

First of all, when we talk about the men and women of Congress and when they say they do it for the right reasons—they do it because they care—we're doing it with 11.5 percent less money in the House on both sides of the aisle. So, in fact, in many cases, we're paying the same or less than we were paying before. We've made those cuts. The Federal workforce has not seen an 11.5 percent reduction in actual dollars spent, but our offices have made those cuts under the Speaker's leadership.

Lastly, I certainly believe when we talk about Walter Reed that we should include what the commander of Walter Reed told me on Monday of this week, and that was that he is now in the process of planning whom to let go.

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

Mr. ISSA. I yield myself an additional 15 seconds.

He, in fact, is in a situation—a commander there, a two-star—of dealing with the possibility of furloughing for a 20 percent reduction. With the number he has been given, he cannot possibly maintain the same level of care for those men and women—those wounded warriors and those veterans. It will be devastating if we do not find ways to deal with alternatives.

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

Mr. ISSA. I yield myself an additional 10 seconds.

I was at Walter Reed. Walter Reed has a problem, and this is a small part of the solution. Every man and woman at Walter Reed would rather have a pay freeze than, in fact, see people disappear from their rolls and not be able to service the needs of those people.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CUMMINGS. The gentleman talked about the employees on our committees taking a pay cut. That's true that they took a pay cut, and every single one of my employees who

took a 5 percent pay cut—and sometimes a little bit more—said one thing to me: We don't mind sacrificing. We will. This was from every single one of them. But they said: Others have sacrificed, too.

With that, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. LOBIONDO).

Mr. LOBIONDO. Mr. CUMMINGS, thank you very much.

We all talk about our heroes in this country, and there are some real ones. There are 103 names at the CIA—we don't talk much about CIA officers, FBI officers, State Department officers—who gave their lives. Benghazi, still fresh in our minds, brought the country to its knees in horror, in agony, in mourning. There are State Department officers who lost their lives, and we have the audacity to tell them that we're going to deny them—I don't care if it's $1. At Camp Chapman, Afghanistan, six CIA officers and the chief of station were brutally murdered, and six were seriously injured.

I have the honor of being on the House Intelligence Committee. I've been to Camp Chapman. I've been to these forward operating bases. I've been to Africa. I've talked to these CIA officers who are putting their lives on the line every single minute of every day. They don't know when an attack is coming on them, and they don't know from which direction. Yet we're going to tell them that they should not get even a single dollar?

Shame. That's not what we should be about. That's never what we should be about.

If we can't put those who are protecting this country at the top of the list and understand, then shame on us. If we didn't understand this was in the bill, shame on us. If we did understand it was in the bill and if we did it anyhow, then even more shame on us. This is wrong and we should not do it.

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

The gentleman from New Jersey is right. He is right when he said that we, in fact, have to make these tough decisions. This isn't freezing the pay of our men and women in uniform, and perhaps we should scrutinize in detail as to the station chiefs and the others in harm's way their combat pay, their special hazard pay and so on. We held a hearing on Benghazi, and we were very aware that, in fact, they weren't paid enough to die for their country needlessly because we didn't do the right thing. I have no doubt about it.

I represent Camp Pendleton. The marines of Camp Pendleton—the First Marine Expeditionary Force—have deployed more than anybody. They have been in Iraq, they have been in Afghanistan, and they have been on those FOBs. In fact, we need to make sure we support them. That's the reason we're looking for alternatives to sequestration every day, and we would love to have people on the other side of the aisle.

So, when we talk about the men and women in harm's way, it's not, in fact, those in the towers helping to get our planes safely landed, and it's not the people inspecting our food. We have to make tough choices, and I join with anyone who wants to make tough choices on behalf of those in harm's way. Let's remember that we are talking here of the vast majority. These are Federal civil servants who, in fact, are paid pretty darned well, who are not leaving, and we are asking for a small sacrifice.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time both sides have.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Maryland has 6½ minutes. The gentleman from California has 9½ minutes.

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

My good friend, the chairman of our committee, has several times talked about loyal opposition. I am not the loyal opposition. I am someone who believes in what I'm talking about, and I'm not standing here opposing legislation just to be opposing it because I'm a Democrat.

We have to put a human face on all of this. I live in an area in Baltimore where a lot of these employees who are making $40,000, $45,000 or less take the early bus, and they are the ones who believe in what they do. The Social Security Administration is smack dab in the middle of my district.

I think about the people who make $100,000 or more, but we have to remember who those employees are. Many of them we see every day. These are employees who are highly skilled professionals, and I think Mr. WOLF and Mr. LOBIONDO talked about them. These are folks, such as doctors on staff at the Department of Veterans Affairs, who treat our wounded warriors. They're the lawyers at the Department of Justice and at the Securities and Exchange Commission, and we've heard their testimony before our committee. These are folks who deal with some very, very complex issues, and almost any law firm would be willing to pay them far more than what they are earning to work for the agencies for which they work. These are the folks who investigate and prosecute complex fraud and criminal cases. These are some of the most famous scientists in the world and air traffic controllers who help navigate our planes.

Just a few months ago, the ranking member and the chairman of the committee and I went to an awards ceremony at which Federal employees, who contribute so much to our society and who could earn far more than what they're earning, were getting awards for doing some very magnificent and awesome things.

□ 1030

I want to just spend some time on this one issue. It's not so much again that Federal employees don't mind sacrificing. They don't mind sacrificing. The question is will others sacrifice, too, those who are making far more money than they're making. But yet and still they're asked over and over and over again to pay more and more and more.

And so this is a very deep-felt situation with most of the people who have spoken—all of them. And as I listened to Mr. LOBIONDO and I listened to Mr. WOLF, what they were basically doing was making a case and reminding us that Federal employees go into the business of being our Federal employees because they want to make a difference.

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

Mr. ISSA. I yield myself 30 seconds.

Earlier there was a statement made about a nurse making $27,000. After checking, we discovered that's a nurse's assistant. I think it is important to understand that a nurse at the Veterans Administration would make a lot more. A nursing assistant is paid a modest salary, $27,000, plus probably another 10 or $11,000 in direct benefits. It's still more than the national average for somebody with that skill level. It is still a steady job, and it still would have had a step increase.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CUMMINGS. I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland, a fellow Marylander, Mr. HOYER.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. President, Mr. Speaker, there is not time to debate in the time I have available how we determine Federal pay. I was a sponsor of the Federal Employee Pay Comparability Act which George Bush signed back in 1990. I know a little bit about this.

America is confronting a sequestration that will have a devastating impact on our economy, on every individual in America, and on international confidence in America's ability to manage itself. And what have we spent 2 days on? A quarter percent cap on cost-of-living adjustment for Federal employees. A quarter of a percent. Some of us in this body earn that in about 10 minutes. Not all of us, but some of us. Uh-huh.

Yet we fiddle while America faces a sequester burn. And sequester is Republican policy. July 19, 2011, Cut, Cap and Balance brought to this floor; 98 percent of Republicans, 229, voted for it. What was the fallback position? Sequester, an irrational policy that cuts across the board irrespective of the priority. And so what does the majority in this Congress do? It has now wasted 2 weeks on debate of nickel-diming the people we rely on to protect our domestic safety, our international security, our food and drugs, our health care, our borders.

I join in the remarks of my good friend, FRANK WOLF. He and I have been here 32 years. We have some understanding of what is proper and not

proper in terms of managing the government.

Now, the sponsor of this legislation has been here approximately 45 days—45 days—and he introduces a bill to cap, by a quarter of a percent, Federal employees. The animosity directed at our Federal employees is so great that we have now taken 2 weeks to try to diminish their pay and benefits—how sad—while the sequester looms 14 days from today, putting at risk, as I've said, America's economy, creation of American jobs, the sense of confidence in our country.

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

Mr. CUMMINGS. I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman.

And the perception around the world that America is a serious situation. How sad. How shameful.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time of the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) has expired.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I inquire as to how much time I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California has 9 minutes.

Mr. ISSA. I yield 2 minutes to the chairman of the Rules Committee, a person very knowledgeable of how this law that the President signed came to be passed.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the chairman of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform yielding me this time this morning.

Mr. Speaker, there is a lot being said about this deal that we're now engaged in, sequestration. But I believe, looking back, and I believed it at the time, that the people who engaged in the idea did this because they never really wanted to live up to it. They put forth an idea, the President of the United States, the White House, and our friends on the other side of the building, and some, I'm sure, on this side. They cut a deal to avoid the reality that the President of the United States was engaged in with us trying to resolve differences that we had about excessive spending.

The facts of the case are a deal was cut. This came directly out of the White House, and it was to avoid having to make a tough decision at the time. And I don't know this—I wasn't in the meetings—but I'm sure it was something that they thought would never happen. That's not serious. When the President of the United States offers a compromise that was his idea and it's signed into law, that's law, and that's what we're counting on and that's what the American people count on.

We in this body, Republicans, stood by a deal that was cut. Now, I don't like the deal, but this House twice, the House of Representatives has twice passed a plan that says we think there's a better way to do it. There's been nothing that's been countered by the White House or by the Senate. We've not been engaged. The President of the United States is engaged in spinning, by traveling on Air Force One around the country, the ideas that don't help us solve the problem but that make matters worse.

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

Mr. ISSA. I yield an additional 15 seconds to the gentleman.

Mr. SESSIONS. I think what we did then was a tough decision, and I'm sorry to hear now that we're being blamed for accepting a compromise out of the White House. I know what's happening, and so do you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to close.

Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Texas was right. The President signed sequestration; the President asked for sequestration; the President negotiated sequestration; and the President has had from this body alternatives to sequestration repeatedly. The minority in this body has not offered viable alternatives to sequestration. The Democratic majority in the Senate has done nothing to block sequestration.

Mr. HOYER. Will my friend yield on that point?

Mr. ISSA. I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. HOYER. Is the gentleman aware that 2 weeks ago and this week the majority has denied us the opportunity to offer an alternative?

Mr. ISSA. I'm not aware of that, but this is not a new bill. You've had alternatives in the past.

Mr. Speaker, I noticed that I was closing, and I do believe the other side is completely out of time; is that correct?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time of the gentleman from Maryland has expired.

Mr. ISSA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

As I close, I think it is important that we take Mr. HOYER's very words.

First of all, he said ''Mr. President'' before ''Mr. Speaker,'' which got me to remind myself that the President is responsible for sequestration, something we're trying to avoid. The President has offered no viable alternative to sequestration. The President avoided $5 trillion worth of new revenue because he wanted to say he was only sticking it to the rich or, as Mr. HOYER would say, those people who earn more money in 10 minutes than this amount.

□ 1040

The thing that I want everyone to understand that the gentleman from Maryland said that is so right, this is only a quarter of a percent. He's right, this is a very small amount. It's $1 billion total over the Federal workforce for the remainder of this fiscal year. And over the last 2 years, this is how much the increase has been: $3,328 or about $1,500, $1,600 a year is how much the Federal workforce has got in a pay increase while they were under a freeze.

The reason it's only a quarter of a percent when you see about a 5 percent increase in the last 2 years in actual compensation is the Federal workforce system, Mr. Speaker, includes basically automatic step increases for the vast majority of employees, meaning so many people who talked about how this was being devastating are forgetting the fact that while the American worker got little or no pay increase, the American family saw a reduction in their actual revenue, the Federal workforce enjoyed 2½ percent increases while under a freeze. And, yes, Mr. Speaker, they will get another 2½ percent increase this year even though we forego this one-quarter percent automatic pay increase.

That's the amazing thing that can only happen here in Washington is people can come and talk about devastation, great sacrifice, a willingness to sacrifice, but not so much. Well, in fact, every year that dedicated employee, the GS–3 there as a nurse assistant, she got this kind of an increase year after year after year, even during a pay freeze.

We're not here to talk today about the dedicated men and women both in and out of uniform, but we have. And I want to commend all of those men and women who serve our country. But I want to commend them while saying that this is a small sacrifice. As Mr. HOYER said, as the whip, the Democratic whip, a representative of the party of the President, this third-year pay freeze called for initially by the President, in fact, is not an absence of increases—the increases are significant to anyone listening in America. These are real increases they're getting while we're foregoing in this bill a quarter of a percent.

So I want to thank the Democratic whip. He made it very, very clear that, in fact, this is miniscule. To him, $1 billion, $11 billion over 10 years, is not enough to even spend 2 days of the Congress on. And perhaps he's right; perhaps we should have done much more. Perhaps this small amount, this incredibly small amount, $274 on an average employee for the remainder of this fiscal year, is too little to pick up.

But if it's too little to bother with, isn't it also too little to have so much opposition to? The fact is, and the facts are stubborn, this is a small reduction in what would otherwise be a significant increase that they're going to get anyway.

So, Mr. Speaker, as I urge my colleagues to vote for this, I remind them that we have asked for this time and time again, that the President has not seen fit to keep up his own request, the President has not, in fact, been aware or willing to deal with the rest of the increases. He takes credit for what you would call a small quarter percent reduction and calls it a freeze.

Well, the Federal workforce received a good compensation. The fact is when you go from $69,000 for a typical or median income of Federal workers, to $72,000 during the period of a pay freeze, it reminds me of a can of soda—that when you freeze it, it doesn't

change, but the can ruptures because it has swelled.

We have increased the actual compensation, of payroll compensation, to the Federal workforce by an average of $3,300 during a time in which the American people are told there's a freeze. And we will increase their pay an average of about $1,600 during this freeze if it becomes law.

So, Mr. Speaker, this is small, as the whip said. It is so small that I call on the members of the loyal opposition to be the kind of Democratic Party that understands that this is so small that they certainly should vote for it. It is not a great sacrifice; it is a very small sacrifice. Every Federal worker eligible for step increases will see compensation increases, an average of $1,600 this year, when we're only foregoing $274.

At a time like this the President and Congress must face reality.

We cannot keep spending money that we do not have.

H.R. 273 stops an $11 billion expense for non-merit based raises that has no business moving forward.

The economy is struggling, hard-working taxpayers are suffering—it is fundamentally wrong to reward government workers while everyone else is trying to make ends meet.

The idea of giving raises to government workers at a time like this highlights how out-of-touch Washington has become with the rest of the country.

The truth is government pay and classification systems, many designed in the 1940s, lack the flexibility needed to keep pace with the current work environment and demands.

That is why the President's top pay advisors continue to point to the need for reform.

The numbers don't lie. Once people get a government job, they rarely leave it.

The private sector quit rate is 4½ times higher than that of the federal sector.

Moving fully to a merit-based pay system would give agencies needed flexibility to use appropriated funds to better compensate our hardest working federal employees and attract those with critical skills.

The responsible conversation we should be having is about pay reform, not across-the-board raises with no measure of performance.

Simpson Bowles recommended a three year pay freeze.

Anyone who claims to be serious about reducing the debt and reigning in Washington's out-of-control spending could not in good conscience support this $11 billion spending measure.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to this short-sighted, unnecessary, and ill-conceived bill. H.R. 273 imposes yet another pay freeze on federal employees, many of whom have not seen a cost of living adjustment in over two years. The men and women who have dedicated their careers to public service—the majority of whom earn middle-class wages—have already made sacrifices in pay and benefits totaling more than $100 billion to help reduce our Nation's debt.

Federal employees in several sectors already earn less than their private-sector counterparts. These are the men and women who care for our veterans, keep our airplanes flying and ensure our food is safe to eat. They work in every Congressional district, from the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta to the Department of Veterans Affairs in Providence. In fact, 85 percent of federal employees live outside of the Washington, DC, area, with 18,000 located in my home state of Rhode Island.

Not only does this bill prevent hard-working federal employees from receiving a modest pay adjustment in an attempt to keep pace with the rising cost of living, it sends the unfortunate message to bright young people that they will not be valued if they choose a career in public service. At this time of national crisis, when we are facing so many challenges, we should be encouraging the brightest minds in the country to help solve these problems.

I support and have cosponsored the bill introduced by Mr. CUMMINGS and Mr. CONNOLLY to extend the pay freeze for members of Congress. But just because I do not believe this body deserves a pay raise does not mean we must also punish the talented men and women who have dedicated their careers to supporting the United States of America.

It's time to get serious about moving this country forward. We only have five legislative days left until automatic budget cuts go into effect, costing us a projected 750,000 jobs this year alone and threatening to plunge our economy back into a recession. Instead of dealing with the looming sequester, House Republicans have us voting on a bill that has no chance of passing the Senate, and then sending us home for a week-long recess.

I have already co-signed a letter urging Speaker BOEHNER to keep members in Washington until we have averted the impending across-the-board spending cuts and put our budget on a fiscally sustainable path. I repeat that message again today: Mr. Speaker, it is time to stop with these phony messaging bills and get to work.

I urge my colleagues to join me in rejecting this unnecessary bill and bringing up legislation that will actually address our immediate fiscal problems. Our constituents are counting on us to act, and we must not let them down.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, it is extraordinarily frustrating for me that we have spent all week avoiding opportunities to make progress on areas on which we agree to avoid or minimize the effects of the sequester meat axe and instead singled out, again, our federal employees.

Suffice it to say, making them a repeated target is unfair, unproductive, and avoids the hard decisions we should be tackling.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to oppose H.R. 273. This legislation is wrong-headed, unnecessarily antagonistic to federal workers, and it creates consequences which will be felt much longer than the 0.5 percent pay raise due to Federal employees starting in April.

There are multiple problems with this legislation—here are a few that anyone can understand:

First, federal employees have contributed their fair share to reduce our deficit and debt. Through the pay freeze and increased contributions to their pensions, they have cut $103 billion over ten years—that is roughly $50,000 per employee. The 0.5 percent increase in their pay that they have been given after two years of stagnant wages only costs $11 billion over ten years. That is not what is driving our nation's National debt.

Second, federal employees have not only seen their wages stagnate, they have also seen their compensation—their wages and benefits—go down, even as the private sector has seen wage growth of 3.3 percent and compensation growth of 4.1 percent.

Third, the proposed savings H.R. 273 promises are likely to never be realized. The best federal employees will leave for greener passages, and the most qualified candidates will seek opportunities elsewhere. The deficit reduction this bill promises will require increased training in the short term and may lead to a less efficient, and therefore more expensive Federal government for decades to come.

I oppose this bill, H.R. 273, because our country simply cannot afford to drive our best federal employees out of our country's service.

Instead, I have cosponsored and I urge the passage of a bill offered by Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, which freezes Members of Congress' pay at current levels. I do not want a pay raise; I do not need a pay raise. However, our federal employees have paid far more than their fair share and do not deserve this additional unnecessary and punitive treatment from this Congress. I urge my colleagues to oppose the bill.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 273, a bill that would extend the pay freeze on federal employees' salaries for the third consecutive year. By bringing H.R. 273 to the floor for a vote, House Republicans have once again singled out federal employees and their families as they look to place the burden of reducing the deficit squarely on the backs of middle class families.

Like their private-sector counterparts, federal employees are subject to the same economic trends as any other worker in America. Federal employees have families just as their counterparts in the private sector, and have the same responsibilities to provide for them. With federal employees currently under a pay freeze for the past two years, it would be unfair to ask for continued sacrifice from only this select group of middle-income workers.

Federal employees have already contributed $103 billion toward reducing our deficit through a series of pay freezes and reductions in benefits. The critical role of federal employees is often overlooked, and demanding further cuts to pay and benefits will diminish our ability to deliver on this government's promise to protect the American people.

Mr. Speaker, I am not opposed to reining in wasteful government spending. However, I am opposed to continually placing an undue burden on federal workers to make up for wasteful spending in other areas of the federal budget. If we are serious about addressing our budget deficits, this Congress should focus more on passing a comprehensive budget that reflects shared sacrifices by all Americans.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to this latest attack on federal workers.

H.R. 273 is not a responsible approach to deficit reduction.

Federal employees have already been asked to make significant sacrifices to help reduce our debt. So far, they have contributed $103 billion toward deficit reduction through pay freezes and changes to retirement benefits. And, we have yet to take into account the prospect of furloughs and layoffs should the ill-advised, across the board cuts mandated by the Budget Control Act take effect in March.

H.R. 273 would freeze federal employees' salaries for the third consecutive year, forcing federal workers to forego an additional $15 billion in pay over the next decade even though study after study has shown that federal employees actually earn less than their private sector counterparts when factors such as skill and education level are taken into account.

H.R. 273 is not a serious attempt to address the budget deficit. The $15 billion it would raise represents barely a fraction of projected deficits over the next decade. True deficit reduction will need to be balanced and sacrifice will need to be shared.

H.R. 273 is also shortsighted policy.

The federal government should not be an employer of last resort. Our citizens depend on our ability to recruit the most qualified individuals to treat our wounded veterans, inspect our food, oversee nuclear power plants, protect us from terrorism, and provide a broad range of other critical services. H.R. 273 is yet another attempt by the Republican Majority to find a scapegoat for the deficit that shields the wealthiest individuals and corporations from making any kind of contribution. While this legislation would do virtually nothing to improve our budget outlook, it would force more economic harm on our dedicated federal workers and have a devastating long-term effect on the quality of government services and operations.

I urge my colleagues to vote against this legislation.

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 273, a bill that would prevent the President's pay hike for federal workers and Members of Congress.

H.R. 273 is a good bill that deserves our support. In a time of historic budget difficulty, the bill rightly seeks to limit federal spending on the government workforce. The bill also recognizes what the American People know to be true: too many private sector employees remain without work during this protracted period of high unemployment. I will vote in support of H.R. 273 later today.

While this legislation is a step in the right direction, we should go further to prevent excessive spending by also suspending the automatic step increases that federal employees will continue to receive even if H.R. 273 is enacted into law.

I have been disappointed that over the past two years of the President's so-called ''freeze'' on federal pay, federal employees have continued to receive step increases. According to the Office of Personnel Management, these increases have resulted in a median pay increase of approximately $3,164 per federal employee—all during the so-called pay freeze.

These step increases are not based on merit, and there are serious flaws with this system. For example, all employees in the Government Service pay plan who completed their ''waiting period'' received a three percent raise in pay during this period.

Mr. Speaker, do private sector workers receive a three percent salary increase for simply completing a ''waiting period?''

No, of course not.

During this time, salaries in the private sector only increased by $1,404, less than half of what federal salaries gained on average, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

If the President is going to say he is freezing pay, he must do exactly that—freeze pay. Anything less is a budget gimmick that creates only the illusion of savings.

Last Congress I worked to stop budget loopholes like this in a bill I introduced, the Honest Budget Act. Working with the Senate, I aimed to enact changes that would bring more honesty and transparency to budgeting process. I authored an amendment to H.R. 273 based on the provisions of the Honest Budget Act, but unfortunately this chamber is not able to consider it today under the closed procedural rule for H.R. 273. I intend to continue to pursue the issue later this year.

Since I've been in Congress, we have fought to reduce excessive spending to get our nation's deficits under control. We've enjoyed successes, but we have also seen firsthand the tricks of trade—gimmicks used to distort the truth and hide new spending. Soon I will be re–introducing the Honest Budget Act in the 113th Congress, and I ask my colleagues to join me in this fight for honesty and accountability in the budget.

A budget is a plan for the future and a financial report to the stockholders of the company—in this case, the American people. I am convinced that we can do better in the future.

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 273 because it once forces middle class workers to bear the burden of Congress's inability to come together and solve our fiscal woes.

This bill would result in a freeze on federal civilian employee pay for a third consecutive year by repealing the modest 0.5 percent increase scheduled to take effect next month. This miniscule raise would be their first since 2010, despite the fact that inflation has increased by 5.3 percent in that same time period.

These federal employees are hard–working people who deserve to be treated fairly for all they give in service to our constituents. They are the hotshot crews that fight our wildfires every summer. They are seismologists who will warn us about an approaching tsunami. They are the inspectors who ensure the safety of our food supply. They are the air traffic controllers who keep use safe when we fly. They are the VA doctors and nurses who treat our war veterans. And they are the officers who protect our borders, our airports, and our nuclear facilities.

At the same time, this bill asks nothing of the companies whose government contracts may award hundreds of thousands of dollars in salary per employee. And despite the protests of the bill's supporters, it does nothing to freeze pay for Members of Congress—that pay freeze, which I support, is already in effect.

This bill is just another political game that does nothing to meaningfully reduce spending or get our debt under control. I have said it before and I'll say it again: We've been governing by crisis for far too long. It's time to rally around common sense. It's time to take a seat at the bargaining table. This bill will not get us there, and it's time we all stop pretending that it will. I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing H.R. 273.

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, today I had to make the difficult decision of voting for a pay raise for myself or against continuing a pay freeze for federal workers. I voted for H.R. 273 because although I believe it is unfair to balance the budget on the backs of hard working middle-class families, I could not accept a pay raise for myself. I recognize the critical contributions federal employees make every day to the health and well-being of our country and I thank them for their service. I am honored to serve the people of California's 36th Congressional District and I will continue to work to do the right thing for my district and to ensure that the American dream is attainable for everyone.

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

Pursuant to House Resolution 66, the previous question is ordered on the bill.

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.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

PROVIDING FOR AN ADJOURNMENT OR RECESS OF THE TWO HOUSES

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I send to the desk a privileged concurrent resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 15

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That when the House adjourns on any legislative day from Friday, February 15, 2013, through Thursday, February 21, 2013, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned until 2 p.m. on Monday, February 25, 2013, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the Senate recesses or adjourns on Friday, February 15, 2013, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand recessed or adjourned until noon on Monday, February 25, 2013, or such other time on that day as may be specified in the motion to recess or adjourn, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. The Speaker of the House and the Majority Leader of the Senate, or their respective designees, acting jointly after consultation with the Minority Leader of the House and the Minority Leader of the Senate, shall notify the Members of the House and the Senate, respectively, to reassemble at such place and time as they may designate if, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the concurrent resolution.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, this 15-

minute vote on adoption of House Concurrent Resolution 15 will be followed by 5-minute votes on passage of H.R. 273, and the motion to suspend the rules on House Resolution 65.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 222, nays 190, not voting 19, as follows:

[Roll No. 43]

YEAS—222

Aderholt
Alexander
Amash
Amodei
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Benishek
Bentivolio
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burgess
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Coble
Coffman
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Conaway
Cook
Cotton
Cramer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Daines
Davis, Rodney
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Farenthold
Fincher
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guthrie
Hall
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Heck (NV)
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Holding
Hudson
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Joyce
Kelly
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Lankford
Latham
Latta
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Marchant
Marino
Massie
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meadows
Meehan
Messer
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mullin
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Perry
Petri
Pittenger
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Radel
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rice (SC)
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Royce
Runyan
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stewart
Stivers
Stockman
Stutzman
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NAYS—190

Andrews
Barber
Barrow (GA)
Bass
Beatty
Becerra
Bera (CA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Carney
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Courtney
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DelBene
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Duckworth
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Enyart
Eshoo
Fattah
Fitzpatrick
Foster
Fudge
Gabbard
Garamendi
Garcia
Gibson
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hanna
Hastings (FL)
Heck (WA)
Higgins
Himes
Honda
Horsford
Hoyer
Huffman
Israel
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
Kirkpatrick
Kuster
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lynch
Maffei
Maloney, Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Michaud
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Negrete McLeod
Nolan
O'Rourke
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters (CA)
Peters (MI)
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Richmond
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Speier
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)

NOT VOTING—19

Bishop (GA)
Cárdenas
Culberson
Davis, Danny
DeLauro
Denham
Esty
Farr
Frankel (FL)
Gallego
Gutierrez
Hinojosa
Holt
Hurt
Jackson Lee
Rush
Schock
Yarmuth
Young (AK)

□ 1107

Messrs. RYAN of Ohio and FITZPATRICK changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Messrs. LANCE, WHITFIELD, CHAFFETZ, and Ms. GRANGER changed their vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 43, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Mr. HURT. I was not present for rollcall vote No. 43. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Stated against:

Mr. GALLEGO. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 43, I was meeting with constituents from District 23 and arrived in the Chamber just as the vote was closed. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

ELIMINATION OF 2013 PAY ADJUSTMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. YODER). The unfinished business is the vote on passage of the bill (H.R. 273) to eliminate the 2013 statutory pay adjustment for Federal employees, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 261, nays 154, not voting 16, as follows:

[Roll No. 44]

YEAS—261

Aderholt
Alexander
Amash
Amodei
Bachmann
Bachus
Barber
Barletta
Barr
Barrow (GA)
Barton
Benishek
Bentivolio
Bera (CA)
Bilirakis
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Bridenstine
Brooks (IN)
Broun (GA)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burgess
Bustos
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cantor
Capito
Carney
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Coble
Coffman
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Conaway
Cook
Cooper
Costa
Cotton
Cramer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Cuellar
Daines
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
DelBene
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Enyart
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guthrie
Hahn
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Heck (NV)
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Himes
Holding
Hudson
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Joyce
Kelly
King (IA)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Kuster
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Lankford
Latham
Latta
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Maffei
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Massie
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meadows
Meehan
Messer
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mullin
Mulvaney
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Owens
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Perry
Peters (CA)
Petri
Pittenger
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Polis
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Radel
Rahall
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rice (SC)
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Royce
Ruiz
Runyan
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Scalise
Schneider
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Smith (NE)

Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stewart
Stivers
Stockman
Stutzman
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tierney
Tipton
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Vela
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Walz
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NAYS—154

Andrews
Bass
Beatty
Becerra
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Brady (PA)
Brooks (AL)
Brown (FL)
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Conyers
Courtney
Crowley
Cummings
Davis (CA)
DeGette
Delaney
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Duckworth
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Fattah
Forbes
Fudge
Gabbard
Grayson
Grijalva
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Heck (WA)
Higgins
Hinojosa
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Huffman
Israel
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
King (NY)
Kirkpatrick
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis
LoBiondo
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lynch
Maloney, Carolyn
Marino
Markey
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
Meeks
Meng
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Negrete McLeod
Nolan
O'Rourke
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters (MI)
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Pocan
Price (NC)
Rangel
Richmond
Rigell
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Vargas
Veasey
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Wittman
Wolf

NOT VOTING—16

Bishop (GA)
Culberson
Davis, Danny
DeLauro
Esty
Farr
Frankel (FL)
Gutierrez
Horsford
Jackson Lee
Quigley
Rush
Schock
Speier
Yarmuth
Young (AK)

□ 1118

Ms. ESHOO and Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Mr. GARCIA changed his vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated against:

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 44 I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 44 I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

CONDEMNING NORTH KOREAN NUCLEAR TEST

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 65) condemning the Government of North Korea for its flagrant and repeated violations of multiple United Nations Security Council resolutions, for its repeated provocations that threaten international peace and stability, and for its February 12, 2013, test of a nuclear device, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, as amended.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 412, nays 2, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 45]

YEAS—412

Aderholt
Alexander
Amodei
Andrews
Bachmann
Bachus
Barber
Barletta
Barr
Barrow (GA)
Barton
Bass
Beatty
Becerra
Benishek
Bentivolio
Bera (CA)
Bilirakis
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bonner
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Broun (GA)
Brown (FL)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cárdenas
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cartwright
Cassidy
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Coffman
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Conaway
Connolly
Conyers
Cook
Cooper
Costa
Cotton
Courtney
Cramer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Daines
Davis (CA)
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DelBene
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Duckworth
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Ellmers
Engel
Enyart
Eshoo
Farenthold
Fattah
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grijalva
Grimm
Guthrie
Hahn
Hall
Hanabusa
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Heck (NV)
Heck (WA)
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Himes
Hinojosa
Holding
Holt
Honda
Horsford
Hoyer
Hudson
Huelskamp
Huffman
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Israel
Issa
Jeffries
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Joyce
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kirkpatrick
Kline
Kuster
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Latham
Latta
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren
Long
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lummis
Lynch
Maffei
Maloney, Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marino
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meadows
Meehan
Meeks
Meng
Messer
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Mullin
Mulvaney
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Negrete McLeod
Neugebauer
Noem
Nolan
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
O'Rourke
Olson
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Payne
Pearce
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters (CA)
Peters (MI)
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pittenger
Pitts
Pocan
Poe (TX)
Polis
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Radel
Rahall
Rangel
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruiz
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schwartz
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Southerland
Stewart
Stivers
Stockman
Stutzman
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tierney
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Upton
Valadao
Van Hollen
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NAYS—2

Amash
Massie

NOT VOTING—17

Bishop (GA)
Culberson
Davis, Danny
DeLauro
Esty
Farr
Frankel (FL)
Gutierrez
Jackson Lee
Larson (CT)
Quigley
Rush
Schock
Speier
Turner
Yarmuth
Young (AK)

□ 1126

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, on February 15, 2013, I was not present for rollcall vote 45. If I had been present for this vote, I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House Chamber for one vote on February 13, 2013 and votes today. I would like the record to show that had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote 40, "nay" on rollcall votes 43 and 44, and "yea" on rollcall vote 45.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I was unfortunately unable to cast a vote on rollcall No. 44 and rollcall No. 45 on February 15, 2013. On rollcall No. 44 I would have voted "nay." H.R. 273 would extend the current pay freeze for federal workers by another nine months. Continued freezes, budget cuts to agencies, and ideological attacks on federal workers undermine the federal government's ability to recruit and hire a talented and high-skilled workforce while bringing us no closer to a responsible approach to deficit reduction. The men and women who have dedicated their careers to public service already have made sacrifices in pay and benefits totaling more than $100 billion to help reduce our nation's debt. On rollcall No. 45, H. Res. 65 condemning the Government of North Korea for its flagrant and repeated violations of multiple United Nations Security Council resolutions, for its repeated provocations that threaten international peace and stability, and for its February 12, 2013, test of a nuclear device, I would have voted "yea."

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN MEMORY OF FORMER CONGRESSWOMAN CARDISS COLLINS

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

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to acknowledge the life and the legacy of the late Congresswoman Cardiss Collins.

Congresswoman Collins was the first African American woman to represent a Midwestern district in this Congress. During her more than 20 years in service here, she boldly represented the Seventh Congressional District of Illinois after the untimely death of her husband, Congressman George Collins. She also led her peers with distinction as the chair of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Now I ask, Mr. Speaker, for all of my colleagues to join me in a moment of silence to honor Congresswoman Cardiss Collins.

THE STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS

(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, on Tuesday, the President stated, ''with renewed confidence,'' the ''state of our Union is stronger.''

I know that the President would certainly like that to be the case, but I wonder: Is the confidence stronger for the more than 22 million unemployed and underemployed Americans and their family members who remain struggling to make ends meet?

Mr. Speaker, is the confidence of Americans renewed when they fill their gas tanks and oil tanks with fuel at record-high costs?

Mr. Speaker, is their confidence renewed when the most recent economic data show America's economy shrinking for the first time in 3½ years?

The challenges facing the Nation do require smart solutions, but unlike the President, I believe smart solutions mean smarter government, not bigger government. They mean a greater emphasis on promoting individual freedoms, lower taxes, and fewer regulations in order to grow jobs and opportunities for those struggling and searching for greater opportunity. They mean fewer restrictions on accessing energy under Federal lands, which can dramatically increase domestic supply and lower energy costs for all. These are among the solutions we need.

THE SAFE CLIMATE CAUCUS

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

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker and my colleagues, today, 22 Members of the House have banded together to create a Safe Climate Caucus to end the conspiracy of silence in this House of Representatives about the dangers of climate change and the Republican denial of its existence and their rejection of the science.

We are committing to talk every single day on the House floor about the urgent need to address climate change. President Obama is leading the way. He says we must respond to climate change because to do otherwise would be to betray our children and future generations.

We are ready to get to work. We understand the threat facing our children, and we know our Nation has the know-how and the ingenuity to avoid the worst impacts of climate change, but to do so, we must act now.

TRUCKERS AGAINST TRAFFICKING

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Mike, a truck driver, pulled over at a rest stop. He noticed a young girl approaching multiple trucks. The girl, who was clearly under age, came up to his cab and offered him sex for money. She seemed scared, and he asked her a few questions. She told him that, if she did not bring in enough money for her trafficker, the beatings by him would get worse.

Thank goodness she had the courage to call for help.

Mike understood the signs of human trafficking through an organization called Truckers Against Trafficking. He called the National Human Trafficking Resource Center, and authorities immediately arrived. The trafficker was arrested, put in jail, and the girl was rescued.

I commend Truckers Against Trafficking. It is critical for our citizens to be educated about sex trafficking so we can end this scourge. America cannot continue to be blissfully silent while modern-day slavery is occurring in our communities.

And that's just the way it is.

CLIMATE CHANGE

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

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in addressing the immediate and increasing threat of climate change. States and localities are beginning to respond to this threat, but they can't do it alone. That's why I'm introducing two bills to help our communities prepare for the future impacts of climate change.

The first is the Coastal States Climate Change Planning Act. It provides funding to coastal States and communities so they can plan and implement climate change mitigation projects, such as seawalls, habitat buffer zones, and flood control systems. The second bill is the Water Infrastructure Resiliency and Sustainability Act, which provides funding for local water agencies. Water agencies are very concerned about the need to increase the resiliency of our aging water infrastructure systems because they're going to be impacted by climate change. These critical infrastructure projects will not only improve public health and safety, but they will also help our local economies grow by providing jobs.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to take action on climate change, so I hope we can work together to pass these and other commonsense measures to address such a critical issue.

STRENGTHENING BACKGROUND CHECKS ACT OF 2013

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support the Strengthening Background Checks Act of 2013.

The tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary School has rightfully focused our collective attention on the question of how we can best prevent senseless gun violence. An important tool in preventing gun violence is the National

Instant Criminal Background Check System, known as the NICS. We put in place this background check system to keep guns out of the hands of dangerous people, but our background check system is failing.

For example, the NICS database of mentally ill individuals has fewer than 20 percent of the records that it should have. This is unacceptable. If you are a violent criminal, you should fail a background check. If you've been involuntarily committed to a mental institution, you should fail a background check. If you've been convicted of domestic abuse, you should fail a background check—no one argues with that—but if the information is not in the database, then these dangerous individuals will get their hands on guns, which could lead to devastating consequences.

Mr. Speaker, my bill will improve incentives for States to partner with the Federal Government, and it will maintain an accurate, accessible, and up-to-date NICS. This is a strong step in the right direction, and it has the support of voices on both sides of the gun debate.

□ 1140

CLIMATE CHANGE IS REAL

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

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, for far too long our country has ignored the blatant warning signals that climate change is real, and its effects are happening all around us, from droughts to wildfires to extreme flooding. The time to act is now. Numerous reports indicate that we are dangerously close to losing the window of opportunity in which we can meaningfully address climate change.

My district of Sacramento has already been working hard to implement commonsense policies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. By developing cutting-edge clean energy technology and creating energy retrofit programs, my constituents understand the urgent need to tackle this issue head-on.

Now is the time for Congress to follow their lead and show that we, too, are committed to mitigating and reversing the devastating effects of climate change. Failure to heed new warnings and take action will have drastic economic and environmental effects, not just for our generation, but for our children and grandchildren. The time to act is now.

INCREASING POLICE PRESENCE AT SCHOOLS

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

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, the recent school massacres at Newtown, Connecticut, sent shock waves across our country. And as a father, I grieved with the families that lost loved ones on that day, but as a legislator, I vowed that I would take action to prevent future tragedies.

According to a recent Gallup poll, 53 percent of Americans believe that increasing police presence at schools would be very effective in preventing future tragedies. After speaking with local law enforcement, superintendents, and principals in my district, I believe it is the best path forward. That is why I will be introducing the Protect America's Schools Act today.

This legislation would revitalize the Cops in Schools grant program, which has not been funded since fiscal year 2005, and fund it at $30 million annually. The CIS program is specifically designed to assist local law enforcement agencies in the hiring of new officers.

And with a $16.4 trillion debt, we must take action, but we must be fiscally responsible. The $30 million to pay for this critical grant program would be offset by taking the unspent funds from the operations budget of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The Protect America's Schools Act is not the only answer, but it is a critical step forward to protect our Nation's children. Keeping our children safe is not only an area where both political parties can find common ground, but as lawmakers, we have a moral obligation to make sure that we do just that.

BROAD AND DEVASTATING EFFECT OF SEQUESTRATION

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

Mr. PETERS of California. Mr. Speaker, San Diego is the largest metropolitan area for military personnel and base operations. My district is home to seven military installations, and sequestration will have a broad and devastating effect on our military families and economy.

In total, defense spending is responsible for 25 percent of San Diego's GDP. That means 1 out of every $4 generated in San Diego is achieved as a result of defense spending. The proposed cuts to the defense budget will cost San Diego more than 30,000 defense-related jobs, and the Navy will be forced to put a freeze on hiring civilians, many of whom are veterans.

With 11.5 percent of our community's veterans unemployed and a shocking 25 percent of veterans between 18 and 24 struggling to find employment, any further reduction in job opportunities for our Nation's heroes is unacceptable. We can neither threaten our military readiness with indiscriminate cuts nor can we fail the brave men and women of our Armed Forces and their families who have already sacrificed so much.

Please join with me in bringing an end to the partisan gridlock and finding solutions that do not put undue burdens on those who risk their lives in defense of our freedom.

RECOGNIZING REVA BRITAN

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

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Reva Britan for her brilliant 25 years of service to the people of south Florida.

Reva began her career in 1988, after successfully raising five sons, and became a congressional staffer for former Congressman Larry Smith, then worked for former Congressman Peter Deutch, my predecessor, and for the last 8 years, she has been working with me in my district office. Her continuity of service and her depth of experience has benefited thousands of my constituents.

She is a much-loved staffer who brings her joy, her light, and her smile to the Pembroke Pines office every single day. Whether she's helping someone set up a tour or greeting constituents on the phone, she does it all with ease and elegant grace.

On behalf of the constituents of Florida's 23rd Congressional District, we thank Reva for her service and her dedication to our community, our office, and our country.

REJECT THE SEQUESTER

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, in the State of the Union address this week, President Obama laid out a powerful vision for our Nation, one that will create jobs, tear down barriers to prosperity, and lift the most vulnerable out of poverty.

At the same time, the Republican-controlled House has yet to bring a bill to the floor to prevent the unconscionable budget sequester from slashing thousands of jobs and pushing poor and low-income individuals over the edge.

As the President said this week, we cannot grow the economy by shifting the cost of health care or college onto families that are already struggling, or by forcing our communities to lay off more teachers, more firefighters, and more police officers.

We must reject the sequester and reject proposals that would balance the budget on the backs of seniors, veterans, and low-income families. Everyone should have the opportunity to climb, strive, and reap the rewards of the American Dream. That is how we build our economy for all and create a better world for our children.

ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE

(Mr. CLEAVER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call on my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to help our communities deal with changing climate. In the last 2 years alone, our country has dealt with destructive wildfires in the West, flooding on the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers, a devastating hurricane in the Northeast, and the worst drought since the Dust Bowl. Climate change preparation and adaptation is about risk management. As Ben Franklin said: an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

Spending a small amount now saves us much suffering; and we understand, this is going to happen again and again. Because climate change is real, we are going to address this over and over and over again on this floor. Some people might say there is no such thing as climate change. Well, you can say that water is not wet, but it doesn't make it so.

REAUTHORIZING THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

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

Mrs. KIRKPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, in Arizona's First District, Native Americans make up about 25 percent of my constituents. Unfortunately, Native American women are two and a half times more likely to be assaulted in their lifetime than other women.

Reauthorizing the Violence Against Women Act is important to my district. That's why I'm very concerned about the impact of sequestration cuts on programs supported by the Violence Against Women Act. More than $20 million in cuts are at stake.

What does a $20 million cut mean? It means thousands more victims would be denied shelter and legal services. It means thousands fewer police officers, prosecutors, judges, and victim advocates would get specialized training.

As a former prosecutor, I know we need to do all we can to keep victims safe and hold perpetrators accountable, and that means we need to do all we can to stop these sequestration cuts.

□ 1150

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I'm honored to represent the Second District of California, which spans from the Golden Gate Bridge to the Oregon border. Mine is a district with hundreds of miles of pristine coastline, with numerous rivers, and coldwater fisheries, with ancient forests and redwood trees, with cities located right up against San Francisco Bay.

It's a district where unique climatic factors have combined to create some of the world's greatest wine appellations. And we know, in the Second District of California, that we cannot wait to address the threat of climate change.

On the State level, I have fought to defend and successfully implement California's world-leading greenhouse gas reduction law for the past 6 years, but that is not enough. We need leadership here at the Federal level.

If we fail to act, Mr. Speaker, the livelihoods of fishermen, crabbers, foresters, farmers and others in my district are going to suffer great harm. The cost of Congress continuing to bury its head on the issue of climate change is simply too great.

And so I am proud to be joining other colleagues, with Chairman WAXMAN, in the Safe Climate Caucus, and to take this cause to the national level.

COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I introduced a resolution to designate March as National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month. I want to thank Senators LAUTENBERG, MENENDEZ, and ENZI for introducing a similar resolution in the Senate. I also want to thank the entire New Jersey delegation and all those who signed on to this bipartisan resolution.

This issue is very personal to me, as I lost my father, the late Congressman Donald Payne, Sr., to colon cancer just last March. It became my mission to raise awareness of the importance of cancer screening.

While colorectal cancer is one of the most preventable forms of cancer, it remains the second leading cause of cancer death in the United States. In New Jersey alone, 1,600 people will die of this disease this year.

African Americans and Hispanics are at increased risk. Too many people forego screenings because of the perceptions around testing. But I am here to tell you: be a man; get tested. You just might save your own life.

THANK YOU TO PRESIDENT OBAMA

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

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to say thank you, thank you to President Obama. A couple of nights ago at the State of the Union, he mentioned Youngstown, Ohio, and the National Additive Manufacturing Innovation Institute that is a partnership between the Departments of Commerce, Energy, Defense, and private partnerships up to about $70 million to advance additive manufacturing innovation in the military and energy and health care that will transform and revolutionize manufacturing.

I wanted to rise this morning to also say thank you to all of our partners in the Tech Belt, which ranges from Cleveland to Akron to Youngstown, to Pittsburgh, all the way down into West Virginia. The old Rust Belt has made a comeback, and we are on our way, as we did many, many years ago, to revolutionize manufacturing again.

This will lead to great opportunities for our young people to come back, institutions like Case Western Reserve, Carnegie Mellon, Youngstown State, University of Akron, Lehigh, Penn State, West Virginia University, all coming together, working as a team. And we now have landed this institute, and we will once again be the hub of manufacturing.

Thank you, President Obama, and thank you to all of the men and women who have helped put this thing together.

THE THREAT OF A NUCLEAR IRAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MESSER). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FRANKS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, my comments today are heavily contributed to by the author of ''The Nature of War,'' Ron Tira; and I want to acknowledge him. He's a noted military expert and noted national security expert, and I appreciate so very much his seminal contribution to these comments.

Mr. Speaker, a nuclear Iran poses a severe and unfamiliar risk to the United States and its allies. We have to be very careful not to mistakenly assume that a relatively stable balance of deterrence, similar to the nuclear equilibrium between the United States and the Soviet Union during the Cold War, can be achieved with Iran. A nuclear Iran represents a very different type of threat that simply cannot be managed.

A nuclear Iran would serve to incentivize the development of nuclear weapons by many other regional powers in the Middle East, such as Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Turkey.

Mr. Speaker, a multi-polar nuclear crisis is much harder to manage than anything we've experienced or did experience during the Cold War. If we could all just imagine for a moment the so-called ''chicken game.'' But instead of two drivers, imagine five drivers, Mr. Speaker, each speeding from different directions to converge on the same intersection.

All of this, in addition to the other characteristics of the Middle East, such as unstable regimes and the danger of nuclear weapons falling into the hands of al Qaeda or other terrorist groups.

Consider Qadhafi's Libya, Mr. Speaker, with several nuclear warheads. Who knows where they might be now? And where would the world be today if Syria's Assad had managed to complete his nuclear bombmaking efforts?

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, the only viable U.S. policy is one of preventing

Iran from going nuclear, not this delusional notion of containing a nuclear Iran. Indeed, prevention is the stated policy objective of this President and his top advisers.

However, the problem is not with the stated policy, but with the strategy that is supposed to achieve it. And, Mr. Speaker, the facts on the ground reveal that our policy objectives are not turning into reality.

Nearly all previous red lines demarcated by America and its allies over Iran's nuclear ambition have now been crossed, with very few repercussions to show for Iran's defiance. Iran is now enriching uranium in quantities, enrichment levels and facilities that would have terrified the entire free world only a few years ago.

Indeed, at this very moment, a defiant Iran is forging ahead with the development of ballistic missiles, detonators and other components essential to nuclear weaponization.

Mr. Speaker, why do we find it so challenging to realize our policy objectives?

Why is the world's sole superpower unable to impose its will on a country whose GDP is comparable with that of Argentina and many of those whose significant military assets date back as far as arms deals with the Johnson and Nixon administrations?

Mr. Speaker, one of the key enabling factors for Iran's nuclear weapons development is the perception of a lack of symmetry between Iranian and American seriousness and determination regarding the nuclear program. But for Iran, it is of the utmost importance, and the regime is willing to take risks and to pay high prices to achieve its objectives, or at least this is certainly how it postures.

Mr. Speaker, Iran is successfully deterring its adversaries and positioning itself as ready to face a confrontation, even if its deep-rooted weaknesses make it unlikely that it could ever withstand such a direct conflict.

Mr. Speaker, it's time for us to be candid in questioning the strategic effectiveness of covert and clandestine operations, as important as they are. While the courage and resourcefulness of our intelligence community is unquestionable, and while covert and clandestine operations may inflict some damage on Iran's nuclear program, they cannot and have not been effective in convincing Iran to abandon its nuclearization policy.

More significantly, covert and clandestine activities create an illusion of ''something being done,'' thus appearing to justify the fact that we continue to let more and more time pass.

So, Mr. Speaker, we have to realize that covert operations simply cannot be the primary means by which we expect to deter Iran. If prevention is our real commitment, and not merely lip service, then we must deal with that Iranian nuclear challenge immediately, and not later.

□ 1200

Every day that passes, Iran grows more dangerously close to realizing its nuclear ambition—and to becoming virtually untouchable militarily. In the face of that reality, the more breathtaking reality is that it seems both the Iranian and American administrations favor wasting more time: Iran, because it allows them to forge ahead toward completion, and the Obama administration, because it allows them to postpone difficult decisions which would necessitate actual leadership from the White House.

Mr. Speaker, the President's disingenuously stated ends are utterly at odds with our actual response, and this raises a host of questions as to the credibility of either the administration's true intent or its chosen strategies. It's almost unimaginable how much further American strategic credibility would deteriorate if Iran actually acquires the bomb in spite of the half-hearted ''warnings'' of Mr. Obama.

Credibility questions also abound with regard to the administration's reasoning against military action. Time and again administration officials argue that the futility of military action is real since, allegedly, some of the nuclear assets are difficult to reach, and a military action may only postpone the nuclear program by a couple of years. But, Mr. Speaker, this is a peculiar argument, at the very least.

Any nuclear production asset that is destroyed can be eventually rebuilt. Moreover, chasing each and every centrifuge, wherever it is stashed away, is ultimately an ineffective strategy. So why does the administration advocate such a strategy?

Our strategic challenge, Mr. Speaker, is Iran's policy of pursuing a military nuclear capability. It is not necessarily, not even mostly, that Iran is currently in possession of certain nuclear production assets. It is Iran's policy that must be altered. Production assets will then inherently follow. To realize its objectives, the U.S. must compel Iran to alter its policy of acquiring a military nuclear capability and then enforce the policy change over time.

If we fail to deprive Iran of nuclear weapons, we will ultimately have to face infinitely more dangerous challenges than those associated with preventing it from going nuclear. Consider the dangers for a moment of conducting a second operation to free Kuwait, only this time, once it's been taken over by a nuclear-armed Iran. And none of this even touches upon the grave reality that would emerge once Iran possesses intercontinental ballistic missile capability along with a strategic reach to our own shores.

Mr. Speaker, it's a sad day when the vacuum of leadership in the White House has allowed Iran to posture more credibly than America, in spite of wielding a much smaller stick. In this instance, it has literally allowed Iran to be more strategically effective than we are.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the administration has been trying for a very long time to diplomatically talk its way out of this challenge or to bluff its way out of the challenge by moving military assets up and down the Gulf, and therefore has made it doubtful that any further such statements or deployments can ever suffice to get the job done. Indeed, they may well have the opposite effect, as the demarcation of the administration's risk tolerance, which to any observer of its actions caps the ends it can reasonably expect to realize.

So, Mr. Speaker, this brings us to the critical question that everyone should be asking themselves: If this administration is so deterred by a pre-nuclear Iran, how would it ever face up to a nuclear-armed Iran? This is why, to date, in the only game that matters—that of conflicting policies—Mr. Speaker, the United States has not been able to alter Iran's policy of acquiring nuclear weapons. And, Mr. Speaker, we are running out of time to do things differently.

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

THREATS TO THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 50 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, at this time I yield such time as he may consume to my friend from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER).

FEDERAL PERMIT STREAMLINING PILOT PROJECT

Mr. CRAMER. Thank you to my colleague from Texas.

Mr. Speaker, today, I dropped in the hopper my first bill as a Member of the United States House of Representatives. And while it's a simple bill, it's a big day for me. It's a bill that simply corrects an oversight in previous legislation.

The Energy Policy Act of 2005 established a Federal Permit Streamlining Pilot Project to improve the processing of oil and gas permitting for onshore Federal lands. The Miles City, Montana, BLM field office was included in this pilot project. But unknown to the drafters of the legislation, the Miles City office also serves North and South Dakota. Without the Dakotas included in the language of the law, North and South Dakota permits are excluded from this program.

Permitting to drill on Federal lands has exceeded 225 days for the past 4 years when State permits on non-Federal lands in North Dakota take only 10 days to process. With the passage of this bill, more land will be opened to a program that seeks to reduce this sluggish pace, and oil and natural gas explorers and their many supporting businesses will have more work to do sooner.

Beyond the immediate benefits of this bill, Mr. Speaker, I hope it begins

a conversation on more extensive reform of the permitting process for Federal land. The new oil and gas revolution in the United States has the potential to lead us out of this economic slump. I believe America's national security and America's economic security are tied directly to America's energy security, and I urge my colleagues to pass this bill as my friends work to pass the same legislation in the Senate.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I want to follow up on what my friend from Arizona (Mr. FRANKS) was talking about with regard to Iran. It should be pretty clear to most people that Iran is a threat to any group of people who believe that we do not need a religious zealot telling us how we have to live; that we do not need someone taking over, arising out of the chaos to create a one-world caliphate under which we have to live with a ruling religious zealot making sure that we do not get involved in any type of self-government that they believe inevitably leads to depravity. So some of us don't think it's a good idea to give Iran more power to carry out the threats of wiping out Israel, which they refer to as the ''little Satan,'' or to wipe out the United States, which their leaders refer to as the ''big Satan.''

Yet we have nominated by the President of the United States a man who thinks we need to cozy up to Iran. His idea of national security is cozying up to a country who's made very clear they want to destroy Israel and they want to destroy us. So for those yesterday who saw that the Senate did not move forward, was not able to get the votes to move forward on a confirmation vote on former Senator Hagel, they must be very upset if they think cozying up to Iran and betraying Israel further than this administration already has is a good idea—get closer to Iran, further betray Israel, yesterday was a bad day, and you should be very angry with most of the Senate Republicans, and especially my friend, Senator TED CRUZ. Because they have to be concerned about our ally, Israel. They have to be concerned about the threats of madmen running the country of Iran.

So look, though, at the speeches that have belatedly come out after all the things were made public. And then this stuff keeps trickling out. Another speech saying, Hey, let's put a consulate in Iran—while they're trying to destroy us.

□ 1210

Apparently, some people just cannot remember past 10 or 12 years. I think it's very important to remember our history. In 1979, I was at Fort Benning, Georgia, in the United States Army, and we were paying attention to what was happening. Some of us haven't forgotten what was happening.

As we have seen new things arise, as we have seen the horrors of what is going on in the Middle East, it is just heartbreaking to see people proposed as leaders who absolutely refuse to learn from history: a man proposed for Secretary of Defense who cannot recall what those of us who were in the military in 1979 recall, and that is that we had a President in Jimmy Carter who thought it was a good idea for the Shah of Iran to be gone—not a nice man, had not treated well the people of Iran, but had been able to hold down the radical Islamic jihadists that want to terrorize everybody who don't believe exactly like they do.

In fact, it was President Carter that, as Ayatollah Khomeini came back from exile and took over control of Iran, it was President Carter that hailed him as a man of peace, not realizing that what President Carter, by his actions and inactions, had allowed to happen was the arising of the radical Islamic jihadists that would bring about, for over 30 years to come, the deaths of thousands and thousands of Americans, some civilians, some from foreign countries, but all innocent; some military; some having to fight the people that President Carter, in his naivete—he had no ill will, he wanted what was best for America, but he was just ignorant of what he was doing. He was a President about whom could have been said, Forgive him, Lord, he knows not what he has done, and he led to the consequences we're suffering still today.

Radical Islam is not our friend. They want to eliminate us from the map. They think that moral depravity is the rule in this Western Civilization and that we need a grand imam. They're anticipating the 12th imam to come and establish the global caliphate.

Now we have a Secretary of Defense proposed who wants to repeat the same errors that led to the deaths of so many Americans. He wants to put a consulate in Tehran. He thinks that would be a grand idea to help our relations. I don't personally understand how it will help the United States' relations to put a consulate back in Tehran, with leaders of Iran saying they want to wipe out infidels like those that would be put at the consulate, like those who were at the consulate in Benghazi, only to have that horrible chapter and nightmare for over a year replayed before new generations.

Yet there are people like Majority Leader HARRY REID, who say it's games being played, schoolboy games being played by people who have a genuine interest in not repeating the errors of our recent history.

Is 34 years ago so far away that we cannot remember, that we want a Secretary of Defense that thinks it's a good idea to try to placate radical jihadists? About the only thing that Senator Hagel hadn't done is repeat the phrase ''man of peace,'' talking about the leader of Iran.

So I am very grateful to all of those, like TED CRUZ, who stood up yesterday and said there's too much information we do not know and what we know causes concern. Now, we have some Senators that say we have to have information about Benghazi and what really happened before we can go forward in voting on this nomination. Some say: What does that have to do with defense, and, therefore, what does it have to do with the Secretary of Defense?

There are some that might be tempted to repeat Secretary Clinton's question of: What difference does it make? As a history major in college who continues to read and study all the history I can—history in the making now—I would like for the Secretary of State and Secretary of Defense to be able to recall 34 years and note the mistakes that have been made that got Americans killed.

1979 was an act of war against the United States. Instead of defending ourselves and putting down what had occurred in the attack on our Embassy—which under everybody's definition of international law is an act of war—instead of doing that, we had a weak administration that simply begged the Iranians to let our people go—please. That is seen as weakness when you're dealing with terrorists, when you're dealing with people who promote terrorism, when you're dealing with people who pay for terrorism and encourage terrorism. That is what we have reigning in Iran.

So it's a legitimate concern about who the Secretary of Defense will be, and will it be a throwback to the Carter years of thinking the best way to deal with radical Islamic jihadists is to give them whatever they want. That's been tried; it doesn't work. Heck, this administration is still trying to buy off the radical Islamic jihadists that make up the Taliban. This administration has gone so far as to say, look, you don't even have to agree to quit killing Americans if you'll just agree to sit down with us and negotiate. If you'll just do that, you can keep killing American soldiers. That's okay, if you'll just agree to sit down with us. And while you're killing American soldiers, we'll show our good will. We'll buy you an incredibly nice office in Qatar that will give you an international presence and will give you credibility around the world as you keep trying to kill Americans and continue to actually kill Americans.

About 3 years ago, DANA ROHRABACHER asked me to go with him to meet with Northern Alliance leaders, and we met with them. These were leaders who put their lives on the line to fight with and for America. They're Muslims, but they did not like the idea of radical Islamic jihadists being in control of Afghanistan. They were and are the enemy of our enemy. So with less than 500 people, 500 Americans put into Afghanistan—after we figured out that's where the attacks emanated because that's where the training occurred, that's where the terrorist camps were—less than 500 Americans,

Special Ops and intelligence, those 4 months that followed should be hailed as one of the greatest days for American Special Ops and intelligence. The intelligence community has made plenty of mistakes—continues to make some—but that was a great time in their history and our history.

□ 1220

Without a single loss of American lives, the Northern Alliance, these tribal groups that this administration now refers to as war criminals because they defeated our enemies for us, they fought and defeated the Taliban. By early 2002, the Taliban had been routed. Some people forget nowadays that during the course of the Iraq war, they would refer back to Afghanistan and say, now, that's how you fight in a foreign country like Afghanistan. You let their patriots who know the country, know the terrain and know the tactics of our enemy, let them fight them.

We gave them arms, we gave them aerial support, and they defeated the Taliban for us.

Then, as our Northern Alliance allies told DANA and me—STEVE KING was there for the first meeting—they told us, Look, then, after we had defeated the Taliban for you, then you tell us we've got to turn back in the arms that gave us the ability to defeat the Taliban because you told us, Look, we're the United States. Now that the Taliban has been defeated, we've got you covered. There won't be any more problems. We're in charge.

Then we added tens of thousands of people to Afghanistan and became occupiers in Afghanistan. Then, again, those who know history, and I do mean distant and more recent history, you know that occupiers really don't do well in that part of the world. Someone said, Well, Alexander the Great conquered the Afghanistan area. And my reply would be, He died on the way out. I don't consider that a real great victory.

But we had a grand strategy letting the enemy of our enemies, the Northern Alliance, defeat the Taliban for us. And, now, 11 years later, we have been occupying Afghanistan, and we forced a constitution on them that required a centralized government in a place where centralized governments have not done well. We forced that on them, and we included the provision that made Afghanistan all under shari'a law.

The results of that grand victory in early 2002 and our ominous occupation for the 11 years since has been that the last Christian public worship service has happened. There are no more public Christian worship services in the country where we have lost so many valiant American heroes. The last person who admits to being Jewish in Afghanistan has left—that's what we've been advised—all under our watch and what we have done in that country.

The President announced right here just Tuesday night of this week about his plans to draw down American troops and to be all out within the next couple of years. I would humbly submit that if he had a better plan, and it is very simple, we could be out of there within the next 6 months. It would be far more effective. As our Northern Alliance friends, former Vice President Massoud, who knows about losing loved ones having lost his brother, the Lion of Panjshir, great hero of Afghanistan, he knows about losing his father-in-law to the Taliban to a man, a Taliban member who was invited to sit down with Massoud's father-in-law to talk about potential peace. Karzai had appointed Massoud's father-in-law to be his peace emissary to deal with, sit down and negotiate with the Taliban to try to work out an agreement.

So the Taliban emissary for peace came in to sit down with Massoud's father-in-law and blew himself and Massoud's father-in-law to pieces—great gesture of peace. That's the kind of people we're dealing with. That's the same kind of people that are in leadership in Iran that Chuck Hagel wants to go have better relationships with.

I would submit that whoever he was willing to see in Tehran as our emissary there, as our ambassador there, would have a high probability of suffering the same consequences that Massoud's father-in-law did, the same that his brother did. His brother, such a great warrior, political figure, great charisma, in his case, he was asked if he would give an interview to a television crew. He consented, not being aware that the television camera was full of explosives and that the cameraman and the reporter were willing to blow themselves up so they could kill such a great Afghani hero. So they did, and he's gone. How many Americans are we going to have to continue to lose in Afghanistan?

I talked to Billy and Karen Vaughn, the parents of great American patriot Aaron Vaughn, a SEAL Team Six member, one of the SEAL teams that went after Osama bin Laden. They don't want publicity while they are SEAL members actively. They don't seek it, don't want it, and there's always been the agreement that no administration will out who goes in and does the kind of actions that SEAL Team Six did, taking out Osama bin Laden. That's classified information, who went and got him, and then we have the Vice President of the United States stand up in front of a crowd and congratulate the SEAL team for taking him out.

One SEAL team member, his father, he's deceased now, but his father said that his daughter-in-law called and said within an hour of the Vice President's outing SEAL Team Six, they had a marine guard outside her quarters because they knew this administration just put a big red target on his entire family.

Billy and Karen say after that happened, Aaron called and said, Mom and Dad, there's been chatter. You're not safe. Take any reference to me off Facebook, off any e-mail, off anything. You cannot have references that you're connected with me, or you will be a target. These people are ruthless.

So after SEAL Team Six was outed and having visited Afghanistan, I was surprised, as widespread as Taliban reach has become again in Afghanistan, missions were run through the Afghan Government so that the Afghans would have known exactly where SEAL Team Six was and where they were being sent.

When one of the surviving parents of one of our heroic SEAL Team Six members asked at the briefing as to what had happened to their loved ones in the Afghanistan ambush of our troops, of our SEAL Team Six members, one of the parents asked, Look, since you knew this was such a hot spot, since you knew this information had been cleared through the Afghan Government, which has Taliban running through it, since you knew all these things about how desperate the situation was in that space, why didn't you just send in a drone? And the admiral briefing the family members said, Because we're trying to win their hearts and minds.

Now, that sounds like something the new Secretary of Defense might say, since he's all for buddying back up to Iran while they want to destroy our way of life and all Americans: Yeah, we're trying to win their hearts and minds, so let's send more people into Tehran. That's the proposal, or was the proposal, of Secretary of Defense nominee Hagel: Let's send some people, yeah, maybe they'll get blown up. That's what he should have said, because there's a good chance they will.

□ 1230

Some of us warned about the dangers of helping the revolutionaries in Libya. Qadhafi had blood on his hands. But ever since 2003, he had helped suppress radical Islamic jihadist activities. He had become an ally. His own son had been here negotiating with this White House.

Yet the White House has no problem, as they did with our Northern Alliance allies, throwing them under the bus, throwing Mubarak under the bus, throwing Qadhafi under the bus, and even our own Ambassador was a sacrificial lamb.

They should have known. Some of us pointed out, look, this is not a good idea to be helping revolutionaries in Libya when we already know there are al Qaeda involved in this revolution. We don't know how widespread it is, but you can't be helping people that want to destroy us. You're going to give them more arms, you're going to give them more power, they'll have a greater reach to wipe out Israel, or try—and to wipe out us, or to try.

But this President didn't listen. His Cabinet members didn't listen. We were told he didn't care what Congress thought. He was listening more to European members who wanted help protecting their oil they were buying from

Libya, and because of the OIC, the 57 states that make up the OIC.

I'm like the President. I get mixed up. He said he had been to all 57 States, our President had, and I get confused. Do we have 57 States and the OIC have 50? Or they have 57, we have 50? It's confusing. I understand the President having that problem, but apparently they have 57 States because they count Palestine.

They don't learn from history. And as a result we helped—we provided weapons—those are the latest reports—and some of those weapons then found their way to Algeria where more Americans were killed even more recently than 9/11 of last year—with people that we helped empower so they could go about killing more people.

I like President Obama as a person. He's a good family man. I was hoping that with all the disclosures that have come out since 9/11 of last year and since we now know from former Secretary Panetta and from other witnesses that after the President learned that our Ambassador was under attack, he may have known that he had already been abducted and that a long battle was being undertaken by radicals against our Americans in Benghazi. We now know the President did nothing else. He said, well, do what you can, in essence, and went home. Or maybe he was home when he talked to them. And did nothing else.

I have no idea if the President required a sleep aid that night; but if he did, anybody else in America that has trouble sleeping, you better get what he had, because it works well—how the President of the United States could sleep that night as the Ambassador that he put in place, that he put in harm's way, was either under attack, had already been kidnapped, being brutalized, unspeakable things being done to his person, his body.

I remember Senator Clinton running a commercial back in 2008 that asked the question, Who do you want to take that phone call at 3 a.m.? This would have been exactly the kind of situation, except there was no phone call at 3 a.m. The phone call had been at 5-or-so in the afternoon. And there was no effort to find out, by the way, what happened to Ambassador Stevens that I put in harm's way, considered the equivalent of a four-star general in the civilian service, to awake to find out the next day that it had been over 7 hours of attacks, that our last American that we know of killed was killed in the last hour of that 7-hour attack.

And I can appreciate the loyalty of Cabinet members, Joint Chiefs, trying to protect the President, coming forward and saying, well, you know, we didn't have planes. They would have had to be refueled; they would have had to be armed.

Well, I would submit if we can't get a jet that will fly 600 miles or 700 miles an hour, 600 miles or so to Libya, if we can't get them there in an hour, an hour and a half, then it's time to clean house at the top of our Defense Department and get people that can get planes to help our embattled American civilians and Ambassador, get them some help.

I mean, I would think that if you're concerned enough to sit and watch footage of the hurricane coverage, people that you didn't put in the harm's way they were in, that you would at least be concerned about the people you did put in harm's way.

And certainly the President and Secretary Clinton and Secretary Panetta, certainly those people did not want them hurt. But it's important to learn from history. It's important to understand what difference it makes as to what happens about fiascoes that get Americans killed. It is important. It does make a difference.

We've read reports that Secretary—Ambassador now—Rice may have been involved with the decision not to send more security to our Embassy that was attacked back in the nineties that got Americans killed. And apparently no one learned from that, because if someone in the nineties after our Embassy had been attacked had had adequate hearings and gotten to the bottom of that, they would have learned, uh-oh, what difference does it make? Well, it makes a difference because now we know when an Embassy requests more security and we refuse to provide it, there's a good chance it's going to get hit and they're going to get killed.

And that would have been very helpful to have had that conventional wisdom and that institutional knowledge on 9/10 of 2011 when in Egypt we were hearing that, gee, if you don't release the Blind Sheikh, you're going to get attacked, your Embassy and Embassies may get attacked. And if we had had people in this administration with institutional knowledge from the nineties, and from '79, they would have said, you know what, on 9/9 of 2011, they're giving us a warning, you're about to be attacked unless you release the Blind Sheikh.

We weren't releasing the Blind Sheikh and I hope and pray we don't. He is a killer and will kill again. He doesn't carry them out. He plots and plans them and gives instructions. And under all criminal law in the U.S. or abroad, you plan it, you instruct on it and if your instructions are followed and people are killed, then you committed murder as well.

So the Blind Sheikh is a murderer.

□ 1240

If we'd learned from those lessons of the past, the difference it would have made is Ambassador Stevens should still be alive today, and he could be coming before Congress and explaining what goes wrong so that we'd know the difference that would make, which is that, in the future, we could save other Ambassadors and other consulate workers.

Now, I've read accounts that, apparently, the former SEAL team members—the two who responded—had been advised, Don't go. So it has to be a little bit hurtful for their families to know that their sons, their husbands, their brothers had been ordered not to go help at Benghazi and that they disobeyed their instructions and went and helped anyway and that, as people came before Congress to testify, the military, having given them the instructions not to go—the civilian service giving them instructions not to go—took credit for their disregarding their instructions and going and trying to save lives anyway. How ironic.

American lives are still at stake in North Africa, in the Middle East, in Afghanistan, around the world, and here at home. If we continue to put people in place in decisionmaking positions who do not understand that you cannot buy off a schoolyard bully and that you cannot buy off radical Islamic jihadists who want to destroy you, we're going to continue to have Americans lose their lives. I've mentioned on this floor before what one American soldier in Afghanistan told me over there.

He said, Look, I don't mind laying down my life for my country, but please don't waste it.

We have such heroes in the service of the United States, and they're asking, Please, we'll follow orders. Just don't waste our willingness to lay down our lives for others.

But that's the American tradition.

We were talking about some people this week even going back to Hawaii's statue just in the hallway directly below where I am right here, directly below. Father Damien was a Catholic priest who'd heard about the lepers being thrown off ships, being put on an island in Hawaii to die, having no quality of life—horrors of existence. So he went to give them a quality of life, to give them a society so they could live out their last diseased years. Eventually, as he knew he would, he acquired leprosy and died.

The words that are at the top of the plaque on Father Damien's statue, which is right below me, apply to our military members, apply to those in our U.S. service, because the words on those top two lines of that plaque say:

> Greater love hath no one than this: that a man lay down his life for his friends, John 15:13.

We've got people willing to lay down their lives for their country. We would beg the President to appoint a Secretary of Defense who will not waste American lives in trying to buddy up to radical Islamic jihadists in control in Iran, who will not demonize any further than former Senator Hagel already has the Israelis and the Jewish members of an administration who just want to protect our country, because we find out in prior speeches, in prior comments from the Secretary of Defense nominee Hagel, that he has complained before that one of the big problems is that the State Department is controlled by Jews.

That's fine by me—they're Americans. They care about America, but

that's a problem for him. It's not a problem for me as long as any Jewish or any Caucasian or any minority serving his country understands Israel is our friend—they're our ally—and they're the greatest democracy anywhere in that area.

So let's don't disparage our ally. Let's don't think we can throw Israel under the bus as we did Mubarak, as we did Qadhafi, as we did the Northern Alliance in Afghanistan, as this administration has done with others. Don't throw Israel under the bus. Let's stop doing that to our friends, and let's recognize the real enemy.

I hope and pray the President will withdraw this nomination and, if he doesn't, that we will continue to have Senators to say, you can't have somebody serve as a Cabinet-level position, like former Senator Hagel, who thinks Israel is the problem and that Jews in the State Department are the problem and that Iran has a group of leaders in it that we need to buddy up to. If the President will do that, he will see a welcoming of bipartisanship. He will see it explode on both sides of the aisle, welcoming the President's doing the right thing by our friend Israel.

If the President refuses to do that, I still hope and pray that the people will stand as firmly as did the Republicans who voted against bringing Chuck Hagel to the floor for a vote for a nomination. I hope they'll stand firm. I'm so proud of the new Senator, TED CRUZ. He's doing great. LINDSEY GRAHAM made some great points yesterday, and I hope he'll stand by those. He's a good man. He just needs to stand by what he said yesterday. If we do that, we will help make the world a better place, and we'll show the country true bipartisanship.

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

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has agreed to without amendment a concurrent resolution of the House of the following titles:

H. Con. Res. 15. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. JACKSON LEE (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

Mr. CULBERSON (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today on account of illness.

PUBLICATION OF COMMITTEE RULES

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION FOR THE 113TH CONGRESS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION,
Washington, DC, February 14, 2013.

Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House, House of Representatives, The Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER BOEHNER: Pursuant to clause 2(a)(2) of House Rule XI, I hereby submit the Rules of the Committee on House Administration for publication in the Congressional Record. The Rules were adopted by the Committee in its organizational meeting.

Sincerely,

CANDICE S. MILLER,
Chairman.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 113–1

Resolved, that the rules of the Committee on House Administration for the 113th Congress and hereby adopted, as follows:

Rules of the
Committee on House Administration
One Hundred Thirteenth Congress

RULE NO. 1

GENERAL PROVISIONS

(a) The Rules of the House are the rules of the Committee so far as applicable, except that a motion to recess from day to day is a privileged motion in the Committee.

(b) The Committee is authorized at any time to conduct such investigations and studies as it may consider necessary or appropriate in the exercise of its responsibilities under House Rule X and, subject to the adoption of expense resolutions as required by House Rule X, clause 6, to incur expenses (including travel expenses) in connection therewith.

(c) The Committee is authorized to have printed and bound testimony and other data presented at hearings held by the Committee, and to make such information available to the public. All costs of stenographic services and transcripts in connection with any meeting or hearing of the Committee shall be paid from the appropriate House account.

(d) The Committee shall submit to the House, not later than January 2 of each year, a report on the activities of the committee under House Rules X and XI.

(e) The Committee's rules shall be made publicly available in electronic form and published in the Congressional Record not later than 30 days after the Committee is elected in each odd-numbered year.

RULE NO. 2

REGULAR AND SPECIAL MEETINGS

(a) The regular meeting date of the Committee on House Administration shall be the second Wednesday of every month when the House is in session in accordance with Clause 2(b) of House Rule XI. If the House is not in session on the second Wednesday of a month, the regular meeting date shall be the third Wednesday of that month. Additional meetings may be called by the Chair of the Committee as she or he may deem necessary or at the request of a majority of the members of the Committee in accordance with Clause 2(c) of House Rule XI. The determination of the business to be considered at each meeting shall be made by the Chair subject to Clause 2(c) of House Rule XI. A regularly scheduled meeting may be dispensed with if, in the judgment of the Chair, there is no need for the meeting.

(b) If the Chair is not present at any meeting of the Committee, the ranking member of the majority party who is present shall preside at the meeting.

(c) The Chair, in the case of meetings to be conducted by the Committee shall make public announcement of the date, place, and subject matter of any meeting to be conducted on any measure or matter. Such meeting shall not commence earlier than the third day on which members have notice thereof. If the Chair, with the concurrence of the ranking minority member, determines that there is good cause to begin the meeting sooner, or if the Committee so determines by majority vote, a quorum being present, the Chair shall make the announcement at the earliest possible date. The announcement shall promptly be made publicly available in electronic form and published in the Daily Digest.

(d) The Chair, in the case of meetings to be conducted by the Committee shall make available on the Committee's web site the text of any legislation to be marked up at a meeting at least 24 hours before such meeting (or at the time of an announcement made within 24 hours of such meeting). This requirement shall also apply to any resolution or regulation to be considered at a meeting.

RULE NO. 3

OPEN MEETINGS

As required by Clause 2(g), of House Rule XI, each meeting for the transaction of business, including the markup of legislation of the Committee shall be open to the public except when the Committee in open session and with a quorum present determines by record vote that all or part of the remainder of the meeting on that day shall be closed to the public because disclosure of matters to be considered would endanger national security, would compromise sensitive law enforcement information, or would tend to defame, degrade or incriminate any person, or otherwise would violate any law or rule of the House. Provided, however, that no person other than members of the Committee, and such congressional staff and such other persons as the Committee may authorize, shall be present in any business or markup session which has been closed to the public. To the maximum extent practicable, the Chair shall cause to be provided audio and video coverage of each hearing or meeting that allows the public to easily listen to and view the proceedings and maintain the recordings of such coverage in a manner that is easily accessible to the public.

RULE NO. 4

RECORDS AND ROLLCALLS

(a)(1) A record vote shall be held if requested by any member of the Committee.

(2) The result of each record vote in any meeting of the Committee shall be made available for inspection by the public at reasonable times at the Committee offices, including a description of the amendment, motion, order or other proposition; the name of each member voting for and against; and the members present but not voting.

(3) The Chairman shall make the record of the votes on any question on which a record vote is demanded available on the Committee's website not later than 48 hours after such vote is taken (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays). Such record shall include a description of the amendment, motion, order, or other proposition, the name of each member voting for and each member voting against such amendment, motion, order, or proposition, and the names of those members of the Committee present but not voting.

(4) The Chairman shall make available on the Committee's website not later than 24 hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays) after the adoption of any

amendment to a measure or matter the text of such amendment.

(b)(1) Subject to subparagraph (2), the Chairman may postpone further proceedings when a record vote is ordered on the question of approving any measure or matter or adopting an amendment. The Chair may resume proceedings on a postponed request at any time.

(2) In exercising postponement authority under subparagraph (1), the Chairman shall take all reasonable steps necessary to notify members on the resumption of proceedings on any postponed record vote.

(3) When proceedings resume on a postponed question, notwithstanding any intervening order for the previous question, an underlying proposition shall remain subject to further debate or amendment to the same extent as when the question was postponed.

(c) All Committee hearings, records, data, charts, and files shall be kept separate and distinct from the congressional office records of the member serving as Chair; and such records shall be the property of the House and all members of the House shall have access thereto.

(d) House records of the Committee which are at the National Archives shall be made available pursuant to House Rule VII. The Chairman shall notify the ranking minority member of any decision to withhold a record pursuant to the rule, and shall present the matter to the Committee upon written request of any Committee member.

(e) To the maximum extent feasible, the Committee shall make its publications available in electronic form.

RULE NO. 5

PROXIES

No vote by any member in the Committee may be cast by proxy.

RULE NO. 6

POWER TO SIT AND ACT; SUBPOENA POWER

(a) For the purpose of carrying out any of its functions and duties under House Rules X and XI, the Committee is authorized (subject to subparagraph (b)(1) of this paragraph)—

(1) to sit and act at such times and places within the United States, whether the House is in session, has recessed, or has adjourned, and to hold such hearings; and (2) to require, by subpoena or otherwise, the attendance and testimony of such witnesses and the production of such books, records, correspondence, memorandums, papers, documents and other materials as it deems necessary, including materials in electronic form. The Chair, or any member designated by the Chair, may administer oaths to any witness.

(b)(1) A subpoena may be authorized and issued by the Committee in the conduct of any investigation or series of investigations or activities, only when authorized by a majority of the members voting, a majority being present. The power to authorize and issue subpoenas under subparagraph (a)(2) may be delegated to the Chair pursuant to such rules and under such limitations as the Committee may prescribe. Authorized subpoenas shall be signed by the Chair or by any member designated by the Committee, and may be served by any person designated by the Chair or such member.

(2) Compliance with any subpoena issued by the Committee may be enforced only as authorized or directed by the House.

RULE NO. 7

QUORUMS

No measure or recommendation shall be reported to the House unless a majority of the Committee is actually present. For the purposes of taking any action other than reporting any measure, issuance of a subpoena, closing meetings, promulgating Committee orders, or changing the rules of the Committee, one-third of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum. For purposes of taking testimony and receiving evidence, two members shall constitute a quorum.

RULE NO. 8

AMENDMENTS

Any amendment offered to any pending legislation before the Committee must be made available in written form when requested by any member of the Committee. If such amendment is not available in written form when requested, the Chair will allow an appropriate period of time for the provision thereof.

RULE NO. 9

HEARING PROCEDURES

(a) The Chair, in the case of hearings to be conducted by the Committee shall make public announcement of the date, place, and subject matter of any hearing to be conducted on any measure or matter at least one (1) week before the commencement of that hearing. If the Chair, with the concurrence of the ranking minority member, determines that there is good cause to begin the hearing sooner, or if the Committee so determines by majority vote, a quorum being present, the Chair shall make the announcement at the earliest possible date. The clerk of the Committee shall promptly notify the Daily Digest Clerk of the Congressional Record as soon as possible after such public announcement is made.

(b) Unless excused by the Chair, each witness who is to appear before the Committee shall file with the clerk of the Committee, at least 48 hours in advance of his or her appearance, a written statement of his or her proposed testimony and shall limit his or her oral presentation to a summary of his or her statement.

(c) When any hearing is conducted by the Committee upon any measure or matter, the minority party members on the Committee shall be entitled, upon request to the Chair by a majority of those minority members before the completion of such hearing, to call witnesses selected by the minority to testify with respect to that measure or matter during at least one day of hearings thereon.

(d) Reserved.

(e) Committee members may question witnesses only when they have been recognized by the Chair for that purpose, and only for a 5-minute period until all members present have had an opportunity to question a witness. The 5-minute period for questioning a witness by any one member can be extended as provided by House Rules. The questioning of a witness in Committee hearings shall be initiated by the Chair, followed by the ranking minority member and all other members alternating between the majority and minority. In recognizing members to question witnesses in this fashion, the Chair shall take into consideration the ratio of the majority to minority members present and shall establish the order of recognition for questioning in such a manner as not to disadvantage the members of the majority. The Chair may accomplish this by recognizing two majority members for each minority member recognized.

(f) The following additional rules shall apply to hearings of the Committee as applicable:

(1) The Chair at a hearing shall announce in an opening statement the subject of the investigation.

(2) A copy of the Committee rules and this clause shall be made available to each witness as provided by clause 2(k)(2) of Rule XI.

(3) Witnesses at hearings may be accompanied by their own counsel for the purpose of advising them concerning their constitutional rights.

(4) The Chair may punish breaches of order and decorum, and of professional ethics on the part of counsel, by censure and exclusion from the hearings; and the Committee may cite the offender to the House for contempt.

(5) If the Committee determines that evidence or testimony at a hearing may tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person, it shall—

(A) afford such person an opportunity voluntarily to appear as a witness;

(B) receive such evidence or testimony in executive session; and

(C) receive and dispose of requests from such person to subpoena additional witnesses.

(6) Except as provided in subparagraph (f)(5), the Chair shall receive and the Committee shall dispose of requests to subpoena additional witnesses.

(7) No evidence or testimony taken in executive session may be released or used in public sessions without the consent of the Committee.

(8) In the discretion of the Committee, witnesses may submit brief and pertinent sworn statements in writing for inclusion in the record. The Committee is the sole judge of the pertinence of testimony and evidence adduced at its hearing.

(9) A witness may obtain a transcript copy of his testimony given at a public session or, if given at an executive session, when authorized by the Committee.

RULE NO. 10

PROCEDURES FOR REPORTING MEASURES OR MATTERS

(a)(1) It shall be the duty of the Chair to report or cause to be reported promptly to the House any measure approved by the Committee and to take or cause to be taken necessary steps to bring the matter to a vote.

(2) In any event, the report of the Committee on a measure which has been approved by the Committee shall be filed within 7 calendar days (exclusive of days on which the House is not in session) after the day on which there has been filed with the clerk of the Committee a written request, signed by a majority of the members of the Committee, for the reporting of that measure. Upon the filing of any such request, the clerk of the Committee shall transmit immediately to the Chair notice of the filing of that request.

(b)(1) No measure or recommendation shall be reported to the House unless a majority of the Committee is actually present.

(2) With respect to each record vote on a motion to report any measure or matter of a public character, and on any amendment offered to the measure or matter, the total number of votes cast for and against, and the names of those members voting for and against, shall be included in the Committee report on the measure or matter.

(c) The report of the Committee on a measure or matter which has been approved by the Committee shall include the matters required by Clause 3(c) of Rule XIII of the Rules of the House.

(d) If, at the time any measure or matter is ordered reported by the Committee, any member of the Committee gives notice of intention to file supplemental, minority, or additional views, that member shall be entitled to not less than two additional calendar days after the day of such notice, commencing on the day on which the measure or matter(s) was approved, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays, in which to file such views, in writing and signed by that member, with the clerk of the Committee. All such views so filed by one or more members of the

Committee shall be included within, and shall be a part of, the report filed by the Committee with respect to that measure or matter. The report of the Committee upon that measure or matter shall be printed in a single volume which—

(1) shall include all supplemental, minority, or additional views, in the form submitted, by the time of the filing of the report, and

(2) shall bear upon its cover a recital that any such supplemental, minority, or additional views (and any material submitted under subparagraph (c)) are included as part of the report. This subparagraph does not preclude—

(A) the immediate filing or printing of a Committee report unless timely request for the opportunity to file supplemental, minority, or additional views has been made as provided by paragraph (c); or

(B) the filing of any supplemental report upon any measure or matter which may be required for the correction of any technical error in a previous report made by the Committee upon that measure or matter.

(3) shall, when appropriate, contain the documents required by Clause 3(e) of Rule XIII of the Rules of the House.

(e) The Chair, following consultation with the ranking minority member, is directed to offer a motion under clause 1 of Rule XXII of the Rules of the House, relating to going to conference with the Senate, whenever the Chair considers it appropriate.

(f) If hearings have been held on any such measure or matter so reported, the Committee shall make every reasonable effort to have such hearings published and available to the members of the House prior to the consideration of such measure or matter in the House.

(g) The Chair may designate any majority member of the Committee to act as ''floor manager'' of a bill or resolution during its consideration in the House.

RULE NO. 11

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT

The Committee shall conduct oversight of matters within the jurisdiction of the Committee in accordance with House Rule X, clause 2 and clause 4. Not later than February 15 of the first session of a Congress, the Committee shall, in a meeting that is open to the public and with a quorum present, adopt its oversight plan for that Congress in accordance with House Rule X, clause 2(d).

RULE NO. 12

REVIEW OF CONTINUING PROGRAMS; BUDGET ACT PROVISIONS

(a) The Committee shall, in its consideration of all bills and joint resolutions of a public character within its jurisdiction, ensure that appropriation for continuing programs and activities of the Federal Government will be made annually to the maximum extent feasible and consistent with the nature, requirement, and objectives of the programs and activities involved. For the purposes of this paragraph a Government agency includes the organizational units of government listed in Clause 4(e) of Rule X of House Rules.

(b) The Committee shall review, from time to time, each continuing program within its jurisdiction for which appropriations are not made annually in order to ascertain whether such program could be modified so that appropriations therefore would be made annually.

(c) The Committee shall, on or before February 25 of each year, submit to the Committee on the Budget (1) its views and estimates with respect to all matters to be set forth in the concurrent resolution on the budget for the ensuing fiscal year which are within its jurisdiction or functions, and (2) an estimate of the total amounts of new budget authority, and budget outlays resulting there from, to be provided or authorized in all bills and resolutions within its jurisdiction which it intends to be effective during that fiscal year.

(d) As soon as practicable after a concurrent resolution on the budget for any fiscal year is agreed to, the Committee (after consulting with the appropriate committee or committees of the Senate) shall subdivide any allocation made to it in the joint explanatory statement accompanying the conference report on such resolution, and promptly report such subdivisions to the House, in the manner provided by section 302 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

(e) Whenever the Committee is directed in a concurrent resolution on the budget to determine and recommend changes in laws, bills, or resolutions under the reconciliation process it shall promptly make such determination and recommendations, and report a reconciliation bill or resolution (or both) to the House or submit such recommendations to the Committee on the Budget, in accordance with the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

RULE NO. 13

BROADCASTING OF COMMITTEE HEARINGS AND MEETINGS

Whenever any hearing or meeting conducted by the Committee is open to the public, those proceedings shall be open to coverage by television, radio, and still photography, as provided in Clause 4 of House Rule XI, subject to the limitations therein. Operation and use of any Committee Internet broadcast system shall be fair and nonpartisan and in accordance with Clause 4(b) of rule XI and all other applicable rules of the Committee and the House.

RULE NO. 14

COMMITTEE STAFF

The staff of the Committee on House Administration shall be appointed as follows:

(a) The staff shall be appointed by the Chair except as provided in paragraph (b), and may be removed by the Chair, and shall work under the general supervision and direction of the Chair;

(b) All staff provided to the minority party members of the Committee shall be appointed by the ranking minority member, and may be removed by the ranking minority member of the Committee, and shall work under the general supervision and direction of such member;

(c) The appointment of all professional staff shall be subject to the approval of the Committee as provided by, and subject to the provisions of, clause 9 of Rule X of the Rules of the House;

(d) The Chair shall fix the compensation of all staff of the Committee, after consultation with the ranking minority member regarding any minority party staff, within the budget approved for such purposes for the Committee.

RULE NO. 15

TRAVEL OF MEMBERS AND STAFF

(a) Consistent with the primary expense resolution and such additional expense resolutions as may have been approved, the provisions of this rule shall govern travel of Committee members and staff. Travel for any member or any staff member shall be paid only upon the prior authorization of the Chair or her or his designee. Travel may be authorized by the Chair for any member and any staff member in connection with the attendance at hearings conducted by the Committee and meetings, conferences, and investigations which involve activities or subject matter under the general jurisdiction of the Committee. Before such authorization is given there shall be submitted to the Chair in writing the following:

(1) The purpose of the travel;

(2) The dates during which the travel will occur;

(3) The locations to be visited and the length of time to be spent in each; and

(4) The names of members and staff seeking authorization.

(b)(1) In the case of travel outside the United States of members and staff of the Committee for the purpose of conducting hearings, investigations, studies, or attending meetings and conferences involving activities or subject matter under the legislative assignment of the committee, prior authorization must be obtained from the Chair. Before such authorization is given, there shall be submitted to the Chair, in writing, a request for such authorization. Each request, which shall be filed in a manner that allows for a reasonable period of time for review before such travel is scheduled to begin, shall include the following:

(A) the purpose of the travel;

(B) the dates during which the travel will occur;

(C) the names of the countries to be visited and the length of time to be spent in each;

(D) an agenda of anticipated activities for each country for which travel is authorized together with a description of the purpose to be served and the areas of committee jurisdiction involved; and

(E) the names of members and staff for whom authorization is sought.

(2) At the conclusion of any hearing, investigation, study, meeting or conference for which travel outside the United States has been authorized pursuant to this rule, members and staff attending meetings or conferences shall submit a written report to the Chair covering the activities and other pertinent observations or information gained as a result of such travel.

(c) Members and staff of the Committee performing authorized travel on official business shall be governed by applicable laws, resolutions, or regulations of the House and of the Committee on House Administration pertaining to such travel.

RULE NO. 16

Reserved.

RULE NO. 17

Reserved.

RULE NO. 18

OTHER PROCEDURES AND REGULATIONS

The Chair may establish such other procedures and take such actions as may be necessary to carry out the foregoing rules or to facilitate the effective operation of the committee.

RULE NO. 19

DESIGNATION OF CLERK OF THE COMMITTEE

For the purposes of these rules and the Rules of the House of Representatives, the staff director of the Committee shall act as the clerk of the Committee.

PUBLICATION OF COMMITTEE RULES

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES FOR THE 113TH CONGRESS

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, I submit for publication the attached copy of the rules of the Committee on Financial Services for the 113th Congress:

RULE 1

GENERAL PROVISIONS

(a) The rules of the House are the rules of the Committee on Financial Services (hereinafter in these rules referred to as the

''Committee'') and its subcommittees so far as applicable, except that a motion to recess from day to day, and a motion to dispense with the first reading (in full) of a bill or resolution, if printed copies are available, are privileged motions in the Committee and shall be considered without debate. A proposed investigative or oversight report shall be considered as read if it has been available to the members of the Committee for at least 24 hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays except when the House is in session on such day).

(b) Each subcommittee is a part of the Committee, and is subject to the authority and direction of the Committee and to its rules so far as applicable.

(c) The provisions of clause 2 of rule XI of the Rules of the House are incorporated by reference as the rules of the Committee to the extent applicable.

RULE 2

MEETINGS

Calling of Meetings

(a)(1) The Committee shall regularly meet on the first Tuesday of each month when the House is in session.

(2) A regular meeting of the Committee may be dispensed with if, in the judgment of the Chairman of the Committee (hereinafter in these rules referred to as the ''Chair''), there is no need for the meeting.

(3) Additional regular meetings and hearings of the Committee may be called by the Chair, in accordance with clause 2(g)(3) of rule XI of the rules of the House.

(4) Special meetings shall be called and convened by the Chair as provided in clause 2(c)(2) of rule XI of the Rules of the House.

Notice for Meetings

(b)(1) The Chair shall notify each member of the Committee of the agenda of each regular meeting of the Committee at least three calendar days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays except when the House is in session on any such day) before the time of the meeting.

(2) The Chair shall provide to each member of the Committee, at least three calendar days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays except when the House is in session on any such day) before the time of each regular meeting for each measure or matter on the agenda a copy of—

(A) the measure or materials relating to the matter in question; and

(B) an explanation of the measure or matter to be considered, which, in the case of an explanation of a bill, resolution, or similar measure, shall include a summary of the major provisions of the legislation, an explanation of the relationship of the measure to present law, and a summary of the need for the legislation.

(3) At least 24 hours prior to the commencement of a meeting for the markup of legislation, the Chair shall cause the text of such legislation to be made publicly available in electronic form.

(4) The provisions of this subsection may be waived by a two-thirds vote of the Committee or by the Chair with the concurrence of the ranking minority member.

RULE 3

MEETING AND HEARING PROCEDURES

In General

(a)(1) Meetings and hearings of the Committee shall be called to order and presided over by the Chair or, in the Chair's absence, by the member designated by the Chair as the Vice Chair of the Committee, or by the ranking majority member of the Committee present as Acting Chair.

(2) Meetings and hearings of the committee shall be open to the public unless closed in accordance with clause 2(g) of rule XI of the Rules of the House.

(3) Any meeting or hearing of the Committee that is open to the public shall be open to coverage by television broadcast, radio broadcast, and still photography in accordance with the provisions of clause 4 of rule XI of the Rules of the House (which are incorporated by reference as part of these rules). Operation and use of any Committee operated broadcast system shall be fair and nonpartisan and in accordance with clause 4(b) of rule XI and all other applicable rules of the Committee and the House.

(4) To the extent feasible, members and witnesses may use the Committee equipment for the purpose of presenting information electronically during a meeting or hearing, provided the information is transmitted to the appropriate Committee staff in an appropriate electronic format at least one business day before the meeting or hearing so as to ensure display capacity and quality. The content of all materials must relate to the pending business of the Committee and conform to the rules of the House. The confidentiality of the material will be maintained by the technical staff until its official presentation to the Committee members. For the purposes of maintaining the official records of the committee, printed copies of all materials presented, to the extent practicable, must accompany the presentations.

(5) No person, other than a Member of Congress, Committee staff, or an employee of a Member when that Member has an amendment under consideration, may stand in or be seated at the rostrum area of the Committee rooms unless the Chair determines otherwise.

Quorum

(b)(1) For the purpose of taking testimony and receiving evidence, two members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

(2) A majority of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the purposes of reporting any measure or matter, of authorizing a subpoena, of closing a meeting or hearing pursuant to clause 2(g) of rule XI of the rules of the House (except as provided in clause 2(g)(2)(A) and (B)) or of releasing executive session material pursuant to clause 2(k)(7) of rule XI of the rules of the House.

(3) For the purpose of taking any action other than those specified in paragraph (2) one-third of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Voting

(c)(1) No vote may be conducted on any measure or matter pending before the Committee unless the requisite number of members of the Committee is actually present for such purpose,

(2) A record vote of the Committee shall be provided on any question before the Committee upon the request of one-fifth of the members present.

(3) No vote by any member of the Committee on any measure or matter may be cast by proxy.

(4) In addition to any other requirement of these rules or the Rules of the House, including clause 2(e)(1)(B) of rule XI, the Chair shall make the record of the votes on any question on which a record vote is demanded publicly available for inspection at the offices of the Committee and in electronic form on the Committee's Web site not later than one business day after such vote is taken. Such record shall include in electronic form the text of the amendment, motion, order, or other proposition, the name of each member voting for and each member voting against such amendment, motion, order, or proposition, and the names of those members of the committee present but not voting. With respect to any record vote on any motion to report or record vote on any amendment, a record of such votes shall be included in the report of the Committee showing the total number of votes cast for and against and the names of those members of the committee present but not voting.

(5) POSTPONED RECORD VOTES.—(A) Subject to subparagraph (B), the Chairman may postpone further proceedings when a record vote is ordered on the question of approving any measure or matter or adopting an amendment. The Chairman may resume proceedings on a postponed request at any time, but no later than the next meeting day.

(B) In exercising postponement authority under subparagraph (A), the Chairman shall take all reasonable steps necessary to notify members on the resumption of proceedings on any postponed record vote.

(C) When proceedings resume on a postponed question, not withstanding any intervening order for the previous question, an underlying proposition shall remain subject to further debate or amendment to the same extent as when the question was postponed.

Hearing Procedures

(d)(1)(A) The Chair shall make public announcement of the date, place, and subject matter of any committee hearing at least one week before the commencement of the hearing, unless the Chair, with the concurrence of the ranking minority member, or the Committee by majority vote with a quorum present for the transaction of business, determines there is good cause to begin the hearing sooner, in which case the Chair shall make the announcement at the earliest possible date.

(B) Not less than three days before the commencement of a hearing announced under this paragraph, the Chair shall provide to the members of the Committee a concise summary of the subject of the hearing, or, in the case of a hearing on a measure or matter, a copy of the measure or materials relating to the matter in question and a concise explanation of the measure or matter to be considered. At the same time the Chair provides the information required by the preceding sentence, the Chair shall also provide to the members of the Committee a final list consisting of the names of each witness who is to appear before the Committee at that hearing. The witness list may not be modified within 24 hours of a hearing, unless the Chair, with the concurrence of the ranking minority member, determines there is good cause for such modification.

(2) To the greatest extent practicable—

(A) each witness who is to appear before the Committee shall file with the Committee two business days in advance of the appearance sufficient copies (including a copy in electronic form), as determined by the Chair, of a written statement of proposed testimony and shall limit the oral presentation to the Committee to brief summary thereof; and

(B) each witness appearing in a non-governmental capacity shall include with the written statement of proposed testimony a curriculum vitae and a disclosure of the amount and source (by agency and program) of any Federal grant (or subgrant thereof) or contract (or subcontract thereof) received during the current fiscal year or either of the two preceding fiscal years. Such disclosure statements, with appropriate redactions to protect the privacy of the witness, shall be made publicly available in electronic form not later than one day after the witness appears.

(3) The requirements of paragraph (2)(A) may be modified or waived by the Chair when the Chair determines it to be in the best interest of the Committee.

(4) The five-minute rule shall be observed in the interrogation of witnesses before the Committee until each member of the Committee has had an opportunity to question the witnesses. No member shall be recognized for a second period of five minutes to interrogate witnesses until each member of the Committee present has been recognized once for that purpose.

(5) Whenever any hearing is conducted by the Committee on any measure or matter, the minority party members of the Committee shall be entitled, upon the request of a majority of them before the completion of the hearing, to call witnesses with respect to that measure or matter during at least one day of hearing thereon.

(6) At any hearing of the Committee for the purpose of receiving testimony (other than testimony described in clauses (i) or (ii) of subsection (f)(2)(A)), the Chair may, after consultation with the ranking minority member, limit the duration of opening statements to 20 minutes to be divided equally between and controlled by the Chair and the ranking minority member or their respective designees. At any hearing of the Committee for the purpose of receiving testimony described in clauses (i) or (ii) of subsection (f)(2)(A), the Chair may, after consultation with the ranking minority member, limit the duration of opening statements to 16 minutes to be divided equally between and controlled by the Chair and the ranking minority member or their respective designees. The duration for all opening statements provided in this subsection for any hearing may be extended by agreement between the Chair and ranking minority member provided that any such extended time be equally divided between and controlled by the Chair and ranking minority member or their designees.

(7) Notwithstanding any member's oral delivery of an opening statement, written opening statements by any member of the Committee submitted to the Chair within 5 legislative days after the adjournment of a hearing shall be made a part of the official hearing record thereof.

(8) Subsections (6) and (7) shall apply with equal force to hearings held by the subcommittees of the Committee.

Subpoenas and Oaths

(e)(1) Pursuant to clause 2(m) of rule XI of the Rules of the House, a subpoena may be authorized and issued by the Committee or a subcommittee in the conduct of any investigation or series of investigations or activities, only when authorized by a majority of the members voting, a majority being present, or pursuant to paragraph (2).

(2) The Chair, with the concurrence of the ranking minority member, may authorize and issue subpoenas under such clause during any period for which the House has adjourned for a period in excess of three days when, in the opinion of the Chair, authorization and issuance of the subpoena is necessary to obtain the material or testimony set forth in the subpoena. The Chair shall report to the members of the Committee on the authorization and issuance of a subpoena during the recess period as soon as practicable, but in no event later than one week after service of such subpoena.

(3) Authorized subpoenas shall be signed by the Chair or by any member designated by the Committee, and may be served by any person designated by the Chair or such member.

(4) The Chair, or any member of the Committee designated by the Chair, may administer oaths to witnesses before the Committee.

Special Procedures

(f)(1)(A) COMMEMORATIVE MEDALS AND COINS.—It shall not be in order for the Subcommittee on Domestic Monetary Policy and Technology to hold a hearing on any commemorative medal or commemorative coin legislation unless the legislation is cosponsored by at least two-thirds of the members of the House.

(B) It shall not be in order for the subcommittee to approve a bill or measure authorizing commemorative coins for consideration by the full Committee which does not conform with the mintage restrictions established by section 5112 of title 31, United States Code.

(C) In considering legislation authorizing Congressional gold medals, the subcommittee shall apply the following standards—

(i) the recipient shall be a natural person;

(ii) the recipient shall have performed an achievement that has an impact on American history and culture that is likely to be recognized as a major achievement in the recipient's field long after the achievement;

(iii) the recipient shall not have received a medal previously for the same or substantially the same achievement;

(iv) the recipient shall be living or, if deceased, shall have been deceased for not less than five years and not more than twenty five years;

(v) the achievements were performed in the recipient's field of endeavor, and represent either a lifetime of continuous superior achievements or a single achievement so significant that the recipient is recognized and acclaimed by others in the same field, as evidenced by the recipient having received the highest honors in the field.

(2) TESTIMONY OF CERTAIN OFFICIALS.—

(A) When the Chair announces a hearing of the Committee for the purpose of receiving—

(i) testimony from the Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board pursuant to section 2B of the Federal Reserve Act (12 U.S.C. 221 et seq.), or

(ii) testimony from the Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board or a member of the President's cabinet at the invitation of the Chair,

the Chair may, in consultation with the ranking minority member, limit the number and duration of opening statements to be delivered at such hearing. The limitation shall be included in the announcement made pursuant to subsection (d)(1)(A), and shall provide that the opening statements of all members of the Committee shall be made a part of the hearing record.

RULE 4

PROCEDURES FOR REPORTING MEASURES OR MATTERS

(a) No measure or matter shall be reported from the Committee unless a majority of the Committee is actually present.

(b) The Chair of the Committee shall report or cause to be reported promptly to the House any measure approved by the Committee and take necessary steps to bring a matter to a vote.

(c) The report of the Committee on a measure which has been approved by the Committee shall be filed within seven calendar days (exclusive of days on which the House is not in session) after the day on which there has been filed with the clerk of the Committee a written request, signed by a majority of the members of the Committee, for the reporting of that measure pursuant to the provisions of clause 2(b)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House.

(d) All reports printed by the Committee pursuant to a legislative study or investigation and not approved by a majority vote of the Committee shall contain the following disclaimer on the cover of such report: ''This report has not been officially adopted by the Committee on Financial Services and may not necessarily reflect the views of its Members.''

(e) The Chair is directed to offer a motion under clause 1 of rule XXII of the Rules of the House whenever the Chair considers it appropriate.

RULE 5

SUBCOMMITTEES

Establishment and Responsibilities of Subcommittees

(a)(1) There shall be five subcommittees of the Committee as follows:

(A) SUBCOMMITTEE ON CAPITAL MARKETS AND GOVERNMENT SPONSORED ENTERPRISES.—The jurisdiction of the Subcommittee on Capital Markets and Government Sponsored Enterprises includes—

(i) securities, exchanges, and finance;

(ii) capital markets activities, including business capital formation and venture capital;

(iii) activities involving futures, forwards, options, and other types of derivative instruments;

(iv) the Securities and Exchange Commission;

(v) secondary market organizations for home mortgages, including the Federal National Mortgage Association, the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, and the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation;

(vi) the Federal Housing Finance Agency; and

(vii) the Federal Home Loan Banks.

(B) SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND CONSUMER CREDIT.—The jurisdiction of the Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit includes—

(i) all agencies, including the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal Reserve System, and the National Credit Union Administration, which directly or indirectly exercise supervisory or regulatory authority in connection with, or provide deposit insurance for, financial institutions, and the establishment of interest rate ceilings on deposits;

(ii) all matters related to the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection;

(iii) the chartering, branching, merger, acquisition, consolidation, or conversion of financial institutions;

(iv) consumer credit, including the provision of consumer credit by insurance companies, and further including those matters in the Consumer Credit Protection Act dealing with truth in lending, extortionate credit transactions, restrictions on garnishments, fair credit reporting and the use of credit information by credit bureaus and credit providers, equal credit opportunity, debt collection practices, and electronic funds transfers, including consumer transactions using mobile devices;

(v) creditor remedies and debtor defenses, Federal aspects of the Uniform Consumer Credit Code, credit and debit cards, and the preemption of State usury laws;

(vi) consumer access to financial services, including the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act and the Community Reinvestment Act;

(vii) the terms and rules of disclosure of financial services, including the advertisement, promotion and pricing of financial services, and availability of government check cashing services;

(viii) deposit insurance; and

(ix) consumer access to savings accounts and checking accounts in financial institutions, including lifeline banking and other consumer accounts.

(C) SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND INSURANCE.—The jurisdiction of the Subcommittee on Housing and Insurance includes—

(i) insurance generally; terrorism risk insurance; private mortgage insurance; government sponsored insurance programs, including those offering protection against crime,

fire, flood (and related land use controls), earthquake and other natural hazards; the Federal Insurance Office;

(ii) housing (except programs administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs), including mortgage and loan insurance pursuant to the National Housing Act; rural housing; housing and homeless assistance programs; all activities of the Government National Mortgage Association; housing construction and design and safety standards; housing-related energy conservation; housing research and demonstration programs; financial and technical assistance for nonprofit housing sponsors; housing counseling and technical assistance; regulation of the housing industry (including landlord/tenant relations); and real estate lending including regulation of settlement procedures;

(iii) community development and community and neighborhood planning, training and research; national urban growth policies; urban/rural research and technologies; and regulation of interstate land sales; and,

(iv) the qualifications for and designation of Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities (other than matters relating to tax benefits).

(D) SUBCOMMITTEE ON MONETARY POLICY AND TRADE.—The jurisdiction of the Subcommittee on Monetary Policy and Trade includes—

(i) financial aid to all sectors and elements within the economy;

(ii) economic growth and stabilization;

(iii) defense production matters as contained in the Defense Production Act of 1950, as amended;

(iv) domestic monetary policy, and agencies which directly or indirectly affect domestic monetary policy, including the effect of such policy and other financial actions on interest rates, the allocation of credit, and the structure and functioning of domestic financial institutions;

(v) coins, coinage, currency, and medals, including commemorative coins and medals, proof and mint sets and other special coins, the Coinage Act of 1965, gold and silver, including the coinage thereof (but not the par value of gold), gold medals, counterfeiting, currency denominations and design, the distribution of coins, and the operations of the Bureau of the Mint and the Bureau of Engraving and Printing;

(vi) development of new or alternative forms of currency;

(vii) multilateral development lending institutions, including activities of the National Advisory Council on International Monetary and Financial Policies as related thereto, and monetary and financial developments as they relate to the activities and objectives of such institutions;

(viii) international trade, including but not limited to the activities of the Export-Import Bank;

(ix) the International Monetary Fund, its permanent and temporary agencies, and all matters related thereto; and

(x) international investment policies, both as they relate to United States investments for trade purposes by citizens of the United States and investments made by all foreign entities in the United States.

(E) SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS.—The jurisdiction of the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations includes—

(i) the oversight of all agencies, departments, programs, and matters within the jurisdiction of the Committee, including the development of recommendations with regard to the necessity or desirability of enacting, changing, or repealing any legislation within the jurisdiction of the Committee, and for conducting investigations within such jurisdiction; and

(ii) research and analysis regarding matters within the jurisdiction of the Committee, including the impact or probable impact of tax policies affecting matters within the jurisdiction of the Committee.

(2) In addition, each such subcommittee shall have specific responsibility for such other measures or matters as the Chair refers to it.

(3) Each subcommittee of the Committee shall review and study, on a continuing basis, the application, administration, execution, and effectiveness of those laws, or parts of laws, the subject matter of which is within its general responsibility.

Referral of Measures and Matters to Subcommittees

(b)(1) The Chair shall regularly refer to one or more subcommittees such measures and matters as the Chair deems appropriate given its jurisdiction and responsibilities. In making such a referral, the Chair may designate a subcommittee of primary jurisdiction and subcommittees of additional or sequential jurisdiction.

(2) All other measures or matters shall be subject to consideration by the full Committee.

(3) In referring any measure or matter to a subcommittee, the Chair may specify a date by which the subcommittee shall report thereon to the Committee.

(4) The Committee by motion may discharge a subcommittee from consideration of any measure or matter referred to a subcommittee of the Committee.

Composition of Subcommittees

(c)(1) Members shall be elected to each subcommittee and to the positions of chair and ranking minority member thereof, in accordance with the rules of the respective party caucuses. The Chair of the Committee shall designate a member of the majority party on each subcommittee as its vice chair. The Chair may designate one member of the Committee who previously has served as the chairman of the Committee as the Chairman Emeritus.

(2) The Chair and ranking minority member of the Committee shall be ex officio members with voting privileges of each subcommittee of which they are not assigned as members and may be counted for purposes of establishing a quorum in such subcommittees. The Chairman Emeritus shall be an ex officio member without voting privileges of each subcommittee to which he or she is not assigned and shall not count for purposes of establishing a quorum in such subcommittees.

(3) The subcommittees shall be comprised as follows:

(A) The Subcommittee on Capital Markets and Government Sponsored Enterprises shall be comprised of 33 members, 18 elected by the majority caucus and 15 elected by the minority caucus.

(B) The Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit shall be comprised of 31 members, 17 elected by the majority caucus and 14 elected by the minority caucus.

(C) The Subcommittee on Housing and Insurance shall be comprised of 20 members, 11 elected by the majority caucus and 9 elected by the minority caucus.

(D) The Subcommittee on Monetary Policy and Trade shall be comprised of 20 members, 11 elected by the majority caucus and 9 elected by the minority caucus.

(E) The Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations shall be comprised of 20 members, 11 elected by the majority caucus and 9 elected by the minority caucus.

Subcommittee Meetings and Hearings

(d)(1) Each subcommittee of the Committee is authorized to meet, hold hearings, receive testimony, mark up legislation, and report to the full Committee on any measure or matter referred to it, consistent with subsection (a).

(2) No subcommittee of the Committee may meet or hold a hearing at the same time as a meeting or hearing of the Committee.

(3) The chair of each subcommittee shall set hearing and meeting dates only with the approval of the Chair with a view toward assuring the availability of meeting rooms and avoiding simultaneous scheduling of Committee and subcommittee meetings or hearings.

Effect of a Vacancy

(e) Any vacancy in the membership of a subcommittee shall not affect the power of the remaining members to execute the functions of the subcommittee as long as the required quorum is present.

Records

(f) Each subcommittee of the Committee shall provide the full Committee with copies of such records of votes taken in the subcommittee and such other records with respect to the subcommittee as the Chair deems necessary for the Committee to comply with all rules and regulations of the House.

RULE 6

STAFF

In General

(a)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), the professional and other staff of the Committee shall be appointed, and may be removed by the Chair, and shall work under the general supervision and direction of the Chair.

(2) All professional and other staff provided to the minority party members of the Committee shall be appointed, and may be removed, by the ranking minority member of the Committee, and shall work under the general supervision and direction of such member.

(3) It is intended that the skills and experience of all members of the Committee staff be available to all members of the Committee.

Subcommittee Staff

(b) From funds made available for the appointment of staff, the Chair of the Committee shall, pursuant to clause 6(d) of rule X of the Rules of the House, ensure that sufficient staff is made available so that each subcommittee can carry out its responsibilities under the rules of the Committee and that the minority party is treated fairly in the appointment of such staff.

Compensation of Staff

(c)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Chair shall fix the compensation of all professional and other staff of the Committee.

(2) The ranking minority member shall fix the compensation of all professional and other staff provided to the minority party members of the Committee.

RULE 7

BUDGET AND TRAVEL

Budget

(a)(1) The Chair, in consultation with other members of the Committee, shall prepare for each Congress a budget providing amounts for staff, necessary travel, investigation, and other expenses of the Committee and its subcommittees.

(2) From the amount provided to the Committee in the primary expense resolution adopted by the House of Representatives, the Chair, after consultation with the ranking minority member, shall designate an amount to be under the direction of the ranking minority member for the compensation of the

minority staff, travel expenses of minority members and staff, and minority office expenses. All expenses of minority members and staff shall be paid for out of the amount so set aside.

Travel

(b)(1) The Chair may authorize travel for any member and any staff member of the Committee in connection with activities or subject matters under the general jurisdiction of the Committee. Before such authorization is granted, there shall be submitted to the Chair in writing the following:

(A) The purpose of the travel.

(B) The dates during which the travel is to occur.

(C) The names of the States or countries to be visited and the length of time to be spent in each.

(D) The names of members and staff of the Committee for whom the authorization is sought.

(2) Members and staff of the Committee shall make a written report to the Chair on any travel they have conducted under this subsection, including a description of their itinerary, expenses, and activities, and of pertinent information gained as a result of such travel.

(3) Members and staff of the Committee performing authorized travel on official business shall be governed by applicable laws, resolutions, and regulations of the House and of the Committee on House Administration.

RULE 8

COMMITTEE ADMINISTRATION

Records

(a)(1) There shall be a transcript made of each regular meeting and hearing of the Committee, and the transcript may be printed if the Chair decides it is appropriate or if a majority of the members of the Committee requests such printing. Any such transcripts shall be a substantially verbatim account of remarks actually made during the proceedings, subject only to technical, grammatical, and typographical corrections authorized by the person making the remarks. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to require that all such transcripts be subject to correction and publication.

(2) The Committee shall keep a record of all actions of the Committee and of its subcommittees. The record shall contain all information required by clause 2(e)(1) of rule XI of the Rules of the House and shall be available in electronic form and for public inspection at reasonable times in the offices of the Committee.

(3) All Committee hearings, records, data, charts, and files shall be kept separate and distinct from the congressional office records of the Chair, shall be the property of the House, and all Members of the House shall have access thereto as provided in clause 2(e)(2) of rule XI of the Rules of the House.

(4) The records of the Committee at the National Archives and Records Administration shall be made available for public use in accordance with rule VII of the Rules of the House of Representatives. The Chair shall notify the ranking minority member of any decision, pursuant to clause 3(b)(3) or clause 4(b) of the rule, to withhold a record otherwise available, and the matter shall be presented to the Committee for a determination on written request of any member of the Committee.

Committee Publications on the Internet

(b) The Chair shall maintain an official Committee website for the purpose of carrying out the official responsibilities of the Committee, including communicating information about the Committee's activities. The ranking minority member may maintain an official website. To the maximum extent feasible, the Committee shall make its publications available in electronic form on the official Committee website maintained by the Chair.

Audio and Video Coverage of Committee Hearings and Meetings

(c)(1) To the maximum extent feasible, the Committee shall provide audio and video coverage of each hearing or meeting for the transaction of business in a manner that allows the public to easily listen to and view the proceedings; and,

(2) maintain the recordings of such coverage in a manner that is easily accessible to the public.

APPENDIX 1

APPLICABLE PROVISIONS OF CLAUSES 1, 2, AND 4 OF RULE XI AND CLAUSES 2 AND 3 OF RULE XIII OF THE RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE 113TH CONGRESS

January 3, 2013

RULE XI: PROCEDURES OF COMMITTEES AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

CLAUSES 1 AND 2: RULES FOR STANDING COMMITTEES

In general

1. (a)(1)(A) The Rules of the House are the rules of its committees and subcommittees so far as applicable.

(B) Each subcommittee is a part of its committee and is subject to the authority and direction of that committee and to its rules, so far as applicable.

(2)(A) In a committee or subcommittee—

(i) a motion to recess from day to day, or to recess subject to the call of the Chair (within 24 hours), shall be privileged; and

(ii) a motion to dispense with the first reading (in full) of a bill or resolution shall be privileged if printed copies are available.

(B) A motion accorded privilege under this subparagraph shall be decided without debate.

(b)(1) Each committee may conduct at any time such investigations and studies as it considers necessary or appropriate in the exercise of its responsibilities under rule X. Subject to the adoption of expense resolutions as required by clause 6 of rule X, each committee may incur expenses, including travel expenses, in connection with such investigations and studies.

(2) A proposed investigative or oversight report shall be considered as read in committee if it has been available to the members for at least 24 hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays except when the House is in session on such a day).

(3) A report of an investigation or study conducted jointly by more than one committee may be filed jointly, provided that each of the committees complies independently with all requirements for approval and filing of the report.

(4) After an adjournment sine die of the last regular session of a Congress, an investigative or oversight report may be filed with the Clerk at any time, provided that a member who gives timely notice of intention to file supplemental, minority, or additional views shall be entitled to not less than seven calendar days in which to submit such views for inclusion in the report.

(c) Each committee may have printed and bound such testimony and other data as may be presented at hearings held by the committee or its subcommittees. All costs of stenographic services and transcripts in connection with a meeting or hearing of a committee shall be paid from the applicable accounts of the House described in clause 1(k)(1) of rule X.

(d)(1) Not later than January 2 of each year, a committee shall submit to the House a report on the activities of that committee.

(2) Such report shall include—

(A) separate sections summarizing the legislative and oversight activities of that committee under this rule and rule X during the applicable period;

(B) in the case of the first such report in each Congress, a summary of the oversight plans submitted by the committee under clause 2(d) of rule X;

(C) a summary of the actions taken and recommendations made with respect to the oversight plans specified in subdivision (B);

(D) a summary of any additional oversight activities undertaken by that committee and any recommendations made or actions taken thereon; and

(E) a delineation of any hearings held pursuant to clauses 2(n), (o), or (p) of this rule.

(3) After an adjournment sine die of a regular session of a Congress, or after December 15, whichever occurs first, the chair of a committee may file the report described in subparagraph (1) with the Clerk at any time and without approval of the committee, provided that—

(A) a copy of the report has been available to each member of the committee for at least seven calendar days; and

(B) the report includes any supplemental, minority, or additional views submitted by a member of the committee.

Adoption of written rules

2. (a)(1) Each standing committee shall adopt written rules governing its procedure. Such rules—

(A) shall be adopted in a meeting that is open to the public unless the committee, in open session and with a quorum present, determines by record vote that all or part of the meeting on that day shall be closed to the public;

(B) may not be inconsistent with the Rules of the House or with those provisions of law having the force and effect of Rules of the House; and

(C) shall in any event incorporate all of the succeeding provisions of this clause to the extent applicable.

(2) Each committee shall make its rules publicly available in electronic form and submit such rules for publication in the Congressional Record not later than 30 days after the chair of the committee is elected in each odd-numbered year.

(3) A committee may adopt a rule providing that the chair be directed to offer a motion under clause 1 of rule XXII whenever the chair considers it appropriate.

Regular meeting days

(b) Each standing committee shall establish regular meeting days for the conduct of its business, which shall be not less frequent than monthly. Each such committee shall meet for the consideration of a bill or resolution pending before the committee or the transaction of other committee business on all regular meeting days fixed by the committee if notice is given pursuant to paragraph (g)(3).

Additional and special meetings

(c)(1) The chair of each standing committee may call and convene, as the chair considers necessary, additional and special meetings of the committee for the consideration of a bill or resolution pending before the committee or for the conduct of other committee business, subject to such rules as the committee may adopt. The committee shall meet for such purpose under that call of the chair.

(2) Three or more members of a standing committee may file in the offices of the committee a written request that the chair call a special meeting of the committee. Such request shall specify the measure or matter to be considered. Immediately upon the filing of the request, the clerk of the committee shall notify the chair of the filing of the request. If the chair does not call the requested

special meeting within three calendar days after the filing of the request (to be held within seven calendar days after the filing of the request) a majority of the members of the committee may file in the offices of the committee their written notice that a special meeting of the committee will be held. The written notice shall specify the date and hour of the special meeting and the measure or matter to be considered. The committee shall meet on that date and hour. Immediately upon the filing of the notice, the clerk of the committee shall notify all members of the committee that such special meeting will be held and inform them of its date and hour and the measure or matter to be considered. Such notice shall also be made publicly available in electronic form and shall be deemed to satisfy paragraph (g)(3)(A)(ii). Only the measure or matter specified in that notice may be considered at that special meeting.

Temporary absence of chair

(d) A member of the majority party on each standing committee or subcommittee thereof shall be designated by the chair of the full committee as the vice chair of the committee or subcommittee, as the case may be, and shall preside during the absence of the chair from any meeting. If the chair and vice chair of a committee or subcommittee are not present at any meeting of the committee or subcommittee, the ranking majority member who is present shall preside at that meeting.

Committee records

(e)(1)(A) Each committee shall keep a complete record of all committee action which shall include—

(i) in the case of a meeting or hearing transcript, a substantially verbatim account of remarks actually made during the proceedings, subject only to technical, grammatical, and typographical corrections authorized by the person making the remarks involved; and

(ii) a record of the votes on any question on which a record vote is taken.

(B)(i) Except as provided in subdivision (B)(ii) and subject to paragraph (k)(7), the result of each such record vote shall be made available by the committee for inspection by the public at reasonable times in its offices and also made publicly available in electronic form within 48 hours of such record vote. Information so available shall include a description of the amendment, motion, order, or other proposition, the name of each member voting for and each member voting against such amendment, motion, order, or proposition, and the names of those members of the committee present but not voting.

(ii) The result of any record vote taken in executive session in the Committee on Ethics may not be made available for inspection by the public without an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the committee.

(2)(A) Except as provided in subdivision (B), all committee records (including hearings, data, charts, and files) shall be kept separate and distinct from the congressional office records of the member serving as its chair. Such records shall be the property of the House, and each Member, Delegate, and the Resident Commissioner shall have access thereto.

(B) A Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner, other than members of the Committee on Ethics, may not have access to the records of that committee respecting the conduct of a Member, Delegate, Resident Commissioner, officer, or employee of the House without the specific prior permission of that committee.

(3) Each committee shall include in its rules standards for availability of records of the committee delivered to the Archivist of the United States under rule VII. Such standards shall specify procedures for orders of the committee under clause 3(b)(3) and clause 4(b) of rule VII, including a requirement that nonavailability of a record for a period longer than the period otherwise applicable under that rule shall be approved by vote of the committee.

(4) Each committee shall make its publications available in electronic form to the maximum extent feasible.

(5) To the maximum extent practicable, each committee shall—

(A) provide audio and video coverage of each hearing or meeting for the transaction of business in a manner that allows the public to easily listen to and view the proceedings; and

(B) maintain the recordings of such coverage in a manner that is easily accessible to the public.

(6) Not later than 24 hours after the adoption of any amendment to a measure or matter considered by a committee, the chair of such committee shall cause the text of each such amendment to be made publicly available in electronic form.

Prohibition against proxy voting

(f) A vote by a member of a committee or subcommittee with respect to any measure or matter may not be cast by proxy.

Open meetings and hearings

(g)(1) Each meeting for the transaction of business, including the markup of legislation, by a standing committee or subcommittee thereof (other than the Committee on Ethics or its subcommittees) shall be open to the public, including to radio, television, and still photography coverage, except when the committee or subcommittee, in open session and with a majority present, determines by record vote that all or part of the remainder of the meeting on that day shall be in executive session because disclosure of matters to be considered would endanger national security, would compromise sensitive law enforcement information, would tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person, or otherwise would violate a law or rule of the House. Persons, other than members of the committee and such noncommittee Members, Delegates, Resident Commissioner, congressional staff, or departmental representatives as the committee may authorize, may not be present at a business or markup session that is held in executive session. This subparagraph does not apply to open committee hearings, which are governed by clause 4(a)(1) of rule X or by subparagraph (2).

(2)(A) Each hearing conducted by a committee or subcommittee (other than the Committee on Ethics or its subcommittees) shall be open to the public, including to radio, television, and still photography coverage, except when the committee or subcommittee, in open session and with a majority present, determines by record vote that all or part of the remainder of that hearing on that day shall be closed to the public because disclosure of testimony, evidence, or other matters to be considered would endanger national security, would compromise sensitive law enforcement information, or would violate a law or rule of the House.

(B) Notwithstanding the requirements of subdivision (A), in the presence of the number of members required under the rules of the committee for the purpose of taking testimony, a majority of those present may—

(i) agree to close the hearing for the sole purpose of discussing whether testimony or evidence to be received would endanger national security, would compromise sensitive law enforcement information, or would violate clause 2(k)(5); or

(ii) agree to close the hearing as provided in clause 2(k)(5).

(C) A Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner may not be excluded from nonparticipatory attendance at a hearing of a committee or subcommittee (other than the Committee on Ethics or its subcommittees) unless the House by majority vote authorizes a particular committee or subcommittee, for purposes of a particular series of hearings on a particular article of legislation or on a particular subject of investigation, to close its hearings to Members, Delegates, and the Resident Commissioner by the same procedures specified in this subparagraph for closing hearings to the public.

(D) The committee or subcommittee may vote by the same procedure described in this subparagraph to close one subsequent day of hearing, except that the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Armed Services, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and the subcommittees thereof, may vote by the same procedure to close up to five additional, consecutive days of hearings.

(3)(A) The chair of a committee shall announce the date, place, and subject matter of—

(i) a committee hearing, which may not commence earlier than one week after such notice; or

(ii) a committee meeting, which may not commence earlier than the third day on which members have notice thereof.

(B) A hearing or meeting may begin sooner than specified in subdivision (A) in either of the following circumstances (in which case the chair shall make the announcement specified in subdivision (A) at the earliest possible time):

(i) the chair of the committee, with the concurrence of the ranking minority member, determines that there is good cause; or

(ii) the committee so determines by majority vote in the presence of the number of members required under the rules of the committee for the transaction of business.

(C) An announcement made under this subparagraph shall be published promptly in the Daily Digest and made publicly available in electronic form.

(D) This subparagraph and subparagraph (4) shall not apply to the Committee on Rules.

(4) At least 24 hours prior to the commencement of a meeting for the markup of legislation, or at the time of an announcement under subparagraph (3)(B) made within 24 hours before such meeting, the chair of the committee shall cause the text of such legislation to be made publicly available in electronic form.

(5) Each committee shall, to the greatest extent practicable, require witnesses who appear before it to submit in advance written statements of proposed testimony and to limit their initial presentations to the committee to brief summaries thereof. In the case of a witness appearing in a nongovernmental capacity, a written statement of proposed testimony shall include a curriculum vitae and a disclosure of the amount and source (by agency and program) of each Federal grant (or subgrant thereof) or contract (or subcontract thereof) received during the current fiscal year or either of the two previous fiscal years by the witness or by an entity represented by the witness. Such statements, with appropriate redactions to protect the privacy of the witness, shall be made publicly available in electronic form not later than one day after the witness appears.

(6)(A) Except as provided in subdivision (B), a point of order does not lie with respect to a measure reported by a committee on the ground that hearings on such measure were not conducted in accordance with this clause.

(B) A point of order on the ground described in subdivision (A) may be made by a member of the committee that reported the measure if such point of order was timely made and improperly disposed of in the committee.

(7) This paragraph does not apply to hearings of the Committee on Appropriations under clause 4(a)(1) of rule X.

Quorum requirements

(h)(1) A measure or recommendation may not be reported by a committee unless a majority of the committee is actually present.

(2) Each committee may fix the number of its members to constitute a quorum for taking testimony and receiving evidence, which may not be less than two.

(3) Each committee (other than the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on the Budget, and the Committee on Ways and Means) may fix the number of its members to constitute a quorum for taking any action other than one for which the presence of a majority of the committee is otherwise required, which may not be less than one-third of the members.

(4)(A) Each committee may adopt a rule authorizing the chair of a committee or subcommittee—

(i) to postpone further proceedings when a record vote is ordered on the question of approving a measure or matter or on adopting an amendment; and

(ii) to resume proceedings on a postponed question at any time after reasonable notice.

(B) A rule adopted pursuant to this subparagraph shall provide that when proceedings resume on a postponed question, notwithstanding any intervening order for the previous question, an underlying proposition shall remain subject to further debate or amendment to the same extent as when the question was postponed.

Limitation on committee sittings

(i) A committee may not sit during a joint session of the House and Senate or during a recess when a joint meeting of the House and Senate is in progress.

Calling and questioning of witnesses

(j)(1) Whenever a hearing is conducted by a committee on a measure or matter, the minority members of the committee shall be entitled, upon request to the chair by a majority of them before the completion of the hearing, to call witnesses selected by the minority to testify with respect to that measure or matter during at least one day of hearing thereon.

(2)(A) Subject to subdivisions (B) and (C), each committee shall apply the five-minute rule during the questioning of witnesses in a hearing until such time as each member of the committee who so desires has had an opportunity to question each witness.

(B) A committee may adopt a rule or motion permitting a specified number of its members to question a witness for longer than five minutes. The time for extended questioning of a witness under this subdivision shall be equal for the majority party and the minority party and may not exceed one hour in the aggregate.

(C) A committee may adopt a rule or motion permitting committee staff for its majority and minority party members to question a witness for equal specified periods. The time for extended questioning of a witness under this subdivision shall be equal for the majority party and the minority party and may not exceed one hour in the aggregate.

Hearing procedures

(k)(1) The chair at a hearing shall announce in an opening statement the subject of the hearing.

(2) A copy of the committee rules and of this clause shall be made available to each witness on request.

(3) Witnesses at hearings may be accompanied by their own counsel for the purpose of advising them concerning their constitutional rights.

(4) The chair may punish breaches of order and decorum, and of professional ethics on the part of counsel, by censure and exclusion from the hearings; and the committee may cite the offender to the House for contempt.

(5) Whenever it is asserted by a member of the committee that the evidence or testimony at a hearing may tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person, or it is asserted by a witness that the evidence or testimony that the witness would give at a hearing may tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate the witness—

(A) notwithstanding paragraph (g)(2), such testimony or evidence shall be presented in executive session if, in the presence of the number of members required under the rules of the committee for the purpose of taking testimony, the committee determines by vote of a majority of those present that such evidence or testimony may tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person; and

(B) the committee shall proceed to receive such testimony in open session only if the committee, a majority being present, determines that such evidence or testimony will not tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person.

In either case the committee shall afford such person an opportunity voluntarily to appear as a witness, and receive and dispose of requests from such person to subpoena additional witnesses.

(6) Except as provided in subparagraph (5), the chair shall receive and the committee shall dispose of requests to subpoena additional witnesses.

(7) Evidence or testimony taken in executive session, and proceedings conducted in executive session, may be released or used in public sessions only when authorized by the committee, a majority being present.

(8) In the discretion of the committee, witnesses may submit brief and pertinent sworn statements in writing for inclusion in the record. The committee is the sole judge of the pertinence of testimony and evidence adduced at its hearing.

(9) A witness may obtain a transcript copy of the testimony of such witness given at a public session or, if given at an executive session, when authorized by the committee.

Supplemental, minority, or additional views

(1) If at the time of approval of a measure or matter by a committee (other than the Committee on Rules) a member of the committee gives notice of intention to file supplemental, minority, or additional views for inclusion in the report to the House thereon, all members shall be entitled to not less than two additional calendar days after the day of such notice (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays except when the House is in session on such a day) to file such written and signed views with the clerk of the committee.

Power to sit and act; subpoena power

(m)(1) For the purpose of carrying out any of its functions and duties under this rule and rule X (including any matters referred to it under clause 2 of rule XII), a committee or subcommittee is authorized (subject to subparagraph (3)(A))—

(A) to sit and act at such times and places within the United States, whether the House is in session, has recessed, or has adjourned, and to hold such hearings as it considers necessary; and

(B) to require, by subpoena or otherwise, the attendance and testimony of such witnesses and the production of such books, records, correspondence, memoranda, papers, and documents as it considers necessary.

(2) The chair of the committee, or a member designated by the chair, may administer oaths to witnesses.

(3)(A)(i) Except as provided in subdivision (A)(ii), a subpoena may be authorized and issued by a committee or subcommittee under subparagraph (1)(B) in the conduct of an investigation or series of investigations or activities only when authorized by the committee or subcommittee, a majority being present. The power to authorize and issue subpoenas under subparagraph (1)(B) may be delegated to the chair of the committee under such rules and under such limitations as the committee may prescribe. Authorized subpoenas shall be signed by the chair of the committee or by a member designated by the committee.

(ii) In the case of a subcommittee of the Committee on Ethics, a subpoena may be authorized and issued only by an affirmative vote of a majority of its members.

(B) A subpoena duces tecum may specify terms of return other than at a meeting or hearing of the committee or subcommittee authorizing the subpoena.

(C) Compliance with a subpoena issued by a committee or subcommittee under subparagraph (1)(B) may be enforced only as authorized or directed by the House.

(n)(1) Each standing committee, or a subcommittee thereof, shall hold at least one hearing during each 120-day period following the establishment of the committee on the topic of waste, fraud, abuse, or mismanagement in Government programs which that committee may authorize.

(2) A hearing described in subparagraph (1) shall include a focus on the most egregious instances of waste, fraud, abuse, or mismanagement as documented by any report the committee has received from a Federal Office of the Inspector General or the Comptroller General of the United States.

(o) Each committee, or a subcommittee thereof, shall hold at least one hearing in any session in which the committee has received disclaimers of agency financial statements from auditors of any Federal agency that the committee may authorize to hear testimony on such disclaimers from representatives of any such agency.

(p) Each standing committee, or a subcommittee thereof, shall hold at least one hearing on issues raised by reports issued by the Comptroller General of the United States indicating that Federal programs or operations that the committee may authorize are at high risk for waste, fraud, and mismanagement, known as the high-risk list'' or the high-risk series.''

CLAUSE 4: AUDIO AND VISUAL COVERAGE OF COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS

4. (a) The purpose of this clause is to provide a means, in conformity with acceptable standards of dignity, propriety, and decorum, by which committee hearings or committee meetings that are open to the public may be covered by audio and visual means—

(1) for the education, enlightenment, and information of the general public, on the basis of accurate and impartial news coverage, regarding the operations, procedures, and practices of the House as a legislative and representative body, and regarding the measures, public issues, and other matters before the House and its committees, the consideration thereof, and the action taken thereon; and

(2) for the development of the perspective and understanding of the general public with respect to the role and function of the House under the Constitution as an institution of the Federal Government.

(b) In addition, it is the intent of this clause that radio and television tapes and television film of any coverage under this

clause may not be used, or made available for use, as partisan political campaign material to promote or oppose the candidacy of any person for elective public office.

(c) It is, further, the intent of this clause that the general conduct of each meeting (whether of a hearing or otherwise) covered under authority of this clause by audio or visual means, and the personal behavior of the committee members and staff, other Government officials and personnel, witnesses, television, radio, and press media personnel, and the general public at the hearing or other meeting, shall be in strict conformity with and observance of the acceptable standards of dignity, propriety, courtesy, and decorum traditionally observed by the House in its operations, and may not be such as to—

(1) distort the objects and purposes of the hearing or other meeting or the activities of committee members in connection with that hearing or meeting or in connection with the general work of the committee or of the House; Or

(2) cast discredit or dishonor on the House, the committee, or a Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner or bring the House, the committee, or a Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner into disrepute.

(d) The coverage of committee hearings and meetings by audio and visual means shall be permitted and conducted only in strict conformity with the purposes, provisions, and requirements of this clause.

(e) Whenever a hearing or meeting conducted by a committee or subcommittee is open to the public, those proceedings shall be open to coverage by audio and visual means. A committee or subcommittee chair may not limit the number of television or still cameras to fewer than two representatives from each medium (except for legitimate space or safety considerations, in which case pool coverage shall be authorized).

(f) Each committee shall adopt written rules to govern its implementation of this clause. Such rules shall contain provisions to the following effect:

(1) If audio or visual coverage of the hearing or meeting is to be presented to the public as live coverage, that coverage shall be conducted and presented without commercial sponsorship.

(2) The allocation among the television media of the positions or the number of television cameras permitted by a committee or subcommittee chair in a hearing or meeting room shall be in accordance with fair and equitable procedures devised by the Executive Committee of the Radio and Television Correspondents' Galleries.

(3) Television cameras shall be placed so as not to obstruct in any way the space between a witness giving evidence or testimony and any member of the committee or the visibility of that witness and that member to each other.

(4) Television cameras shall operate from fixed positions but may not be placed in positions that obstruct unnecessarily the coverage of the hearing or meeting by the other media.

(5) Equipment necessary for coverage by the television and radio media may not be installed in, or removed from, the hearing or meeting room while the committee is in session.

(6)(A) Except as provided in subdivision (B), floodlights, spotlights, strobelights, and flashguns may not be used in providing any method of coverage of the hearing or meeting.

(B) The television media may install additional lighting in a hearing or meeting room, without cost to the Government, in order to raise the ambient lighting level in a hearing or meeting room to the lowest level necessary to provide adequate television coverage of a hearing or meeting at the current state of the art of television coverage.

(7) If requests are made by more of the media than will be permitted by a committee or subcommittee chair for coverage of a hearing or meeting by still photography, that coverage shall be permitted on the basis of a fair and equitable pool arrangement devised by the Standing Committee of Press Photographers.

(8) Photographers may not position themselves between the witness table and the members of the committee at any time during the course of a hearing or meeting.

(9) Photographers may not place themselves in positions that obstruct unnecessarily the coverage of the hearing by the other media.

(10) Personnel providing coverage by the television and radio media shall be currently accredited to the Radio and Television Correspondents' Galleries.

(11) Personnel providing coverage by still photography shall be currently accredited to the Press Photographers' Gallery.

(12) Personnel providing coverage by the television and radio media and by still photography shall conduct themselves and their coverage activities in an orderly and unobtrusive manner.

RULE XIII: CALENDARS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

CLAUSE 2: FILING AND PRINTING OF REPORTS

Filing and printing of reports

2. (a)(1) Except as provided in subparagraph (2), all reports of committees (other than those filed from the floor) shall be delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar under the direction of the Speaker in accordance with clause 1. The title or subject of each report shall be entered on the Journal and printed in the Congressional Record.

(2) A bill or resolution reported adversely (other than those filed as privileged) shall be laid on the table unless a committee to which the bill or resolution was referred requests at the time of the report its referral to an appropriate calendar under clause 1 or unless, within three days thereafter, a Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner makes such a request.

(b)(1) It shall be the duty of the chair of each committee to report or cause to be reported promptly to the House a measure or matter approved by the committee and to take or cause to be taken steps necessary to bring the measure or matter to a vote.

(2) In any event, the report of a committee on a measure that has been approved by the committee shall be filed within seven calendar days (exclusive of days on which the House is not in session) after the day on which a written request for the filing of the report, signed by a majority of the members of the committee, has been filed with the clerk of the committee. The clerk of the committee shall immediately notify the chair of the filing of such a request. This subparagraph does not apply to a report of the Committee on Rules with respect to a rule, joint rule, or order of business of the House, or to the reporting of a resolution of inquiry addressed to the head of an executive department.

(c) All supplemental, minority, or additional views filed under clause 2(1) of rule XI by one or more members of a committee shall be included in, and shall be a part of, the report filed by the committee with respect to a measure or matter. When time guaranteed by clause 2(1) of rule XI has expired (or, if sooner, when all separate views have been received), the committee may arrange to file its report with the Clerk not later than one hour after the expiration of such time. This clause and provisions of clause 2(1) of rule XI do not preclude the immediate filing or printing of a committee report in the absence of a timely request for the opportunity to file supplemental, minority, or additional views as provided in clause 2(1) of rule XI.

CLAUSE 3: CONTENT OF REPORTS

3. (a)(1) Except as provided in subparagraph (2), the report of a committee on a measure or matter shall be printed in a single volume that—

(A) shall include all supplemental, minority, or additional views that have been submitted by the time of the filing of the report; and

(B) shall bear on its cover a recital that any such supplemental, minority, or additional views (and any material submitted under paragraph (c)(3)) are included as part of the report.

(2) A committee may file a supplemental report for the correction of a technical error in its previous report on a measure or matter. A supplemental report only correcting errors in the depiction of record votes under paragraph (b) may be filed under this subparagraph and shall not be subject to the requirement in clause 4 or clause 6 concerning the availability of reports.

(b) With respect to each record vote on a motion to report a measure or matter of a public nature, and on any amendment offered to the measure or matter, the total number of votes cast for and against, and the names of members voting for and against, shall be included in the committee report. The preceding sentence does not apply to votes taken in executive session by the Committee on Ethics.

(c) The report of a committee on a measure that has been approved by the committee shall include, separately set out and clearly identified, the following:

(1) Oversight findings and recommendations under clause 2(b)(1) of rule X.

(2) The statement required by section 308(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, except that an estimate of new budget authority shall include, when practicable, a comparison of the total estimated funding level for the relevant programs to the appropriate levels under current law.

(3) An estimate and comparison prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office under section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 if timely submitted to the committee before the filing of the report.

(4) A statement of general performance goals and objectives, including outcome-related goals and objectives, for which the measure authorizes funding.

(d) Each report of a committee on a public bill or public joint resolution shall contain the following:

(1)(A) An estimate by the committee of the costs that would be incurred in carrying out the bill or joint resolution in the fiscal year in which it is reported and in each of the five fiscal years following that fiscal year (or for the authorized duration of any program authorized by the bill or joint resolution if less than five years);

(B) a comparison of the estimate of costs described in subdivision (A) made by the committee with any estimate of such costs made by a Government agency and submitted to such committee; and

(C) when practicable, a comparison of the total estimated funding level for the relevant programs with the appropriate levels under current law.

(2)(A) In subparagraph (1) the term ''Government agency'' includes any department, agency, establishment, wholly owned Government corporation, or instrumentality of the Federal Government or the government of the District of Columbia.

(B) Subparagraph (1) does not apply to the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on House Administration, the Committee on Rules, or the Committee on Ethics, and does not apply when a cost estimate and comparison prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office under section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 has been included in the report under paragraph (c)(3).

(e)(1) Whenever a committee reports a bill or joint resolution proposing to repeal or amend a statute or part thereof, it shall include in its report or in an accompanying document—

(A) the text of a statute or part thereof that is proposed to be repealed; and

(B) a comparative print of any part of the bill or joint resolution proposing to amend the statute and of the statute or part thereof proposed to be amended, showing by appropriate typographical devices the omissions and insertions proposed.

(2) If a committee reports a bill or joint resolution proposing to repeal or amend a statute or part thereof with a recommendation that the bill or joint resolution be amended, the comparative print required by subparagraph (1) shall reflect the changes in existing law proposed to be made by the bill or joint resolution as proposed to be amended.

(f)(1) A report of the Committee on Appropriations on a general appropriation bill shall include—

(A) a concise statement describing the effect of any provision of the accompanying bill that directly or indirectly changes the application of existing law; and

(B) a list of all appropriations contained in the bill for expenditures not currently authorized by law for the period concerned (excepting classified intelligence or national security programs, projects, or activities), along with a statement of the last year for which such expenditures were authorized, the level of expenditures authorized for that year, the actual level of expenditures for that year, and the level of appropriations in the bill for such expenditures.

(2) Whenever the Committee on Appropriations reports a bill or joint resolution including matter specified in clause 1(b)(2) or (3) of rule X, it shall include—

(A) in the bill or joint resolution, separate headings for ''Rescissions'' and ''Transfers of Unexpended Balances''; and

(B) in the report of the committee, a separate section listing such rescissions and transfers.

(g) Whenever the Committee on Rules reports a resolution proposing to repeal or amend a standing rule of the House, it shall include in its report or in an accompanying document—

(1) the text of any rule or part thereof that is proposed to be repealed; and

(2) a comparative print of any part of the resolution proposing to amend the rule and of the rule or part thereof proposed to be amended, showing by appropriate typographical devices the omissions and insertions proposed.

(h)(1) It shall not be in order to consider a bill or joint resolution reported by the Committee on Ways and Means that proposes to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 unless—

(A) the report includes a tax complexity analysis prepared by the Joint Committee on Internal Revenue Taxation in accordance with section 4022(b) of the Internal Revenue Service Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998; or

(B) the chair of the Committee on Ways and Means causes such a tax complexity analysis to be printed in the Congressional Record before consideration of the bill or joint resolution.

(2)(A) It shall not be in order to consider a bill or joint resolution reported by the Committee on Ways and Means that proposes to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 unless—

(i) the report includes a macroeconomic impact analysis;

(ii) the report includes a statement from the Joint Committee on Internal Revenue Taxation explaining why a macroeconomic impact analysis is not calculable; or

(iii) the chair of the Committee on Ways and Means causes a macroeconomic impact analysis to be printed in the Congressional Record before consideration of the bill or joint resolution.

(B) In subdivision (A), the term ''macroeconomic impact analysis'' means—

(i) an estimate prepared by the Joint Committee on Internal Revenue Taxation of the changes in economic output, employment, capital stock, and tax revenues expected to result from enactment of the proposal; and

(ii) a statement from the Joint Committee on Internal Revenue Taxation identifying the critical assumptions and the source of data underlying that estimate.

APPENDIX 2

CHAIR'S POLICY REGARDING POSTPONED VOTES

January 23, 2013

Rule 3(c)(5) of the Rules of the Committee on Financial Services for the 113th Congress (adopted pursuant to clause 2(h)(4) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives for the 113th Congress) authorizes the Chairman to postpone ordered record votes on the question of approving any measure or matter or adopting an amendment under certain circumstances. The Committee rule further provides that the Chairman may resume proceedings on a postponed vote at any time, but not later than the next meeting day.

The following policy was first announced by the Chair at the Committee's organizational meeting on February 5, 2003 and circulated to the Members of the Committee in a memorandum dated February 11, 2003. The policy has been continued since that time and is reprinted here for easy reference.

IN GENERAL

Members are advised that this policy applies equally to meetings of the full Committee and subcommittees, and will be printed in the Committee's rules pamphlet. The Chair has consulted with the ranking minority member in the formulation of this policy and will continue to consult with him regarding its application.

As announced at the Committee's organizational meeting, the purpose of this rule is to improve the efficiency of the Committee's meetings, and will not be used to advantage or disadvantage any member seeking to offer an amendment. In order to ensure that the Chair can effectively administer the rule and provide for orderly markups, it is essential that Members inform the Chair of their intention to offer a particular amendment as soon as possible. The Chair cannot protect Members if he does not know of their amendment. Members are further advised that the Chair intends for this rule to be used sparingly, in cases where the Committee faces a long markup on a series of bills or amendments. It does not substitute for the active attendance and participation of Members in Committee meetings.

IN PARTICULAR

1. In the application of the rule, the Chair will consult regularly with the ranking minority member regarding the postponement of votes, including the decision on whether to postpone a particular vote and on when proceedings will resume.

2. A record vote on an amendment will not be postponed if doing so would prejudice a member with regard to the offering of another amendment.

3. The Chair will make every reasonable effort to group the consideration of amendments and the resumption of proceedings on postponed votes so as to permit the offering of all known amendments.

4. No more than 6 record votes will be postponed before the resumption of proceedings on the series, except with the specific agreement of the ranking minority member.

5. When proceedings resume on postponed record votes, the first vote in any series (or in the case of a single postponed vote, that vote), will remain open for 15 minutes, or until all members of the Committee or subcommittee are recorded. Subsequent votes in a series will not be held open.

6. The Chair will make every reasonable effort to notify members regarding the resumption of proceedings on postponed record votes, both prior to and at the time that proceedings resume on any postponed record vote, which includes notification through electronic means.

7. Members are strongly encouraged to attend all committee meetings. However, if members cannot attend the Committee meeting, they are advised to monitor the proceedings through the Committee broadcasts on the House cable system or the Committee's webcast, and to have staff present at the meeting.

The Chair believes that this policy will result in the fair application of the rule, the protection of Members' rights to offer amendments, and an improvement in the efficiency of Committee meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 15, 113th Congress, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 1 p.m.), the House adjourned until Monday, February 25, 2013, at 2 p.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

301. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Importation of Fresh Bananas From the Philippines into the Continental United States [Docket No.: APHIS-2011-0028] (RIN: 0579-AD61) received February 7, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

302. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Texas (Splenetic) Fever in Cattle [Docket No.: APHIS-2012-0069] received February 7, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture.

303. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Importation of Horses From Contagious Equine Metritis-Affected Countries [Docket No.: APHIS-2008-0112] (RIN: 0579-AD31) received February 12, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

304. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Soybean Promotion and Research: Amend the Order To

Adjust Representation on the United Soybean Board [Doc. No.: AMS-LS-12-0022] received February 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

305. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Irish Potatoes Grown in Colorado; Modification of the Handling Regulation for Area No. 2 [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-12-0043; FV12-948-1 IR] received February 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

306. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Pears Grown in Oregon and Washington; Assessment Rate Decrease for Processed Pears [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-12-0031; FV12-927-2 IR] received February 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

307. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Apricots Grown in Designated Counties in Washington; Decreased Assessment Rate [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-12-0027; FV12-922-1 IR] received February 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

308. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Grapes Grown in Designated Area of Southeastern California; Increased Assessment Rate [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-11-0090; FV 12-925-1 FR] received February 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

309. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Avocados Grown in South Florida; Decreased Assessment Rate [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-11-0094; FV12-915-1 FIR] received February 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

310. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Sweet Cherries Grown in Designated Countries in Washington; Decreased Assessment Rate [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-12-0026; FV12-923-1 IR] received February 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

311. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Marketing Order Regulating the Handling of Spearmint Oil Produced in the Far West; Revision of the Salable Quantity and Allotment Percentage for Class 1 (Scotch) and Class 3 (Native) Spearmint Oil for the 2012-2013 Marketing Year [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-11-0088; FV12-985-1A IR] received February 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

312. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — National Organic Program; Periodic Residue Testing [Document Number: AMS-NOP-10-0102; NOP-10-10FR] (RIN: 0581-AD10) received February 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

313. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Domestic Dates Produced or Packed in Riverside County, CA; Decreased Assessment Rate [Docket No.: AMS-FV-12-0035; FV12-987-1 IR] received February 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

314. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Apricots Grown in Designated Counties in Washington; Temporary Suspension of Handling Regulations [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-12-0028; FV12-922-2 IR] received February 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

315. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Rural Broadband Access Loans and Loan Guarantees (RIN: 0572-AC06) received February 12, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

316. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Glycine max Herbicide-resistant Acetolactate Synthase; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2012-0795; FRL-9376-4] received February 5, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

317. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Hexythiazox; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2010-0916; FRL-9376-9] received February 5, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

318. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Thiacloprid; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2010-0311; FRL-9374-9] received February 5, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

319. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Protections for Subjects in Human Research Involving Pesticides [EPA-HQ-OPP-2010-0785; FRL-9353-4] (RIN: 2070-AJ76) received February 12, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

320. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — 3-decen-2-one; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2010-0065; FRL-9378-1] received February 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

321. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's report on assistance provided for sporting events during calendar year 2012; to the Committee on Armed Services.

322. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting report on proposed obligations for the Cooperative Threat Reduction; to the Committee on Armed Services.

323. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter regarding the eliminated 1994 Direct Ground Combat Definition and Assignment Rule; to the Committee on Armed Services.

324. A letter from the Vice Chairman and the Under Secretary of Defense Intelligence, Department of Defense, transmitting certification that the EP-3E Airborne Reconnaissance Integrated Electronic System II and the Special Projects Aircraft platforms meet all current requirements; to the Committee on Armed Services.

325. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Micheal D. Barbero, United States Army, and his advancement on the retired list in the grade of lieutenant general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

326. A letter from the Assistant to the Board, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting the Board's final rule — Appraisals for Higher-Priced Mortgage Loans [Docket No.: R-1443] (RIN: 7100-AD90) received February 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

327. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Suspension of Community Eligibility (Putnam County, NY, et al) [Docket ID: FEMA-2012-0003] [Internal Agency Docket No.: FEMA-8269] received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

328. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Suspension of Community Eligibility (Coos County, NH, et al) Eligibility [Docket ID: FEMA-2012-0003] [Internal Agency Docket No.: FEMA-8267] received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

329. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Final Flood Elevation Determinations (Cascade County, MT, et al) [Docket ID: FEMA-2013-0002] received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

330. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Final Flood Elevation Determinations (Monroe County, PA, et al) [Docket ID: FEMA-2013-0002] received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

331. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Final Flood Elevation Determinations (Allen County, OH, et al) [Docket ID: FEMA-2013-0003] received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

332. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to El Al Israel Airlines Ltd. of Tel Aviv, Israel pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

333. A letter from the General Counsel, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Prompt Corrective Action, Requirements for Insurance, and Promulgation of NCUA Rules and Regulations (RIN: 3133-AE07) received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

334. A letter from the Deputy Director for Management, Executive Office of the President, transmitting Congressional Budget Office and Office of Management and Budget estimates under the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985; to the Committee on the Budget.

335. A letter from the Director, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's final rule — Pattern of Violations (RIN: 1219-AB73) received February 4, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

336. A letter from the Deputy Director, OLMS, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's final rule — Reorganization and Delegation of Authority; Technical Amendments received February 12, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

337. A letter from the Executive Secretary, Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation, transmitting the Foundation's annual report

for 2012, pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 2012(b); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

338. A letter from the Deputy Director for Policy, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule — Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Paying Benefits received February 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

339. A letter from the Chair of the Board and the Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's annual report as required by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

340. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting written notification of the determination that a public health emergency exists and has existed in the State of New York since October 27, 2012, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 247d(a) Public Law 107-188, section 144(a); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

341. A letter from the Program Manager, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Foreign Quarantine; Import Regulations for Infectious Biological Agents, Infectious Substances, and Vectors (RIN: 0920-AA37) received February 4, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

342. A letter from the Program Manager, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of User Fees for Filovirus Testing of Nonhuman Primate Liver Samples [Docket No.: CDC-2012-0002] (RIN: 0920-AA47) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

343. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Criteria Used to Order Administrative Detention of Food for Human or Animal Consumption [Docket No.: FDA-2011-N-0197] (RIN: 0910-AG67) received February 21, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

344. A letter from the Program Manager, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Control of Communicable Disease; Foreign — Requirements for Importers of Nonhuman Primates (NHP) [Docket No.: HHS/CDC-2011-0001] (RIN: 0920-AA23) received February 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

345. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Consumer Information Regulations; Fees for Use of Traction Skid Pads [Docket No.: NHTSA 2011-0005] (RIN: 2127-AK06) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

346. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Event Data Records [Docket No.: NHTSA-2012-0099] (RIN: 2127-AL14) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

347. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Make Inoperative Exemptions; Retrofit On-Off Switches for Air Bags [Docket No.: NHTSA-2012-0078] (RIN: 2127-AL19) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

348. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Standard; Final Listing of 2013 Light Duty Truck Lines Subject to the Requirements of This Standard and Exempted Vehicle Lines for Model Year 2013 [Docket No.: NHTSA-2012-0032] (RIN: 2127-AL21) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

349. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards; Lamps, Reflective Devices, and Associated Equipment [Docket No.: NHTSA-2012-0171] (RIN: 2127-AK99) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

350. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Final Rule [Docket No.: NHTSA-2012-0093 Notice 2] (RIN: 2127-AL18) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

351. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards; New Pneumatic and Certain Specialty Tires [Docket No.: NHTSA-2013-0003] (RIN: 2127-AK42) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

352. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — List of Nonconforming Vehicles Decided To Be Eligible for Importation [Docket No.: NHTSA-2011-0127] received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

353. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards; Motorcycle Brake Systems [Docket No.: NHTSA-2012-0123] (RIN: 2127-AK16) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

354. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Schedule of Fees Authorized [Docket No.: NHTSA-2012-0080; Notice 2] (RIN: 2127-AL09) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

355. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards; Matters Incorporated by Reference [Docket No.: NHTSA-2011-0185] (RIN: 2127-AK89) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

356. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Tire Fuel Efficiency Consumer Information program [Docket No.: NHTSA-2011-0177] (RIN: 2127-AK83) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

357. 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; Amendments to Maryland's Ambient Air Quality Standards [EPA-R03-OAR-2012-0982; FRL-9777-2] received February 5, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

358. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; New Jersey and New York Ozone Attainment Demonstrations [EPA-R02-OAR-2012-0840; FRL-9778-5] received February 5, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

359. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Quality: Revision to Definition of Volatile Organic Compounds — Exclusion of a Group of Four Hydrofluoropolyethers (HFPEs) [EPA-HQ-OAR-2007-0089; FRL-9779-3] (RIN: 2060-AO17) received February 12, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

360. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Quality: Revision to Definition of Volatile Organic Compounds — Exclusion of trans 1-chloro-3,3,3-trifluoroprop-1-ene [SolsticeTM 1233zd(E)] [EPA-HQ-OAR-2012-0393; FRL-9779-5] (RIN: 2060-AQ38) received February 12, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

361. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Alaska; Regional Haze State Implementation Plan [EPA-R10-OAR-2011-0367; FRL-9756-8] received February 12, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

362. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans Tennessee: Revisons to Volatile Organic Compound Definition [EPA-R04-OAR-2012-0888; FRL-9780-8] received February 12, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

363. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Interim Final Determination to Stay and Defer Sanctions, Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District [EPA-R09-OAR-2013-0064; FRL-9777-8] received February 12, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

364. 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; Ohio; PBR and PTIO [EPA-R05-OAR-2007-1102; EPA-R05-OAR-2008-0782; FRL-9771-8] received February 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

365. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Hawaii; Update to Materials Incorporated by Reference [HI 126-NBK; FRL-9712-2] received February 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

366. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Kansas; Idle Reduction of Heavy-Duty Diesel Vehicles and Reduction of Nitrogen Oxides (NOx) Emissions for the Kansas City Ozone Maintenance Area [EPA-R07-OAR-2012-0293; FRL-9781-5] received February 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

367. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Tennessee: Knox County Supplement Motor Vehicle Emissions Budget Update [EPA-R04-OAR-2012-0762; FRL-9782-1] received February 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

368. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Missouri; Restriction of Emission of Particulate Matter from Industrial Processes [EPA-R07-OAR-2012-0758; FRL-9781-7] received February 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

369. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Greenhouse Gas Reporting Rule: Revision to Best Available Monitoring Method Request Submission Deadline for Petroleum and Natural Gas Systems Source Category [EPA-HQ-OAR-2011-0417; FRL-9780-3] (RIN: 2060-AR74) received February 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

370. A letter from the Deputy Division Chief, Policy Division, International Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Revisions to Parts 2 and 25 of the Commission's Rules to Govern the Use of Earth Stations Aboard Aircraft Communicating With Fixed-Satellite Service Geostationary-Orbit space Stations Operating in the 10.95-11.2 GHz, 11.45-11.7 GHz, 11.7-12.2GHz and 14.0-14.5 GHz Frequency Bands; Service Rules and Procedures to Govern the Use of Aeronautical Mobile Satellite Service Earth Stations in Frequency Bands Allocated to the Fixed Satellite Service [IB Docket No.: 12-376] [IB Docket No.: 05-20] (proceeding terminated) received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

371. A letter from the Chief, Policy Division, International Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — International Settlements Policy Reform; Joint Petition for Rulemaking of AT&T Inc., Sprint Nextel Corporation and Verizon; Modifying the Commission's Process to Avert Harm to U.S. Competition and U.S. Customers Caused by Anticompetitive Conduct; Petition of AT&T for Settlements Stop Payment Order on the U.S.-Tonga Route [IB Docket No.: 11-80] [RM-11322] [IB Docket No.: 05-254] [IB Docket No.: 09-10] received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

372. A letter from the Deputy Chief, CGB, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Misuse of Internet Protocol (IP) Captioned Telephone Service; Telecommunications Relay Services and Speech-to-Speech Services for Individuals with Hearing and Speech Disabilities [CG Docket No.: 13-24] [CG Docket No.: 03-123] received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

373. A letter from the Deputy Division Chief, Pricing Policy Division, International Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Parts 2 and 25 of the Commission's Rules to Allocate Spectrum and Adopt Service Rules and Procedures to Govern the Use of Vehicle-Mounted Earth Stations in Certain Frequency Bands Allocated to the Fixed-Satellite Service [IB Docket No.: 07-101] received February 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

374. A letter from the Executive Director, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Annual Update of Filing Fees [Docket No.: RM13-4-000] received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

375. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Annual Charges for Use of Government Lands [Docket No.: RM11-6-000; Order No. 774] received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

376. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's report on the status of all extensions granted by Congress regarding the requirements of section 13 of the Federal Power Act; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

377. A letter from the Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Children's Online Privacy Protection Rule (RIN: 3084-AB20) received February 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

378. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — NRC Enforcement Policy [NRC-2013-0014] received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

379. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting the Annual Report of Military Assistance and Military Exports; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

380. A letter from the Director, International Cooperation, Department of Defense, transmitting Pursuant to Section 27(f) of the Arms Export Control Act and Section 1(f) of Executive Order 11958, Transmittal No. 03-13 informing of an intent to sign the Memorandum of Understanding with the Federal Republic of Germany; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

381. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Pursuant to Section 652 and 506(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, notification of the President's intent to drawdown funds in defense services of the Department of Defense; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

382. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting report prepared by the Department of State concerning international agreements other than treaties entered into by the United States to be transmitted to the Congress within the sixty-day period specified in the Case-Zablocki Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

383. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting notification of an unauthorized transfer of U.S.-origin defense articles pursuant to Section 3 of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

384. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report including matters relating to the interdiction of aircraft engaged in illicit drug trafficking; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

385. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting pursuant to section 102(g) of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act for FY 1994 and 1995 (Pub. L. 103-236 as amended by 103-415), certification for FY 2013 that no United Nations affiliated agency grants any official status, accreditation, or recognition to any organization which promotes and condones or seeks the legalization of pedophilia; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

386. A letter from the Acting Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting as required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the persons undermining democratic processes or institutions in Zimbabwe that was declared in Executive Order 13288 of March 6, 2003; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

387. A letter from the Acting Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting as required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Lebanon that was declared in Executive Order 13441 of August 1, 2007; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

388. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting the Annual Report to Congress on the Operations of the Export-Import Bank for fiscal year 2012; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

389. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

390. A letter from the Chairman, Merit Systems Protection Board, transmitting a report entitled, ''Management Public Employees in the Public Interest: Employee Perspectives on Merit Principles in Federal Workplaces''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

391. A letter from the Auditor, District of Columbia, transmitting a report entitled ''Certified Business Enterprise Expenditures of Public-Private Development Construction Projects for Fiscal Year 2012''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

392. A letter from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Tennessee Abandoned Mine Land Program [SATS NO.: TN-001-FOR; OSM 2011-0010] received February 7, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

393. A letter from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Montana Regulatory Program [SATS No.: MT-032-FOR; Docket ID No.: OSM-2011-0011] received February 7, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

394. A letter from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Utah Regulatory Program [SATS No.: UT-047-FOR; Docket ID No. OSM-2010-0012] received February 7, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

395. A letter from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Wyoming Regulatory Program [SATS No.: WY-040-FOR: Docket ID: OSM-2011-0004] received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

396. A letter from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule —

Texas Regulatory Program [SATS No.: TX-065-FOR; Docket ID: OSM-2012-0019] received February 12, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

397. A letter from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Alabama Regulatory Program [SATS No.: AL-077-FOR; Docket No.: OSM-2012-0016] received February 12, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

398. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Species; Threatened Status for the Beringia and Okhotsk Distinct Population Segments of the Erignathus barbatus nauticus Subspecies of the Bearded Seal [Docket No.: 101126591-2477-03] (RIN: 0648-XZ58) received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

399. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule — Inflation Adjustment of Civil Money Penalty Amounts [Docket No.: FR-5662-F-01] (RIN: 2501-AD59) received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

400. A letter from the Assistant Director, Criminal Justice Information Services Division, Department of Justice, transmitting the CJIS Annual Report for 2012; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

401. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Civil Penalties [Docket No.: NHTSA-2012-0131; Notice 2] (RIN: 2127-AL-16) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

402. A letter from the Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Revised Jurisdictional Thresholds of the Clayton Act received January 29, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

403. A letter from the President and Chief Executive Officer, Little League International, transmitting the Annual Report of Little League Baseball, Incorporated for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

404. A letter from the Director, National Legislative Commission, American Legion, transmitting the financial statement and independent audit of The American Legion, proceedings of the 94th Annual National Convention of the American Legion, held in Indianapolis, Indiana from August 24 — August 30, 2012, and a report on the Organization's activities for the year preceding the Convention, pursuant to 36 U.S.C. 49; (H. Doc. No. 113—10); to the Committee on the Judiciary and ordered to be printed.

405. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zones; Grain-shipment Assistance Vessels; Columbia and Willamette Rivers [Docket Number: USCG-2012-1029] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

406. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Sacramento River, CA [Docket Number: USCG-2011-1138] (RIN: 1625-AA09) received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

407. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone for Recovery Operations for East Jefferson Street Train Derailment, Mantua Creek; Paulsboro, NJ [Docket Number: USCG-2012-1060] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

408. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Regulated Navigation Area; Upper Mississippi River MM 0.0 to MM 185.0; Cairo, IL to St. Louis, MO [Docket Number: USCG-2012-1044] (RIN: 1625-AA11) received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

409. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Regulated Navigation Area; Reporting Requirements for Barges Loaded With Certain Dangerous Cargoes, Inland Rivers, Eighth Coast Guard District; Extension of Stay (Suspension) [Docket Number: USCG-2012-1074] (RIN: 1625-AA11) received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

410. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zones; TEMCO Grain Facilities; Columbia and Willamette Rivers [Docket Number: USCG-2012-1068] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

411. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Hampton Harbor Channel Obstruction, Hampton Harbor; Hampton, NH [Docket Number: USCG-2012-1055] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

412. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone, Upper Mississippi River MM 35.0 to MM 55.0; Thebes, IL and Cape Girardeau, MO, and MM 75.0 to MM 85.0; Grand Tower, IL [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0998] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

413. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Security Zone; 25th Annual North American International Auto show, Detroit River, Detroit, MI [Docket No.: USCG-2012-1077] (RIN: 1625-AA87) received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

414. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Special Local Regulation; Kelley's Island Swim, Lake Erie; Kelley's Island, Lakeside, OH [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0386] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

415. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Overhead Cable Replacement, Maumee River, Toledo, OH [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0971] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

416. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Bridge Demolition Project; Indiana Harbor Canal, East Chicago, Indiana [Docket No.: USCG-2012-1053] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

417. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Gilmerton Bridge Center Span Floatin, Elizabeth River; Norfolk, Portsmouth, and Chesapeake, Virginia [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0642] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

418. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Reconsideration of Letters of Recommendation for Waterfront Facilities Handling LNG and LHG [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0227] (RIN: 1625-AB67) received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

419. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Bay Bridge Construction, San Francisco Bay, San Francisco, CA [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0945] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

420. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Special Local Regulations; 2012 Holiday Boat Parades, Captain of the Port Miami Zone; FL [Docket Number: USCG-2012-0898] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

421. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Grain-Shipment Vessels, Columbia and Willamette Rivers [Docket Number: USCG-2012-1028] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

422. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Columbia Grain and United Grain Corporation Facilities; Columbia and Willamette Rivers [Docket Number: USCG-2012-1027] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

423. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Regulated Navigation Area; S99 Alford Street Bridge Rehabilitation Project, Mystic River, MA [Docket No.: USCG-2011-1125] (RIN: 1625-AA11) received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

424. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Adding International Energy Efficiency (IEE) Certificate to List of Certificates a Recognized Classification Society May Issue [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0861] (RIN: 1625-AB90) received February 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

425. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0428; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-078-AD; Amendment 39-17248; AD 2012-22-

12] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

426. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2011-0518; Directorate Identifier 2010-NM-150-AD; Amendment 39-17231; AD 2012-21-15] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

427. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0498; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-212-AD; Amendment 39-17238; AD 2012-22-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

428. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2011-1168; Directorate Identifier 2010-NM-329-AD; Amendment 39-17255; AD 2012-22-17] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

429. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter Deutschland Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0528; Directorate Identifier 2011-SW-068-AD; Amendment 39-17261; AD 2012-23-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

430. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2011-0652; Directorate Identifier 2010-NM-045-AD; Amendment 39-17240; AD 2012-22-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

431. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter Deutschland GmbH Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2012-1188; Directorate Identifier 2012-SW-049-AD; Amendment 39-17254; AD 2012-10-53] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

432. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0728; Directorate Identifier 2012-NM-050-AD; Amendment 39-17234; AD 2012-21-18] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

433. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0427; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-202-AD; Amendment 39-17233; AD 2012-21-17] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

434. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; BAE SYSTEMS (Operations) Limited Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0642; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-262-AD; Amendment 39-17232; AD 2012-21-16] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

435. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0592; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-253-AD; Amendment 39-17230; AD 2012-21-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

436. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0719; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-240-AD; Amendment 39-17235; AD 2012-21-19] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

437. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0146; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-115-AD; Amendment 39-17227; AD 2012-21-11] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

438. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0726; Directorate Identifier 2012-NM-023-AD; Amendment 39-17228; AD 2012-21-12] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

439. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney Division Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0546; Directorate Identifier 2012-NE-15-AD; Amendment 39-17253; AD 2012-22-16] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

440. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0640; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-203-AD; Amendment 39-17256; AD 2012-22-18] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

441. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Alpha Aviation Concept Limited Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0798; Directorate Identifier 2012-CE-023-AD; Amendment 39-17208; AD 2012-20-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

442. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0596; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-245-AD; Amendment 39-17236; AD 2012-21-20] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

443. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2010-0856; Directorate Identifier 2010-NM-117-AD; Amendment 39-17224; AD 2012-21-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

444. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2008-0619; Directorate Identifier 2007-NM-356-AD; Amendment 39-17219; AD 2012-21-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

445. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0144; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-152-AD; Amendment 39-17220; AD 2012-21-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

446. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Hawker Beechcraft Corporation Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0829; Directorate Identifier 2012-CE-024-AD; Amendment 39-17221; AD 2012-21-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

447. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Cessna Aircraft Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0846; Directorate Identifier 2012-CE-021-AD; Amendment 39-17237; AD 2012-22-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

448. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Hawker Beechcraft Corporation Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0830; Directorate Identifier 2012-CE-026-AD; Amendment 39-17222; AD 2012-21-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

449. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0493; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-180-AD; Amendment 39-17213; AD 2012-20-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

450. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-1104; Directorate Identifier 2012-NM-073-AD; Amendment 39-17226; AD 2012-21-10] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

451. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter France Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2012-1128; Directorate Identifier 2012-SW-064-AD; Amendment 39-17225; AD 2012-21-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

452. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2009-0794; Directorate Identifier 2009-NM-035-AD; Amendment 39-17239; AD 2012-21-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

453. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0340; Directorate Identifier 2011-SW-073-AD; Amendment 39-17250; AD 2012-22-13] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

454. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0488; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-106-AD; Amendment 39-17244; AD 2012-22-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

455. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Fokker Services B.V. Model [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0643; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-190-AD; Amendment 39-17241; AD 2012-22-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

456. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bell Helicopter Textron Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0530; Directorate Identifier 2011-SW-075-AD; Amendment 39-17247; AD 2012-22-11] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

457. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Fokker Services B.V. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0143; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-077-AD; Amendment 39-17252; AD 2012-22-15] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

458. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0216; Directorate Identifier 2010-SW-025-AD; Amendment 39-17245; AD 2012-22-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

459. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0679; Directorate Identifier 2012-NM-063-AD; Amendment 39-17246; AD 2012-22-10] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

460. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0806; Directorate Identifier 2012-NM-022-AD; Amendment 39-17243; AD 2012-22-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

461. A letter from the Senior Attorney Advisor, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Agusta S.p.A. (Type Certificate currently held by AgustaWestland S.p.A.) (Agusta) Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2012-1135; Directorate Identifier 2012-SW-097-AD; Amendment 39-17281; AD 2012-21-52] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

462. A letter from the Senior Attorney Advisor, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-1228; Directorate Identifier 2012-NM-190-AD; Amendment 39-17292; AD 2012-25-11] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

463. A letter from the Senior Attorney Advisor, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; MD Helicopters, Inc., Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0746; Directorate Identifier 2008-SW-035-AD; Amendment 39-17337; AD 2013-03-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

464. A letter from the Senior Attorney Advisor, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-1225; Directorate Identifier 2012-NM-219-AD; Amendment 39-17288; AD 2012-25-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

465. A letter from the Senior Attorney Advisor, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter France Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0631; Directorate Identifier 2011-SW-021-AD; Amendment 39-17282; AD 2012-25-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

466. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's annual report on the administration of the Surface Transportation Project Delivery Pilot Program, pursuant to Public Law 109-59, section 6005(h); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

467. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's ''Major'' final rule — Uniform Procedures for State Highway Safety Grant Programs [Docket No.: NHTSA-2013-0001] (RIN: 2127-AL30; RIN: 2127-AL29) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

468. A letter from the Senior Attorney Advisor, OST, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Kasigluk, AK [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0952; Airspace Docket No. 12-AAL-6] received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

469. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, OST, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class D and E Airspace; Tri-Cities, TN: Revocation of Class E Airspace; Tri-City, TN [Docket No.: FAA-2011-0621; Airspace Docket No.: 11-ASO-28] received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

470. A letter from the Senior Attorney Advisor, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter France Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-213-0075; Directorate Identifier 2012--SW-104-AD; Amendment 39-17336; AD 2013-03-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

471. A letter from the Senior Attorney Advisor, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Schweizer Aircraft Corporation [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0602; Directorate Identifier 2009-SW-061-AD; Amendment 39-17338; AD 2013-03-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

472. A letter from the Paralegal, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Environmental Impact and Related Procedures [Docket No.: FTA-2011-0056] (RIN: 2132-AB03) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

473. A letter from the Acting Manager, Engine and Propeller Directorate Aircraft Certification Service, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Engine Alliance Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2012-1293; Directorate Identifier 2012-NE-45-AD; Amendment 39-17327; AD 2013-02-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

474. A letter from the Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pacific Aerospace Limited Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-1251; Directorate Identifier 2012-CE-044-AD; Amendment 39-17335; AD 2013-03-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

475. A letter from the Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce plc Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2012-1334; Directorate Identifier 2012-NE-49-AD; Amendment 39-17324; AD2013-02-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

476. A letter from the Director of Regulation Policy and Management, Office of the Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule — Disclosures to Participate in State Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (RIN: 2900-AO45) February 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

477. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Noncompensatory Partnership Options [TD 9612] (RIN: 1545-BA53) received February 7, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

478. 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 2013-6] received February 8, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

479. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Reconsideration of Tax-Exempt AFR [Notice

2013-4] received February 8, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

480. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Temporary Shelter for Individuals Displaced by Hurricane Sandy [Notice 2013-9] received February 8, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

481. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Request for Comments on Property Simultaneously Held for Sale or Lease (''Dual-Use Property'') [Notice 2013-13] received February 8, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

482. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Permitted disparity in employer-provided contributions or benefits (Rev. Rul. 2013-2) received February 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

483. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the System's final rule — 25-Year Average Segment Rates and Adjusted 24-Month Average Segment Rates Used for Pension Funding for Plan Years Beginning in 2013 [Notice 2013-11] received February 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

484. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — 2013 Calendar Year Resident Population Figures [Notice 2013-15] received February 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

485. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Correction to Revenue Procedure 2013-6 Employee Plans Determination Letters [Announcement 2013-13] received February 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

486. A letter from the Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for WTO and Multilateral Affairs, Office of the United States Trade Representative, transmitting the Administration's Annual Report on Subsidies Enforcement, pursuant to the Statement of Administrative Action of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

487. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulations, Social Security Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Revised Medical Criteria for Evaluating Congenital Disorders That Affect Multiple Body Systems [Docket No.: SSA-2009-0039] (RIN: 0960-AH04) received February 1, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

488. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report on one Agency's Drug-Free Workplace Plan, pursuant to Public Law 100-71, section 503(a)(1)(A) (101 Stat. 468); jointly to the Committees on Appropriations and Oversight and Government Reform.

489. A letter from the Secretary of the Army, Department of Defense, transmitting a report on reservations made for interment at Arlington National Cemetery, as requied by Section 602 of Public Law 112-154; jointly to the Committees on Armed Services and Veterans' Affairs.

490. A letter from the Secretary, Deparment of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report entitled: ''Recovery Auditing in the Medicare and Medicaid Program''; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

491. A letter from the Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Annual Report on the evaluation results of the information security of Medicare administrative contractors, fiscal intermediaries, and carriers; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

492. A letter from the Secretary, Attorney General, Department of Heath and Human Services Department of Justice, transmitting the Annual Report on the Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control (HCFAC) Program for Fiscal Year 2012; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

493. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards; Side Impact Protection [Docket No.: NHTSA-2010-0032] (RIN: 2127-AK82) received February 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Transportation and Infrastructure.

494. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Memorandum of justification for the President's waiver of the restrictions on the provision of funds to the Palestinian Authority; jointly to the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Appropriations.

495. A letter from the Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere, Department of Commerce, transmitting a letter regarding the establishment of a Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Science, Observation, Monitoring, and Technology Program; jointly to the Committees on Natural Resources and Science, Space, and Technology.

496. A letter from the Director, Office of Insular Affairs, Department of the Interior, transmitting the report ''First Five-Year Review of the Compact of Free Association, As Amended, Between the Governments of the United States and the Federated States of Micronesia''; jointly to the Committees on Natural Resources and Foreign Affairs.

497. A letter from the Director, Office of Insular Affairs, Department of the Interior, transmitting the report ''First Five-Year Review of the Compact of Free Association, As Amemded, Between the Governments of the United States and the Republic of the Marshall Islands''; jointly to the Committees on Natural Resources and Foreign Affairs.

498. A letter from the Program Manager, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's ''Major'' final rule — Medicare, Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Programs; Transparency Reports and Reporting of Physician Ownership or Investment Interests [CMS-5060-F] (RIN: 0938-AR33) received February 5, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce.

499. A letter from the Director, Division of Regulations, Legislation, and Interpretation, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's final rule — The Family Medical Leave Act (RIN: 1215-AB76) (RIN: 1235-AA03) received February 7, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, House Administration, and Oversight and Government Reform.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. ROGERS of Alabama (for himself and Mr. LOEBSACK):

H.R. 741. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to develop and implement a plan to provide chiropractic health care services and benefits for certain new beneficiaries as part of the TRICARE program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. CRAWFORD (for himself, Ms. MOORE, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, and Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan):

H.R. 742. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Commodity Exchange Act to repeal the indemnification requirements for regulatory authorities to obtain access to swap data required to be provided by swaps entities under such Acts; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Financial 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.

By Mr. DEFAZIO (for himself and Ms. SLAUGHTER):

H.R. 743. A bill to restore the application of the Federal antitrust laws to the business of health insurance to protect competition and consumers; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ (for herself and Mr. SMITH of Texas):

H.R. 744. A bill to provide effective criminal prosecutions for certain identity thefts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. NAPOLITANO (for herself, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Ms. CHU, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. HONDA, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD, Mr. PETERS of California, Mr. PIERLUISI, Mr. RUSH, Mr. SABLAN, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. HINOJOSA, Ms. HANABUSA, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. PASTOR of Arizona, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. RUIZ, and Mr. TAKANO):

H.R. 745. A bill to reauthorize the Water Desalination Act of 1996; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, 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. BENTIVOLIO (for himself, Mr. HALL, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. BENISHEK, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. BROUN of Georgia, Mr. HULTGREN, and Mr. PITTENGER):

H.R. 746. A bill to provide small businesses with a grace period for a regulatory violation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RANGEL (for himself and Mr. MORAN):

H.R. 747. A bill to amend the Military Selective Service Act to require the registration of women with the Selective Service System in light of the Department of Defense elimination of the rule excluding women from direct ground combat assignments in the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. RANGEL:

H.R. 748. A bill to require all persons in the United States between the ages of 18 and 25 to perform national service, either as a member of the uniformed services or as civilian service in a Federal, State, or local government program or with a community-based agency or community-based entity, to authorize the induction of persons in the

uniformed services during wartime to meet end-strength requirements of the uniformed services, to provide for the registration of women under the Military Selective Service Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER (for himself, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. HINOJOSA, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. RENACCI, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. OWENS, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. PETERS of Michigan, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina):

H.R. 749. A bill to amend the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act to provide an exception to the annual privacy notice requirement; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California (for himself and Mr. GOSAR):

H.R. 750. A bill to award posthumously a Congressional Gold Medal to Stewart Lee Udall in recognition of his contributions to the Nation as hero for the environment, a champion for conservation, a civil right activist, a Native American crusader, and an advocate for the arts; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. MEADOWS (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. NUGENT, Mr. JOYCE, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mrs. LUMMIS, and Mr. ROONEY):

H.R. 751. A bill to make supplemental appropriations for the Cops in Schools program for fiscal year 2013; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mr. MCNERNEY (for himself, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, Mr. RUSH, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, and Mr. VALADAO):

H.R. 752. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment of a drug-free workplace information clearinghouse, to support residential methamphetamine treatment programs for pregnant and parenting women, to improve the prevention and treatment of methamphetamine addiction, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 753. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce from authorizing commercial finfish aquaculture operations in the Exclusive Economic Zone except in accordance with a law authorizing such action; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 754. A bill to resolve title issues involving real property and equipment acquired using funds provided under the Alaska Kiln Drying Grant Program; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. MCCCAUL (for himself and Mr. CUELLAR):

H.R. 755. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the World War II members of the Civil Air Patrol; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, 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. MCCAUL (for himself, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. MEEHAN, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. HALL, and Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico):

H.R. 756. A bill to advance cybersecurity research, development, and technical standards, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Ms. MCCOLLUM (for herself, Mr. COLE, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. SIMPSON, Ms. NORTON, and Ms. MOORE):

H.R. 757. A bill to decrease the incidence of violent crimes against Indian women, to strengthen the capacity of Indian tribes to exercise the sovereign authority of Indian tribes to respond to violent crimes committed against Indian women, and to ensure that perpetrators of violent crimes committed against Indian women are held accountable for that criminal behavior, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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 Mr. STEWART (for himself, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. JONES, Mr. CRAMER, and Mrs. LUMMIS):

H.R. 758. A bill to prohibit the further extension or establishment of national monuments in Utah except by express authorization of Congress; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself and Mr. SCHOCK):

H.R. 759. A bill to provide that a certain proposed rule published by the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs shall have no force or effect unless the Department of Labor is first certified to be in compliance with such rule; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. AMASH:

H.R. 760. A bill to amend chapter 2 of title I of the United States Code to establish the style for amending laws; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. AMODEI (for himself, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. JONES, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. HECK of Nevada, Mr. TIPTON, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. LATTA, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. BENISHEK, Mr. DAINES, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. LABRADOR, Mr. STEWART, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. SALMON, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. PEARCE, and Mr. LUETKEMEYER):

H.R. 761. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to more efficiently develop domestic sources of the minerals and mineral materials of strategic and critical importance to United States economic and national security and manufacturing competitiveness; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. HALL, Mr. HARPER, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. LONG, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, and Mr. SHIMKUS):

H.R. 762. A bill to repeal title I of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for cooperative governing of individual health insurance coverage offered in interstate commerce; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and 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 Mr. BOUSTANY (for himself, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. HOLDING, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mrs. BLACK, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, and Mr. SALMON):

H.R. 763. A bill to repeal the annual fee on health insurance providers enacted by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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. CAPPS (for herself, Mr. FARR, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. HOLT, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. HUFFMAN, and Ms. SHEA-PORTER):

H.R. 764. A bill to amend the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish a coastal climate change adaptation planning and response program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mrs. CAPPS:

H.R. 765. A bill to authorize the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a program of awarding grants to owners or operators of water systems to increase resiliency or adaptability of the systems to any ongoing or forecasted changes to the hydrologic conditions of a region of the United States; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and 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 Mr. CICILLINE (for himself, Mr. POCAN, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. LEE of California, and Mr. CARTWRIGHT):

H.R. 766. A bill to reduce the deficit by imposing a minimum effective tax rate for high-income taxpayers; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CRAMER (for himself, Mr. DAINES, Mrs. NOEM, and Mrs. LUMMIS):

H.R. 767. A bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to modify the Pilot Project offices of the Federal Permit Streamlining Pilot Project; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mrs. DAVIS of California (for herself and Mr. POLIS):

H.R. 768. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to require the establishment of teacher evaluation programs; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. DELAURO (for herself, Mr. NEAL, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. EDWARDS, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. FATTAH, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HONDA, Mr. HOYER, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. HIMES, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LEWIS, Ms. LOFGREN, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms.

MENG, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Ms. MOORE, Mr. MORAN, Mr. NADLER, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. POCAN, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. SABLAN, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. TONKO, Ms. WATERS, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. WELCH, and Mrs. DAVIS of California):

H.R. 769. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the lower threshold for the refundable portion of the child tax credit and to adjust the credit amount for inflation; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina:

H.R. 770. A bill to amend the South Carolina National Heritage Corridor Act of 1996 to designate the management entity for the South Carolina National Heritage Corridor, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. MULVANEY, Mr. BENISHEK, and Mr. GOWDY):

H.R. 771. A bill to establish requirements for oil and gas leasing of areas of the Outer Continental Shelf off the coast of South Carolina; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA (for himself, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, and Mr. CHABOT):

H.R. 772. A bill to promote peaceful and collaborative resolution of the South China Sea dispute; 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.

By Mr. FORBES:

H.R. 773. A bill to amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 to exempt the Department of Defense from reduction under any order issued to carry out a sequestration pursuant to section 251A; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. GARDNER (for himself, Mr. COFFMAN, Mrs. LUMMIS, Mr. DENHAM, Mr. BENISHEK, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. WALBERG, and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina):

H.R. 774. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish small business start-up savings accounts; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia (for himself, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. FORBES, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. HURT, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. WOLF, and Mr. MORAN):

H.R. 775. A bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to exempt election officials from Federal jury service; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HANNA (for himself and Mr. GRAVES of Missouri):

H.R. 776. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to revise requirements related to assets pledged by a surety, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Small Business, 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. HUNTER (for himself, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. NUNES, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. BENTIVOLIO, Mr. DENHAM, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. SALMON, Mr. ROONEY, and Ms. JENKINS):

H.R. 777. A bill to amend title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 to require a plaintiff to provide a defendant with an opportunity to correct a violation of such title voluntarily before the plaintiff may commence a civil action, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ISSA (for himself, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. DEUTCH, and Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN):

H.R. 778. A bill to modify the prohibition on recognition by United States courts of certain rights relating to certain marks, trade names, or commercial names; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ISSA:

H.R. 779. A bill to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the health care-related provisions in the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 and to amend title 5, United States Code, to establish a national health program administered by the Office of Personnel Management to offer Federal employee health benefits plans to individuals who are not Federal employees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Oversight and Government Reform, Education and the Workforce, Natural Resources, the Judiciary, Rules, Appropriations, and House Administration, 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. ISSA (for himself, Mr. COLE, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. KLINE, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. SIMPSON, and Mr. DENHAM):

H.R. 780. A bill to authorize Indian tribes to exercise jurisdiction over crimes of domestic violence that occur in the Indian country of that tribe; to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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 Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas (for himself and Mr. DOGGETT):

H.R. 781. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to prohibit the inclusion of Social Security account numbers on Medicare cards; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LATTA (for himself, Mr. GRIMM, Mr. BRIDENSTINE, and Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee):

H.R. 782. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the estate tax and retain stepped-up basis at death; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. LEE of California (for herself, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. RUSH, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. DINGELL, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. HOLT, and Mr. MORAN):

H.R. 783. A bill to enhance diplomacy with Iran to peacefully prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. LEE of California (for herself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. POLIS, and Mr. FARR):

H.R. 784. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act so as to exempt real property from civil forfeiture due to medical-marijuana-related conduct that is authorized by State law; to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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. MARKEY (for himself, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. BORDALLO, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. CAPUANO, Ms. EDWARDS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HOLT, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. MORAN, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. TIERNEY, and Mr. WATT):

H.R. 785. A bill to prevent excessive speculation in energy commodities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself and Mr. BLUMENAUER):

H.R. 786. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify that tar sands are crude oil for purposes of the Federal excise tax on petroleum; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 787. A bill to greatly enhance America's path toward energy independence and economic and national security, to rebuild our Nation's aging roads, bridges, locks, and dams, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, Energy and Commerce, Rules, the Budget, and Transportation and Infrastructure, 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. NADLER:

H.R. 788. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into an agreement with the Battery Conservancy to construct and operate a performance facility at Castle Clinton National Monument, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. NEAL (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. KIND, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. CROWLEY, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, and Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California):

H.R. 789. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the tax treatment for certain build America bonds, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PETERS of Michigan (for himself, Mr. BISHOP of New York, and Mr. MCNERNEY):

H.R. 790. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require the disclosure of the total number of a company's domestic and foreign employees; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. POLIS (for himself and Mr. YOUNG of Alaska):

H.R. 791. A bill to amend titles I and II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to strengthen connections to early childhood education programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. POSEY (for himself, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. COLE, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. KLINE, Mr. COSTA, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. DENHAM, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. WALBERG, and Mr. VALADAO):

H.R. 792. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to clarify the Food and Drug Administration's jurisdiction over certain tobacco products, and to protect jobs

and small businesses involved in the sale, manufacturing and distribution of traditional and premium cigars; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California (for herself, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. HAHN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. NORTON, Mr. RUSH, Mr. CLAY, Mr. SIRES, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. PASCRELL, and Ms. EDWARDS):

H.R. 793. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose an excise tax on concealable firearms and to require the Attorney General to establish a firearms buyback grant program; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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. SCHAKOWSKY (for herself, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Ms. CHU, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. HONDA, Ms. MOORE, and Mr. PIERLUISI):

H.R. 794. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for treatment of clinical psychologists as physicians for purposes of furnishing clinical psychologist services under the Medicare Program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia (for himself, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. NUNNELEE, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. MULVANEY, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas, Mr. COLE, Mr. DESANTIS, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, Mr. KINGSTON, Mrs. BLACK, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. BROUN of Georgia, Mr. LONG, and Mr. MULLIN):

H.R. 795. A bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to modify the authority of the National Labor Relations Board with respect to rulemaking, issuance of complaints, and authority over unfair labor practices; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. SENSENBRENNER:

H.R. 796. A bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to use the commercially available volume of cellulosic biofuel in setting requirements for the renewable fuel program under the Clean Air Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. STIVERS (for himself, Ms. MOORE, and Mr. PEARCE):

H.R. 797. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to clarify provisions relating to the regulation of municipal advisors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. TIERNEY (for himself, Mr. HINOJOSA, and Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California):

H.R. 798. A bill to reauthorize the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 to strengthen the United States workforce investment system through innovation in, and alignment and improvement of, employment, training, and education programs, and to promote national economic growth, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. TIERNEY (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. KEATING, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. JONES, Mr. LANGEVIN, and Mr. CICILLINE):

H.R. 799. A bill to provide exclusive funding to support fisheries and the communities that rely upon them, to clear unnecessary regulatory burdens and streamline Federal fisheries management, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. WHITFIELD (for himself, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. NUNES, Mr. KIND, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. SESSIONS, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. HIMES, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. HALL, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. OLSON, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. HOLT, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. FLORES, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. CLAY, and Mr. COHEN):

H.R. 800. A bill to amend part B of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to exclude customary prompt pay discounts from manufacturers to wholesalers from the average sales price for drugs and biologicals under Medicare; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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. WOMACK (for himself, Mr. HIMES, Mrs. WAGNER, and Mr. DELANEY):

H.R. 801. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to make the shareholder threshold for registration of savings and loan holding companies the same as for bank holding companies; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. SESSIONS:

H. Con. Res. 15. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate; considered and agreed to. considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CONAWAY (for himself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. BONNER, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CALVERT, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. COFFMAN, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. COLE, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. DENT, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. DINGELL, Mrs. ELLMERS, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. FLEMING, Mr. FLORES, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. HARPER, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. HUELSKAMP, Mr. HULTGREN, Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois, Mr. JOYCE, Mr. KLINE, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. LANCE, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. LONG, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. NUNNELEE, Mr. OLSON, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. PETRI, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. POMPEO, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. RUNYAN, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. TERRY, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. TURNER, Mr. VISCLOSKY, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. WOMACK, and Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York):

H. Con. Res. 16. Concurrent resolution supporting the Local Radio Freedom Act; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. FUDGE (for herself, Ms. CHU, and Mr. GRIJALVA):

H. Con. Res. 17. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that a day should be designated as ''National Voting Rights Act Mobilization Day''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. GERLACH (for himself and Mr. NUNES):

H. Res. 72. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of the Secondary School Student Athletes' Bill of Rights; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, 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. HUELSKAMP:

H. Res. 73. A resolution congratulating Emporia State University for 150 years of outstanding service to the State of Kansas, the United States, and the world; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. KEATING (for himself, Mr. NEAL, Mr. COSTA, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. SIRES):

H. Res. 74. A resolution supporting the goals and objectives of Ireland's Presidency of the Council of the European Union; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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. HUNTER, Mr. WALZ, and Mr. RAHALL):

H. Res. 75. A resolution recognizing 376 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 Mr. PAULSEN (for himself and Mr. NEAL):

H. Res. 76. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States and the European Union should pursue a Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

1. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the Senate of the State of New Mexico, relative to Senate Memorial 19 urging that the Twenty-First Anniversary of the Khojaly tragedy, which occurred on February 26, 1992, be commemorated; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

Mr. HUNTER introduced a bill (H.R. 802) for the relief of Roberto Luis Dunoyer Mejia, Consuelo Cardona Molina, Camilo Dunoyer Cardona, and Pablo Dunoyer Cardona; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. ROGERS of Alabama:

H.R. 741.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The power of Congress to make rules to provide for the common defense, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. CRAWFORD:

H.R. 742.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, clause 3, which provides Congress the power to ''regulate commerce with foreign Nations and among the several States.''

By Mr. DEFAZIO:

H.R. 743.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ:

H.R. 744.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of the Congress to provide for the general welfare of the United States, as enumerated in Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution, and to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution such power as enumerated in Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution.

By Mrs. NAPOLITANO:

H.R. 745.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States grants Congress the authority to enact this bill.

By Mr. BENTIVOLIO:

H.R. 746.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This legislation is authorized by Article I, Section 8 of The Constitution:

''To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States.''

This includes the power to require federal agencies give small business a grace period to correct any violations of federal regulations before imposing job-destroying fines and other sanctions on the business.

By Mr. RANGEL:

H.R. 747.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress is given the power under the Constitution ''To raise and support Armies,'' ''To provide and maintain a Navy,'' and ''To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces.'' Art. I, §8, cls. 12–14. See also: ROSTKER V. GOLDBERG, 453 U. S. 57 (1981)

By Mr. RANGEL:

H.R. 748.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress is given the power under the Constitution ''To raise and support Armies,'' ''To provide and maintain a Navy,'' and ''To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces.'' Art. I, §8, cls. 12–14. See also: ROSTKER V. GOLDBERG, 453 U. S. 57 (1981)

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 749.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the explicit power of Congress to regulate commerce in and among the states, as enumerate in Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3, the Commerce Clause, of the United States Constitution.

Additionally, Article 1, Section 7, Clause 2 of the Constitution allows for every bill passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate and signed by the President to be codified into law; and therefore implicitly allows Congress to repeal any bill that has been passed by both chambers and signed into law by the President.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California:

H.R. 750.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. MEADOWS:

H.R. 751.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1:

Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

By Mr. MCNERNEY:

H.R. 752.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 753.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 754.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. MCCAUL:

H.R. 755.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 5.

By Mr. MCCAUL:

H.R. 756.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article I, Sec. 8, Clause 1; and Article I, Sec. 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. MCCOLLUM:

H.R. 757.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18, which gives Congress the power ''To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing powers.''

By Mr. STEWART:

H.R. 758.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to Article 1 Section 8 Clause 18 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. ALEXANDER:

H.R. 759.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

In the United States Constitution in Article. I. Section. 8. The Congress shall have Power . . . To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States or in any Department of Officer thereof.

By Mr. AMASH:

H.R. 760.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 1 of the Constitution states that ''All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States . . .'' It is both ''necessary and proper [for Congress to make laws] for carrying into execution'' this Power (Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18), including setting standards for the format and content of legislation proposed to be considered by Congress.

By Mr. AMODEI:

H.R. 761.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 of the Constitution.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN:

H.R. 762.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. BOUSTANY:

H.R. 763.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I

By Mrs. CAPPS:

H.R. 764.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mrs. CAPPS:

H.R. 765.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. CICILLINE:

H.R. 766.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. CRAMER:

H.R. 767.

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 make Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States, as enumerated in Article 4, Section 3, Clause 2, of the United States Constitution.

By Mrs. DAVIS of California:

H.R. 768.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

By Ms. DELAURO:

H.R. 769.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 and the Sixteenth Amendment

By Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina:

H.R. 770.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This legislation speaks to concerns normally within the purview of the several states. However, in the past, the federal government has taken powers beyond constitutional reach as it relates to these programs. This legislation is constitutional because it follows the desires of the sovereign state of South Carolina as provided for by our Governor. As such, it follows the 10th Amendment which rightly holds these rights to the several sovereign states.

By Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina:
H.R. 771.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Congress has the power to enact legislation pertaining to the rules and regulations for property owned by the United States pursuant to Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 of the Constitution.
By Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA:
H.R. 772.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, §8, clause 3, the Commerce Clause
By Mr. FORBES:
H.R. 773.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Sec. 8, Clauses 1, 12 and 13
By Mr. GARDNER:
H.R. 774.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Clause 1, Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution which reads: ''The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts, and Excises, to pay the Debts, and provide for the common Defense and General Welfare of the United States; but all Duties and Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.''
By Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia:
H.R. 775.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article III, Section 1 of the United States Constitution.
By Mr. HANNA:
H.R. 776.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
The Constitutional authority on which this bill rests is enumerated in Clause 3 of Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution.
By Mr. HUNTER:
H.R. 777.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
The constitutional authority for the ADA Notification Act is: Section 8, Clause 1 of Article I; Section 8, Clause 18 of Article I.
By Mr. ISSA:
H.R. 778.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Congress has the authority to legislate on this matter under the Constitution according to :
Article 1, Section 8, clause 3, ''to regulate Commerce with Foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;'' and Article 1, Section 8, clause 8, ''to promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Rights to their respective Writings and Discoveries,''
By Mr. ISSA:
H.R. 779.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Congress has the authority to legislate on this matter under the Constitutions according to: U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 8, Clause 3.
By Mr. ISSA:
H.R. 780.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Congress has the authority to legislate on this matter under the Constitution according to :
Article 1, Sec. 8: To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes; To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof
By Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas:
H.R. 781.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18
By Mr. LATTA:
H.R. 782.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Taxation: Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1
The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.
By Ms. LEE of California:
H.R. 783.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.
By Ms. LEE of California:
H.R. 784.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.
By Mr. MARKEY:
H.R. 785.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution
By Mr. MARKEY:
H.R. 786.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution. ''The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.''
By Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania:
H.R. 787.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to the Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution, and Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 of the United States Constitution.
By Mr. NADLER:
H.R. 788.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, section 8, clauses 1, 17, and 18.
By Mr. NEAL:
H.R. 789.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I and the 16th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.
By Mr. PETERS of Michigan:
H.R. 790.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution
By Mr. POLIS:
H.R. 791.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, section 8, clause 1 (relating to the general welfare of the United States).
By Mr. POSEY:
H.R. 792.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18
By Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California:
H.R. 793.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, section 8, clause 1
By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY:
H.R. 794.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia:
H.R. 795.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States
By Mr. SENSENBRENNER:
H.R. 796.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution of the United States
By Mr. STIVERS:
H.R. 797.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, clause 3, which provides Congress the power to ''regulate commerce with foreign Nations and among the several States.'' This legislation clarifies language in the Dodd-Frank Act regarding the registration and regulation of municipal advisors. It does this by amending the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.
By Mr. TIERNEY:
H.R. 798.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Mr. TIERNEY:
H.R. 799.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8.
By Mr. WHITFIELD:
H.R. 800.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, section 8, clause 3, which grants Congress the power to regulate commerce with foreign nations, among the several States, and with the Indian tribes.
By Mr. WOMACK:
H.R. 801.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article One, Section Eight of the United States Constitution.
Mr. HUNTER:
H.R. 802.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
The Constitutional authority for this legislation is found in Article 1, Section 8, Clause 4 which explicitly provides Congress the power to ''establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization.''

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 93: Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. COHEN, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. DELAURO, and Mr. PASCRELL.
H.R. 106: Mr. GARDNER.
H.R. 148: Mr. HOLT and Mr. CARNEY.
H.R. 164: Mr. HOLT, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. YOHO, and Mr. ELLISON.
H.R. 175: Mr. BROUN of Georgia.
H.R. 176: Mr. JONES, Mr. GARDNER, and Mr. BURGESS.
H.R. 185: Ms. GRANGER, Mr. POE of Texas, and Mr. BURGESS.
H.R. 196: Ms. FOXX and Mr. FORBES.
H.R. 223: Mr. COOPER.
H.R. 226: Mr. CICILLINE and Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California.
H.R. 227: Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.R. 232: Mr. GUTHRIE.
H.R. 288: Mr. KIND.
H.R. 290: Mr. POCAN and Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 292: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.
H.R. 317: Mr. LONG.
H.R. 320: Ms. GABBARD and Mr. HOLT.
H.R. 330: Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mr. JONES, Mr. LATTA and Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California.
H.R. 333: Mr. ENYART, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Ms. BASS.
H.R. 334: Mr. MCCAUL and Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California.
H.R. 335: Mr. BUCHANAN and Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California.
H.R. 337: Mr. BARROW of Georgia.
H.R. 342: Mr. LONG, Mr. OLSON, and Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California.
H.R. 346: Mr. LATTA, Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. MULVANEY, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. BROUN of Georgia, Mr. LONG, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mrs. ROBY, and Mr. KINGSTON.
H.R. 360: Mr. HONDA, Mr. PETERS of Michigan, Mr. MAFFEI, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. PASTOR of Arizona, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. KILMER, Mr. POLLS, Mr. KIND, Mr. RAHALL, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. MORAN, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. GRAYSON, Mr. NADLER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. SOUTHERLAND, and Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 366: Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California and Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 367: Mr. SALMON and Mr. MCCAUL.
H.R. 375: Mr. MICHAUD, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. POCAN, and Mr. TONKO.
H.R. 383: Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina.
H.R. 455: Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. SIRES, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. MORAN.
H.R. 483: Mr. COBLE.
H.R. 484: Mr. MILLER of Florida and Mr. ROKITA.
H.R. 497: Mr. BENISHEK.
H.R. 515: Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. HOLT, and Mr. PASTOR of Arizona.
H.R. 517: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 519: Mr. LEWIS, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. CARNEY, Ms. MOORE, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. NORTON, and Mrs. CAPPS.
H.R. 528: Mr. BURGESS and Mr. BARLETTA.
H.R. 544: Mr. GOSAR and Mr. LONG.
H.R. 580: Mr. DIAZ-BALART.
H.R. 604: Mr. JONES.
H.R. 607: Mr. FARENTHOLD and Mr. CULBERSON.
H.R. 609: Mr. PETERS of Michigan, Ms. LOFGREN, and Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 612: Mr. DUFFY and Mr. CRAWFORD.
H.R. 621: Mrs. CAPITO and Mr. SENSENBRENNER.
H.R. 636: Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. MAFFEI, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. GARCIA, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. POLIS, and Mr. KIND.
H.R. 637: Mr. GOWDY.
H.R. 647: Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN and Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.
H.R. 654: Mr. GIBSON.
H.R. 664: Mr. KING of New York and Mr. BUTTERFIELD.
H.R. 678: Mr. GARDNER.
H.R. 685: Mr. OLSON and Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.R. 688: Mr. TONKO, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. POLIS, and Ms. KAPTUR.
H.R. 693: Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania and Mr. SWALWELL of California.
H.R. 694: Mr. ELLISON and Mr. GRAYSON.
H.R. 712: Mr. PASCRELL and Mr. CARTWRIGHT.
H.R. 725: Mr. TAKANO, Ms. BASS, and Mr. ELLISON.
H.R. 728: Ms. CLARKE, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. BASS, Mrs. CAPPS, and Mr. BISHOP of New York.
H.R. 729: Mr. LOEBSACK.
H.R. 730: Mr. SCHRADER.
H.R. 732: Mr. BROUN of Georgia, Mr. SALMON, Mr. LONG, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, and Mr. YOHO.
H.J. Res. 20: Mr. SARBANES.
H.J. Res. 21: Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. SARBANES, and Ms. TSONGAS.
H.J. Res. 24: Mr. YOUNG of Indiana, Mr. GRAVES of Georgia, Mr. JORDAN, and Mr. SOUTHERLAND.
H. Res. 19: Mr. TAKANO.
H. Res. 30: Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. ISRAEL, Ms. ESTY, and Mr. GALLEGO.
H. Res. 35: Mr. ROKITA and Mr. GARDNER.
H. Res. 38: Mr. ROKITA and Mr. LEWIS.
H. Res. 47: Mr. MCNERNEY and Mr. RUSH.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII, petitions and papers were laid on the clerk's desk and referred as follows:

3. The SPEAKER presented a petition of Dane County Board of Supervisors, relative to Resolution 206, 12-13 — urging the United States Congress and Wisconsin legislature to ban assault weapons and support gun control; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

4. Also, a petition of The Legislature of Rockland County, relative to Resolution No. 571 of 2012 urging the United States Senate and House of Representatives to pass legislation granting tax relief to individuals and businesses who suffered financial loss due to hurricane Sandy; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 113th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 159 WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2013 No. 25

Senate

The Senate met at 12:01 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable TIM KAINE, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Virginia.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

The bill clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, February 15, 2013.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable TIM KAINE, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Virginia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. KAINE thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Michigan.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order to consider H. Con. Res. 15, which was received earlier today.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT OR RECESS OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that H. Con. Res. 15 be agreed to.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 15) was agreed to, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 15

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That when the House adjourns on any legislative day from Friday, February 15, 2013, through Thursday, February 21, 2013, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned until 2 p.m. on Monday, February 25, 2013, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the Senate recesses or adjourns on Friday, February 15, 2013, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand recessed or adjourned until noon on Monday, February 25, 2013, or such other time on that day as may be specified in the motion to recess or adjourn, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. The Speaker of the House and the Majority Leader of the Senate, or their respective designees, acting jointly after consultation with the Minority Leader of the House and the Minority Leader of the Senate, shall notify the Members of the House and the Senate, respectively, to reassemble at such place and time as they may designate if, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—READING OF WASHINGTON'S FAREWELL ADDRESS

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the resolution of the Senate of January 24, 1901, the traditional reading of Washington's Farewell Address take place on Monday, February 25, following the prayer and pledge; further, that Senator AYOTTE be recognized to deliver the address, and that following the conclusion of the reading, the Senate proceed to morning business under the previous order.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2013, AT 2 P.M.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 2 p.m., Monday, February 25, 2013, pursuant to the provisions of H. Con. Res. 15.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:02 and 26 seconds p.m., adjourned until Monday, February 25, 2013, at 2 p.m.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING THE ONONDAGA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DANIEL B. MAFFEI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. MAFFEI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Onondaga Historical Association (OHA) on the occasion of its 150th Anniversary. I join the community in celebrating OHA on this historic occasion.

We are grateful to have a museum and research center that reminds us that we have inherited a special place to live because of the people and events that have come before us. Onondaga County New York's rich history is intertwined with many key periods in our country's history, including the building of the Erie Canal, women's suffrage, emancipation, the history of Central New York's Native Americans, the Haudenosaunee, also referred to as the Iroquois Confederacy. OHA's recent jubilee celebration was built around the 150th anniversary of the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation, the same year the association began.

OHA's mission is to inspire people's understanding that the history we share as a community is the foundation for our future together. Its purpose is to encourage a diverse audience from the neighborhoods of Syracuse and the communities of Onondaga County to explore, appreciate and utilize their past. OHA offers engaging exhibits and programs, pursues partnerships with other cultural organizations and community groups, and develops and cares for a definitive collection related to local history. In addition, OHA operates a museum and research center in Syracuse, New York.

We take comfort that OHA will continue to document our history in Onondaga County and that its work will serve as a guide to future generations. Simply stated, OHA is our bridge to the past, present and future of Onondaga County. We are a stronger community because of the exceptional work of the OHA's staff, Board, and community supporters.

Once again, I congratulate OHA and all the individuals who have helped to preserve this extraordinary organization over the past 150 years.

HONORING JARED T. BLANKENSHIP

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jared T. Blankenship. Jared is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 351, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jared has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jared has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jared has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jared T. Blankenship for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

FEDERAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE NONPROFIT FAIRNESS ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2013

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, of course Congress should make sure the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Small Business Administration and other government agencies are funded sufficiently to help communities recover from natural disasters like Sandy. H.R. 592, the Federal Disaster Assistance Nonprofit Fairness Act of 2013, would add ''houses of worship'' to the list of eligible entities that can receive direct government assistance from FEMA. Religious institutions are important to our communities. Unfortunately, as drafted H.R. 592 is unconstitutional.

In 1971, the Supreme Court unanimously held that a government subsidy used to construct buildings at colleges and universities was constitutional only if the buildings could never be used for religious activities. Two years later, the U.S. Supreme Court held that no taxpayer funds could be used for maintenance and repair of facilities in which religious activities take place. The types of buildings that this bill seeks to make eligible for direct government funding—houses of worship—are inherently used for religious activities and the bill would have the effect of unconstitutionally funneling taxpayer money for religious activities. Under current law, houses of worship are eligible for Small Business Administration loans to help rebuild in the wake of a disaster like Sandy. Thus, there is already federally available aid that is neutral in its application that churches, synagogues and other houses of worship can avail themselves of without implicating the government in providing direct support to religious institutions. And private insurance companies have long provided such policies for houses of worship.

As I have since Hurricane Sandy devastated New Jersey, I will continue to push for the maximum possible funding—including disaster recovery loans—for all New Jersey communities impacted by this and future storms.

HONORING MR. EDWARD NORTHROP

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to recognize a man who has served his country, created hundreds of new jobs in my district and is a loyal father and husband of over 50 years. I am proud to say he is one of my constituents and would like to thank him for a lifetime of dedication and commitment to his country.

Edward D. Northrop, Jr., graduated from Virginia Military Institute in 1962. He then served 20 years in the United States Army from 1962–1982, graduating from both Airborne and Ranger schools. He served 2 tours in Vietnam in the 4th Infantry Division, serving for the Red Warriors, C Company and as HHQ Company Commander. During this time, he received many awards, including the Combat Infantry Badge, Silver Star and Army Commendation Medal for Heroism. Ed retired as a LTC in 1982.

Later that year, Ed became a Burger King Franchisee and currently owns six locations—four of which are in my district—employing 180 Georgians. Due to his commitment to excellence, Ed has achieved some of the highest volumes of any Burger King restaurateur in the Southeast. He also is committed to serving the franchisee community through his work with the National Franchisee Association, NFA. Through NFA, Ed has served as President of the New South Coalition of Burger King Franchisees, on the NFA Board of Directors and on NFA's Government Relations Committee for over sixteen years.

Ed is also very active in his local church and served on the vestry multiple years. He is also involved in local adopt a school programs as well as the Special Olympics program.

On behalf of Georgia's Eighth Congressional District, thank you, Ed, for your unwavering commitment to your country, your family and the NFA. We are proud to call you one of our own.

CONGRATULATING KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY ON ITS 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LYNN JENKINS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Ms. JENKINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Kansas State University, the oldest public university in the state of Kansas, on its 150th anniversary. Kansas State University holds a special place in my heart as my alma mater, and today, I still proudly wear my K-State purple.

Originally founded as Bluemont Central College in 1858, Kansas State University began

as an institute of higher education serving 29 students from working class and farm families in the Kansas Territory. In 1863, during the Civil War, Bluemont College became the Kansas State Agriculture College, the first land grant university under President Lincoln's Morrill Act, and was only the second public institution of higher education to admit men and women equally.

Today, more than 24,000 students from all 50 states and more than 90 countries around the world study at one of Kansas State's three locations: the main campus in Manhattan, better known as the Little Apple; the College of Technology and Aviation in Salina; and the new state-of-the-art Olathe campus, which is currently preparing graduate students in the innovative fields of bioscience and biotechnology.

Kansas State University is among the top 75 public universities, and offers more than 250 undergraduate majors, 65 master's degrees, 45 doctoral degrees and 22 graduate certificates in multiple disciplines. The university ranks first nationally among state universities in Rhodes, Marshall, Truman, Goldwater, and Udall scholars with 135 recipients, and the Kansas State University College of Engineering was recently named one of the best undergraduate engineering programs in the nation, according to U.S. News and World Report.

Kansas State has a wonderfully supportive community, better known as the K-State family, and it is serious business. Let me give you an example. Six years ago, students created the K-State Proud campaign. Driven by the idea of how a family takes care of one another, the Proud campaign established a culture of philanthropy and to date has raised more than half a million dollars to fund 300 scholarships for students who are struggling financially due to challenges from health issues, natural disasters, or family tragedy. This is in addition to the $200 million in scholarships, grants, loans and work study Kansas State distributes each year.

With 16 men's and women's athletic programs, more than 475 student organizations, and more than 20 club sports, cultivating a positive and encouraging sense of student life is a high priority. The Princeton Review recently ranked Kansas State as second in the nation for excellent campus and community relations and No. 14 for quality of life.

If you ask anyone what they remember most about their time at Kansas State University, they will tell you without a doubt, it is the people. It is where they met their best friends, their husbands or wives, and it is where they hope their children choose to attend.

Graduates of Kansas State University have gone on to do many great things for this country, and I am not only referring to those who entered public service as a member of the House, Senate, or even the Kansas governor. Notable Kansas State alums include: presidents of colleges and universities; chairmen and CEOs of major companies, Olympic gold medalists, Emmy Award winners, as well as the creator of the snooze alarm, and the inventor of the Space Pen.

On this historic anniversary, it is my honor to recognize my alma mater, Kansas State University, on 150 years of excellence. I can only image the remarkable things the future holds for Kansas State and the talented individuals it will educate and inspire. Congratulations.

BARBARA J. WRIGHT

HON. MARK POCAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. POCAN. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following letter.

BARBARA WRIGHT, WORKERS RIGHTS CENTER, 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

My name is Barbara J. Wright, and I am a resident of Madison, Wisconsin. I have been married twice in my life, both times to husbands who were born in other countries. I have two children from my first marriage. Cesar Gabriel Moran, 39, is a firmware engineer in St. Paul Minnesota and Nickolas James Moran is a jazz musician here in Madison.

On July 27th, 1972, I married Cesar Edmundo Moran in Magdalena del Mar, Lima Peru. I was 19 years old and he was 18. We were married for 25 years. He had been studying in Platteville, Wisconsin at the University of Platteville. When we left the country to travel to Peru (we hitch-hiked there!), he lost his student visa. After we married in Peru, I returned to the US and filed for him to get a permanent resident visa (a green card). He had to stay in Peru until it arrived. I sent the form to the INS along with $25 dollars, both of our birth certificates, our marriage license, and a letter from the police to say we had committed no crimes. In a month he was able to pick up his permission to travel and his green card at the American Embassy in Lima and return to the US, so we could both go to college.

My marriage to Cesar ended in 1998 although it was a few years till we were legally divorced. In 2004, I married Youssef Amraoui, from Morocco. We were married in Las Vegas, Nevada on June 6th, 2004. This time getting Youssef permanent residence status took more than 5 years. Between the legal fees to file all of the petitions and to pay the immigration lawyer, Irene Wren at Wren and Gateways Law Group, it cost almost $12,000. Luckily, Youssef had filed for a waiver by himself with no lawyer, so that he did not have to leave the country while he waited for his case to be determined. Imagine getting married and having your new husband have to go back to his country and wait five years to see each other again.

Because the INS was now under the wing of Homeland Security, there were many additional steps which meant additional delays. When I asked Irene why things were taking so long she said that there was a huge backlog of cases, between 4 and 6 years of cases. She said Homeland Security insisted that each case be reviewed by the FBI and since it was not a criminal case, it gathered dust in someone's inbox for a long time.

One time, Homeland Security called and demanded that Youssef come to Milwaukee alone to be ''interviewed''. We were waiting for a formal interview in Milwaukee that is now a part of the process, but this was not it. The man who called tried to intimidate me when I said that Youssef was not coming alone. I said that either I or the immigration attorney would go with him (I was petrified of his being taken into custody or forcibly removed or never hearing from him again). This man tried to convince me that Youssef could be a ''sleeper agent'', and they needed to interview him. Because I owned a restaurant and could not leave, I sent the attorney with him. Youssef said they kept him in a room that had shackles but did not shackle him. Irene said this was a scare tactic because Moroccans and other Muslims were all suspects because of the attack on 9/11. They just wanted to see if he would come or he would run. That was a horrible day.

It seemed like every time we would reach the end of the process there would be more forms to fill out, more fees to pay, and more of an indefinite wait. At one point in the process, the fees were doubled. We paid the majority of our discretionary income to this process. Youssef's parents were old, and he lived in fear that they would die before he was able to go and see them. You have to have permission to leave the country once the papers are filed. If you leave without permission, you cannot come back.

I know many people here who are undocumented. The press has been talking a lot about a ''path to citizenship''. I think very few of the people saying this have any idea what is really involved. Because of the high fees of immigration attorneys, the many steps of the process and the time involved, many will have a hard time coming up with the money for this process.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE GREEN BROS. PHARMACY

HON. JERRY McNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. McNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Green Bros. Pharmacy in Stockton, CA, which closed its doors in 2012 after 82 years of business. The Green Bros. Pharmacy was one of Stockton's last remaining independent pharmacies.

This pharmacy, operated by Charlie Green, opened 82 years ago in downtown Stockton, and has served thousands of people throughout the area. Mr. Green has been a tremendous advocate on behalf of pharmacies and patients for decades. He served as president of the San Joaquin Pharmacists Association, the California Pharmacists Association, and the American Pharmacists Association, drawing on his firsthand experience about the needs of independent pharmacists and patients in San Joaquin County and across the country. Mr. Green worked tirelessly to improve our health care system. In addition, Mr. Green taught at the University of Pacific in the Pharmacy Department, educating and mentoring young students. I've had the pleasure of meeting with these students when they visit our nation's capital each year and know their dedication and commitment to our community. I know that Mr. Green played a part in their development as professionals. In recognition of his dedication, work ethic, and exemplary work, Mr. Green was presented with the Daniel B. Smith Excellence Award.

Independent pharmacies are essential to our communities, and businesses like Green Bros. have been a staple of neighborhoods across the country because of their personalized service, affordable prices, and ability to help patients.

I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the tremendous contributions of Green Bros. Pharmacy to San Joaquin County, as well as other independent pharmacies across the country.

HONORING KYLE ALLEN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kyle Allen. Kyle is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 495, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Kyle has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Kyle has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Kyle has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Kyle Allen for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF NICOLE A. VILLARUZ

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Nicole A. Villaruz, who has served as a valued member of my staff for the past eight years. Nicole joined my staff during my first term in Congress and has since become my District Director. This month, Nicole will be leaving my staff to work for California State Senator Michael Rubio in Bakersfield, California. Nicole's years of service to the people of Central California in the 16th and 20th Congressional Districts, spanning from Kern County to Merced County, deserve to be commended. Her character truly exemplifies the spirit of the San Joaquin Valley. Her strong work ethic, coupled with her positive attitude and zest for life make her true champion for the people of Central California. It is only fitting and proper that she be recognized by my colleagues in Congress.

Nicole has a long history of community service and involvement. While attending Delano High School in Delano, California, Nicole was a member of the Key Club, the National Honor Society, and was a lifetime member of the California Scholarship Federation. Along with her academic pursuits, Nicole was also a member of the ASB Senate and was head cheerleader during her senior year. In 1996, Nicole was named Delano's Junior Miss for the Class of 1997. She went on to California's Junior Miss, where she received top ten honors. In 1997, she earned the Good Citizens Award from the Daughters of the American Revolution. Clearly, her many endeavors during her teenage years served as an indicator for her commitment to service and leadership.

Upon graduating from Delano High School in 1997, Nicole attended the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), the largest public university in the UC system, and one of the most prestigious. Nicole was a member of Alpha Phi Sorority, where she held a number of leadership positions. She graduated in 2002 with a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science.

In 2001, Nicole was named Miss Kern County with a platform promoting civic virtue. Shortly thereafter, Nicole joined my staff in Bakersfield, California as a District Representative. Nicole's passion has always been helping others. As a District Representative, Nicole met with a number of constituents and organizations, often recognizing their needs and working hard to resolve their problems—whether it meant cutting through red tape when dealing with federal agencies, or leading constituents to the correct branch of government.

Nicole became my District Director in 2011 and she relocated to my Fresno district office. Her years of expertise and knowledge were essential in guaranteeing the success of my District offices. Nicole served as a mentor to many members of my staff—her guidance often helping them reach their full potential and ultimately ensured the well-being of our constituents.

Nicole's work and service has been recognized by many organizations. Most recently, she was honored by the Delano Chamber of Commerce with their Hazel Boone Award for her superior service. She currently volunteers for Distinguished Young Women of California (formerly California's Junior Miss) and serves as a choreographer/dance instructor.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and pride that I recognize Ms. Villaruz today for her many contributions to my Congressional offices in Fresno and Bakersfield. It has truly been an honor to watch her grow professionally. She is an exceptional leader and will undoubtedly continue to do great things for our Valley.

HONORING DR. MARVIN E. ROBINSON

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Dr. Marvin E. Robinson in business leadership and community service.

Dr. Robinson received his undergraduate degree at Southern University, where he served as president of the student body and found great success in his athletic pursuits as the co-captain of the Jaguar Tracksters. He began his career with the Congress of Racial Equality, first working as Field Secretary and then serving as Southern Regional Director during the early 1960s. Dr. Robinson earned his juris doctor from Howard University School of Law in 1968.

Continuing his work for racial equality, Dr. Robinson assisted in the development of a high school specializing in business and management during the height of desegregation of the school system. As the first director of this school, he oversaw a student body of 1,500 youth.

Dr. Robinson's entrepreneurial spirit soon drew him to the Xerox Corporation, where he was responsible for the operations, telecommunications, and planning for Xerox's Office Products Division facilities across the nation. Based on his success in this position, Dr. Robinson became Assistant to the President of Community Affairs at Xerox, responsible for the creation and implementation of a community involvement program. This program established Xerox as an excellent corporate citizen in Dallas.

Dr. Robinson moved on from Xerox in 1985 to purchase a Burger King Franchise. With his business acumen, he was able to increase the restaurant's gross income by over $150,000 in just one year.

In 1988, Dr. Robinson was named the President and CEO of Accommodations, Inc., a concession management company. He purchased the company and became its sole owner in 1995.

Dr. Robinson is a pillar of the Dallas community not only because of his leadership in business, but also because of his community service. Dr. Robinson has been involved in the Dallas County Salvation Army, the Dallas Park and Recreation Department, the Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce, the Advisory Council for Technical Vocational Education, and Dallas Dash with the Disabled, among many other local organizations. As a patron of the arts, Dr. Robinson served as the Board President of the Dallas Black Dance Theatre for twenty years. In 2007, Dr. Robinson received the Dallas Historical Society's Award for Excellence in Community Service.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the significant contributions that Dr. Robinson has made to the Dallas community. As a business and community leader for decades, he has worked hard to change Dallas for the better.

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF INDIANOLA

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Indianola, Iowa, for earning the Connected program's Connected certification. Indianola is the first community in the state of Iowa and the third in the country to garner this technology designation.

The Connected certification is a title applied to communities that display top-tier proficiency in the access and utilization of broadband-supported technologies. This coveted certification is awarded by Connected Nation and its subsidiary Connect Iowa, who advocate for broadband access on the state and national levels.

The City of Indianola is one of more than 30 communities across Iowa actively participating in the Connected program, and the first to become formally certified. Indianola has a team in place that has developed a comprehensive plan to increase broadband access by assessing the broadband landscape, identifying gaps, and establishing manageable goals. Attaining the Connected certification adds to the long list of desirable attributes that make Indianola such a great place to raise a family or grow a business.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the City of Indianola for its commitment to embracing and efficiently utilizing technology for the benefit of its residents and businesses. It is a great honor to represent the citizens of Indianola,

and all of Warren County, in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating the City of Indianola in being selected to receive this certification, and I wish the city and its people continued success in the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF BISHOP JONATHAN TATE, SR.

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bishop Jonathan Tate, Sr., as he celebrates 50 years as pastor of The Anointed Temple Apostolic Overcoming Holy Church of God in Gulfport, Mississippi.

He began his work with the Apostolic Overcoming Holy Church of God as an elder, and soon emerged as the Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas District Overseer. After many years of dedication and commitment, he now serves as the Mississippi, Louisiana & Texas Diocese Bishop under Apostolic Overcoming Holy Church of God Presiding Prelate, Bishop G.W. Ayers.

Bishop Tate has served his Church and community in the highest regard and during that time has received numerous honors from local and national organizations, ranging from the NAACP to the Gulfport Chamber of Commerce. A scholar, he holds the degree of Master of Theology in Biblical Studies and is a Certified Counselor. Bishop Tate has been married for 56 years to Reverend Mother Shirley Tate, who has faithfully worked alongside him. They are the parents of seven children, seventeen grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

A notable spiritual leader in the South Mississippi, I am proud today to acknowledge Bishop Tate, Sr., and his many accomplishments. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to rise today to recognize the life and legacy of Bishop Jonathan Tate, Sr., and congratulate him on 50 years as pastor.

HONORING THE PUBLIC SERVICE OF MIKE HIGGINS

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Mr. Michael R. ''Mike'' Higgins, a member of professional staff with the House Committee on Armed Services, for his retirement from his dedicated service in the House of Representatives, for safeguarding America families by promoting a strong national defense.

Mike has been an exemplary public servant who has demonstrated the highest standards of professionalism on a daily basis. His career in public service has been a testament to the importance of unselfish devotion.

I have had the pleasure of working with him throughout my 12-year tenure in Congress and I know firsthand of his professionalism. He has brought a variety of skills to his role with the committee, including a bright intellect, a strong work ethic, and a deeply felt commitment to serve the United States and the service men and women of our United States military. He is truly an asset to the committee and will be sorely missed when he retires in February 2013.

Mike is a military personnel policy expert and it is no accident that people have been at the center of his professional life. His empathy for the needs of the people he serves and commitment to respond to those needs is evident in all that he does. As part of the committee staff, Mike has worked tirelessly to improve the lives of military members and their families. His record and reputation will remain vibrant long after his departure.

As Mike embarks on a new chapter in life, it is my hope that he may recall with a deep sense of pride and accomplishment the outstanding contributions he has made to the United States House or Representatives and the people of the United States of America. I would like to send him my best wishes for continued success in his future endeavors, and may his life be filled with health and happiness.

HONORING MAXIMILIAN E. GALLEGOS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Maximilian E. Gallegos. Maximilian is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 351, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Maximilian has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Maximilian has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Maximilian has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Maximilian E. Gallegos for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING BILL BARRS AS THE 2013 DODGE COUNTY ROTARY FARMER OF THE YEAR

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to recognize Bill Barrs as this year's 2013 Dodge County Rotary Farmer of the Year. It is certainly an honor that he richly deserves for his role in Georgia's agricultural community.

A native of Laurens County, Bill attended Abraham Baldwin College where he majored in plant science. After graduation, he worked with the Griffin Warehouse until he began his farming operation in 2003. Since then, his farming operation has grown to 800 acres with cotton and peanuts as his primary row crops—two vital products of Georgia agriculture industry. He also cuts and sells quality hay from more than 150 acres of grassland. Married with two children, Bill and his family are active members of Mt. Carmel Baptist Church.

Mr. Speaker, please join me, on behalf of the great people of Georgia's Eighth Congressional District, in recognizing Bill for his service to our community and our State.

IMPORTANCE OF RESEARCH INTO THE EFFECTS OF CONTAMINATION ON REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the importance of federally supported women's health research; especially reproductive health research in regions of the country that have high contamination such as Superfund sites.

The reproductive health effects of environmental toxins can have significant ramifications for bone, cardiovascular, neurological, and sexual health, resulting in serious health conditions such as osteoporosis, heart attack, and stroke. In the state of Illinois, we currently have 70 Superfund sites that could pose a health threat to nearby communities. While the Federal Government supports a strong portfolio of research into the health implications of exposure to chemicals at these sites, there is a noticeable lack of reproductive health research in this area. It is essential that Congress supports this important area of research.

Northwestern University is developing one of the first major studies on the impact of Superfund contaminants on our reproductive health. The study will examine the reproductive health impacts of exposure to metals including zinc and lead that are present near a former zinc smelter site on the Illinois River near the Village of DePue, Illinois. The site is one of over 30 similar zinc and lead smelter sites across the country, so understanding the health impacts at DePue will help determine best practices for future disposal of those toxic chemicals.

Northwestern has also spearheaded an effort to update the scientific guidelines that the Environmental Protection Agency, EPA, uses to determine the threat of environmental toxins to our reproductive health. The Guidelines for Reproductive Toxicity Risk Assessment have not been reviewed or revised since 1996. I strongly support their effort to ensure that the scientific guidelines adequately account for the reproductive health threats posed by toxins to both sexes and across the lifespan. This will help ensure that the EPA has the most comprehensive and up-to-date scientific guidance to assess the risks of chemicals in our environment on our reproductive health.

The environmental effects of toxins threaten the health of more than 10 percent of men, women, and children. It is critical that we increase support for research into the reproductive health implications of different environmental exposures.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF MAJOR GENERAL MELVIN SPIESE ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the military service of Major General (MajGen) Melvin Spiese on the occasion of his retirement from the United States Marine Corps. I commend MajGen Spiese's career and offer my sincerest thanks for his more than 36 years of dedicated service in protecting our nation.

In 1976, MajGen Spiese was commissioned via the NROTC program at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign and he began his long and successful career in the United States Marine Corps as a rifle platoon commander with 3d Battalion, 4th Marines.

Nearly four decades later, MajGen Spiese retires now from his post as both Deputy Commanding General of I Marine Expeditionary Force (I MEF) and Commanding General (CG) of 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade (1st MEB).

As Deputy CG of I MEF, MajGen Spiese oversaw the daily activities of 57,000 Marines and Sailors, the largest warfighting organization in the Marine Corps. From the moment he became Deputy CG, he provided critical direction to the staff and allowed the CG of I MEF to successfully focus on his concurrent duties as Commander, Marine Forces Central Command.

Simultaneously, as the CG of 1st MEB, MajGen Spiese successfully transformed the organization from concept to an operational, warfighting organization. MajGen Spiese developed establishing orders and planning documents that were firsts of their kind for Marine Expeditionary Brigades, pushed his staff to 48-month planning cycles rather than the standard 12 months, and integrated 1st MEB into major Marine Corps, Navy, and international training events such as JAVELIN THRUST with Marine Forces Reserve units, DAWN BLITZ with the Navy's Expeditionary Strike Group Three and THIRD Fleet, and IRON FIST with the Japanese Ground Self Defense Force.

Through the development of the MEB Order, MEB Training Continuum, Capstone Document, and yearly I MEF Campaign Plans he leaves an established path for future Marine leaders to follow.

I offer MajGen Spiese my warmest congratulations and hope that he enjoys a rich and rewarding retirement with his wife Filomena and their children D'arcy, Lindsey and MG and their grandchildren Lucy and Christian.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues please join me in recognizing the career of MajGen Melvin Spiese.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HALT INDEX TRADING OF ENERGY COMMODITIES OR HITEC ACT

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Halt Index Trading of Energy Commodities, or HITEC, Act. I am reintroducing this bill, which was H.R. 5186 in the previous Congress, with Representative DELAURO because urgent action is still needed to protect our nation's oil and refined product commodities markets from artificial and excessive levels of volatility caused by the trading practices of certain Wall Street traders. Since 1991, Wall Street investment banks such as Goldman Sachs have created and marketed a new financial product known as commodity index funds, which are really energy speculation funds, gasoline gambles. These energy speculation funds track the financial performance of one or more commodities. If a speculation fund has an investment in oil and the value of oil goes up, then the value of the fund goes up; if the value of oil goes down, the value of the speculation fund goes down.

These investments have had an adverse effect on the operation of the markets for the commodities that comprise the funds. Hundreds of billions of dollars have been invested in various energy speculation funds, artificially inflating the prices of our commodities. While these energy speculation funds may be driving up prices for many different commodities, they are having an especially pernicious effect on energy commodities. According to testimony submitted to the House Natural Resources Committee, excessive speculation added nearly $1.00 to the per gallon price of gasoline last spring, and energy speculation funds appear to have been largely responsible. Due to the activities of these energy speculation funds, Wall Street investment banks have profited by introducing new and unprecedented levels of volatility and speculation into oil and refined product markets.

Energy speculation funds have changed the very nature of our commodities markets. Traditionally, the commodities market was dominated by companies who actually used the commodities to hedge the business risk associated with oil or refined products prices. Large oil, gasoline, diesel or jet fuel consumers such as airlines, trucking firms, and shipping services were the largest participants in these markets. Indeed, in 1996, companies who actually bought oil on the commodities market so they could use it owned 93% of the oil futures or derivatives in that market. Now, however, these companies only own 37% of the oil futures or derivatives in that market. The bulk of the remaining 63% is owned by speculators who have invested in these energy speculation funds, none of whom will actually use any of the oil or natural gas in which they have invested.

Given how much these energy speculation funds have hurt consumers and business, one might at least think that these energy speculation funds are good investment vehicles. Yet, all evidence is that they have provided mediocre returns in recent years. According to the Wall Street Journal, Standard and Poor's popular GSCI index provided just .08% in annual returns in 2012, far below the returns of the S&P 500. Worse, in 2011, the returns from the GSCI were actually negative. Unsurprisingly, institutional investors like pension funds are moving away from investing in energy speculation funds: Not only do they hurt average Americans and business, but they do not even provide excellent returns for their investors. In truth, the only group of people who seem to be benefiting from the existence of these funds is Wall Street.

Despite only being 22 years old, energy speculation funds have already had a profound impact on our country. They have increased the size of our commodities market. They have increased the volatility of our commodities prices. They have hurt consumers' wallets and small businesses by making them pay more at the pump. They have slowed the growth of our economy by requiring that we devote even more money to energy instead of creating new jobs. They do all these things, and they do not even provide much benefit to their own investors. These energy speculation funds are a danger to our economy, our financial system, and the average American's wallet.

The HITEC Act will restore order to our energy commodity markets and end this experiment. The bill will ban all new investment in energy commodities like light sweet crude oil, natural gas, heating oil, and gasoline by these commodity index funds from the date of enactment. The day the President signs this bill, energy speculation funds will not be allowed to grow any more if they count speculators among their investors. Existing energy speculation funds that continue to count speculators among their investors will then have two years to wind down their investments. As the average length of a "spot" commodity contract is one year, this should allow energy speculation funds that continue to house speculators more than enough time to wind down their investments in a fair and orderly fashion.

This bill does not prohibit energy speculation funds from investing in agricultural commodities like wheat or corn, nor does it prohibit those funds from investing in metals such as gold. The bill also does not implicate trading of electricity in any way, shape, or form. Instead, this bill just prohibits energy speculation funds from interfering with our energy commodities, a market that determines the prices for the fuels that power our economy.

This bill will end an unnecessary and harmful source of excessive price volatility that has only served to benefit Wall Street traders and has harmed our economy by pumping up oil, gasoline, and other refined product prices. Enactment of this legislation will address one major source of the pain American consumers have recently been feeling at the pump, and I once again urge all of my colleagues to cosponsor this critical legislation.

HONORING SHILO G. OSBORN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Shilo G. Osborn. Shilo is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and

leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 351, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Shilo has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Shilo has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Shilo has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Shilo G. Osborn for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO THE TRIUMPH OF AGRICULTURE EXPOSITION

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of the Midwest's premier indoor farm events, the 47th Annual Triumph of Agriculture Exposition.

The 47th Annual Triumph of Agriculture Exposition, or Ag Expo, will be held this coming March 6 and 7 at the CenturyLink Center in neighboring Omaha, Nebraska—mere miles from Council Bluffs, Iowa. The Triumph of Ag Expo is regarded as one of the country's largest indoor short-line farm machinery shows and remains the ideal opportunity to see new short-line farm equipment, products, and techniques under one roof.

Mr. Speaker, the work ethic of Iowa's farmers and the value that it provides to our nation cannot be overstated. It is a great honor to represent fine farmers and farming communities in the state of Iowa in the United States Congress. I commend the efforts of the Mid-America Farm and Ranch Machinery Council for sponsoring this year's Ag Expo, and I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in wishing all of our farmers a successful and plentiful harvest in 2013.

IN RECOGNITION OF PAMELA GREEN-JACKSON

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure and honor to extend my sincerest congratulations to Ms. Pamela Green-Jackson, Founder and CEO of the Youth Becoming Healthy Project (YBH), on being named a recipient of the 2012 Presidential Citizens Medal by President Barack Obama. Ms. Green-Jackson, along with the other medal recipients, will be honored at an event at the White House in Washington, DC on Friday, February 15, 2013.

An Albany, Georgia native, Ms. Green-Jackson serves as Public Affairs and Community Relations Specialist at the Marine Corps Logistics Base in Albany, a role she performs exceptionally well. She attended Albany State University and graduated from LaGrange College with a degree in Organizational Leadership. She also earned a Master of Science in Management degree from Troy University and is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Public Policy and Administration at Walden University.

After watching her only brother, Bernard, suffer from obesity-related illnesses that led to his death at the young age of 43, Ms. Green-Jackson founded Youth Becoming Healthy (YBH), a non-profit organization dedicated to reducing childhood obesity and helping young people develop healthy lifestyles through nutrition, fitness education and physical activity programs.

With obesity being the second leading cause of preventable death and the number one health threat in the U.S., Ms. Green-Jackson took it upon herself to lead the effort in implementing changes in schools and in policy to prevent children from suffering like her brother did. She has worked with school food service managers to promote healthier school lunches and vending machine contents as well as to implement safe physical activity programs. Expanding to the surrounding community, Ms. Green-Jackson spearheaded the Albany Savannah Family Wellness Challenge, which aims to engage the entire community in making healthy lifestyle and behavioral choices by creating a family and community support system.

Established in 1969, the Presidential Citizens Medal, the Nation's second-highest civilian honor, recognizes American citizens who have performed meritorious deeds of service for their country or their fellow citizens. The President calls on members of the public to nominate people in their lives who have demonstrated commitment to service within the community, who have helped their country or fellow citizens through an extraordinary act, whose service relates to a long-term or persistent problem, and whose service has had an impact on others' lives. Ms. Green-Jackson was named as a 2012 Citizens Medal recipient because of her work in schools and the community to combat obesity in youth and promote healthy lifestyle patterns that will serve them now and into the future.

Prior to receiving this prestigious honor, Ms. Green-Jackson was also named a 2009 CNN Hero for superior leadership, community service, and being an excellent role model and mentor. She was also recognized as the Department of Defense's 2010 Women's History Month STEM Winner for the Marine Corps and has been awarded the King Dream Award and the Congressional Black Caucus Leadership & Unsung Hero Award, among many others.

In addition to her work at MCLB and YHB, Ms. Green-Jackson is also active in numerous community organizations including the Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors and Legislative Affairs Committees, UGA Extension Advisory Council, Liberty House, and the Southwest Georgia Rural Health Collaborative.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Pamela Green-Jackson for her outstanding service to her community and her country. She is a dear friend and longtime supporter of mine and I know this award is well-deserved for she performs her numerous roles with humility, empathy and refinement. I commend Ms. Green-Jackson for her commitment to this worthy cause and her procurement of this esteemed and well-deserved award.

TRIBUTE TO JOSH AND JULIEANNA OGLE—RECIPIENTS OF THE TENNESSEE FARM BUREAU'S 2012 OUTSTANDING YOUNG FARMER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD AND 2012 ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AWARD

HON. SCOTT DesJARLAIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. DESJARLAIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Josh and Julieanna Ogle, two outstanding citizens of our community and a respected couple in the field of agriculture.

Josh and Julieanna were recently awarded the Tennessee Farm Bureau's 2012 Outstanding Young Farmer Achievement Award and the 2012 Environmental Stewardship Award, for their strong commitment to strengthening Tennessee's agricultural industry.

Both Josh and Julieanna grew up on family farms and attended Motlow State Community College. They have been married for 14 years and have three young children, Levi, Abi and Travis. The Ogles have continued the tradition of farm and family by partnering with Josh's parents at D&J River Farms. It is here that their agricultural achievements are translated into produce, growing roughly 4600 acres of cotton, corn, soybeans and wheat.

The Ogle's success is the product of hard work, an exceptional level of dedication and a respect for others that is unparalleled. Josh and Julieanna come from the old school line of thought that "it is better to give than receive." As such, they have volunteered untold hours at their local church and at cancer support fundraisers across the state of Tennessee.

While being highly-respected farmers, as well as a wonderful husband and wife, father and mother, the Ogles have still found time to impart their knowledge to farming's next generation by volunteering to speak to students of the Future Farmers of America organization.

Mr. Speaker, their work as mentors to young farmers is good news for Lincoln County as well as the entire state of Tennessee. If you think about all that the Ogles have been able to accomplish in their community and their industry, just think what will be achieved by future generations whose lives have been impacted by the Ogles.

On behalf of the people of Lincoln County, as well as Tennessee's entire Fourth Congressional District, I congratulate Josh and Julieanna Ogle as the 2012 recipients of the Tennessee Farm Bureau's achievement and environmental stewardship awards and I wish them continued success in the years to come.

HONORING MAINE WARDEN GREGORY "GREGG" SANBORN

HON. CHELLIE PINGREE

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to remember an exemplary individual and member of the Maine Warden Service whom we lost much too early in life.

Raised in Fryeburg, Major Gregory "Gregg" Sanborn rose through the ranks over 20 years to become second in command of the Maine Warden Service. For those who don't know, wearing the badge of a Maine Game Warden has to be one of the toughest jobs in the world. These highly trained law enforcement officers are responsible for patrolling miles of remote lands with little or no back up. A day on the job could require anything from braving extreme elements and rugged territory in search of lost hikers to catching and arresting well-armed poachers. Whether we hike, hunt or fish in the Maine woods, we all owe them a debt of gratitude for working so hard to protect our natural resources and keep us safe.

Being a Maine Game Warden was Sanborn's dream job and, throughout his career, he proved exemplary at it. As his colleagues eulogized at his memorial service, he earned the respect of all he came in contact with. On search-and-rescue missions, he wouldn't go home until the party was found. He would drive through the middle of the night and across the state to aid a fellow warden.

And few—if any—could break the law with him on the job. He issued more summons and warnings than any warden before him. Yet his fairness, calm demeanor and evenhandedness earned him the respect even of those he penalized. In his career, no one ever filed a complaint against him.

Sanborn also proved to be an effective leader and administrator. As Major, he strengthened the Maine Warden Service in the face of budget cuts while tightening recruiting standards to ensure that only the most qualified and passionate men and women were hired.

It goes without saying that Sanborn fought cancer bravely and honorably. As he said shortly before his death, "I lost, but I did not quit."

The loss is ours and his death at the age of 47 is tragic. Few Mainers will ever be missed by more. Over a thousand people attended his memorial service, and over a thousand people participated in a stem-cell drive in hopes of finding a match for his transplant.

I have no doubt the Maine Warden Service will carry on Sanborn's spirit and continue to do our state proud. But he was indeed a very special person whose loss will be felt for a long, long time. My thoughts go out to his wife and son, his family, and his brothers and sisters in the Maine Warden Service. I am truly grateful that our state had the privilege of benefiting from such a capable, committed, and good-hearted public servant.

IN HONOR OF THE CENTENNIAL OF FORD MOTOR COMPANY MANUFACTURING IN LOUISVILLE, KY

HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, 100 years ago, the Ford Motor Company began assembling automobiles in a small facility at 931 South Third Street in my hometown of Louisville, Kentucky. There, 17 employees built as many as 12 Model Ts a day.

A century later, Ford remains an integral part of the economic, social, and cultural heritage of Louisville and the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Between the recently retooled Louisville Assembly Plant and the Kentucky Truck Plant, Ford now employs more than 8,500 people in Louisville, where it continues to innovate and expand. On the road to that success, Ford and the River City have passed countless milestones together.

It was generations ago in Louisville when Ford began using the new automotive integrated assembly line, changing the old manner of building one car at a time and beginning a new era of industrial progress and growth.

It was in Louisville where one of the largest auto-worker union Locals in the nation, Local 862, was chartered on June 23, 1941, as the first United Auto Workers—Committee for Industrial Organization Local in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. To this day, Ford and UAW maintain a strong relationship that has been critical to its success.

It was in Louisville where a revitalized Ford met the postwar economic boom with the debut and production of the 1949 Ford, the first vehicle integration of body and fenders, which would set the standard for auto design in the future.

It was in Louisville where Ford built the South's biggest manufacturing facility under one roof, and then built a bigger one in 1955—the one-million-square-foot Assembly Plant at 2000 Fern Valley Road—and, again, in 1969, built the largest truck plant in the world, the Kentucky Truck Plant on Chamberlain Lane.

And it was in Louisville where, facing a changing economy and an uncertain future for American manufacturing, I worked closely with Ford leadership and then-Speaker of the House NANCY PELOSI to secure federal investments that would enable Ford to retool the Louisville Assembly Plant, hire more than 3,000 new workers, and begin making the vehicles of the future.

Today, the Louisville Assembly Plant is the largest Ford facility in North America, employing nearly 4,800 people who are producing a 2013 Escape every 44 seconds—faster and more efficiently than any other in Ford's history. The company supports tens of thousands of jobs throughout our region, helping strengthen Louisville families and our entire economic community. And in Louisville, we have shown the nation that the best days of American manufacturing haven't passed us by—they are signposts on the road ahead.

Mr. Speaker, as Ford Motor Company moves into the next 100 years of manufacturing in Louisville, I am confident they will continue to build on their impressive legacy, sustain our highly skilled Ford-UAW Louisville workforce, and work with leaders throughout our community to continue building innovative, world-class, high-quality vehicles for generations to come.

Congratulations to John Savona, Plant Manager of the Louisville Assembly Plant; Joe Bobnar, Plant Manager of the Kentucky Truck Plant; Steve Stone, Louisville Assembly Plant Building Chairman for the UAW-Local 862; Scott Eskridge, Kentucky Truck Plant Building Chairman for the UAW-Local 862; Todd Dunn, President of the UAW-Local 862; and to all the employees and retirees of Ford Motor Company on 100 years of success in Louisville.

HONORING ZACHARY CULL

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Zachary Cull. Zachary is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 351, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Zachary has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Zachary has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Zachary has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Zachary Cull for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

A TRIBUTE TO MARGARET HEINTZ

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Margaret Heintz, a long time member of the Governing Board of EightCAP, Inc. Margret recently retired from her position at the age of 93—leaving as a highly respected and beloved figure within the community.

Her many years of involvement with EightCAP provided a vast array of community services to many in–need individuals contributing to programs like Head Start, and Michigan Works, as well as assisting as a senior companion, promoting charter school funding, and providing weatherization programs for low-income home renters.

Margaret has served on the EightCAP board for over 30 years, providing thorough oversight and a vast array of experience to the agency's many causes. During her tenure, she assisted in overseeing more than $330,000,000 in State, Local, and Federal funding to state programs. These programs provided beneficial services to Ionia, Montcalm, Gratiot, and Isabella counties.

Margaret recently stated that her reason for retirement was to attend more to her large family of 8 children, 28 grandchildren, and 38 great-grandchildren—further exemplifying her everlasting desire to give to others. On a personal level, Margaret has been a friend and an acquaintance of mine for over 50 years.

On behalf of the Fourth District of Michigan, I congratulate Margaret Heintz upon her retirement and thank her for her service to the people of Michigan.

TRIBUTE TO OFFICER MICHAEL CRAIN

HON. MARK TAKANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague, Congressman KEN CALVERT, to ask that the House of Representatives join me in honoring and remembering Officer Michael Crain of the Riverside Police Department, who died in service of our community.

Born in Anaheim, California, Officer Crain was raised in the Riverside area. After attending Crafton Hills College in Yucaipa for a year, Michael joined the United States Marine Corps as a rifleman in the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit, 3rd Battalion 1st Marines. He served two deployments in Kuwait and was promoted from Squad Leader to Sergeant. He was then stationed in Camp Pendleton where he taught Military Operations in Urban Terrain. For his brave service, Michael was awarded the Good Conduct Medal, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon with one star, a Certificate of Commendation, and the Rifle Marksmanship Badge.

After his honorable discharge, Crain attended the Riverside County Sheriff's Academy and, upon graduating, joined the Riverside Police Department, where he served our community for 11 years.

On February 7, 2013, Officer Crain was fatally shot in an apparent ambush by former LAPD Officer Christopher Dorner while he was on routine patrol and parked at a stoplight with a trainee officer. It is disheartening that a man who fought bravely for our country overseas has lost his life in such a senseless act of violence in his own community.

Officer Crain is survived by his wife Regina, ten-year-old son Ian and four-year-old daughter Kaitlyn. We send our thoughts and prayers to his family and friends and urge our community, and the entire nation, to forever remember Officer Michael Crain.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, on February 14, 2013, I missed one recorded vote on the House floor. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall 42.

A TRIBUTE TO MONTROSE'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the community of Montrose, California upon its 100th Anniversary. For over a century, this extraordinary community has grown and thrived as the center of local commerce for residents of the Crescenta-Canada Valley.

Montrose, literally meaning "pink mountain" in French, was named by French sailors enamored with the beautiful pink mountains that they could see from sea. The area was first inhabited by the Gabrielino-Tongva Indians and later settled by Don Jose Maria Verdugo who was awarded the land by the Spanish Crown. In 1913, the Holmes Watson real estate agency hosted an enormous barbeque to promote the new town of Montrose with the intention of garnering interest in the 300 acres of land available for auction. This is when the subdivision of Montrose took place. For the past century, Montrose has prospered, overcoming setbacks such as the flood of 1934. Recently, multiple bear sightings in the backyards of residents have brought Montrose to the public's attention.

Montrose Avenue was built as the main business district of the community and touted as the widest road in Los Angeles County. Although this plan never came to fruition, nearby Honolulu Avenue became the economic center of Montrose and in 1967 the Montrose Shopping Park opened. To this day Montrose has flourished with nearly 200 independently owned businesses; some of which include apparel, art, dance studios, restaurants, and bakeries.

Montrose has a diverse population of residents nestled in the beautiful San Gabriel Mountains and within a minute's drive of downtown Los Angeles. Every year, residents enjoy annual events such as the Montrose Christmas Parade, an Arts and Crafts Festival, and ceremonies honoring our veterans.

I am honored to recognize Montrose, with its rich cultural history and flourishing community and ask all Members to join us in congratulating Montrose upon it 100th anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO BRADLEY BAUDLER

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and honor Bradley Baudler, an 18-year-old 4-H'er of Fontanelle, Iowa, who has achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service in his community from the 2013 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program.

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program is our country's largest youth recognition program based entirely on volunteer community service. The program was created in conjunction with Prudential and the National Association of Secondary School Principals to honor middle and high school students for outstanding service to benefit others at the local, state, and national level. Since 1995, more than 345,000 American youths have participated in this excellent program.

Bradley was recently selected as one of Iowa's four distinguished finalists for creating a weeklong camp for 4th and 5th graders. Mr. Baudler's camp, "Brains and Basketball", consists of 14 teen mentors teaching science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) lessons while mixing in basketball drills and techniques. Bradley's goal for the camp is to bolster young students' interest in STEM subjects through the popularity of athletics.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Mr. Baudler for his sincere dedication to positively impacting the lives of others in his community and beyond. Bradley's commitment to a cause greater than himself is a testament to the high-quality character and unwavering work ethic instilled in Iowans both young and old. Our future is bright with young people like Bradley, and it is an honor to represent him and his family in the United States Congress. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Bradley, thanking his supportive family, and thanking all of those involved in this wonderful project for their life-changing efforts.

HONORING DR. BEVERLY MITCHELL-BROOKS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Beverly Mitchell-Brooks, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Urban League of Greater Dallas and North Central Texas. Dr. Mitchell-Brooks, a native born Texan from South Dallas, is the first woman to lead the Dallas Urban League since its founding in 1967.

Dr. Mitchell-Brooks has proudly served as Dallas Urban League President and CEO since 1990, and has helped the Dallas Urban League to achieve its prominence. Under Dr. Mitchell-Brooks' leadership, the Dallas Urban League has grown to serve more than 60,000 clients by providing comprehensive employment training, housing and education services, and specialized ex-offender re-entry programs to low and middle income families throughout Dallas County. The Dallas Urban League has been praised for its remarkable success in implementing these programs, and has been the recipient of numerous federal grants in recognition of their successes.

Dr. Mitchell-Brooks is also widely recognized for her diverse achievements outside of her work with the Dallas Urban League. Dr. Mitchell-Brooks, in her capacity as an environmental specialist for the EPA and the City of Dallas, was charged with analyzing lead contamination in West Dallas, and consequently contributed to the closing of hazardous smelters in that area. She also served as Director of Public Affairs for the Dallas Area Rapid Transit, DART, system, where she expanded access to public transportation for working families by establishing the first crosstown bus route to Oak Cliff.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Mitchell-Brooks deserves great recognition for her endless efforts to empower members of the Dallas community. Dr. Mitchell-Brooks has demonstrated leadership in bringing community-oriented services to Dallas, and in making those services accessible to individuals of all backgrounds. She has devoted her life working to improve the quality of life for countless individuals, and I join with my constituents in expressing my incredible gratitude and appreciation for all that Dr. Mitchell-Brooks has done for Dallas, and the great State of Texas.

NATIONAL MARFAN AWARENESS MONTH

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to raise awareness of Margan syndrome and related heritable connective tissue disorders by observing National Marfan Awareness Month.

Marfan syndrome is a rare genetic condition affecting roughly 1 in 5,000 Americans. Marfan syndrome impacts the connective tissue throughout the body, which can lead to various health issues. Some of these health issues can be disabling or even fatal. In Marfan patients the largest artery in the body, the aorta, can weaken, enlarge, and rupture. By raising awareness today I seek to promote recognition and early diagnosis of Marfan syndrome so that serious cardiac events can be prevented.

Early diagnosis and proper treatment are the keys to managing Marfan syndrome and living a full life. I am pleased to announce that the American Heart Association and the American College of Cardiology have released new treatment guidelines for thoracic aortic disease. Since recognition and proper treatment are the major components of preventing the most serious health issues, I call on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to work closely with the Marfan syndrome community to raise awareness of these conditions and the new treatment guidelines.

While there is currently no cure for Marfan syndrome, efforts are underway to enhance our understanding of the condition and improve patient care. I applaud the National Institutes of Health, particularly the National, Heart, Lung and Blood Institute and the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculo skeletal and Skin Diseases for their research efforts in this regard. I encourage NIH to expand research efforts in this area moving forward.

On behalf of the Marfan syndrome and related heritable connective tissue disorders community, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing February as National Marfan Awareness Month.

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join millions of people across the nation to celebrate Black History Month. This year's theme, ''At the Crossroads of Freedom and Equality: The Emancipation Proclamation and the March on Washington,'' acknowledges two pivotal impacts on American history.

On January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln signed the proclamation to end slavery in the South and to preserve a republic for all people. A century later, hundreds of thousands of people of all backgrounds marched to the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., seeking equality for everyone in America.

It was also where Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered his famous ''I Have A Dream'' speech which echoes through the nation even until this day. Both events marked the beginning of endless opportunities for minorities serving as foundations for the structure of public organizations of the 21st century.

Fighting for equality is a constant struggle that requires the efforts of all of us in our time. As we celebrate the 150th year of the Emancipation Proclamation and the 50th anniversary of the March of Washington, we must keep working towards progress by reducing poverty and encouraging higher education in our communities.

I have dedicated my life to promoting equality for all as I continue to remember the racial and social injustices that took place many years ago. I will remain persistent in advocating for progress alongside my fellow Colleagues in Congress.

THE THREAT OF CLIMATE CHANGE

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to one of the single most important environmental crises facing our Nation and the global family: the threat of global warming. This past Tuesday, President Obama spoke in this chamber about the necessity of addressing global warming in order to avoid imminent, disastrous consequences.

The science of global warming is clear and empirical: the earth's atmosphere is getting warmer, due to an increase in carbon emissions from burning fossil fuels.

As a result, we are experiencing more violent and turbulent storms, longer drought seasons, and dangerous and costly wild fires in our nation's wooded areas and forests. Now is not the time to debate whether global warming is real or not, but to begin bringing together elected officials, the scientific, business, environmental, and NGO communities to come up with a comprehensive and sustainable clean energy road map for America.

I strongly agree with President Obama that Congress must take immediate action to address climate change. America is one of the most technologically advanced, innovative, and wealthiest nations in the history of the world. We already have the scientific expertise and resources needed to reduce our carbon emissions and quickly transition to clean sources of energy that can power our homes, factories, and automobiles.

The good news is that by quickly transitioning away from fossil fuels towards renewable sources of energy, we can create scores of new good paying jobs, while at the same time, reducing the threat of climate change—before it is too late.

There were those who once said that we couldn't increase the fuel efficiency of our vehicles—but we did. They said we couldn't reduce our dependence on coal—but we did. When I was just a child, there were those who said that our nation could not build the Hoover Dam and provide power to millions in the Southwest—but we did. The cries of impossibility are nothing new; I have heard them my whole life. They are just as misguided now, as they were then.

The Earth is getting warmer. Our best scientists having been telling us for decades that we need to address the problem, but we have not paid sufficient attention to them. We are literally at a do or die moment in our history. We've taken important steps to address climate change, but they aren't nearly enough, given the catastrophic implications of continued foot dragging.

America cannot afford storms like Hurricane Katrina or a Hurricane Sandy every year. Our farmers and our family tables cannot afford droughts year after year. Our children and grandchildren cannot afford a New York City flooded by higher sea levels, or a breadbasket that is too scorched to feed the country, or more frequent heat waves that place thousands of low-income and elderly persons in peril.

We must act now to speed up the transition to renewable resources, reduce carbon pollution, and usher in a new era of technological development. Remember—our automotive industry was on the brink of collapse. Yet, thanks to timely government investment and the efforts of our greatest asset—the American worker—we are now manufacturing the best cars in history.

We need to address our transportation concerns in an environmentally friendly way. There should be more electrically augmented automobiles filling America's garages and our roads. We need more Chevy Volts and Ford Energi's coming off the assembly lines in Michigan and other states. Auto emissions need to be even lower. We must invest in clean public transportation systems, such as light rail and electric bus transportation. America can, and should, be the envy of clean energy enthusiasts around the world.

We need to modernize our power grid to leverage wind and solar. Our rivers and tides are resources that we need to utilize. By creating clean energy through these technologies, we can ensure a stable future for our nation. We will ensure that our rivers are full, not dry. We will preserve thousands of miles of coastlines for our next generation. We will keep our farms green, our supermarkets well-stocked, and our families well-fed.

I encourage my fellow members to heed the President's call to action and pass bipartisan reforms that will lead to a future safe from the climate calamities.

HONORING THE WORK OF DR. SOLOMON GOLOMB

HON. KAREN BASS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to recognize Distinguished Professor of Electrical Engineering and Mathematics at the University of Southern California (USC), Dr. Solomon Golomb. On February 2, 2013, Dr. Golomb was named a National Medal of Science laureate by President Obama for his outstanding contributions to the realm of communications technology. His innovation and dedication to the advancement of science has shaped our ability to communicate via cell phone as well as our ability to communicate in deep space.

Dr. Golomb had an illustrious academic career prior to working at USC. He received a

Ph.D. in Mathematics from Harvard University as well as two honorary doctorate degrees. He was a Fulbright Fellow, and is currently a member of the National Academy of Engineering as well as a Fellow at both the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) and the American Association of the Advancement of Science (AAAS). He has received numerous awards and medals for his work including the USC Presidential Medallion and the Shannon Award of the Information Theory Society of the IEEE.

Dr. Golomb started his career at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, where he played a key role in formulating the design of deep-space communications for subsequent lunar and planetary explorations. After joining USC as a professor in 1963, he became one of the ''Magnificent Seven'' founders of the USC Communications Sciences Institute, which has made profound contributions to mathematics and engineering, particularly in interplanetary communications. His efforts have helped to make USC a center for communications research.

Dr. Golomb's contributions have touched our lives in numerous ways. His pioneering work in shift register sequences has extensive military, industrial and consumer applications. Today, millions of cell phones utilize technology based on Golomb's contributions to the field. His mathematical coding schemes made it possible for us to see clear video images from the Mars Rover Curiosity. And he has been referred to as ''the godfather of Tetris'' for creating polyominoes that inspired the invention of the tile-matching puzzle video game.

USC has long been a center for scientific innovation and I am proud to have such an incredible leader like Dr. Golomb working in California's 37th Congressional District.

IN MEMORY OF NANCY FLAKE, A JOURNALIST'S JOURNALIST

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember a journalist's journalist and a dear friend.

This week, Montgomery County was saddened to read the news about the loss of Nancy Flake, a journalist who cared deeply about our community.

A short, but valiant battle with cancer took Nancy away from us too soon, but I wanted the nation to know more about this amazing woman because I will always appreciate her diligence, her fairness and her obvious love for all things education-related.

William Gordon and Julia Ann Roberts welcomed their daughter, Nancy to this world in Bartlesville, Oklahoma on May 10, 1956. Nancy would continue to love all things 'Sooner' long after becoming a Texan.

She taught herself to read at age 4 and never stopped reading everything she could get her hands on. She loved music and was a self-taught guitar player. Nancy earned her journalism degree at the University of Central Oklahoma and got to pursue her love of reporting here in Montgomery County where her reporting and columns, earned the respect of public officials like me, our community, Courier readers, and her peers who showered her with numerous awards.

But this passionate reporter was so much more than words on a page, she was a dedicated mother and friend. Mason and Marty can attest to both their mother's protective nature and her intense pride in their accomplishments in high school and now in college. Her friends have too many stories to recount here today of her willingness to listen to any problem, her wise counsel towards solutions and her ability to make them laugh even in the toughest of times.

Just last month, Nancy learned she had cancer and she fought it with the same strength, courage and humor she brought to journalism and has passed down to her sons, who were with her when she left this world to become Heaven's intrepid reporter.

Today, her sons, her father, brother, Bill Roberts Jr., his wife Jayne; her sister, Carol Starrett and husband David; numerous nieces and nephews and a myriad of friends, coworkers and members of the community she touched with her gifts, are saying goodbye at a special memorial service at The Woodlands United Methodist Church.

Booker T. Washington once said ''Success in life is founded upon attention to the small things rather than the large things; to the every day things nearest to us rather than to the things that are remote and uncommon.'' Nancy helped us all understand and appreciate the every day things nearest to us in ways we might not have appreciated without her insight. She cherished the small things with her precious sons and now they will cherish wonderful memories knowing she is in our Lord's loving embrace.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF DONALD McKINNEY TO THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE RESIDENTS OF CALIFORNIA'S 49TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend the exceptional work of Donald McKinney over the course of his 11 year service as a District Representative in my Vista, California office. In that role, Don was my principal representative to the communities of Oceanside, Fallbrook, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton and military and veterans throughout the greater San Diego area.

Don's work was exceptional throughout his tenure, and he distinguished himself as a dedicated advocate for the Marines and their family members aboard Camp Pendleton. From housing and medical care, to transportation and infrastructure, Don took up any cause he believed would improve the quality of life for our Marines and dependents.

Shortly after I took office in 2001, we became aware of appalling conditions many Marine families were living in on base. The housing stock at Pendleton was worn out, some of it dated back as far as World War II, and many dwellings had mold contamination and other unsafe conditions. Don met repeatedly with base officials and over the course of many visits, carefully documented the housing conditions and assembled a binder of facts and photos. He walked miles and miles in the Pentagon halls meeting with any military or civilian leader who had a role in building or maintaining Marine housing. Don made sure that decision makers 2,000 miles away saw the pictures and understood the urgency so that it wouldn't get lost as just another line on a spreadsheet or item in a report. Marines and their families were living in these conditions, and that was unacceptable.

Today, Camp Pendleton provides some of the finest housing available to servicemembers and their dependents. Much of the older family housing has been torn down and replaced and the rest fully renovated. The base now has 29 new Bachelor Enlisted Quarters buildings. Don's advocacy raised awareness within the chain of command and contributed significantly to the improvement of housing quality aboard Camp Pendleton.

Don's work earned him the good-will of the Marine Commanders at Pendleton and he worked to ensure they had strong relationships with local leaders in adjacent communities. This paid dividends most recently when local, state and base officials work collaboratively to improve the flow of traffic at the Fallbrook Gate, reducing wait times to enter the base from 30 minutes to less than one minute. This small project provides a notable improvement in the quality of life for civilian and military personnel who commute to jobs on base each day.

Don facilitated more than 500 hours of negotiations between the Fallbrook Public Utilities District and Camp Pendleton to bring the sides to agreement to settle water rights litigation that has been pending for more than 50 years. A final draft settlement is now awaiting final approval at Marine Corps Headquarters in Washington, DC.

Finally, Don was an advocate for improved medical care for autistic military children, working to make sure they have access to the most effective treatments and to raise awareness so they can gain access to the care they need and deserve.

In a last email to his colleagues, Don shared the experiences that were most meaningful over the years. Helping an injured Marine navigate a civilian bureaucracy to get a contractors license and a single mother clear an error by the Justice Department that allowed her to run a daycare center meant the most throughout his years.

Along with these notable achievements, Don did all of the things our aides do on our behalf when Congress is in session and we are away from our districts—countless meetings, appearances at the local Rotary or Chamber of Commerce luncheon, awards presentations and other public appearances.

I extend heartfelt thanks to Donald McKinney for his good work and exceptional service on behalf of the House of Representatives and the constituents of the 49th District.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF RUTH SARRO

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask for the House's attention today to recognize Ruth Sarro who is retiring on March 31st.

Mrs. Sarro began her career as a 4–H agent over 30 years ago. Working with the 4–H of Alabama was the fulfillment of her childhood dreams. As a child, Mrs. Sarro enjoyed participating in her local chapter. She competed in local, county, district and even state 4–H contests. Her fond memories led her to pursue opportunities within the 4–H system.

In 1980, she graduated from the University of Montevallo in Alabama and began working in the Bullock County extension office as a 4–H agent. In 1982, Mrs. Sarro transferred to the Calhoun County Extension office in Anniston, Alabama. During her years as a 4–H agent she worked extensively with schools and teachers in Alabama. In fact, she worked with over 22,000 students between 1980 and 2004.

In 2004, the Alabama Cooperative Extension System was restructured, and she became a Regional 4–H agent. She works with 97 volunteers in Calhoun, Cleburne and Randolph counties.

Mrs. Sarro will be remembered for her dedication to the 4–H systems of Alabama. She is a true success story of what dedication to a cause can bring about. Countless students, teachers, volunteers and members of the community have been inspired by her.

Mr. Speaker, we join her family and friends in celebrating Mrs. Sarro's retirement.

HONORING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF WARNER ROBINS, GA

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, please join me in wishing the city of Warner Robins, Georgia a very happy 70th birthday. It is appropriate at this milestone to reflect and celebrate their rich history and heritage.

From the days when the community was known as York. Growing to the tiny hamlet of Wellston, Warner Robins was born in 1943 with a population of no more than 75 residents. Little more than a train stop, the city became a boom town. From those early slow growing days, none foresaw nor heard the echoes of winged giants which would reverberate through their skies with the birth of Robins Air Force Base. Together the city and military community formed a renowned partnership unlike any in our great country.

From World War II to today's global conflicts, the men and women of robins AFB have been an essential ingredient in our U.S. Air Force's ability to provide airpower for freedom around the world. That spirit of patriotism is reflected in the Warner Robins city motto ''Every day in middle Georgia is Armed Forces Appreciation Day''—not just words, but a creed spoken and lived every day in Warner Robins by its government and citizens.

That constant theme throughout the years has been a mainstay of Team Robins. Staying ready when our nation was least ready has been the challenge of Robins to play a critical role in repair and supply, and the city to be work force ready. Warner Robins is proud to be home to a world class U.S. air force installation like Robins Air Force Base.

Likewise, the city's award winning education system and college presence, outstanding athletics and sports facility, renowned museum of aviation, and unique southern hospitality make Warner Robins—known as Georgia's international city—a great place to live, work, play and retire. We extend wishes to all the citizens of Warner Robins for seventy more years of excellence.

HONORING LIBERTY IN BAHRAIN

HON. TED S. YOHO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, two years ago this month the people of Bahrain began a movement to seek constitutional reforms where power was shared with the people. They took to the streets impassioned by a desire to make sure that government serves the people, not the other way around. They yearned for the fundamental human right of freedom and aspired to have reforms that would grant them constitutional rights and self-governance.

Earlier this week, I met with three human rights defenders from Bahrain and they told me about some of the terrible atrocities that have occurred in their country as a response to the protests. They spoke of repression, harassment, and imprisonment. I fear that these responses not only threaten stability in the region but send a signal of oppressed liberty throughout the world. I was struck by the bravery of these young people and applaud their quest for liberty.

Our Constitution is critically important to us. The Bahraini people do not have that all important safeguard to their freedoms and they understandably want it. As Americans, we should welcome the Bahraini people's self-desire to have constitutional reforms and not take action to hinder it.

While I respect our history with Bahrain and our mutual foreign policy interests in the region, their government's actions over the last two years trouble me. It is my hope that the government of Bahrain takes the steps that they have promised their citizens and move towards the constitutional reforms that are so desperately desired by the people.

TRIBUTE TO DYLAN DECLERCK

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and honor Dylan DeClerck, a 17-year-old senior of Valley High School in West Des Moines, Iowa, who has achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service in his community from the 2013 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program.

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program is our country's largest youth recognition program based entirely on volunteer community service. The program was created in conjunction with Prudential and the National Association of Secondary School Principals to honor middle and high school students for outstanding service to benefit others at the local, state, and national level. Since 1995, more than 345,000 American youths have participated in this excellent program.

Dylan was recently selected as one of Iowa's four distinguished finalists for creating and organizing a baseball league for young children who could not otherwise afford to play our national pastime. Dylan promoted his league, ''Opportunity on Deck'', by meeting with local ball club officials for support and sponsorships. Throughout the summer, Mr. DeClerck organized clinic activities and promoted the league through local media. There is no doubt Dylan's selfless efforts brought immeasurable joy and lasting benefits to the young people that participated in Opportunity on Deck.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Mr. DeClerck for his sincere dedication to positively impacting the lives of others in his community. Dylan's commitment to a cause greater than himself is a testament to the high-quality character and unwavering work ethic instilled in Iowans both young and old. Our future is bright with young people like Dylan, and it is an honor to represent him and his family in the United States Congress. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Dylan, thanking his supportive family, and thanking all of those involved in this wonderful project for their life-changing efforts.

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 15, Adjournment Resolution.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, page S791

Measures Passed:

Adjournment Resolution: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 15, providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate. **Page S791**

Washington's Farewell Address—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding the resolution of the Senate of January 24, 1901, the traditional reading of Washington's Farewell Address take place on Monday, February 25, 2013, following the prayer and pledge; and that Senator Ayotte be recognized to deliver the address; and that following the conclusion of the reading, the Senate proceed to morning business, under the order of Thursday, February 14, 2013. **Page S791**

Messages from the House

Adjournment: Senate convened at 12:01:00 p.m. and adjourned, pursuant to the provisions of H. Con. Res. 15, at 12:02:26 p.m., until 2 p.m. on Monday, February 25, 2013. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S791.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 61 public bills, H.R. 741–801; 1 private bill, H.R. 802; and 8 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 15–17; and H. Res. 72–76 were introduced. **Pages H593–98**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H598–99**

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Fortenberry to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H553**

Suspension: The House agreed to suspend the rules and agree to the following measure:

Condemning the Government of North Korea for its flagrant and repeated violations of multiple United Nations Security Council resolutions: H. Res. 65, amended, to condemn the Government of North Korea for its flagrant and repeated violations of multiple United Nations Security Council resolutions, for its repeated provocations that threaten international peace and stability, and for its February 12, 2013, test of a nuclear device, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 412 yeas to 2 nays, Roll No. 45. **Pages H555–58, H568–69**

Eliminating the 2013 statutory pay adjustment for Federal employees: The House passed H.R. 273, to eliminate the 2013 statutory pay adjustment for Federal employees, by a yea-and-nay vote of 261 yeas to 154 nays, Roll No. 44. **Pages H558–66, H567–68**

H. Res. 66, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to yesterday, February 14th.

Adjournment Resolution: The House agreed to H. Con. Res. 15, providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate, by a yea-and-nay vote of 222 yeas to 190 nays, Roll No. 43. **Pages H566–67**

Moment of Silence: The House observed a moment of silence in memory of Cardiss Collins, former Member of Congress. **Page H569**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H576.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H567, H567–68 and H568. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 1 p.m.

Committee Meetings

THE ROLE OF THE STATES IN PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT UNDER CURRENT LAW

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy held a hearing entitled ''The Role of the States in Protecting the Environment Under Current Law''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee concluded a meeting to adopt the Committee's Oversight Plan for the 113th Congress. The Committee adopted its Oversight Plan for the 113th Congress.

ASSESSING DHS 10 YEARS LATER

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Oversight and Management Efficiency held a hearing entitled ''Assessing DHS 10 Years Later: How Wisely is DHS Spending Taxpayer Dollars?''. Testimony was heard from Shawn Reese, Analyst, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Policy, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; Cathleen Berrick, Managing Director, Homeland Security and Justice Issues, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

OPERATING UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS IN THE NATIONAL AIRSPACE SYSTEM

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Oversight held a hearing entitled ''Operating Unmanned Aircraft Systems in the National Airspace System: Assessing Research and Development Efforts to Ensure Safety''. Testimony was heard from Karlin Toner, Director, Joint Planning and Development Office, Federal Aviation Administration; Edgar Waggoner, Director, Integrated Systems Research Program Office, National Aeronautics and Space Administration; and Gerald Dillingham, Director, Civil Aviation Issues, Government Accountability Office.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2013

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

2 p.m., Monday, February 25

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senator Ayotte will deliver Washington's Farewell Address, to be followed by a period of morning business.

At 5 p.m., Senate will begin consideration of the nomination of Robert E. Bacharach, of Oklahoma, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit, and vote on confirmation of the nomination at approximately 5:30 p.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 p.m., Monday, February 25

House Chamber

Program for Monday: To be announced.

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