

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO IOWA DONOR NETWORK

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize the Iowa Donor Network for twenty years of saving and enhancing lives in our great state through organ and tissue donation.

The Iowa Donor Network plays a unique role in our state as the sole, federally designated organ procurement organization. For two decades, this remarkable organization has saved and improved countless lives through organ and tissue recovery. By expertly employing the five core values of care, responsibility, adaptability, integrity, and respect, the Iowa Donor Network has made great strides towards fulfilling its vision of increasing Iowa's viable donations and reducing waiting periods for those in need of transplants.

Mr. Speaker, the great work done every day by the Iowa Donor Network, and all organ procurement organizations across the country, provides a crucial and life-changing service to our communities. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in saying "yes" to individual organ donation and I thank all organ and tissue donors for their invaluable and selfless contribution. It is a great honor to represent so many Iowans in the United States Congress who have been positively impacted by organ and tissue donation, and I look forward to many more years of the Iowa Donor Network's positive impact in Iowa.

CELEBRATING MR. MERVIN FIELD

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize Mr. Mervin Field on the occasion of the Tiburon Heritage & Arts Commission event to be held on March 10, 2014 to honor more than seven decades of Mr. Fields' service. As founder of the Field Poll, the results of which could make or break careers, he has had tremendous influence in the political history of California and has been the recipient of numerous awards for his work, including the New York-based Market Research Council's Hall of Fame award.

Mervin also served his country by joining the Merchant Marines in 1942, where he was on active duty for three years in the North Atlantic and South Pacific.

After years of such impressive accomplishments, Mr. Field was awarded by the Trustees of the California State University with an honorary Doctor of Laws degree, noting that he had become "a highly respected leader" and "a trusted advisor to academia, civic associa-

tions, governmental institutions and the business community."

Mervin is a community treasure, and we are grateful for his long and impressive record of service. Please join me in expressing deep appreciation to Mr. Mervin Field for his many years of dedication and long-lasting impact on California politics.

HONORING CARTER R. THOMPSON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Carter R. Thompson. Carter 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 310, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Carter has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Carter 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, Carter has earned the rank of Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say, has become a Brotherhood Member of the Order of the Arrow, and serves as his troop's Senior Patrol Leader. Carter has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Carter cleared a trail and replaced a vandalized handrail at the organized campground at Longview Lake in Lee's Summit, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Carter R. Thompson for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

ELECTRICITY SECURITY AND AFFORDABILITY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3826) to provide direction to the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency regarding the establishment of standards for emissions of any greenhouse gas from fossil fuel-fired electric utility generating units, and for other purposes:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to H.R. 3826, which would short-circuit an ongoing process to engage stakeholders and develop reasonable, effective controls on carbon pollution from power plants.

This pollution poses a serious threat to public health. According to the American Public

Health Association, about half of the U.S. population lives in areas where air pollution is linked to illness, including asthma, heart attacks, lung cancer, and stroke. Moreover, an overwhelming majority of climate scientists agree that carbon pollution is linked to climate change, causing sea-level rise and more extreme weather events across the globe. That is why the Supreme Court has confirmed that the Environmental Protection Agency has the authority under the Clean Air Act to address carbon pollution and safeguard our health and natural resources.

Power plants are the largest source of carbon pollution in the United States, but their carbon emissions are completely unregulated. Currently, the Environmental Protection Agency is engaged with stakeholders to develop a rule for emissions for new power plants, and they plan to address existing power plants as well. These rules would use available technologies for carbon capture and sequestration.

Today's legislation would halt that process. It leaves pollution controls on new power plants to the discretion of the plants themselves, which are unlikely to take action unless an industry-wide standard is in place. And it effectively repeals the Environmental Protection Agency's authority to limit carbon pollution from existing power plants.

By preventing any limitation on the largest source of carbon pollution in the United States, this bill recklessly endangers public health and the environment. I urge a "no" vote.

HOMEOWNER FLOOD INSURANCE AFFORDABILITY ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 4, 2014

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3370, the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2014. In my home state of New Jersey, home and business owners are continuing to recover from the devastation caused by Superstorm Sandy, now more than a year ago. Even for property owners not affected by Sandy, premium increases under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) have proven to be unaffordable and unsustainable. Lawmakers on both sides of the aisle have been working in recent months to craft the compromise before us today, and it is my hope that following bipartisan passage here in the House, this legislation will quickly pass the Senate and be signed into law by the President.

The Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act will repeal certain rate increase "triggers" that would result in dramatic premium increase from the sale of a home or lapse of a policy. The bill will restore "grandfathered" rates for home and business that were remapped into higher risk areas, often

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

resulting in catastrophic rate increases. The bill places caps on the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) ability to increase policy rates on primary homes, now capped at 15 percent annually under the bill, and enact additional caps to ensure affordability, while providing FEMA with the resources to complete a flood insurance affordability study within 18 months of the bill's enactment. This legislation will provide relief to families that have already been hit with substantial premium increases, and to communities that successfully challenge redrawn FEMA flood maps. Finally, these changes will be paid for by enacting a \$25/year surcharge on insured primary residences, and a \$250/year surcharge on all other insured properties.

I expect that the passage of this bill will provide relief and certainty to those in New Jersey and around the country dealing with premium increase, but we must not ignore the need to plan for a changing climate, sea level rise, and an increased risk of extreme weather and flooding. For those living in flood prone areas the risk of flood will only increase, stressing the limited resources available under the NFIP, and continuing to devastate communities and families.

I expect flood insurance is an issue that Congress will need to continue to revisit in coming years, but for now I believe the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act will serve to address many of the concerns I have heard from home and business owners, flood plain managers, insurers, and REALTORS in Central New Jersey.

HOMEOWNER FLOOD INSURANCE AFFORDABILITY ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 4, 2014

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I support H.R. 3370, the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2013, because we need to fix the National Flood Insurance Program, create more transparency in how it is administered and get the program out of debt. This bill is a step forward in that direction. In addition to lowering rates for some policyholders who have seen sharp spikes in their annual premiums, the bill requires FEMA to implement a flood mapping program that results in technically credible flood hazard data; designate a flood insurance advocate to educate policyholders and coordinate with local officials; consult with communities before using new flood maps; and make publicly available any changes to rate tables and underwriting guidelines before instituting any such changes.

I also believe, however, that we could do more. By rushing this bill through the Congress we failed even to debate, let alone address, the Program's impact on non-primary residences—moderately priced second homes, small businesses, houses of worship, schools, non-profits. While H.R. 3370 will stop the spike in premiums for some primary homeowners, it will do nothing to keep premiums affordable for the small businesses that provide vital services to and strengthen the economies of coastal communities; and it will do nothing to ensure that the churches, schools, and non-

profit institutions that anchor these communities will be able to afford their rising premiums. On the contrary, the bill includes a premium surcharge of \$250 per year on second homes and non-residential properties as a way to offset its cost.

Clearly, H.R. 3370 is not perfect, but it is an improvement over the status quo and that's why I will vote for it. On balance, I feel that it is better to accept an imperfect bill than wait for a perfect measure. However, we must continue to seek opportunities to address these defects as we move forward.

HONORING THE 10TH ANNUAL VETERANS SNOWMOBILE RIDE

HON. DAN BENISHEK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 10th annual Veterans Snowmobile Ride, which will occur on Saturday, March 8, 2014.

This event, founded by Don and Diane Reed, veterans and owners of the Fox River Motel and sponsored by the Seney Snowmobile Association, leads riders through approximately one hundred miles of the scenic Upper Peninsula of Michigan in honor of those who have fought to defend the American way of life.

Beginning in 2004 with just 50 riders, it has grown to nearly 300 in the 2013 ride. The Veterans Snowmobile Ride has the distinction of being the largest veterans ride of this type in the United States.

In addition to those who ride their snowmobiles in this event, I wish to commend all those who help to realize the Veterans Snowmobile Ride motto of "be a Vet, bring a Vet, thank a Vet."

This event is a poignant way to thank those who have defended our country and a continuation of the Northern Michigan outdoorsman tradition.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ERIC A. "RICK" CRAWFORD

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, March 5, 2014 I was inadvertently detained on rollcall vote 97. Had I been present to vote I would have voted "yes."

HONORING DANIEL J. GILBERT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Daniel J. Gilbert. Daniel 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 865, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Daniel has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Daniel 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, Daniel has earned the rank of Firebuilder in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say, has become an Ordeal Member of the Order of the Arrow, and earned the Ad Altari Dei religious award. Daniel has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Daniel dismantled an old playground set, then expanded and mulched the playground area at the Hope House in Lee's Summit, Missouri, in order to prepare the site for a new playground.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Daniel J. Gilbert for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

H.R. 2548, ELECTRIFY AFRICA ACT OF 2013

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I would like to rise in support of H.R. 2548, the Electrify Africa Act, which will help enrich the lives of the some 589 million people who live in an electricity depleted part of Africa.

This legislation will bring much needed support to a region that desperately needs it. As you are aware, 68 percent of the population in sub-Saharan Africa does not have access to electricity. This bill, if enacted, would establish a base of infrastructure from which economies can grow, improve health and education outcomes, and contribute to sustainable poverty reduction.

I have visited Ghana and Liberia and seen firsthand the struggles that people deal with every day as they try to live a normal life. Power outages are a regular occurrence, while families may wait hours, days, or even weeks for electricity to be restored. A reliable electrical grid will help give businesses looking to make investments in Africa a greater degree of confidence in the infrastructure. The investments they make could help pull many out of poverty and hunger as local economies grow and people gain steady employment.

There are not just economic benefits to consider, though. Electricity is also crucial to health outcomes. Certain medicines and vaccines require strict temperature regulation that is impossible to achieve without access to reliable electricity. Lifesaving devices and monitoring devices also require energy to function. An improved electrical infrastructure could also reduce the prevalence of illnesses like respiratory diseases that come from the use of harmful household fuels. On average, there are more than 3 million annual premature deaths from respiratory disease in sub-Saharan Africa. Shockingly, this number is higher than the annual number of deaths from HIV/AIDS and malaria.

One final benefit I want to highlight is the educational improvement achievable as schools with a dependable source of energy can harness technology to educate the rapidly-growing youth population in Africa. In