

sports. Additionally, in the face of the most challenging of fiscal environments since the Great Depression, Sierra Sands Unified School District has maintained fiscal solvency throughout the entirety of her superintendency.

A relentless advocate for her students, I was honored to work recently with her to secure almost \$60 million in Federal defense funds to replace Murray Middle School and modernize Burroughs High School. Many of the parents of Sierra Sands students work at Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake in state-of-the-art facilities and laboratories while their children attend class in 1940s and 1950s era buildings. Jody was instrumental in securing these funds and worked tirelessly with the Department of Defense through a competitive process to ensure her students can learn in modern buildings in today's digital society. Jody also was key to Sierra Sands securing \$7 million to build a state-of-the-art new Career Technical Education Building.

I have known Jody for years, and always sought her advice when I served in the California Assembly and now in the U.S. House of Representatives. Whether it is working to provide resources under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act so schools can better serve their disabled students, to critical reforms to the Impact Aid program to help ensure military-serving districts, like Sierra Sands, can continue to provide a world-class education to its students by cutting through bureaucratic red tape, to working on common-sense reforms to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act that focus on students, Jody has tirelessly represented her students, school district, and our Ridgecrest community's interest while providing sound, objective, and to-the-point advice. When I visit Jody in Ridgecrest and speak to students, she is always quick to laud her staff, teachers and students' achievements and hard work that have made Sierra Sands one of the best school districts in Kern County and the State of California. Those are some of the reasons why she has been twice recognized by the Association of California School Administrators as Administrator of the Year and named this year as California's Superintendent of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of our community, I would like to wish a happy retirement to Jody Rummer, who has devoted so much of her life to the success of the students and community she holds so close to her heart. I will miss working with Jody, but I know she will still be involved in education and our Ridgecrest community and I look forward to still be able to call on her for advice to strengthen the educational needs not only of Ridgecrest, our county, or our state, but of our country.

RECOGNIZING VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF WILLIAM A. THIEN FOR HIS LEADERSHIP AND UNWAVERING COMMITMENT TO OUR COUNTRY

HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

Commander-in-Chief William A. Thien as he visits the State of Michigan and our Fifth Congressional District on Monday, May 12, 2014.

William A. "Bill" Thien was elected Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars on July 24, 2013, at the VFW's 114th National Convention, held in Louisville, KY.

Having served in the U.S. Navy from 1969–1974 as well as five years in the Indiana National Guard, Commander Thien holds decorations that include the Vietnam Service Medal with 3 stars, Vietnam Campaign Medal with 1960 Bar, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (Korea), National Defense Service Medal and several from the National Guard.

He joined the VFW in 1971 at Post 3281 in New Albany, IN, where he maintains his Gold Legacy Life Membership. He has served the VFW in many leadership positions including All American Post Commander, All State District Commander and All American State Commander. He has also held positions on numerous National committees, including Vice Chairman of Citizenship Education and Community Service and as Chairman of National Scholarship and Recognition.

Now retired, Commander Thien is a member of the American Legion, Veterans of Vietnam War Post 1, National Rifle Association, Patriot Guard Riders, Military Order of the Cootie Pup Tent 51 and VFW National Home.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Commander William Thien for his strong leadership and unwavering commitment to our country.

HONORING MICHAEL HEISLEY, SR.

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the passing of a great Illinois businessman and philanthropist, Michael Heisley, Sr. who passed last Saturday at the age of 77. He was a classic American success story. In 1979, he mortgaged his house and took out a loan to buy a bankrupt industrial equipment company which he then turned around to become profitable. He purchased other Rust Belt manufacturing companies, including some in the 6th District of Illinois, and in the process turned his Heico Companies into one of the largest private companies in the Chicagoland area. He did not buy businesses to flip them, but to fix them and make them thriving enterprises once again.

Mr. Heisley not only kept manufacturing jobs in the United States, he also brought jobs back to the United States. He was able to move the NBA's Vancouver Grizzlies to Memphis, Tennessee. Like the companies he fixed, he left the Grizzlies in far better shape than he found them. Mr. Heisley was a philanthropist who donated to numerous charities including: St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, St. Patrick's Catholic School in St. Charles, his alma mater Georgetown University, and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, in honor of his brother Joseph who served and his best friend Rocky who died in Vietnam.

Mr. Heisley never lost track of his ties to St. Charles, IL his home of 35 years. He served on the St. Charles School Board and was a longtime parishioner at St. Patrick's in St.

Charles. He is survived by his wife of more than fifty years Agnes, five children and 12 grandchildren. Mr. Speaker and my distinguished colleagues in the House, please join me in honoring Michael Heisley, his family, and his legacy of service and achievement.

RECOGNIZING TAYLOR COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPUTY ROBERT LUNDY

HON. STEVE SOUTHERLAND II

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. SOUTHERLAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a truly heroic and remarkable man, Taylor County Sheriff's Deputy Robert Lundy. On February 5, 2014, Deputy Lundy was having his car serviced in Perry, Florida, when a crazed gunman drove his vehicle through the front of the store and opened fire.

Despite being off duty at the time and suffering a close range shotgun blast, Deputy Lundy courageously engaged the shooter without hesitation and took him down. As a result of Deputy Lundy's bold and selfless actions, innocent lives were saved that day and a gunman intent on causing mayhem was stopped before he could do any more harm.

After spending several weeks in a coma and being told he would need at least a year in the hospital, Deputy Lundy was able to return home in just over two months—a testament to his strength of spirit and an unyielding determination to be there for his wife and two young daughters.

While Deputy Lundy has a long road ahead in his recovery, his bravery and selfless sacrifice will not be forgotten. On behalf of the people of Florida's Second Congressional District, I express my sincere gratitude to Deputy Lundy and wish him a speedy and successful recovery.

HONORING PASTOR EUGENE ROBERSON OF FIRST CORINTHIAN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH IN NORTH CHICAGO ON HIS 20TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate my friend, Pastor Eugene Roberson of First Corinthian Missionary Baptist Church in North Chicago on his 20th Pastoral Anniversary. Over those 20 years, Pastor Roberson has been a dedicated community servant and a passionate religious leader, making him a prominent figure throughout the suburban Chicago district that I represent.

With his leadership and guidance, First Corinthian has grown tremendously over the past two decades, both physically and spiritually. Membership continues to rise annually, and in 2001, First Corinthian finished a brick and mortar addition and renovation, fulfilling part of Pastor Roberson's vision for the church.

His weekly sermons and Bible study courses offer insight and inspiration. His passion and enthusiasm engage all generations of

his community. And his vision and determination help enrich his flock and his city with community initiatives and charitable activities.

After 20 years, Pastor Roberson is an undisputed community leader in Lake County as well as a respected faith leader. The breadth of his work in the community has drawn many accolades and much recognition, including awards from the city and the College of Lake County and recognition from the Illinois General Assembly.

Leaders like Pastor Roberson ensure our communities remain close and strong and focused, in common purpose, on giving back and helping out. Congratulations again to Pastor Roberson on 20 years with First Corinthian Missionary Baptist Church. I look forward to many future successes for many years to come.

AMERICAN RESEARCH AND
COMPETITIVENESS ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2014

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 4438. This bill is the exact opposite of the fiscal conservatism which has been preached by the G.O.P.

H.R. 4438, the American Research and Competitiveness Act, permanently extends the research and development tax credit that expired at the end of 2013, but modifies the credit to make it simpler to calculate.

I think we can all agree that on the merits, the R&D Tax Credit is one of the most practical, useful, and well-subscribed tax credits. Not only do large multinationals and many small research facilities use it; but numerous universities, including the University of Houston, the University of Texas, Texas Southern University, Texas A&M, and Texas Tech, among others, also take advantage of this job-producing credit.

Yet, the Republicans hypocritically failed to do something which they usually love to take credit for—and that is—to PAY for the bill by including an offset.

It provides no offset for the cost, which the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office estimates would reduce revenues by \$156 billion over 10 years. This bill is the first in a series of individual tax “extenders” that I understand the Republican House leadership intends to consider. And make no mistake, this bill, and the others likely to follow, blow a hole in the deficit. Though at some point in the near future, President Obama will somehow be blamed for this.

This is a textbook example of Congress picking winners and losers.

Many of us support the R&D tax credit but there is no excuse for not offsetting the cost of the bill, noting that permanently extending the R&D credit and five other tax provisions that GOP leaders want to act on would add \$310 billion to the deficit.

Two years ago my Republican colleagues managed to hijack the legislative process and increase the federal budget deficit by insisting on an extension of the Bush Tax Cuts, originally enacted in 2001 and 2003.

These tax cuts cost \$1 trillion a year to extend and while many are critical to individuals

and businesses, the fact remains that if we are going to have a serious discussion about tax reform and balancing the budget, Congress cannot simply ignore the other side of the ledger: revenues. In addition, Congress cannot and should not be in the business of picking winners and losers.

Again, it is “hypocritical” that our Republican friends won’t offset the R&D credit but let emergency unemployment insurance for the long-term unemployed expire because they claim that we could not find an offset that they would support.

I ask my colleagues to reject this bill and end this partisan lawmaking.

RECOGNIZING MIKE GRECO

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and admiration that I stand before you today to honor Mr. Michele “Mike” Greco for his more than 60 years of outstanding commitment to The Bronx and to my congressional district. Michele, better known as Mike, has consistently been a commendable contributor to The Bronx community, and stands as a living example of true commitment, citizenship, and good service to the community.

Michele Greco left the small town of Mendicino in Calabria, Italy in 1949, and immigrated to the Arthur Avenue section of The Bronx. While not a native member of the community, Mike has grown to embody all of the best characteristics of our community, and I am proud to call him a colleague in service, and even more proud to call him a friend.

Mike has grown to be an invaluable member of the community whose dedication to the neighborhood can be seen through all facets of his work.

Today, at 85 years young, Mike’s commitment is shown through his opening of The Bronx’s favorite neighborhood deli, Mike’s Deli. For New York City residents, having a neighborhood staple open for business day in and day out serves as a steady reminder that there is always someone in our community here to help, and for many people, that someone is Mike.

Mike Greco has dedicated himself to promoting his neighborhood’s rich Italian heritage, and to tirelessly demonstrating his love for The Bronx and all it has to offer. Most importantly, this gentleman serves as an outstanding example of how one person’s lifelong work can leave such a permanent mark in the hearts and minds of so many.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Mike Greco for his remarkable dedication to improving The Bronx, and sharing its wonders with visitors and residents alike.

RECOGNIZING THE U.S. BORDER
PATROL’S 90TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2014

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the United States Border Patrol’s 90th anniversary of its founding.

First established as the Mounted Guard, founding members came from a large number of disparate groups that included Texas Rangers, sheriffs, and deputized cowboys who patrolled the Texas frontier looking for smugglers, rustlers, and people illegally entering the United States.

A Department of Labor Appropriation Act on May 28, 1924, formally established the U.S. Border Patrol with an initial force of 450 Patrol Inspectors, each patrolman responsible for furnishing his own horse.

Prohibition radically changed the role of the early Border Patrol due to the rampant smuggling of alcohol across the borders. As a result, a formal training regime was initiated for this young organization at Camp Chigas in El Paso, Texas.

In August 1942, the Border Patrol’s emblem was officially designated with a circular solid navy blue background surrounded by yellow with the continental United States centered in the middle with the words “U.S. BORDER PATROL” embossed in yellow on top, becoming a highly recognizable emblem worldwide.

The original emblem is still in use and is worn proudly by the men and women of the Border Patrol on all of their uniforms. The motto of the U.S. Border Patrol, “Honor First,” grew out of the dedication and actions of the first men who called themselves U.S. Border Patrol Inspectors, later to be known as U.S. Border Patrol Agents.

In the past 90 years, Border Patrol Agents have enforced our Nation’s immigration laws, provided border security, responded to civil disturbances, acted as air marshals, assisted State and local law enforcement, trained foreign officers, and provided humanitarian assistance. The present force of over 21,000 agents, located in 139 stations within 20 sectors across the southern and northern borders has been given an immense responsibility—protecting more than 8,000 miles of international land and water boundaries.

Whether dealing with the problem of illegal immigration or facing the threat of international terrorism, Border Patrol agents continue to be known for their dedication to duty, integrity, ingenuity, and rugged determination.

The threats have changed over the years but their commitment to the mission has remained steadfast. For nearly one hundred years, they have protected the Nation’s borders in unforgiving terrain against all who would do us harm.

Let us never forget the dangerous nature of this work—118 agents and pilots have given their lives in the line of duty.

On behalf of a grateful Nation, I want to commend the men and women of the Border Patrol for their many years of service and wish them a happy 90th anniversary.

Honor First.