

prioritized interaction between the Carlisle community and the AWC and in doing so, positioned the AWC as an important resource for locals and visitors alike. He has worked tirelessly to ensure the AWC remains a relevant and world class institution that continues to produce leaders both at home and abroad. MG Cucolo has truly been an asset and an ally to the base and our community.

Prior to this appointment, MG Cucolo was the Director of Force Development for the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-8, at the Pentagon where he aided in developing equipment solutions for the Department of the Army. His long career has included assignments with the Joint Staff at the Pentagon from 2001 to 2003 and the Strategy and Policy Directorate working on European issues.

Commissioned as a second lieutenant of infantry in 1979, he served 18 of the past 33 years in infantry and armored divisions. He commanded two companies, a mechanized infantry battalion and an armored brigade combat team and was a deputy commanding general for a light infantry division. His career has included deployments to Bosnia for the Nato Implementation Force in the Balkans from December 1995 to November 1996 and Afghanistan for Operation Enduring Freedom, where he served as the Deputy Commanding General of the Combined Joint Task Force 180 from 2003 to 2004. From 2004 to 2006, he held the role of Director of the Joint Center for Operational Analysis, US Joint Forces Command and as the Army's Chief of Public Affairs from 2006 to 2008.

His most recent operational assignment was spent as Commanding General of the 3rd Infantry Division and Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield in Georgia from July 2008 to April 2011. From October 2009 to November 2010, he deployed to Iraq to command the US Division North/Task Force Marne. During their 13 months in Iraq, Task Force Marne conducted counterinsurgency and stability operations resulting in Arab-Kurd confidence building measures that were implemented along the interior ethnic fault line and successfully ending Operation Iraqi Freedom and opening Operation New Dawn in northern Iraq.

MG Cucolo holds a bachelor's degree from the U.S. Military Academy and a master's degree from the University of San Francisco. He is also a graduate of the AWC Class of 1998. He is married to Ginger Cucolo and together they have three children: Tony-Allen, Mackie, and Abbie.

Mr. Speaker, for his outstanding service to our community and our country, I commend and thank Major General Anthony Cucolo III and wish him the best in his retirement.

HONORING COMMISSIONER DANIEL NIGRO

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2014

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Daniel Nigro, who was sworn in this week as the 33rd Fire Commissioner of the New York City Fire Department. Commissioner Nigro is a resident of Whitestone, NY and a lifelong resident of New York City.

Commissioner Nigro joined the FDNY in 1969 and quickly rose through the ranks; fire-

fighter, lieutenant, captain, battalion chief all the way to the esteemed rank of deputy chief. As Deputy Assistant Chief, he was instrumental in merging EMS into the FDNY, which later led him to become the Chief in Charge of EMS.

In 1999 Commissioner Nigro was promoted to Chief of Operations—the second highest uniformed rank in the FDNY. It is in this capacity that he served on that fateful day of September 11, 2001, when NYC, New York, and the United States would change forever.

Commissioner Nigro was on the ground on September 11, assisting his friend and colleague, former Chief Peter J. Ganci Jr., in establishing an Incident Command site, which coordinated the rescue efforts for the Twin Towers. Upon Chief Ganci's death in the collapse of the North Tower, Commissioner Nigro assumed command of the rescue operations and is responsible for the rescue of hundreds of citizens and first responders.

Commissioner Nigro was named Chief of Department and led the FDNY's officers through those dark days and months following 9/11. He helped heal and rebuild our proud fire service until his retirement in 2002.

It is with my deepest respect and appreciation that I rise to thank Daniel Nigro for his service to New York and our country and I congratulate him on becoming the FDNY's 33rd Fire Commissioner. We are lucky to have a man of his experience and heroism at the helm of the New York City Fire Department and I am honored to represent him here in Congress.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4800) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes:

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of the Committee report language from the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, 2015 that relates to the FDA's proposed "menu labeling" rule.

The most recent FDA draft rule fails to provide sufficient flexibility in allowing chain restaurants and other retailers to provide menu labeling information in the most efficient and effective way possible. Only through government bureaucracy in Washington, DC would a grocery store that cuts a piece of fruit into slices for customers be considered similar to a chain restaurant. FDA's initial proposal would essentially require in-store nutrition lab testing and new signage any time a grocery retailer assembles a salad from the produce area or sells a cup of soup using fresh ingredients. As

a result, independently-operated grocers would not have the flexibility to offer the freshest and healthiest foods to their customers. Some may stop offering salads and other fresh foods altogether.

Or, just look at the pizza industry. These small businesses that offer highly customized, made to order items and primarily service customers outside the restaurant are being forced to provide nutritional information not just for a few items but for every made to order option available.

Like so many other pieces of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the menu labeling provision in the law is being interpreted as overly broad and leading to widespread unintended consequences. This is why I have introduced legislation that addresses the issue, and am grateful to Chairmen ADERHOLT and ROGERS from including pertinent language in the Committee report.

I support consumers being provided with important nutrition information; however, the FDA should find more common sense and flexible ways for retailers to be able to comply with these regulations. H.R. 1249, the Common Sense Nutrition Disclosure Act will provide those common sense solutions should the FDA fail to do so.

URGING AFGHANISTAN TO PURSUE A TRANSPARENT, CREDIBLE, AND INCLUSIVE RUN-OFF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

SPEECH OF

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 9, 2014

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 600, to extend my gratitude to Chairman ROYCE, and to urge my colleagues' support as well.

This Saturday, the people of Afghanistan will travel to the polls to elect a new President in a runoff election. The victorious candidate will replace Hamid Karzai, who has led Afghanistan since 2001.

House Resolution 600 recognizes this important moment in history and urges the Government of Afghanistan to pursue a transparent, credible, and inclusive runoff Presidential election while ensuring the safety of voters, candidates, poll workers, and election observers.

So far, the U.S. Government has contributed more than \$100 million toward the 2014 Afghanistan election, and numerous United States and coalition soldiers have sacrificed their lives in efforts to secure Afghanistan and prepare it for this crucial moment of peaceful transition of power.

I think that it is important to recognize these facts, and that is part of what House Resolution 600 seeks to do.

On April 5, the Government of Afghanistan held the first round of a Presidential election, in which almost 60 percent of eligible voters participated. Now, according to the Afghan Constitution, because no single candidate claimed more than 50 percent of the vote, a runoff election between the top two candidates will be held.

The first round of elections were promising in terms of increased voter turnout, no civilian

deaths in attacks on election day, and a quick certification of results in order to set the stage for a runoff election, but more work remains to be done.

Votes from 331 polling stations were invalidated and removed from the final tabulations. Reports of voter and election monitor intimidation persist. Reports of attempts to bribe election monitors have occurred. Reports of SMS and texting capabilities being suspended on election day exist. Concerns remain about the lack of transparency and activities of the Afghan Independent Election Commission and the Electoral Complaints Commission. Seventeen members of the Afghan National Security Forces were killed in attacks on election day. And female voter participation and protection remains at a level below what Afghan males enjoy.

In light of these issues, House Resolution 600 commends the Government of Afghanistan for holding the first round of elections and scheduling a second; expresses support for a credible, inclusive, and transparent runoff election; supports the mandate of Afghan electoral bodies to prevent voter fraud and misconduct; encourages the Government of Afghanistan to implement measures that will increase voter participation, particularly among Afghan females; and urges the security force to continue to provide protection to vulnerable areas of the country during the election period, as well as recognizing the sacrifices of those forces that have contributed and will continue to contribute to the security and stability of Afghanistan.

This is an exciting time for Afghanistan, Mr. Speaker, and this election is an important one. American forces have been in Afghanistan now for a decade, and most of them are now coming home. This election will be crucial in proving to the world that Afghanistan is ready again to chart its own course and to provide its own security.

I wish the Afghan people well in this endeavor.

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 9, 2014

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, I support H.R. 4412, the NASA Authorization Act of 2014, which was approved by the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology with unanimous bipartisan support.

The bill reaffirms Congress's commitment to space exploration, both human and robotic, and the bill makes clear that human spaceflight to Mars is NASA's primary goal. Taking into account the unfortunate—but realistic—budget constraints on NASA, the legislation affirms a stepping stone approach to exploration in a go-as-you-can-afford-to-pay manner by requiring an exploration roadmap.

I believe a sustained presence on the Moon would be an indispensable part of such a roadmap to Mars, and I introduced bipartisan

NASA authorization legislation last year to accomplish this. I would expect a realistic roadmap to Mars to include lunar exploration, and should this roadmap approach become law I look forward to future discussions with NASA on meaningful missions that will get us to Mars.

The legislation continues the consistent guidance Congress has given to NASA for the development of the Space Launch System and the Orion Crew Vehicle to move forward with serious human exploration of space. Currently, the bill supports a robust commercial crew effort to restore American access to low earth orbit and the International Space Station. Considering certain geopolitical events in the news, it is paramount to ensure that we can launch American astronauts on American rockets from American soil as soon as possible.

Finally, I would like to thank Chairman SMITH for working with me on bill language to improve security for NASA's information, technology and operations. NASA facilities, personnel, technologies, and information are highly regarded and of great interest to the world. That interest extends to some countries, governments, organizations, and individuals whose intent is to compromise those facilities, co-opt the personnel, and steal those technologies and information. The bill includes language to help mitigate this threat.

HONORING MR. MATTHEW A. MAYEAUX AS A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY CLASS OF 2014

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2014

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Mr. Matthew A. Mayeaux as a member of the United States Military Academy Class of 2014.

Matthew graduated from the U.S. Military Academy with a degree in Human Geography and he received a commission as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army on May 28, 2014.

His career in the service has just begun, but it is a testament to Matthew's unselfish devotion to the people of this great nation. The challenges will be many and the time, although it may seem like an eternity, will fly by almost unnoticed.

The challenge for this young man will be to retain as much as possible, pass what he learns to others, and live life for every moment.

South Mississippi is proud of Matthew and his accomplishments, and we look forward to his continuing to represent not only Mississippi, but the entire nation, as a United States Army officer.

As Matthew embarks on a new chapter in life, it is my hope that he may always recall with a deep sense of pride and accomplishment graduating from a program as prestigious as the Military Academy.

I would like to send Matthew my best wishes for continued success in his future endeavor.

ors, thank him for his service, and congratulate him on this momentous occasion.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4800) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes:

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Chair, I rise today in opposition of the proposed language that provides schools with waivers for meeting school meal standards. As the House considers the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2015, I press my colleagues to support an amendment striking this waiver from the bill.

Congress has made great progress in improving the health of our nation's students. Since the passage of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 school lunches and breakfasts have become healthier.

In my District's Gahr High School, Food Service Cafeteria Manager, Linda Harbin, notes that the menu at Gahr High School and other schools in the ABC Unified School District changed drastically since the new school food guidelines began implementation. On average, Gahr High School serves 450 meals for lunch and before the new meal requirements they were only serving about 250 meals. Harbin meets monthly with about 100 other school food service workers in my District, and is hearing they are having similar experiences with increases in meals being purchased and decreases in "plate waste". Requiring school meal standards is working.

Students are currently served lower calorie meals with more fruits, vegetables and whole grains, helping reduce their risk for obesity, type 2 diabetes and other chronic diseases. For many children, the meals they eat in school are the most nutritious meals they eat all week. With increasing rates of childhood poverty and obesity, coupled with a difficult economy and rising food costs, many families cannot afford more nutritious foods and rely on school meals as a quality source of nutrition for their children.

We cannot waiver our support for improving the health of our students.

As the House considers the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2015, I ask that my colleagues join me in opposing language that provides schools with waivers for meeting school meal standards. Let's work together to keep our kids healthy.