

Security Agency, and until just recently, his mission remained confidential.

As his new Congressman, Mr. Henderson recently contacted my office to request his military records. During the process, the U.S. Army notified us that he was entitled to six awards earned during his time overseas nearly 50 years ago.

It's shocking to think veterans, like Edward Henderson, can go so long without recognition for their service. We must right this wrong.

Selfless veterans like Edward Henderson don't "win" medals. They earn them. They put their lives on the line to protect us and our freedom. And our Vietnam veterans went through hell and back to defend America and our allies.

That's why when they return, it's our responsibility to honor and fight for them here at home.

Leaving the battlefield does not mean their battles are done. So as a nation, we must do more to support and reach out to our veterans.

We have a duty to do whatever we can to serve and honor our American heroes. Not just today, but every day.

So thank you—to Ed, his wife Martha, and his family and friends. We owe him more than just medals, but a lifetime of gratitude.

CONGRATULATING ILLINOIS AUDITOR GENERAL WILLIAM G. HOLLAND ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2015

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate William G. Holland on his retirement from serving as Illinois Auditor General. Mr. Holland's almost 25 years of service have illustrated his persistent dedication to the State of Illinois.

The Illinois General Assembly has appointed Mr. Holland as Auditor General for an unprecedented three 10-year terms. Throughout his tenure, he has consistently maintained stability during some of our state's most turbulent times. His career embodies true public service, and he has been a role model for many other public servants, including myself.

I have known Mr. Holland for more than 30 years and had the privilege to serve as an intern when he was the Chief of Staff to the Illinois Senate President. I have seen first-hand that regardless of who or what party is in power, he has always upheld the important values of fiscal responsibility, transparency, and accountability.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize and thank Mr. Holland for his longstanding commitment to good government in the State of Illinois, and I congratulate him again on his well-earned retirement.

TSCA MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 2015

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, our country's federal toxic chemicals regulation has been

broken for decades. Since Congress first passed the Toxic Substances Control Act in 1976, the EPA has placed restrictions on only five of the estimated 60,000 chemicals in commerce, and since the EPA's ban on asbestos was overturned in 1991, zero chemicals have been regulated. This law is in dire need of reform.

While toxic chemicals regulations have flourished for decades at the federal level, California and several other states have passed important laws to protect communities and notify consumers. These state laws, including California's landmark Proposition 65, have motivated many companies to reduce or eliminate toxic chemicals from their products.

It was with these state laws in mind that I offered an amendment at the Energy & Commerce Committee markup of this legislation to clarify its impact on state laws. My amendment was based on the recommendations of 12 State Attorneys General who wrote to the Committee: California, New York, Massachusetts, Washington, Iowa, Oregon, Maryland, Vermont, Hawaii, Maine, Rhode Island, and New Hampshire.

I'm pleased that the final version of the bill before us today, as well as the Committee Report on the bill and the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, addresses several of the issues I raised along with the 12 Attorneys General who wrote to the Committee with their concerns.

First, the final text of the bill includes my amendment's clarification to ensure states can continue to enforce existing laws unless specifically preempted. Without this change, the bill could have been interpreted to only grandfather ongoing enforcement actions, rather than all existing state laws and regulations.

Second, the sponsor of the bill, my good friend Mr. SHIMKUS of Illinois, clarified in a colloquy with me that no existing state laws or requirements will be preempted by this bill unless they actually conflict with federal requirements. Mr. SHIMKUS also confirmed on the Record that the bill is not intended to interfere with the operation of Proposition 65 or the ability of the State of California or private citizens to enforce that landmark law.

Third, the multi-state Attorney General letter called for further clarification that the bill is not intended to preempt state monitoring, information reporting, and disclosure laws. These important laws help keep regulators and communities informed about the presence of toxic chemicals. I'm pleased that the Committee Report states that "the Committee expects that these type of requirements would generally fall outside the scope of preemption."

With these important changes and clarifications, the preemption and savings provisions in the TSCA Modernization Act are substantially improved and I appreciate the willingness of Chairmen UPTON and SHIMKUS to make these improvements to the bill.

The TSCA law is long overdue for reform and with the above changes included in the TSCA Modernization Act, I support it and urge my colleagues to do the same.

RECOGNIZING DAVID L. DIEDRICH FOR 40 YEARS OF OUTSTANDING MILITARY AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2015

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize David L. Diedrich, a resident of Altoona, for his heroic efforts and selfless service to his country and community over the past 40 years.

Mr. Diedrich served in the United States Army for 20 years after attending the United States Military Academy at West Point, where he graduated in the top ten percent of the class of 1976. For his subsequent exemplary military service in Hawaii, Detroit, and Germany, Mr. Diedrich was awarded the Army Meritorious Service Medal three times and the Army Commendation Medal twice.

After attaining a Master's degree in Civil Engineering and returning to West Point as a career counselor and instructor, Mr. Diedrich became the City Engineer and the Director of Public Works for the City of Altoona, where he oversaw the public works of the entire city. In addition to this role, Mr. Diedrich has served the local community as a member of the Improved Dwellings of Altoona Board of Directors, through his church, and as a mentor to area students interested in the United States Military Academy.

It is my honor to recognize Mr. Diedrich, one of our nation's many heroes, and congratulate him for his decades of dedicated service to our country and his local community.

CARE ACT OF 2015

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2015

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, on June 12, we observed International Day Against Child Labor. This is the day set aside to remind us of the plight of hundreds of millions of children throughout the world who are engaged in dangerous work that often deprives them of obtaining adequate education, health and decent living conditions.

Unconscionably, hundreds of thousands of these children live right here in the United States. These children work long hours and under dangerous conditions in our nation's agricultural industry.

This industry has a fatality rate nearly 8 times the national average, yet our labor laws do not protect children in agriculture in the same way they protect children in every other industry.

The impact of our permissive child labor laws is most evident in our tobacco fields. Human Rights Watch recently issued a study that found children as young as twelve suffering from nausea, vomiting, headaches and dizziness, all symptoms of acute nicotine poisoning, likely contracted by absorbing nicotine through their skin while harvesting tobacco plants.

Many of these children say they work long hours without overtime pay, often in extreme