

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE POW/  
MIA FLAG

**HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 29, 2015*

Ms. ESTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the upcoming 25th anniversary of the POW/MIA flag.

In May of 1970, the National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia was founded in Washington, D.C. One year after the first official meeting, Mary Hoff, the wife of a service member designated as missing in action during the Vietnam War, introduced the idea of creating a flag to remember and honor military men and woman like her husband.

Twenty-five years ago, on August 25, 1990, Congress designated the POW/MIA flag as “the symbol of our Nation’s concern and commitment to resolving as fully as possible the fates of Americans still prisoner, missing and unaccounted for in Southeast Asia.” Now, the POW/MIA flag flies for every man and woman who has given his or her life for our great country and remains captured or missing.

To commemorate the 25th anniversary of the recognition of this flag, Wheeler-Young VFW Post 201 from Waterbury, Connecticut will lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery on August 10, 2015. VFW Post 201 is a vibrant post involved in numerous activities in the Waterbury community. They recently celebrated the grand opening of their new location. Wheeler-Young VFW Post 201 exemplifies the promise of leaving no man behind and the mission to educate and promote veterans’ issues. Post 201 is a pillar of our community.

Thank you to Post 201 for recognizing and honoring our nation’s Prisoners of War and personnel Missing in Action. I stand with you to ensure that they are not forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO MERCY CORNING  
HOSPITAL

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 29, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mercy Corning Hospital of Corning, Iowa, for receiving a Silver Safety Award.

Each year the National Safety Council Greater Omaha Chapter recognizes businesses, organizations, and individuals who demonstrate an outstanding commitment to safety. Mercy Corning Hospital was given this prestigious award for continuously promoting a culture of safety and accountability. Their hard work and commitment to serving others through a safe and healthy hospital environment truly embodies our Iowa values.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent the members of the Mercy Corning Hospital in the United States Congress, and it is with great pride that I congratulate them today. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating them for receiving this award and thanking them for their commitment to serving others. I

wish all the employees at Mercy Corning Hospital nothing but the best moving forward.

REGULATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE  
IN NEED OF SCRUTINY ACT  
OF 2015

SPEECH OF

**HON. TERRI A. SEWELL**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 28, 2015*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 427) to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that major rules of the executive branch shall have no force or effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted into law:

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Chair, yesterday, the House voted on H.R. 427, Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act of 2015. I was unavoidably detained, but if I had been present, I would have opposed this legislation. While the bill claims to accomplish well-meaning goals such as increasing “accountability for and transparency in the federal regulatory process,” it only threatens the historic separation of legislative and executive powers.

By requiring a joint resolution of approval from Congress before any “major” rules set forth by a federal agency come into effect, the REINS act attempts to undermine executive power and expand congressional regulatory authority. This partisan bill is a thinly veiled attempt to score political points by attacking the Obama Administration. And as Republican leaders take another ideological swipe at the Obama administration, a number of more pressing issues go unaddressed, especially as we leave for our District Work Period.

Second-guessing agency standards and rules that are supposed to be governed by Congressional laws is not only redundant but is reflective of the Republican’s relentless pursuit of removing important and necessary regulations. Given that the bill also has a 70-day requirement to approve any new standards, the potential for delays in enacting public safeguards is steep, particularly if bipartisan coalitions can’t quickly draft joint resolutions.

We have seen efforts to push this legislation through three times previously, and each time it has failed to pass both houses. I urge my fellow Members of Congress to reject this harmful piece of legislation once more.

REGULATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE  
IN NEED OF SCRUTINY ACT  
OF 2015

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 28, 2015*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 427) to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that major rules of the executive branch shall have no force or effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted into law:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 427, the so-called “Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny (REINS) Act of 2015.”

The REINS Act is yet another attempt by House Republicans to limit the ability of federal agencies to enforce commonsense rules and regulations. This legislation would require Congressional approval before an agency can issue any major new rule. Congress relies on agencies to promulgate rules, because they have expertise in a given area. However, this bill would require that congressional politics play a part in deciding complicated rules and regulations. As a result, this legislation is designed to protect special interests while undermining the ability of federal agencies from doing their jobs and working to ensure there are safeguards in place to protect the public’s health and safety.

Moreover, Congress already has considerable power to review and reject the rules issued by executive agencies. For the past two decades, Congress has had the authority to pass a joint resolution disapproving any rule within 60 days of receiving the rule. If the President signs the resolution of disapproval, the regulation is not implemented. In addition, President Obama has implemented significant reforms to the rulemaking process. In January 2010, he signed an Executive Order requiring agencies to determine if the benefits of proposed rules are justified considering their cost to society.

At a time when Congress should be doing everything it can to create jobs and improve the economy, this bill is nothing but a distraction. I urge my colleagues to oppose this legislation.

CONGRESSWOMAN SEWELL URGES  
IMMEDIATE REAUTHORIZATION  
OF THE EXPORT-IMPORT BANK

**HON. TERRI A. SEWELL**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 29, 2015*

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to urge the immediate reauthorization of the Export-Import Bank. The Ex-Im Bank has become a crucial driver of our economy by offering loans, capital insurance, and other financial services to businesses who wish to invest in American products and grow their businesses. It fills the gap between domestic capital and domestic investment, ensuring that each and every opportunity to expand our economy has the financial backing to do so. Furthermore, the Ex-Im Bank is an exceptional government institution insofar that it both improves our economy and makes money.

For these reasons, Ex-Im Bank reauthorization has been relatively uncontroversial in the past. During the 112th Congress, my first term in office, we reauthorized the Ex-Im Bank with a vote that crossed party lines. However, I have witnessed the agreement and goodwill surrounding this issue deteriorate during my tenure. On July 1st, 2015, this burgeoning partisanship brought the Export-Import Bank to a screeching halt. Members of this congressional body refused to renew the charter for the Ex-Im Bank, allowing it to shut down entirely.