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House of Representatives

The House met at 10:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. COSTA).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
May 14, 2007.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JIM COSTA to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2007, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate. The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to not to exceed 30 minutes, and each Member, except the majority leader, the minority leader, or the minority whip, limited to not to exceed 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington (Mr. MCDERMOTT) for 5 minutes.

WHAT HAPPENED ON OCTOBER 10, 2006, IN IRAQ?

Mr. MCDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call for an explanation and a full accounting from the Department of Defense concerning an attack on Camp Falcon last year. This much is not in dispute: Under cover of darkness on October 10, 2006, Camp Falcon, America's largest military base in Iraq, which is 10 miles south of Baghdad, was attacked by insurgents, and the base was shelled with mortars and rockets. An enemy round struck an ammunition store which triggered massive explosions and huge fireballs that lit up the night sky in Baghdad.

News footage and amateur video were shown on television in the Middle East, and a BBC reporter described the explosions as immense. In the days following the attack, U.S. military officers in Iraq repeatedly said that the damage would not degrade U.S. military capacity and that the attack did not injure or kill anyone at the base.

In a briefing on October 12, 2006, Major General William Caldwell told reporters, ''Very fortunately, no coalition forces or Iraqi security forces were injured, nor civilian casualties that anyone is aware of at this point. We lost some munitions, but took no personnel casualties.'' That is the official line for the military.

But the questions are beginning to surface as to whether the official line is the truth. It was brought to my attention yesterday during a meeting in my congressional office with Mohammed al Deeni, an independent member of the Iraqi Parliament. He came to the U.S. to talk with Members of Congress about the realities of life in Iraq. At my invitation, other Members of Congress joined me in this face-to-face legislative exchange of information. They heard what I am about to share.

During our meeting, I asked Mr. al Deeni if Iraq was so unstable that a terrorist attack could claim a large number of Americans in one attack. As many of us remember, that is what happened in 1983 when a massive terrorist truck bomb struck and killed 241 U.S. Marines in Beirut. I wanted to know if such an attack was possible in Iraq. Without hesitation, Mr. al Deeni said such an attack had already occurred. He said—and others are saying online—that the attack on Camp Falcon killed 300 Americans, wounded another 200 Americans and killed or injured another 200 Iraqis.

The Pentagon says there were no casualties. But a member of the Iraqi Parliament and others claim there were significant casualties. Which story is true? Satellite images, aerial photographs, videos and written accounts that purport to be firsthand can be found online. I will enter into the RECORD a list of some of these sites so that people can see for themselves.

Internet sites which contains video, photographs, or written accounts of the attack on Camp Falcon on October 10, 2006:

http://www.cawa.fr/destruction-du-camp-americain-falcon-explosions-d-armes-a-l-ua-et-ou-d-armes-nucleaires-tactiques-article00913.html.

http://www.dailymotion.com/related/966319/video/xkpjv_base-falcon-irakexplosion-nucleaire/1.

http://abutamam.blogspot.com/2006/10/no-reported-casualties-at-camp-falcon.html.

http://zennobia.blogspot.com/2006/10/al-rashid-falcon-military-bases.html.

Here is one excerpt from a site written after the attack by French journalists: ''Nine big carriers marked by the Red Cross sign transporting the dead and injured were seen by journalists . . . Silence still wraps the whole event from the side of the American military as well as the Bush administration, since there remains only a few weeks before the legislative elections, with a public opinion more and more against the war.''

This happened just before the last elections, and it is unclear as to what happened. I don't know if these stories are credible. But these reports cannot be ignored. If we lost hundreds of U.S. soldiers and other Americans in one attack, Congress and the American people have a right to know about it.

I looked at the videos and the aerial photographs, and the damage appears quite extensive to buildings and military vehicles like tanks. Perhaps American soldiers and others miraculously escaped injury. That would be very good news. Or perhaps we don't know what really happened on the night of October 10, 2006 in an insurgent attack on Camp Falcon.

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The Pentagon should open all of its files to independent journalists. I call for a full accounting as soon as possible. Some are saying there's a cover-up in the military. I say it's time to put all the evidence out in the open.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 38 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until noon.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CARNAHAN) at noon.

PRAYER

The Reverend Dr. Alan Keiran, Senate Chaplain's Office, Washington, D.C., offered the following prayer:

Lord Almighty, the heavens declare Your handiwork, and the majestic beauty of our world shows forth the splendor of Your creation.

We thank You for the unmerited favor You shower upon us each day. We thank You for family, friends, faith, and freedom. Most of all, we thank You for the sacrifice You made to bring us into Your family and give us eternal life.

O God, I pray today for our Nation's representatives, their families, and staffs. Grant them Your favor and wisdom as they pursue righteous ends and seek our Nation's highest good. Continue to equip them for these challenging times. Give them courageous spirits and eternal insights needed in their service to a grateful Nation.

We lift to You our Nation's law enforcement officers and their families, and we thank You for their tireless service. Bless as well our own Capitol Hill Police Department with Your divine blessing and protection.

You alone, O God, are our rock and our redeemer. May You in Your loving providence move in our midst to make Yourself known. I ask all this in the name that is above every name. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SHADEGG) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SHADEGG led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 11, 2007.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on May 11, 2007, at 10:01 a.m.:

That the Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 29.
That the Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 68.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

EXTENDING DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE ACCESS ACT OF 1999

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1124) to extend the District of Columbia College Access Act of 1999.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1124

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. 5-YEAR REAUTHORIZATION OF TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

(a) PUBLIC SCHOOL PROGRAM.—Section 3(i) of the District of Columbia College Access Act of 1999 (sec. 38–2702(i), DC Official Code) is amended by striking ''each of the 7 succeeding fiscal years'' and inserting ''each of the 12 succeeding fiscal years''.

(b) PRIVATE SCHOOL PROGRAM.—Section 5(f) of such Act (sec. 38–2704(f), DC Official Code) is amended by striking ''each of the 7 succeeding fiscal years'' and inserting ''each of the 12 succeeding fiscal years''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WESTMORELAND) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1124, the District of Columbia College Access Act of 1999, will reauthorize funding for the District of Columbia Tuition Assistance Grant, the DCTAG program, which will help promote higher education for high school graduates in the District of Columbia.

DCTAG provides grants for District high school students to attend public colleges and universities nationwide at in-state tuition rates. Additionally, the bill provides smaller grants for District students to attend private institutions in the D.C. metropolitan area and to attend Historically Black Colleges and Universities nationwide.

The impact of this legislation on the community and in the lives of the students who receive the grants cannot be minimized. DCTAG reaches students and communities where there is no hope of being able to obtain a college education. This is particularly true for many of the students that participate in DCTAG. Fifty-eight percent of the students who participate in the program come from low-income households.

Furthermore, students that participate are attending educational institutions that are known to nurture students of color. Five of the top 10 schools these students attend are HBCUs: Hampton University, Morehouse College, Virginia Union University, St. Augustine's College, and Bennett College.

While students from all races participate in the program and attend over 270 institutions in 47 States, including nationally recognized public institutions like the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, the University of Illinois, the University of California-Berkeley, and Ohio State University, this program serves a community that is lacking resources for students of color from low-income households.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the ranking minority member, Representative TOM DAVIS, and, of course, the distinguished gentlewoman from the District of Columbia for introducing and championing this legislation.

I urge all of my colleagues to support it.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This bill would simply reauthorize the DCTAG program for an additional 5 years and enable District residents to

continue to attend certain colleges and universities at in-state rates. President Bush, in his budget submission for fiscal year 2008, has included sufficient funds to make this happen. I know that Ranking Member DAVIS, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, and Ms. NORTON have worked very hard to bring this bill to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield such time as she may consume to the author of this legislation, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia, Delegate ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON.

Ms. NORTON. I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I certainly thank him for his own hard work and strong support on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 1124, the bill that will reauthorize the District of Columbia Access Act of 1999 and extend the District of Columbia Tuition Assistance Grant program, which it authorizes, for an additional 5 years, and, of course, to thank the House for a bill that has afforded higher education to many students who would otherwise have not received it. I especially thank Chairman HENRY WAXMAN and Chairman DANNY DAVIS for facilitating early consideration of this noncontroversial bill on suspension. A very special thanks is particularly due to committee ranking member and co-author TOM DAVIS for his strong and indispensable leadership on this legislation when he was Chair of the full committee and for his continued strong support of DCTAG.

This legislation is already returning unusually large dividends for the Federal investment. DCTAG has increased college attendance of D.C. students by an astonishing 60 percent over 5 years. For the 2005–2006 school year, almost 5,000 students received funding from DCTAG to enroll in 646 universities and colleges in 47 States, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Most of these students are the first in their families to attend college. These documented results represent the city's most important progress toward developing a workforce that can meet the increasing education requirements for employment at average wages in the region. Importantly, this legislation has been instrumental in reversing the steady flight of taxpayers from the District of Columbia, many of whom left the District in order to gain access to lower cost State colleges and universities in the region.

DCTAG acts as a proxy and a substitute for a State university system for the District, which has an open admissions State university, the University of the District of Columbia, but, unlike every State, has no unified system of several colleges and universities. UDC, supported entirely by the city and tuitions of students, is the university of choice for students who must get their education in the District and is itself indispensable to the city, and so much so that I used the opportunity provided by this bill to achieve funded historically black college status for the UDC that the city has long sought for its State university because the University of the District of Columbia is one of the oldest Historically Black Colleges and Universities in the United States. As a result, UDC has received an attractive annual HBCU payment since 1999. However, this bill provides higher education access to young people here equivalent to opportunities available in all the States, rather than only one university, and increases the number of choices necessary to meet today's D.C. student population. Maryland and Virginia, for example, each provide more than 30 different college options to residents. DCTAG provides up to $10,000 annually, which covers State college tuition at most public colleges, or provides up to $2,500 annually to attend private institutions in the city and region.

DCTAG has enjoyed strong bipartisan support since it was created in 1999. The President has shown his confidence in the program by including $35 million for DCTAG in his fiscal year 2008 budget request. The D.C. State Education Office deserves special credit for working diligently and successfully since the bill was enacted to maintain a very solid administration of the program. The District has even moved ahead of the curve to foreclose any future funding shortfalls by engaging in careful planning and calculations, measuring expected demand and costs and has made adjustments in offerings accordingly.

We are particularly grateful to business leaders in the region, led by Donald Graham, chairman of The Washington Post, who was instrumental in helping to convince Congress of the necessity for the bill. Mr. GRAHAM and the business leaders did not stop there, however. They established the College Access Program, which we call CAP, to provide additional financial support.

□ 1215

More important, CAP provides essential guidance and encouragement to students as they reach the critical time decision for college. We are also grateful to CAP for supplying a support network that has helped the District's TAG program receive excellent, excellent retention rates. For example, of the 1,091 DCTAG freshmen in 2001–2002, 72 percent returned as sophomores; of that, 79 percent returned as juniors; 82 percent as seniors, and 77 percent of the seniors graduated. This, I am sure Members recognize, is very enviable retention in college graduate rates compared with others around the country.

CAP's 100 percent private funding by business leaders, most from the region, not from the city, is nothing less than a vote of confidence in DCTAG that I believe is warranted by the legislation's documented results.

It is difficult to think of congressional legislation that has brought such immediate and positive results, or that is more appreciated by D.C. residents. To be sure, our D.C. homebuyer and business tax credits, unique to the District and reauthorized again last year, have had similar measurable and documented effects on increasing homeownership and keeping taxpaying residents and businesses in a city without a State tax base that instead must itself carry many State costs. However, if there are to be homeowners and taxpayers in the District of Columbia in the 21st century, many more of them must have college training.

The economy of this Federal city will always be tied to Federal jobs and jobs related to Federal jobs at the high end. The stability of the Federal sector here has been indispensable to many aspects of the city's economy, but too few of the public and private sector jobs go to District residents. For example, the District continues to be a virtual job machine for the region. The District created 8,500 jobs in the last 12 months, but its unemployment rate remains almost twice the rate in this region. This disparity represents an education and training mismatch that must be eliminated to assume a decent future for the city's young residents.

H.R. 1124 is one of the District's top priorities this year because of the program's proven benefits to the economy of the city and region, and especially to the city's residents and families. Families have been willing to make the necessary sacrifices to meet the costs of large annual increases in State tuition nationwide, even though the amount they receive from TAG has not increased at all and remains a maximum $10,000 annually, and this despite the modest family incomes of most of our students.

This immensely successful and popular higher education program has proven itself over and over again. It would be difficult, indeed, to think of a program that has returned so much to the city and the Federal Government for the modest amount of Federal funding. Of any measure that I will bring before the House this year, H.R. 1124 certainly ranks near the top in deserving continuing support.

I appreciate the strong bipartisan support and the support of the President of the United States that this vital Federal educational assistance program has received, and I ask for the continued support of the House. I believe the results fostered by the program have earned the support.

I strongly urge approval of 1124.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, simply to close, let me just suggest that with more than 500,000 individuals who live in the District of Columbia, and they've only got one public institution of higher education, the University of the District of Columbia, one could really say that this program provides a level of equity that is a level playing field, and somwhat equal opportunity given the fact that it is not

a State. For the young people who live in the District, it is an excellent program. I would urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor of it.

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I've traveled a long road with the District of Columbia Access Act—from March 1, 1999, when it was introduced, until the present day.

That road took us through the predecessor subcommittee I chaired at the time, to the full Government Reform Committee, to the House and Senate floor, and then to the White House, where then-President Clinton signed the measure on November 12, 1999.

In all of its legislative approvals the College Access Act—also known as the Tuition Assistance Grant Program—was passed unanimously, by voice vote. President Clinton had included sufficient money in his budget submission that year, and a statement of administration policy endorsed the approach we had taken in authorizing use of those funds.

I am deeply proud of our hard, bipartisan effort in enacting this measure and in reauthorizing it 2 years ago.

My thanks to ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, who was ranking member of the District of Columbia Subcommittee in 1999, and who has worked tirelessly to enhance this legislation ever since.

I would also like to thank my then-counterpart in the Senate, GEORGE VOINOVICH, for his continuing support, and Senators WARNER and DURBIN for working with us to improve this legislation.

I'm also grateful to my namesake Chairman DANNY DAVIS, chairman of the subcommittee, for holding a hearing on this bill March 22, ranking subcommittee member KENNY MARCHANT for his support, and Chairman WAXMAN for marking this bill up so expeditiously.

The 5-year reauthorizing legislation before us today will enable District residents to continue to attend colleges and universities at in-State rates. President Bush, in his budget submission for fiscal year 2008, has included sufficient funds to make this happen.

Then-Mayor Anthony Williams and now D.C. Mayor Adrian Fenty have both strongly supported this law as being very important for District high school graduates. The Tuition Assistance Program has doubled the total number of District students attending college since 1999–2000, the school year before the program started. We have incentivized getting a college education.

This law is a classic ''leveling of the playing field.'' No city or county in the country is required to supplement in-State rates with local funds, and neither should the taxpayers in the Nation's capital be saddled with this burden. Neither should the city be penalized for its own success in administering this program.

Back on March 4, 1999, when I first introduced this bill, I went to nearby Eastern High School with Ms. NORTON. I was deeply moved by the reaction of the students. I will never forget how so many took our hands, looked into our eyes, and thanked us for introducing the original bill.

I'm proud of all we have been able to do in the Nation's capital since 1995, when the city was literally bankrupt. Economic development, public safety, the real estate market, and so many other aspects of city life have changed for the better.

But nothing has given me more satisfaction than working to improve educational opportunity. Fighting for equal educational opportunity is one of the reasons I entered public life.

We need a healthy city to have a healthy Washington region.

Reauthorizing this law, which has expanded higher educational choices, is a strong part of our vision for the future.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1124.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF A NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR MURDER VICTIMS

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 223) supporting the goals and ideals of a National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 223

Whereas the death of a loved one is a devastating experience, and the murder of a loved one is exceptionally difficult;

Whereas the friends and families of murder victims cope with grief through a variety of support services, including counseling, crisis intervention, professional referrals, and assistance in dealing with the criminal justice system; and

Whereas the designation of a National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims on September 25th of each year provides an opportunity for the people of the United States to honor the memories of murder victims and to recognize the impact on surviving family members: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of a National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims; and

(2) recognizes the significant benefits of the organizations that provide services to the loved ones of murder victims.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WESTMORELAND) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

As a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleague in the consideration of H. Res. 223, which supports the goals of a National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims.

H. Res. 223, which has 59 cosponsors, was introduced by Representative JOHN SHADEGG from Arizona on March 7, 2007. H. Res. 223 was reported from the Oversight Committee on May 1, 2007 by a voice vote.

Mr. Speaker, in 2005, there were 16,692 murders and nine negligent manslaughters reported in our Nation. This is obviously too many murders. And so I support the National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims and recognize all organizations that provide services, such as support, guidance and counseling, to the loved ones and friends of murder victims.

It is important that this day is not just a remembrance of those who tragically lost their lives, but a call to action. While some of us have not experienced acts of violence, we share responsibility to people who have lost their loved ones to murder. We should always reflect the moral virtues of respect and caring and sharing with one another, regardless of one's race, creed and national origin.

Of course, we remember the recent incidents that have just occurred at the university in Virginia. I also remember in my own neighborhood, where just last week a young man was killed on a bus. He turned out to be an absolute hero because he actually put himself in front of another student who was about to be shot. And of course that community and that family still grieves. So I urge that we all remember murder victims and their families by getting involved in our homes, communities, schools and businesses to prevent violence.

Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleague, Representative SHADEGG from Arizona, for seeking to honor the memories of murder victims and recognize the impact on surviving family members.

I urge swift passage of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

With the recent tragedy of Virginia Tech fresh in our minds, we take this time to remember the many victims of needless violence in our country.

The devastation of families, victims and entire communities in which these tragedies occur is beyond calculation. Too often, victims' loved ones are left alone with their loss and feel overwhelmed with the devastating experience that has altered their lives forever.

No one should have to cope with that loss alone. In such crushing times as these, families and friends look for sources of strength to sustain themselves. They also need ongoing support in dealing with the criminal justice system, which can be especially overwhelming during this period of grief.

The need for sources of strength are often found through a variety of support services, including counseling, crisis intervention, professional referrals and assistance in dealing with the criminal justice system. These organizations play an essential role in preserving the memories of victims of murder.

After the story of the murder fades, victim's family and friends are often left to cope without their loved ones alone. Thankfully, these counseling organizations provide the necessary support to the families and friends of murder victims so they can continue with their daily lives.

These personal assaults on our citizens are also an assault on all of us. We must remain diligent in our efforts to curb violence. Our murder rate in this country is simply too high. People watch television, movies and play video games where murder is often glorified. Many of our youth engage in pastimes where they are exposed to violence at an early age. However, there is no age where it should be appropriate to introduce murder into anyone's life.

It is incumbent upon all of us to recognize the selfless support groups in our communities who work tirelessly to help the thousands of friends and families of murder victims in this country every year. For these reasons, Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 223.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to my distinguished colleague from Arizona (Mr. SHADEGG).

Mr. SHADEGG. I thank the gentleman for yielding and I thank my colleague from Illinois for his strong words of support.

I rise today in support of H. Res. 223, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of a National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims.

I want to thank the gentleman from Illinois and the gentleman from Georgia for their support, as well as the chairman of the full committee and the ranking member of the full committee.

This legislation is in fact very important to very many Americans; indeed, to, sadly, too many Americans.

I, along with my colleague, Mr. CHABOT of Cincinnati, Ohio, introduced this resolution on behalf of murder victims and their families across our Nation. H. Res. 223 does two simple things. First, it recognizes the many organizations that provide services to the loved ones of murder victims. As the two speakers before me have acknowledged, a victim of crime suffers greatly over and over again, and there are many organizations across our country that help them. The second thing this resolution does is it supports the establishment and urges the establishment of a National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims to be held on September 25th of each year.

I noted that in our prayer today we were called upon to thank God for our loved ones and our families. This bill is very much about those loved ones and those families who are left behind when a murder is committed and someone is taken from us as a result of violence.

On September 25, 1978, 19-year-old Lisa Hullinger was murdered by her boyfriend. Three months after her death, her parents formed the National Organization of Parents of Murdered Children, headquartered in Cincinnati, Ohio. Parents of Murdered Children earnestly advocates for the thousands of parents who have lost a child as a result of violence. Parents of Murdered Children is one of many organizations that do this work, that help the friends and that help the families to try to cope with the loss of a loved one.

Other organizations include the National Organization for Victim Assistance, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, as well as the National Crime Victim Law Institute. Each of these organizations plays a vital role, and there are so many others. This resolution not only honors Parents of Murdered Children, but all of the similar organizations providing support and assistance to the loved ones of murdered victims.

Mr. Speaker, since the introduction of this resolution I have received countless e-mails from all across the country, not just from my district, but from everywhere: from mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, husbands, wives and children of murder victims.

□ 1230

All of them have contacted me to say how much they appreciate what the United States House of Representatives is doing for them today. This legislation is indeed important.

We all know that there are established days of remembrance for many dark days in our Nation's history. There is, of course, one for 9/11. There is another one for the day of the Oklahoma City bombing. These were both solemn times in our Nation's history, and yet people are murdered every single day.

On 9/11, almost 3,000 Americans were brutally murdered. It is worth noting that every 10 weeks in this Nation, another almost 3,000 Americans are murdered. That is why I believe we need to establish a day that not only honors them and recognizes them, but also recognizes and honors the victims they leave behind, the family members, the fathers, the sons, the daughters, all of the others who suffer so much.

Each of us has a list of tragedies that we know of personally. My colleague from Illinois recited several. There are way too many.

I cannot rise today without thinking of Duane Lynn and his wife, Nila. Duane and Nila lived in a retirement community in north Phoenix after Duane retired from the Arizona Highway Patrol. One day they chose to attend a homeowners' association meeting in their neighborhood. Tragically, a killer walked into that meeting and senselessly murdered Nila. Nila died in Duane's arms. That was a crushing blow to him and a pain that he suffers every day.

But Duane took that negative pain and became an advocate for other victims. With his help, this Congress passed the Scott Campbell, Stephanie Roper, Wendy Preston, Louarna Gillis, Nila Lynn Crimes Victims Act of 2004.

I also think of Sally Goelzer, whose brother, Hal, was murdered in a gang initiation killing. Sally took the pain of that incident and went to work to fight for tougher laws against gangs and against gang killers.

I am also reminded of the incredible story of Colleen Campbell and her tireless work on behalf of victims, as well as that of her husband, Gary. Colleen tragically has lost not one family member, but three family members on three separate occasions to murder.

First, her son, Scott, was murdered. Then later her brother, well-known and famous in America for his work in auto racing, Mickey Thompson, was murdered. And then still later, her sister-in-law, Trudy Thompson, was murdered.

Colleen has spent 22 years in and out of various courtrooms in America dealing with the pain inflicted upon her by the murder of these three loved ones. Again, she has turned that negative pain into being a tireless advocate for victims and for victims rights. She was essential to the creation of victims rights legislation in California and she established Force 100, one of the earliest advocates for victims' rights across this Nation. Force 100 sought to create organizations in every single State in America to advocate for victims of crime.

There are so many stories. There are too many stories. But these victims and their courageous survivors need to know that we in the Congress, and we as a Nation, remember their tragedy and their courage.

Today, this Congress, this House, can do its part. We can say that too many of us have been affected by the horrors of murder, by passing this simple, yet very important, resolution, acknowledging that murdered individuals are not the only victims; that those left behind to cope with the loss on a daily basis are victims also.

We can tell them, however, that those family members and loved ones are not alone. We can recognize the many organizations that do invaluable work to help them. That is why this resolution not only acknowledges the murder victims, but also honors the organizations and the people who devote

their lives to counseling, crisis intervention, assistance and other help in getting those victims through our criminal justice system. The work of these organizations is so invaluable to so many.

The last organization I want to talk about is the National Crime Victim Law Institute at Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon. This organization, recently established, provides legal assistance to the victims of crime, and has established many programs in colleges across our country, and, I believe, in eight different law schools across our country, to help give legal assistance to the families and the loved ones of those murdered who are left behind.

H. Res. 223 lets victims, families and friends know that they are not alone, and that we remember their loved ones. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution and honoring all of those men and women who have devoted their lives to helping those among us who have to cope with the senseless violence of a murdered loved one.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time. I urge all my colleagues to vote for H. Res. 223.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. To close, Mr. Speaker, let me just commend the gentleman from Arizona once again for his introduction of this resolution and his passionate statement in favor of its passage. I would certainly concur with everything that he has said and urge passage.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 223.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. SHADEGG. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

CLAUDE RAMSEY POST OFFICE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1260) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6301 Highway 58 in Harrison, Tennessee, as the ''Claude Ramsey Post Office''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1260

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. CLAUDE RAMSEY POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6301 Highway 58 in Harrison, Tennessee, shall be known and designated as the ''Claude Ramsey Post Office''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Claude Ramsey Post Office''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WESTMORELAND) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleague in consideration of H.R. 1260, which names a postal facility in Harrison, Tennessee, after Claude Ramsey.

H.R. 1260, which was introduced by Representative ZACH WAMP on March 1, 2007, was reported from the Oversight Committee on May 1, 2007, by a voice vote. This measure has been cosponsored by the entire Tennessee congressional delegation.

Mr. Claude Ramsey is currently serving his third term as mayor of Hamilton County, Tennessee. Prior to becoming county mayor, he was the assessor of property, served on the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners, and was a member of the Tennessee State Legislature.

Mr. Ramsey's career as a public servant exemplifies diligence, hard work, and dedication to the people of Hamilton County.

Mr. Ramsey plays a pivotal role in the economic progress of Hamilton County. As a manager and leader, he has distinguished himself with his openness and availability to both the business community and the public. He has been honored with numerous awards and offices that reflect his dedication and service to his community. As a fiscal conservative, Mr. Ramsey encourages progress in Hamilton County through responsible investments in the growth of business and industry.

Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleague Representative ZACH WAMP for introducing this legislation and urge swift passage of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, County Mayor Claude Ramsey has a long list of accomplishments to show for his three terms as leader of Hamilton County, Tennessee. From reforming the public education system to creating jobs in the area, Mayor Ramsey has constantly addressed the needs of both the business community as well as the general public.

Mayor Ramsey turned Hamilton County's public education system into a model for other counties to follow. Mayor Ramsey rallied support from the neighborhoods. Nine thousand people participated in an education summit and task force to identify the issues and challenges facing the department. Eight key initiatives, including target graduation and reading rates, increased technology, and early education programs, were formed. When fully implemented, the county's public education system will be one of the very best in the country.

Mayor Ramsey is constantly looking for new business and industrial recruitment and has made economic expansion a priority during his administration. He was able to secure almost $3 million in grant funds for expansion of local industries, which led to hundreds of millions of private investment and the creation of 2,000 jobs. He was also able to receive funding for the Center for Entrepreneurial Growth, a program started by Mayor Ramsey, to create more technology-based jobs in the community.

Hamilton County has received high praise for the changes that have been made, for instance receiving an AA+ rating from Finch, Inc. In 2003, Mayor Ramsey was presented Chattanooga Area Manager of the Year, an award presented annually to an executive whose management skills have profoundly influenced the outstanding performance of a key element of American business, industry, government, or nonprofit activity.

Mayor Ramsey has also addressed important topics such as literacy, obesity, public littering, and the creation of parks.

Making himself open and available to the community, Mayor Ramsey is very active in local agencies, such as the Orange Grove Center and the chairman of the Board of Associates at Chattanooga State Technical Community College.

As Mayor Ramsey rounds out his third term as county mayor, he continues to be an active and committed leader to the citizens of Hamilton County. The programs which he has put into place will be his legacy. They will continue to provide for the community for decades in the future.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I would like to point out that the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. WAMP) would like to be here today to make a statement, but he had to remain home for a family emergency. We wish Mr. WAMP and his family the best.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support the passage of H.R. 1260, which honors Mayor Ramsey for his admirable public service to the people of

Hamilton County and the State of Tennessee.

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support legislature, H.R. 1260, to designate the facility of the U.S. Postal Service, located at 6301 Highway 58 in Harrsison, TN, as the "Claude Ramsey Post Office." This legislature would rename the City of Harrison Post Officer after one of Hamilton County's most notable leaders, Mayor Claude Ramsey.

As he serves his fourth term as County Mayor, Claude Ramsey continues to set a high standard as a dedicated manager and leader in the community. Prior to his term as County Mayor, he was the Assessor of Property, served on the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners, and was a member of the Tennessee State Legislature. Claude Ramsey's career as a public servant exemplifies diligence, hard work, and tremendous results for the people of Hamilton County.

During his tenure, Mayor Ramsey fought to strengthen public education in Hamilton County. He recently rallied the community to participate in an education summit to create solid initiatives to address the issues and challenges facing the public education system. Mayor Ramsey created six task forces and presented their findings and recommendations to the community. He then organized the introduction of eight key initiatives, including early education programs and a greater supply of laptop computers, to strengthen the public education system and increase graduation rates of students.

In addition, Mayor Ramsey has been a true leader in promoting economic development in Hamilton County. Mayor Ramsey's vision of creating more technology-based jobs in Hamilton County has shown strong results. His administration has secured Federal funding for the development of the Center for Entrepreneurial Growth, which provides local entrepreneurs assistance in developing new advanced-technology companies. Mayor Ramsey also secured over $2.8 million in grant funds for local businesses, which have helped create over 2,000 jobs, and played a vital role in the transfer of the 1200–acre Enterprise South Industrial Park property from the U.S. Army.

For his dedicated service and results, Mayor Ramsey was named "Chattanooga Area Manager of the Year" in 2003, which is the largest local awards program in the Nation.

Mayor Ramsey also has contributed to the community by serving on the boards of numerous agencies, including the Orange Grove Center, the Chattanooga Neighborhood Enterprise, the RiverCity Company, and the United Way. Claude Ramsey also served on the Board of Trustees at Erlanger Medical Center and was Chairman of the Board of Associates at Chattanooga State Technical Community College.

Most importantly, Claude Ramsey is a loving husband to his wife, Jan; a proud father to his son, Rich, and his daughter, Stacy; and a doting grandfather to his grandchildren Madison, Meredith, Macy, John Ross, and Claudia.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support the passage of this legislation that honors Mayor Claude Ramsey for his commendable public service to the people of Hamilton County and the State of Tennessee.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1260.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HARRIETT F. WOODS POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1617) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 561 Kingsland Avenue in University City, Missouri, as the "Harriett F. Woods Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1617

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. HARRIETT F. WOODS POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 561 Kingsland Avenue in University City, Missouri, shall be known and designated as the "Harriett F. Woods Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Harriett F. Woods Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JACKSON of Illinois). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WESTMORELAND) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

□ 1245

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield such time as he may consume to the sponsor of this legislation, Representative RUSS CARNAHAN from the State of Missouri.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1617, which would name a post office after a true pioneer in Missouri politics and especially for women in politics, Harriett F. Woods.

Ms. Woods passed away in February. It would be a fitting tribute to name a post office in her honor in the very town where her storied political career began, University City, Missouri. This was also the post office that Ms. Woods used for over 50 years.

Her political career began in the 1960s as a member of the University City Council where she became the first woman appointed to the State Highway Commission. She was elected to the Missouri State Senate in 1976, where she sponsored an equal rights amendment to the State Constitution. While in the State Senate, she also passed landmark legislation which led to drunk driving laws and nursing home reform which became national models adopted throughout the country.

In 1984, she was elected Lieutenant Governor, becoming the first woman elected to statewide office in Missouri history. She was a trailblazer for women in politics even after she left elected office. She served 4 years as President of the nonpartisan National Women's Political Caucus. During her tenure, the number of women elected to Congress increased dramatically, including the historic "Year of the Woman" election of 1992.

Vivian Eveloff, Director of the nonpartisan Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life in St. Louis, described Ms. Woods as a strong advocate "to encourage women of all ages, walks of life and political views to step forward and take on policymaking positions."

Harriett Woods was a role model and inspiration to young people, but especially young women. I am proud to have introduced this legislation to name her hometown post office in her honor, ensuring that her memory and inspiration will continue to be a visible part of our community.

The last time I saw our former Lieutenant Governor Woods was in Washington. She was here this past January. Even though she was not feeling well, she made an extraordinary effort to be here for the historic occasion of our new female U.S. Senator, Senator MCCASKILL, when she was sworn in, and also see the historic occasion of the first woman Speaker sworn into this House. It was very fitting she was here as part of those historic events.

I want to make a special thanks to the many cosponsors of this bill honoring Lieutenant Governor Woods, including nearly all women Members of Congress from both sides of the aisle and the Missouri delegation.

I urge all Members of this body to support the legislation.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Harriett Woods, a devoted mother, wife, grandmother, politician, author and community activist, passed away at her home in University City, Missouri, this February of leukemia. Born in Cleveland, Ohio, and raised in Chicago, Illinois, she went on to attend the University of Michigan. It was there that she became the first female editor of the school's highly esteemed student newspaper.

In later years, her career and political life proved to be an uphill battle

against more popular-known male politicians. Her political career began as a stay-at-home mom. She went to the city council with a complaint about a noisy manhole cover. When they ignored her, she pushed forward launching a successful petition to have the street closed. Causing the attention of the local press, she earned a job to run a community public affairs panel. Soon after, she was elected to the University City Council where she served for 8 years. She followed that up with two terms in the Missouri State Senate.

Harriett Woods ran unsuccessfully for the Senate in 1982, but her name became well known throughout the State. It helped her 2 years later to become the first female elected to statewide office in Missouri when she held the office of Lieutenant Governor. It was a post she held until 1989.

She remained active in politics and her local community throughout the rest of her life, focusing primarily on women's issues. From 1991 to 1995, she was President of the National Women's Political Caucus. Her dedicated work even earned her a spot on the St. Louis Walk of Fame.

It is with great pleasure that we honor her today with this post office naming, and I ask all Members to support H.R. 1617 in honor of this great lady.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I am pleased to join with my colleague in consideration of H.R. 1617, which names a postal facility in University City, Missouri, after Harriett F. Woods.

H.R. 1617, which was introduced by Representative RUSS CARNAHAN on March 21, 2007, was reported from the Oversight Committee on May 1, 2007, by a voice vote. This measure has been cosponsored by 74 Members and has the entire support of the Missouri delegation.

Ms. Harriett F. Woods was elected from the 13th District of Missouri in St. Louis County to the Missouri State Senate in November of 1976. She was reelected for a second term in November of 1980. She was the first woman to win statewide offices in Missouri, becoming Lieutenant Governor in 1984. She ran for the U.S. Senate twice in the 1980s, and while both attempts failed, it inspired other women to run for and win political office. Ms. Woods was an activist who promoted women politicians. She served two terms as President of the National Women's Political Caucus and led the Clinton administration's Coalition for Women Appointments in 1993.

Before becoming an elected official, Ms. Woods was an independent film producer and served 10 years as the Public Affairs Director at KPLR–TV in St. Louis. At KPLR, she produced many noted documentaries, among them the award-winning film on child abuse, ''Broken Children,'' ''Don't Go to Jail in Missouri'' and ''Piedmont UFO.''

Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleague RUSS CARNAHAN for introducing this legislation and urge its swift passage.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, I urge all my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 1617, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me share my support for legislation to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 561 Kingsland Avenue in University City, MO, as the "Harriett F. Woods Post Office Building." Harriet Woods will long be remembered as a pioneer in American politics.

Born in Cleveland, OH, Harriet Woods received a bachelor of arts degree in philosophy from the University of Michigan. She married Jim Woods on January 2, 1953. Before beginning her career in politics, Woods worked as a journalist and television producer.

Woods' political career began in 1962, when she became a member of the University City Council. In 1976, she was elected to the Missouri State Senate and was re-elected in 1980. Dedicated to women's participation in government, Woods was the first woman to win statewide office in Missouri when she was elected Lieutenant Governor in 1984. While she was not successful in the two Senate races in which she was a candidate, her actions and leadership inspired hundreds of women nationwide to participate in politics.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I simply join with my colleague from Georgia in urging passage of this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1617.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

WILLYE B. WHITE POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2025) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 11033 South State Street in Chicago, Illinois, as the ''Willye B. White Post Office Building''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2025

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. WILLYE B. WHITE POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 11033 South State Street in Chicago, Illinois, shall be known and designated as the ''Willye B. White Post Office Building''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Willye B. White Post Office Building''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CARNAHAN). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WESTMORELAND) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the sponsor of this legislation, the distinguished gentleman from the Second Congressional District of Illinois, Representative JESSE JACKSON, Jr.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2025, naming a post office building in the Roseland community of Chicago, Illinois, as the Willye B. White Post Office Building.

Willye B. White was born to run. She was a five-time Olympic track and field athlete from Money, Mississippi. She was the best female long jumper of the time. She made Chicago her home in 1960 until her untimely death in February, 2007.

She wasn't a household name, but she should have been, especially if your household happens to be one of the millions that includes a female athlete. Or an athlete of color. Or a once or future Olympian. She was better known for her actions than her name, better known for her deeds than her medals.

At 16, she competed in the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games and became the first American woman to ever medal in the long jump, earning a silver medal. She participated in the next four Olympiads as well, and is the first American to compete on five Olympic track and field teams. She won another silver medal in the 1964 Tokyo Games in the 4-by-100-meter relay. Ms. White competed in more than 150 nations as a member of 39 different international track and field teams.

Over the years, White remained active in the field of sports. She represented track and field on the U.S. Olympic Committee, coached athletes in the National Sports Festival in 1979 and 1981, coached and managed at the 1981 World Cup Track and Field Championship Games in Brussels and Rome, and served as the head coach for the 1994 Olympic Sports Festival.

Born on December 31, 1939, in Money, Mississippi, and raised by her grandparents, White discovered her talent

for running and jumping at age 10. In 1959, White graduated from Broad Street High School in Greenwood, Mississippi, the same year she set an American record for the long jump, which stood for 6 years. Breaking loose from the poverty of the racially segregated delta, she attended Tennessee State from 1959 to 1962, and achieved national acclaim with the Tigerbelle team that produced Wilma Rudolph. She moved to Chicago in 1960 and began working as a nurse in 1963, first at Chicago's Cook County Hospital and then at the Greenwood Medical Center. In 1965, White became a public health administrator at the Chicago Health Department. She graduated with a B.A. in public health administration from Chicago State University in 1976.

White was one of 21 people on President Ford's Commission on Olympic Sports, a panel that restructured the U.S. Olympic movement. She lobbied extensively for Title IX and raised money for the Women's Sports Foundation. She worked for nearly four decades for the City of Chicago, devoting much of her time to children's recreation and creating sports programs for girls.

In 1990, White found WBW Hang on Productions, a sports and fitness consultancy. A year later, she founded the Willye B. White Foundation helping children develop self-esteem and become productive citizens through such initiatives as the Robert Taylor Girls Athletic Program. This program taught sports and teamwork to children living in the Nation's largest housing project and provided summer day camp and health care in the form of immunizations and dental and medical checkups.

White was the first American to win the world's highest sportsmanship award, the UNESCO Pierre de Coubertin International Fair Play Trophy. She is a member of 11 sports halls of fame, including the National Association of Sport and Physical Education, Black Sports, Women's Sports Foundation, and National Track and Field. She was chosen by Sports Illustrated for Women in 1999 as one of the 100 greatest athletes of the century and by Ebony in 2002 as one of the 10 greatest black female athletes.

Ms. White passed away from pancreatic cancer on Tuesday, February 6, 2007. It is with great pleasure that the U.S. House of Representatives acknowledges Willye B. White not only for her outstanding athletic abilities, but for her tireless service to the community and to the young girls on the South Side of Chicago, indeed young women everywhere.

Finally, I would like to thank my staff, especially my legislative assistant, Ms. Megan Moore, for her hard work on this bill.

□ 1300

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Willye B. White was quoted as saying, ''A dream without a plan is just a wish.'' It was this belief that led her to become the first American to have competed in five Olympic track and field teams, a feat still unchallenged.

Willye White competed in five consecutive Olympic games between 1956 and 1972. At the young age of 16, she won a silver medal in the long jump competition at the games in Melbourne, Australia, historically marking the first time an American woman ever medaled in that event. She earned her second silver medal in the 1964 Tokyo, Japan, games by participating in the 4-by-100-meter relay.

Born in Money, Mississippi, she was raised by her grandparents and fought through the daily struggles of the civil rights movement. Her love of sports emerged around age 10 when she discovered the joy of running and jumping. Overall, she competed in 39 international teams, four Pan-American Games teams and five consecutive U.S. Olympic track and field teams.

After her competitive career ended, she stayed active in the sport through coaching and other activities. She represented track and field on the U.S. Olympic Committee, coached athletes in the National Sports Festival in 1979 and 1981, coached and managed at the 1981 World Cup Track and Field Championship Games in Brussels and Rome, and she served as head coach for the 1994 Olympic Sports Festival.

Beyond coaching, she also founded the Willye White Foundation which helps children develop self-esteem and become active members of their communities through athletic participation. She has earned numerous awards throughout the years and is a member of eleven sports halls of fame.

She sadly lost her battle with pancreatic cancer in February. So, today, we proudly honor her life with the naming of this post office in her hometown of Chicago, Illinois.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to vote in the affirmative on H.R. 2025.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleague in consideration of H.R. 2025, which names a postal facility in Chicago, Illinois, after Willye B. White.

H.R. 2025, which was introduced by Representative JESSE L. JACKSON, Jr., on April 25, 2007, was reported from the Oversight Committee on May 1, 2007, by a voice vote. This measure, which has been cosponsored by 18 Members, has the support of the entire Illinois congressional delegation.

Ms. Willye White was born December 31, 1939, in Money, Mississippi, and raised by her grandparents. At 16 she competed in the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games and became the first woman representing the United States to win a medal in the long jump, earning silver behind Elizabeth Krzeszinska of Poland. Ms. White competed in every Olympics from 1956 through 1972, and only an injury kept her off the 1976 team.

She was America's best female long jumper for almost two decades, with a career best of 21 feet and 6 inches. She won nine consecutive United States outdoor championships, set seven American records and competed in more than 150 nations. Ms. White is the first and only track and field athlete to compete in five Olympics for the United States.

Ms. White moved to Chicago in 1960 and lived there for 46 years. She worked as a nurse and then as a public administrator. She mentored hundreds of young women living in Chicago's public housing projects through the Willye White Foundation.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, UNESCO, recognized her humanitarian efforts by awarding her the Pierre de Coubertin International Fair Play trophy, named after the founder of the modern Olympic Games.

Ms. White died on February 6, 2007, of pancreatic cancer.

Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleague Representative JACKSON for introducing this legislation.

Ms. White happened to be someone that I have known practically all of my life. As a matter of fact, she did grow up and finish high school in Greenwood, Mississippi, where my grandfather lived, and we knew of her exploits. As a matter of fact, we were close to the same age so we were attending high school at the same time. Then, of course, she went on to Tennessee State, that famous institution with the Tigerbelles, and at the same time I was attending another HBCU university, and we would compete with Tennessee State. They always won. Occasionally, we may have an opportunity but not often.

Then I actually worked closely with Ms. White up until the time that she died. Every year, I would look forward to contributing to her foundation for the programs that she had, especially in the Robert Taylor and the Henry Horner homes, but especially Robert Taylor housing projects which is also a part of my congressional district.

As a matter of fact, she even ran for public office. Although she was not elected, she kept running and did, in fact, run.

I commend my colleague Representative JACKSON again for seeking to honor this great lady by naming a post office in her honor. I would urge passage of this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, urge

passage of this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2025.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

S/SGT LEWIS G. WATKINS POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1335) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 508 East Main Street in Seneca, South Carolina, as the ''S/Sgt Lewis G. Watkins Post Office Building''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1335

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. S/SGT LEWIS G. WATKINS POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 508 East Main Street in Seneca, South Carolina, shall be known and designated as the ''S/Sgt Lewis G. Watkins Post Office Building''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''S/Sgt Lewis G. Watkins Post Office Building''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WESTMORELAND) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

As a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleague in consideration of H.R. 1335, which names a postal facility in Seneca, South Carolina, after Lewis G. Watkins.

H.R. 1335, which was introduced by Representative J. GRESHAM BARRETT on March 6, 2007, was reported from the Oversight Committee on May 1, 2007, by a voice vote. This measure has been cosponsored by the five members of the South Carolina congressional delegation, which represents the delegation indeed.

Staff Sergeant Lewis G. Watkins served in action during the Korean conflict. He heroically sacrificed his life in combat on October 7, 1952, in Korea. He was a recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor for his conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life beyond the call of duty while serving as a guide of a rifle platoon of Company I, 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division.

Staff Sergeant Watkins' extraordinary heroism, inspiring leadership, and resolute spirit of self-sacrifice reflected the highest credit upon himself and enhances the finest traditions of the U.S. naval service. He gave his life for his country.

So, Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleague Representative BARRETT for introducing this legislation and urge swift passage.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

We often come to the floor to talk about our brave soldiers fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan; but today I am proud to speak about a hero, a highly decorated Korean War veteran, Lewis G. Watkins.

Staff Sergeant Lewis G. Watkins was born in Seneca, South Carolina, on June 6, 1925. After graduating from Greenville High School, he joined the Greenville Police Department. Furthering his public service, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 1950. After his training in Camp Lejeune and Camp Pendleton, he was sent to serve in Korea.

Staff Sergeant Watkins fought valiantly during his only tour of duty. On October 7, 1952, his unit was attempting to take an outpost from the enemy. While leading his men up a hill and fighting off heavy small-arms fire and grenades, he was severely injured. Pushing through the pain, he successfully led his team further up the hill.

It was then that he noticed a grenade had landed nearby. Pushing his comrades aside to protect them, he instinctively grabbed the grenade to throw it out of harm's way. Unfortunately, the bomb exploded in his hand and he was mortally wounded. His heroic actions on that hill saved the lives of his fellow soldiers; and it was for this act of bravery and courage he deservedly, albeit posthumously, was awarded the Nation's highest military decoration, the Medal of Honor. His other awards include the Purple Heart, the United Nations Service Medal, and the Korean War Service Medal with two bronze stars.

Staff Sergeant Lewis G. Watkins' life and military achievements are to be commended. He fought and died for his country; and today we honor his heroism, his self-sacrifice, and his inspiring leadership by naming this post office after him.

I commend my colleague Mr. BARRETT for bringing this to our attention.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to my very distinguished colleague from the great State of South Carolina (Mr. BARRETT).

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Georgia for yielding and also for Representative DAVIS today.

I would also like to thank Chairman Henry Waxman and Ranking Member TOM DAVIS of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee for facilitating such swift consideration of this bill that recognizes such an honorable man.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1335, a bill that honors the life and sacrifices of Staff Sergeant Lewis Watkins who gave his life for his country in the Korean War. Lewis Watkins was born on June 6, 1925, in Seneca, South Carolina. He graduated from Greenville High School in South Carolina in 1949.

He was a member of the Greenville Police Department where he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps on September 12, 1950. After training at Parris Island, South Carolina, he served at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, and Camp Pendleton, California, before being deployed to Korea.

On October 7, 1952, Sergeant Watkins' platoon was assigned to retake an outpost from the enemy. Even though Sergeant Watkins had been wounded during the fight, he continued to lead his men and return gunfire on the enemy machine gun position holding up the assault. At one point, an enemy grenade landed among his men. Selflessly and without thinking, he pushed his men out of harm's way and picked up the grenade. While attempting to throw the grenade back toward the enemy, it exploded in his hand, fatally wounding him.

Sergeant Watkins heroically sacrificed his life to save the lives of his fellow marines under his command, and in doing so, helped contribute to the overall success of his unit's mission during the Korean War.

I thank Sergeant Watkins and his family for his service. Every American owes a debt of gratitude for his service and his sacrifice.

In addition, every member of the South Carolina delegation cosponsored this legislation as a way to say thank you and honor a man who gave his life for his country.

Mr. Speaker, Staff Sergeant Lewis Watkins is the only known native Oconee County resident to receive a Medal of Honor. To designate the post office facility located at 508 East Main Street in Seneca, South Carolina, as the S/Sgt Lewis G. Watkins Post Office Building is one way we can pay tribute to his life. It will allow all who enter the post office and view the dedication plaque a unique opportunity to be

mindful of the sacrifices our military have made and continue to make today.

In addition to the Medal of Honor, Watkins' decorations include the Purple Heart Medal; Korean Service Medal with two bronze stars; and the United Nations Service Medal.

□ 1315

Lewis Watkins made the ultimate sacrifice for his country, and I am honored that this country is about to bestow upon his memory and his family yet another recognition.

There is a verse that says, ''No greater love hath he,'' and Lewis Watkins proved that.

Mr. Speaker, I urge swift passage of H.R. 1335.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Let me say that it has, indeed, been a pleasure to work with the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WESTMORELAND) and I thank him, and I urge swift passage of this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of our time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1335.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NATIONAL AMERICORPS WEEK

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 385) recognizing National AmeriCorps Week.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 385

Whereas the AmeriCorps national service program, since its inception in 1994, has proven to be an effective way to engage Americans in service to the Nation that meets a wide range of local and national needs and promotes the ethic of service and volunteerism;

Whereas the AmeriCorps program, working closely with its Nationwide network of Governor-appointed state service commissions, has strengthened America's nonprofit sector community nonprofit groups, in every State in our Nation;

Whereas the AmeriCorps programs across our Nation have leveraged additional funds and in-kind donations from other sources to further service and volunteerism in America;

Whereas each year AmeriCorps provides opportunities for 75,000 citizens to serve in and work to improve communities in our Nation;

Whereas since 1994 a total of 500,000 citizens across the Nation have taken the AmeriCorps pledge to ''get things done for America'' by becoming AmeriCorps members;

Whereas those same individuals have served a total of more than 630,000,000 hours in service to our Nation, helping to improve the lives of our Nation's most vulnerable citizens, protect our environment, contribute to our public safety, respond to disasters, and strengthen our educational system;

Whereas AmeriCorps members last year recruited and supervised more than 1,400,000 community volunteers, serving as a powerful volunteer catalyst;

Whereas AmeriCorps members, in return for their service, have earned nearly $1,300,000,000 to further their own education at our Nation's colleges and universities;

Whereas AmeriCorps members, after their terms of service end, remain engaged in our communities as volunteers, teachers, and nonprofit professionals in disproportionately high levels; and

Whereas the inaugural National AmeriCorps Week, May 13–20, 2007, is an opportune time for the people of the United States to recognize current and former AmeriCorps members for their service to our Nation; thank AmeriCorps' community partners who make the program possible; and bring more Americans into service: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) encourages all citizens to join in a national effort to salute AmeriCorps members and alumni to raise awareness about the importance of national and community service;

(2) acknowledges the significant accomplishments of the AmeriCorps members, alumni and community partners;

(3) recognizes the important contribution to the lives of our citizens by AmeriCorps members; and

(4) encourages citizens of all ages to participate in service opportunities in their communities, including in AmeriCorps programs.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. YARMUTH) and the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. BOUSTANY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may insert material relevant to H. Res. 385 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kentucky?

There was no objection.

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. YARMUTH asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 385, which recognizes National AmeriCorps Week.

Since Congress created AmeriCorps in 1994, the program has generated numbers that are impressive by any measure. In 13 years, AmeriCorps has mobilized 1.5 million volunteers in every State in the Union, accumulating nearly 700 million hours of service, a value of $12 billion.

In addition, AmeriCorps volunteers have earned more than $1 billion in scholarships for that service. My home State of Kentucky has benefited from 7 million of the service hours from nearly 5,000 volunteers.

Few Federal programs can quantify this type of success across the board, but the numbers would be meaningless were it not for the tremendous impact these hours and all those volunteers have made on countless lives throughout our communities. In my district in Louisville, that impact can be felt throughout the community.

I see it on the optimistic face of a young girl who recently found new reasons to smile, thanks to her mentor from Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Kentuckiana. We feel it walking through a Portland neighborhood, freshly cleaned and painted by volunteers participating in the second annual Martin Luther King Season of Service. You hear it in the voice of a boy proudly reading his first book to his mother, who would not have been able to provide adequate education if not for the AmeriCorps Every 1 Reads program.

There can be no doubt that in our world, the ways these lives have been touched is exceptional. But in AmeriCorps, by providing resources to Court Appointed Special Advocates, Habitat For Humanity, Kentucky Domestic Violence Association, and other educational and non-profit services, these successes are the norm.

They happen every day all across the country over and over again, because this unique and ambitious government initiative provides the catalyst for selfless Americans of all backgrounds to push the limits for our capacity of service, and turn awareness into action, compassion and commitment.

AmeriCorps members live every day with the understanding that when we act as one for progress, we progress together. Yet all too often, these life-changing individuals and community building programs go unrecognized. So I ask all my colleagues to join me for the next 7 days in honoring all AmeriCorps members and alumni, to say thanks for all that they have done and continue to do and to encourage more people to get involved.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the remainder of my time.

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 385, which recognizes National AmeriCorps Week. This first ever National AmeriCorps Week gives us an opportunity to acknowledge the impact of AmeriCorps members, alumni and community partners around the country.

As we recognize National AmeriCorps Week, we are reminded of the spirit of service that is such an integral part of our national character. Throughout our country, countless individuals of all backgrounds and ages engage in community service every day to address the common concerns of our neighborhoods, communities, Nation and the world.

Our community has seen the inspiring example of citizens' willingness to serve others in the wake of tragedies large and small that touch our lives

every day. But community service is also about lifting a hand to help a neighbor, teaching a child to read, restoring a neglected park and other numerous acts of goodwill that reaffirm our common humanity.

Last month, we celebrated National Volunteer Week and learned that more than a quarter of this country's population volunteered in some capacity from September 2005 to September 2006, at an estimated value of $280 billion. These numbers are a clear indication of our commitment to service.

AmeriCorps is part of that commitment. As this resolution says, AmeriCorps provides 75,000 citizens of this country opportunities to engage in work to improve our communities each year. In total, 500,000 individuals have become AmeriCorps members since the program began and have engaged in 630 million hours of work to help improve the lives of their fellow citizens.

AmeriCorps works closely with a number of community partners across the country, and I also want to express my thanks to those organizations and their leaders. These organizations capture the spirt of service and bring that spirit to bear in a concentrated way to relieve suffering, provide opportunities to the needy, clean up our communities and bring hope to millions. These organizations and the public and private partners that support them provide the needed infrastructure to support the energy of our community service providers.

As this resolution states, National AmeriCorps Week will continue our efforts to raise awareness of the importance of service in local, national and international communities, and the commitment of our community service providers to improving lives, strengthening communities and fostering civic engagement.

I thank my colleague from Kentucky for introducing this resolution, and I urge its passage.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 4 minutes to the gentlelady from California, and cochair of the National Service Caucus, the distinguished Ms. MATSUI.

(Ms. MATSUI asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MATSUI. I want to thank my good friend from Kentucky (Mr. YARMUTH) for yielding me time.

I also want to thank Chairwoman MCCARTHY and Ranking Member PLATTS for their leadership in the committee and their tireless efforts to reauthorize and strengthen the program.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be part of those standing up in support of the first ever AmeriCorps Week. I believe strongly that the AmeriCorps program embodies the spirit of the American people, and it's important for Members of Congress to acknowledge the work accomplished by AmeriCorps members.

As a cochair of the National Service Caucus, it's a pleasure to highlight and honor the tremendous work of those involved at every level and every program of AmeriCorps.

AmeriCorps is a national service program that engages Americans of all ages and backgrounds in service. Since AmeriCorps was established in 1994, AmeriCorps members have performed over 630 million hours of service addressing a critical need in education, housing, public safety, disaster response and recovery and environmental preservation.

The AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps, popularly known as NCCC, has a campus in my congressional district in Sacramento. I have had the opportunity to see firsthand how the experience positively influences the communities served by the team members and how it also enriches the lives of the participants.

Nearly everywhere I go in Sacramento someone stops me and tells me about how amazing and committed the NCCC members are to their mission. Most recently I have heard from AmeriCorps members about their experiences in the gulf coast recovery efforts. These participants all remarked that they are not just rebuilding communities, they are, quite literally, rebuilding people's lives.

It is because of all of the great work of AmeriCorps members that extraordinary things are happening all around America. Just last week, I learned that the Child Abuse Prevention Council, an important program in my district, will receive support from AmeriCorps. AmeriCorps members will serve as home visitors, resource aides and community coordinators.

There is nothing more important than our children, and I appreciate the Corporation for National and Community Service and for providing the program with 96 AmeriCorps members to help them carry out their mission. I know that we will be hearing more about the great work of AmeriCorps as the 110th Congress proceeds, and we consider reauthorization and funding.

AmeriCorps members are a vital part of our communities. With very little funding, they leverage millions of dollars and perform crucial work, whether in a classroom, in a national park, or rebuilding houses on the gulf coast. I truly hope that my colleagues will continue to support AmeriCorps programs.

The spirit of service that is so important in our communities is one that should be encouraged. I want to extend my greatest appreciation to those who have served and continue to serve in the AmeriCorps programs throughout the country.

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LOEBSACK).

Mr. LOEBSACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 385, a bill to recognize National AmeriCorps Week, and the importance of the contributions made by AmeriCorps volunteers across the country.

The goal of AmeriCorps is one of the most noble. AmeriCorps enables each and every individual who is interested in giving of their time and talents to do just that. AmeriCorps members provide service to address our country's most pressing needs, including improving education, working to protect our environment, fighting poverty, ending homelessness and much more.

Margaret Meade said, ''Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.'' Since 1994, AmeriCorps has supported over 500,000 people who have contributed nearly 700 million hours of service to local communities. These are individuals who truly embody Margaret Meade's words.

These are committed individuals who are helping to change our world for the better. The dedication and passion of these volunteers is admirable. I am proud that there are so many Americans who believe that volunteerism is important and necessary. In fact, it's the very foundation of our democracy.

Iowa is lucky to have a strong AmeriCorps presence. Iowa nonprofits rely heavily on volunteers to carry out their missions. Between 2003 and 2005, Iowa volunteers contributed nearly 300 million hours of volunteer service to organizations in the State. In 2005 alone, the economic impact of volunteer service to Iowa charitable organizations was over $1.78 billion.

My district is lucky to have Senior Corps programs, AmeriCorps programs and Learn and Serve in both Iowa City and Van Buren Community School Districts. The Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service wants to increase volunteer presence across the State, and I fully support this goal.

This resolution is both necessary and important. Congress and the Nation should be proud of AmeriCorps members and alumni. We must also raise awareness about the importance of national and community service and encourage individuals to participate in service opportunities in their communities, including in AmeriCorps programs.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. BOUSTANY. It has been a pleasure working with the gentleman from Kentucky on this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I urge its passage and yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, we have just heard many ways in which AmeriCorps has benefited our communities and touched so many lives within them. Still, these are just a few of the many stories that illustrate the spectacular influence that AmeriCorps has had on our Nation in a little over a decade.

□ 1330

The outstanding individuals who have contributed over the years deserve our thanks and recognition.

And so I am proud to stand here today and urge the passage of H. Res. 385 and ask my colleagues to join me these next 7 days in honoring all that AmeriCorps has already accomplished and encourage others to join in their commitment to continue that work in the years to come.

I would also like to commend both Congresswoman MATSUI and Congressman PLATTS of Pennsylvania, the co-chairs of the National Service Caucus, for their leadership in these efforts.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 385, which supports the goals and ideals of National AmeriCorps Week.

This week AmeriCorps celebrates its 500,000th member and we celebrate the achievement of all the members of AmeriCorps from around the country who have given 637 million hours of their time and energy to their communities.

AmeriCorps members have made important contributions addressing our Nation's most pressing needs and set an example of selfless service and giving in support of our country's most vulnerable residents—the homeless, hungry, elderly, at-risk youth and disabled. Their work not only supports their communities, but encourages others to do the same.

I still remember how I felt as a 14-year-old watching the 1960 Presidential election between Vice President Richard Nixon and Senator John Kennedy. I felt energized listening to Senator Kennedy when he spoke of the Peace Corps and making the world a better and safer place.

I wanted to be part of his vision—I wanted to give to the world community. Years later, that dream was fulfilled when my wife Betsi and I served 2 years in the Peace Corps.

The same powerful emotion—the same sense of energy and eagerness we felt in the sixties—is alive today and expressed through those who give back to their communities.

In my own state of Connecticut, over 7,000 resident have served in AmeriCorps. Those members serving in AmeriCorps in Connecticut have earned over $17 million in Segal AmeriCorps Education Award scholarships to use for college or to pay off student loans. Nationwide, over $1.2 billion has been earned.

Over 8.5 million hours of service have been performed by the residents of Connecticut to assist community nonprofits groups. Those hours equate to nearly $200 million in value.

I am grateful we are considering this resolution and urge its adoption.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, during the first ever AmeriCorps week I would like to extend my support to the oranization and all of the great things that its members have done. Since AmeriCorps was created in 1994, Texas has benefited from over 22,000 young people serving a year or more in our communities.

Nearly 72 AmeriCorps volunteers have tutored 691 youths in the State of Texas including the Dallas Habitat for Humanities and the YMCA of Dallas Oak Cliff Branch.

In Texas, as in other States, AmeriCorps volunteers provide a host of services including building affordable housing, teaching computer skills to youth and seniors, and managing after-school programs aimed at youngsters who might otherwise drop out of school. Through programs such as the "National Civilian Community Corps" or "City Year," AmeriCorps volunteers address critical Texas needs in education, public safety, disaster response and recovery, and environment preservation.

These programs serve an important role as they provide an outlet for people to serve their country in a manner that they previously had not be afforded. The AmeriCorps program has done great things for Texas and the country as a whole, as the Corps members promise to do in the pledge they take every day, they "get things done."

Mr. Speaker, we will not find common ground or reach higher ground if we turn national service into a partisan playground.

I will continue to work hard and do everything I can to strengthen this program, and I ask my House colleagues to do everything as well.

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. YARMUTH) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 385.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

COMMENDING THE JUNIATA COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE NCAA DIVISION III WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 216) commending the Juniata College volleyball team for winning the NCAA Division III Women's Volleyball Championship.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 216

Whereas the Juniata College volleyball team is one of the great little-known dynasties in college sports;

Whereas the Juniata College volleyball program has a remarkable 1,100 win and 172 loss record over 30 seasons;

Whereas Head Coach Larry Bock has the most wins of any coach in the history of NCAA women's volleyball;

Whereas during this past season, senior Stephanie Kines was named the Division III Women's Volleyball Player of the Year, just the second Juniata player to earn that honor;

Whereas Juniata College did not lose a match in 2006 to a Division III opponent all season, and the team's only 2006 loss was to Division I Princeton University;

Whereas Juniata College's 41 win and 1 loss record during 2006 tied the program record for the fewest losses in a season, and was the team's first 40-win season since 1997; and

Whereas Juniata defeated long-time rival Washington University-St. Louis in a thrilling five-game championship match that many described as the best championship match in the history of Division III volleyball: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) commends the Juniata College volleyball team for winning the 2006 NCAA Division III Women's Volleyball National Championship; and

(2) recognizes the achievements of the players, coaches, students, and staff whose hard work and dedication made the Championship possible.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. YARMUTH) and the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. BOUSTANY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may insert material relevant to H. Res. 216 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kentucky?

There was no objection.

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. YARMUTH asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Juniata College for winning the NCAA Division III Women's Volleyball Championship.

On November 18, 2006, the Juniata College women's volleyball team won the 2006 NCAA Division III championship by beating the Washington University-St. Louis Bears in Salem, Virginia.

I want to extend my congratulations to head coach Larry Bock, assistant coach Heather Pavlik, Juniata College president Thomas Kepple, Jr., and the student athletes on a wonderful season.

The Eagles had an exceptional record of 41 wins with just one loss. They were undefeated in Division III competition, with their only loss coming to a Division I school. The team also had an exceptional player in Stephanie Kines who was named Division III women's volleyball player of the year. Coach Larry Bock also added to his extraordinary record of 1,100 wins and 172 losses over 30 years of coaching, the most wins of any coach in NCAA women's volleyball history.

I also want to extend my congratulations to the Washington University-St. Louis Bears. The Bears had a record of 38 wins and 2 losses. The Bears won the University Athletic Association title for 2006 and had four women receive AVCA All-America honors.

Winning the Division III national championship and finishing the season with a 41–1 record has brought positive national attention to Juniata College, and I know the fans of the university will cherish this moment as they look forward to the 2007 season.

Mr. Speaker, once again I congratulate Juniata College for their success.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 216, commending Juniata College for winning the NCAA Division III Women's Volleyball Championship.

On November 18, 2006, the Juniata College women's volleyball team defeated their longtime rival, Washington University of St. Louis, in a thrilling five-game championship match that might possibly be described as the best championship match in the history of Division III volleyball.

The Juniata College women's volleyball team is one of the great little-known dynasties in college sports today. The program has a remarkable record of 1,100 wins to only 172 losses over 30 seasons.

In fact, during the 2006 season, Juniata College did not lose a single match to any of their Division III opponents all season and the team's only 2006 loss was to Division I's Princeton University. The 41 win-1 loss record tied the program record for the fewest losses in a season and was the team's first 40-win season since 1997.

During the season, senior Stephanie Kines was named the Division III women's volleyball player of the year, making her only the second Juniata player in the college's history to earn that honor.

Sophomore Amber Thomas also played a vital role in Juniata's second Division III national championship. Thomas was chosen as the tournament's most outstanding player as she piled up 54 kills in the final three tournament matches, 25 of which came in the championship victory.

I would also like to recognize head coach Larry Bock who is one of the most recognizable names in collegiate volleyball. His list of accomplishments and awards places him among the most successful volleyball coaches in the country at any level.

I extend my congratulations to head coach Larry Bock, all of the hard-working players, the fans and to Juniata College. I am happy to join my good friend and colleague, Representative YARMUTH, in honoring this exceptional team and all of its accomplishments and wish all involved continued success.

I ask my colleagues to support this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. YARMUTH. I thank the gentleman from Louisiana.

With that, I strongly urge my colleagues to pass this important resolution and recognize the Juniata College women's volleyball team for their great achievement. We should all join these great athletes in celebration of a hard-fought 2006 NCAA Division III championship.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Lady "screaming eagles" of Juniata College on winning the 2006 NCAA Division ill Woman's Volleyball Championship.

In a thrilling win, the Eagles found themselves down two games to one to Washington University. Down, but not out the Lady Eagles came storming back with a brilliant offensive effort to capture the Title 3–2. The Eagles found their momentum in the fourth game where the team went on a 4 to 1 run. After claiming the lead, the Eagles never looked back. At the end of the day, the Eagles walked away with 90 kills and a championship.

Juniata College's Volleyball Team's championship is a great example of sportsmanship and achievement in college sports. Over 30 seasons, Juniata's volleyball program has built a 1,100 win and 172 loss record. The team's coach, Larry Bock, has the most wins of any coach in the history of NCAA women's volleyball. Also, during their championship season, senior player Stephanie Kines was named Division III Women's Volleyball Player of the Year. Stephanie is the second Juniata player to earn that honor.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate all of the players and coaches of the Juniata College Women's Volleyball Team: Erin Albert, Brittany Carr, Cassie Dickmann, Kristi Fitzsimmons, Jess Fox, Paige Johnston, Stephanie Kines, Beth Kozak, Megan Lamens, Mariel Little, Michelle Morchesky, Aly Pompeani, Jessica Ritchey, Rachael Schatz, Megan Sollenberger, Molly Sollenberger, and Amber Thomas Head Coach Larry Bock, and assistant Coaches Heather Pavlik, Casey Dale and Erin Dodson. To all of the Screaming Eagles, congratulation on most successful season and a well earned championship.

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. YARMUTH) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 216.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 36 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m.

□ 1833

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CAPUANO) at 6 o'clock and 33 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed. Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 1124, by the yeas and nays;

H. Res. 223, by the yeas and nays;

H. Res. 385, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

EXTENDING DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE ACCESS ACT OF 1999

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1124, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1124.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 268, nays 100, not voting 64, as follows:

[Roll No. 342]

YEAS—268

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Bachus
Baird
Baldwin
Barrow
Bartlett (MD)
Becerra
Berkley
Berry
Biggert
Bilbray
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehner
Bono
Boozman
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Butterfield
Calvert
Cannon
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carson
Castle
Castor
Chandler
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Courtney
Cramer
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis, Tom
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Emerson
Eshoo
Etheridge
Fallin
Farr
Filner
Fortenberry
Frelinghuysen
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gordon
Green, Al
Hall (NY)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hayes
Heller
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Hulshof
Inslee
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Knollenberg
Kucinich
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Linder
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Marchant
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCaul (TX)
McCollum (MN)
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Napolitano
Oberstar
Obey
Olver

Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Perlmutter
Petri
Pickering
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Rahall
Rangel
Regula
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Rodriguez
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Snyder
Solis
Souder
Space
Spratt
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tiahrt
Towns
Turner
Udall (NM)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Welch (VT)
Weller
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth
Young (FL)

NAYS—100

Akin
Alexander
Bachmann
Baker
Barrett (SC)
Barton (TX)
Bean
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Boustany
Brown (SC)
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cantor
Carter
Chabot
Coble
Conaway
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Deal (GA)
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
English (PA)
Feeney
Flake
Forbes
Fossella
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gingrey
Gohmert
Goode
Granger
Graves
Hall (TX)
Hastings (WA)
Hensarling
Herger
Hoekstra
Inglis (SC)
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kline (MN)
Kuhl (NY)
Lamborn
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
McCarthy (CA)
McCotter
McHenry
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nunes
Paul
Pearce
Pence
Peterson (MN)
Platts
Poe
Putnam
Radanovich
Ramstad
Rehberg
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shuster
Smith (NE)
Smith (TX)
Stearns
Thornberry
Tiberi
Upton
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Weldon (FL)
Westmoreland
Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—64

Berman
Bonner
Boren
Brady (PA)
Brown, Corrine
Cardoza
Carney
Costello
Crenshaw
Cubin
Culberson
Davis (AL)
Davis, Jo Ann
Davis, Lincoln
Doolittle
Doyle
Engel
Everett
Fattah
Ferguson
Frank (MA)
Gallegly
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hastert
Holden
Hunter
Jefferson
Jindal
Johnson (IL)
Jones (OH)
LaHood
Lampson
Lewis (KY)
Lipinski
McCarthy (NY)
McMorris Rodgers
Meehan
Meeks (NY)
Moran (VA)
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Musgrave
Nadler
Neal (MA)
Peterson (PA)
Pitts
Pryce (OH)
Reynolds
Rothman
Sánchez, Linda T.
Shimkus
Smith (WA)
Stark
Sullivan
Tancredo
Tierney
Udall (CO)
Wamp
Wasserman Schultz
Weiner
Wexler
Whitfield

□ 1859

Mr. DEAL of Georgia and Ms. BEAN changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Messrs. EHLERS, LINDER, McCRERY, WILSON of South Carolina, BACHUS and Ms. KAPTUR changed their vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 342, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 342, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF A NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR MURDER VICTIMS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 223, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 223.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 369, nays 0, not voting 63, as follows:

[Roll No. 343]

YEAS—369

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Bachmann
Bachus
Baird
Baker
Baldwin
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berry
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehner
Bono
Boozman
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carson
Carter
Castle
Castor
Chabot
Chandler
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Courtney
Cramer
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Davis, Lincoln
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Emerson
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Fallin
Farr
Feeney
Filner
Flake
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fossella
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gingrey
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Granger
Graves
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Hulshof
Inglis (SC)
Inslee
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jordan
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kucinich
Kuhl (NY)
Lamborn
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Linder
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mack
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Marchant
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul (TX)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Myrick
Napolitano
Neugebauer
Nunes
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Paul
Payne
Pearce
Pence
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Petri
Pickering
Platts
Poe
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Putnam
Radanovich
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salazar
Sali
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schmidt
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sestak
Shadegg
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Snyder
Solis
Souder
Space
Spratt
Stearns
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Towns
Turner
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Welch (VT)
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Westmoreland
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Yarmuth
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—63

Berman
Bonner
Boren
Brady (PA)
Brown, Corrine
Cardoza
Carney
Costello
Crenshaw
Cubin
Culberson
Davis (AL)
Davis, Jo Ann
Doolittle
Doyle
Engel
Everett
Fattah
Ferguson
Frank (MA)
Gallegly
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hastert
Holden
Hunter
Jefferson
Jindal
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Jones (OH)
LaHood
Lewis (KY)
Lipinski
McCarthy (NY)
McMorris Rodgers
Meehan
Meeks (NY)
Moran (VA)
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Musgrave
Nadler
Neal (MA)
Peterson (PA)
Pitts
Pryce (OH)
Reynolds
Rothman
Sánchez, Linda T.
Shimkus
Smith (WA)
Stark
Sullivan
Tancredo

Tierney
Udall (CO)
Wamp
Wasserman Schultz
Weiner
Wexler
Whitfield
Wynn

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised there are 2 minutes left in this vote.

□ 1906

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN MEMORY OF FORMER REPRESENTATIVE MENDEL DAVIS OF SOUTH CAROLINA

(Mr. SPRATT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, it is my sad responsibility as the dean of the South Carolina delegation to advise the House of the death of a former Member, Representative Mendel Davis, who passed away after several years of respiratory problems this weekend.

I would now like to yield to the gentleman from Charleston, South Carolina, Mr. HENRY BROWN, who holds his seat, to say a word of respect and remembrance.

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. I certainly appreciate the gentleman for yielding.

Mendel Davis was a close friend of mine. He was born in and was a resident of North Charleston, South Carolina, which is part of my congressional district.

Mendel Davis entered Congress after a special election in 1971 to replace his godfather, former Representative Mendel Rivers. Mendel Davis was reelected to Congress an additional four more times. He was a graduate of the College of Charleston and received his law degree from the University of South Carolina School of Law.

Mendel Davis was one of the major reasons that the USS *Yorktown* now calls Patriot's Point in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina its home.

He was a champion for the little guy, and he was always known for his timely and efficient service to his constituents who loved and respected him.

I know we will all miss Mendel Davis very much. During his time serving the people in the House of Representatives, he made it a better place to be.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to observe 1 minute of silence in honor of our former colleague, Representative Mendel Davis.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, 5-minute voting will continue.

There was no objection.

NATIONAL AMERICORPS WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 385, in which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. YARMUTH) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 385.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 346, nays 21, answered ''present'' 1, not voting 64, as follows:

[Roll No. 344]

YEAS—346

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Bachmann
Bachus
Baird
Baker
Baldwin
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Barton (TX)
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berry
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehner
Bono
Boozman
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brown (SC)
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carson
Castle
Castor
Chabot
Chandler
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Courtney
Cramer
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Davis, Lincoln
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Emerson
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Fallin
Farr
Feeney
Filner
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fossella
Frelinghuysen
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gillmor
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Gordon
Granger
Graves
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Heller
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Hulshof
Inglis (SC)
Inslee
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jordan
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (NY)
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kucinich
Kuhl (NY)
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Linder
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mack
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Marchant
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul (TX)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mitchell
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Myrick
Napolitano
Neugebauer
Nunes
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Pearce
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Petri
Pickering
Platts
Poe
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Putnam
Radanovich
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salazar
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schmidt
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sestak
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Snyder
Solis
Souder
Space
Spratt
Stearns
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Towns
Turner
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Welch (VT)
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Westmoreland
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Yarmuth
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NAYS—21

Bartlett (MD)
Bilbray
Buyer
Carter
Flake
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Gingrey
Goode
Goodlatte
Hensarling
King (IA)
Kingston
Lamborn
Miller, Gary
Paul
Pence
Rohrabacher
Royce
Sali
Shadegg

ANSWERED ''PRESENT''—1

Brown-Waite, Ginny

NOT VOTING—64

Berman
Bonner
Boren
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Brown, Corrine
Cardoza
Carney
Costello
Crenshaw
Cubin
Culberson
Davis, Jo Ann
Doolittle
Doyle
Engel
Everett
Fattah
Ferguson
Frank (MA)
Gallegly
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hastert
Holden
Hunter
Jefferson
Jindal
Johnson (IL)
Jones (OH)
LaHood
Lewis (KY)
Lipinski
McCarthy (NY)
McMorris Rodgers
Meehan
Meeks (NY)
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Musgrave
Nadler
Neal (MA)
Peterson (PA)
Pitts
Pryce (OH)
Reynolds
Rothman
Sánchez, Linda T.
Shimkus
Smith (WA)
Stark
Sullivan
Tancredo
Tierney
Udall (CO)
Wamp
Wasserman Schultz
Weiner
Wexler
Whitfield
Wynn

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised there are less than 2 minutes remaining on this vote.

□ 1915

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 344, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from this Chamber today. I would like the RECORD to show that, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 342, 343, and 344.

EXPRESSING CONCERN AND SUPPORT FOR TROOPS IN IRAQ

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, let me express my deep concern for the three soldiers who are now missing in Iraq and applaud their brothers-in-arms for never giving up on their search, for we as Americans will never leave our comrades, our brothers and sisters, in battle or never leave them on the battlefield. That is why this Congress, with the leadership of NANCY PELOSI, believes that we can craft a resolution and a solution, and that is that we begin to redeploy our troops and focus on the Iraqi Government, to have them stand up and to have them ensure the safety of the Iraqi people and also Americans to ensure the safety of their soldiers.

Our soldiers have been successful on the battlefield. They can claim victory. It is time now for the President, the White House, the leadership to get together and to be able to solve these untenable problems.

Why are we allowing our young people to be on the battlefield without the support, the full support, of a reasoned White House? Let us work together.

TO RENT OR NOT TO RENT TO ILLEGALS

(Mr. POE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, the citizens of Farmers Branch, Texas, voted overwhelmingly to make it a crime for landlords to rent to people illegally in the United States, fining landlords $500 a day. The people have spoken. They want only citizens and legal immigrants to live in the city.

Oh, but some landlords object. I find this odd. It is illegal to be in the United States without permission. It is illegal to hire illegals that are in the United States without permission. So if illegals aren't supposed to be here in the first place or work here, it is only logical they shouldn't be able to rent here.

In spite of this new law, some landlords want to take this American city to court and demand that they, these money-grabbing landlords, be able to rent to the illegals.

This is perplexing. The Federal Government doesn't adequately protect the border or prosecute or deport illegals, so cities like Farmers Branch, Texas, are simply trying to make their city a sanctuary city for Americans and legal immigrants. And good for them.

But who knows what the Supreme Court will do. Let's see if in the name of the almighty dollar these rogue businessmen will convince the Supreme Court that illegals should be able to rent property, even though they are illegally on the land they are renting.

And that's just the way it is.

APRIL REVENUE SHOWERS

(Mr. MCHENRY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, April revenue showers. That is what the Wall Street Journal called the large government revenues received by this Federal Government in the month of April. It was $70 billion over revenue in 2006. It shows that tax cuts work. The Democrats, on the other hand, want to raise taxes. They want to raise the taxes that American people pay.

What we believe in and what the President has done in just the five short years he has been in office is to actually cut taxes that the American people pay, which, in the end, through greater economic growth, will lead to more government revenue.

A case in point: the capital gains tax cut and the dividends tax cut, those two things have resulted in a 30 percent increase in revenue under those two provisions. It shows that tax cuts work.

They are good for the economy and they are good for the American people, and we need to extend the tax cuts.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. AL GREEN of Texas). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. EMANUEL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. EMANUEL addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. POE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. WOOLSEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

GETTING JUSTICE FOR MURDERED WOMEN IN CIUDAD JUAREZ

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SOLIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to voice my strong support for the families and women who have been murdered in Ciudad Juarez and Chihuahua City in Mexico. I have always believed that violence against women anywhere is an attack on women everywhere. Just 5 minutes from the U.S. border in Ciudad Juarez in the State of Chihuahua, Mexico, over 400 women and girls have been brutally murdered over the last 14 years.

In today's Washington Post, which I will submit for the RECORD, I read the story of mothers of victims whose fight for justice has lasted well over a decade. Because of the gross negligence and failure of local law enforcement to investigate and prosecute the murders, the statute of limitations is starting to run out on some of the earlier murders of women in Ciudad Juarez. What a disgrace, if we cannot solve the murders of these over-450 women.

Women and young girls from all parts of Mexico moved to Ciudad Juarez in hopes of finding work, including jobs at American-owned companies known in Spanish as maquiladoras. These jobs involve late hours, forcing women to travel home in the dark, alone, leaving them vulnerable to attack.

Many of these young women are under the age of 25. They are the sole earners and income earners for their families. Their brothers and fathers are not employed by maquilas, because the maquiladores choose to hire these young women, who they know will not speak out about their rights or condemn the treatment of these women in the workplace.

That is why I introduced a resolution to address the murders of women and girls in Ciudad Juarez some 3 years ago, and I am happy to report that H.R. 90 was passed by this Congress and there is recognition now on the value and faith that we have in the families in Ciudad Juarez.

I bring that out because I say to you and to the public, when we can fight for the rights of women in the Taliban and the Middle East, why can't we fight also honorably for the women who live 5 minutes from this border, many of whom are relatives to us, our constituents, related to families that we represent? It is about time that we change the discussion and direction about this debate that we have with our friends south of the border.

I am proud to be a descendant of friends south of the border, but I also

have to say that there has to be some changes in terms of how we deal with women who are being abused, attacked, and mutilated. It is time that our governments come together.

I ask that Condoleezza Rice and our President weigh in, as well as the new President of Mexico, Mr. Calderon, the President of Mexico, who says this is a priority for him to combat violence against women. I hope that we can do that.

In 2003 and 2004, I organized a congressional delegation trip to Ciudad Juarez with families of victims, government officials, human rights advocates, newspaper reporters and indeed also the FBI. It was in these trips that my dedication to helping the women of Ciudad Juarez was solidified. Families of violence deserve answers and closure instead of either being ignored or harassed for asking for justice to find out where their daughters' bodies lay and where those remains are.

I am sad to report that even though we have asked for assistance from outside of our Nation through the OAS, through a forensic group in Argentina to help identify the bodies and remains of these young women, that it hasn't been as successful as I would have hoped.

I would ask our government to please weigh in again to provide the technical support that is needed to help identify the remains of these young women so that families can have some closure.

Again, any assault on a woman, murder, mutilation or what have you, is an assault on all mankind; and we as Members of Congress should no less have any interest into what happens south of the border.

The convictions in many cases of these individuals that were so-called blamed for these murders were overturned. There wasn't a judge or anyone that would convict anyone of doing these heinous crimes.

I have to say to myself and to the public and to this Congress, why have 450 women who have disappeared from their families, from their homes, somehow not found justice? I just want to remind individuals that the work goes on, that we need help to solve the murders in Ciudad Juarez, and ask our government, both governments, Mexico and the U.S., to find some resolution here.

[From the Washington Post, May 14, 2007]

WANING HOPES IN JUAREZ

(By Manuel Roig-Franzia)

CIUDAD JUAREZ, MEXICO.—For 13 years, June 14 has brought tears, tortured memories and enduring pain to Griselda Salas.

It was on that date, in 1993, that her 16-year-old sister, Guadalupe Ivonne Salas, disappeared. Guadalupe Ivonne's body turned up less than a week later in a park in this dusty, wind-swept industrial city near the U.S.-Mexico border.

Guadalupe Ivonne, who was raped and strangled, was one of the first victims in Mexico's grisliest modern-day crime mystery—the murders of more than 400 women in the past 14 years in Ciudad Juarez, many of the bodies dumped in the desert, horribly mutilated. The killings, mostly of poor young factory workers, have inspired two Hollywood motion pictures and enraged human rights groups, which have filled volumes with accusations of corruption, botched investigations and official negligence.

Yet the mystery remains unsolved.

Now the earliest of these cases are quietly slipping off legal dockets because Mexico, unlike the United States and many European countries, has a statute of limitations for murder. At a time when U.S. prosecutors are resurrecting civil rights-era murder cases—some more than 40 years old—Mexico is closing murder cases forever after 14 years. With each passing day, it appears likely that a legal technicality may end a quest to unravel a string of slayings that shocked the world.

''It is totally and absolutely grotesque to think that murderers could be enjoying their freedom because of this law,'' said Jaime Garcia Chávez, a Chihuahua state legislator who is pressing to abolish Mexico's statute of limitations. ''It is inexcusable.''

Once filled with optimism, buoyed by support from the likes of actresses Jane Fonda and Sally Field, feminists and lawmakers here are demoralized. Esther Chávez Cano, founder of Juarez's first rape and domestic violence counseling center, laments ''a worrying silence'' about cases that once commanded banner headlines. Few here are optimistic, even though the looming deadlines for dozens of Juarez cases have set off a last-minute race to revive long-dormant investigations.

An Argentine forensics team commissioned to look into the murders, drawing on experience from investigations of Argentina's ''dirty war'' and the Salvadoran civil war, is expected to release a damning report later this year that will illustrate the almost impossible task faced by prosecutors. The Argentines have found body parts carelessly left for years on the floors of medical examiner's offices, heads with no matching bodies, bodies with no matching heads and a mishmash of unlabeled corpses tossed into mass graves at paupers' cemeteries.

''It's basically a huge mess,'' forensic archaeologist Mercedes Doretti, the team leader, said in an interview.

Garcia Chávez's effort to give investigators more time to untangle that mess by extending the statute of limitations, a gambit he considers a long shot, has already come too late for Jesica Elizalde, a slain journalist whose murder case expired March 14. The case of a factory worker, Luz Yvonne de la O Garcia, went off the books April 21, as did the murder of an unidentified woman on May 12. Dozens more will follow in the coming months and years.

The next could be Guadalupe Ivonne Salas, though prosecutors say they may be closing in on a suspect—a promise that her family is reluctant to believe after years of dashed hopes.

Salas, a petite 16-year-old, shared a single bed in a cinder-block shack with her infant daughter and her mother, Vicky Salas. The family, like thousands of others, was drawn to Ciudad Juarez by the maquiladoras—assembly plants, most of them owned by U.S. companies—that sprang up blocks from the border because of an abundance of cheap labor and that transformed the town into the fourth-most-populous city in Mexico.

Young women were especially prized by factory supervisors because they were considered more reliable and less rowdy than men. Almost overnight, women were making money while men were still struggling to find jobs, leading to resentment in the local macho culture that activists cite as a social undercurrent to the slayings.

Salas walked each day down a treeless dirt road, past piles of rotting garbage and shacks with sagging walls, to catch a bus that took her to a television part manufacturer. She made about $35 a week, sometimes pulling night shifts and returning home to a neighborhood with no streetlights.

The day that she disappeared should have been joyous; she was getting ready to celebrate her daughter's first birthday. Griselda Salas remembers her sister saying that a friend was going to lend her money to buy presents and party supplies.

''She's probably gone off with some stud,'' Griselda Salas remembers being told by police when her sister did not return home. ''You watch, she'll come back pregnant with a fat belly in a few months.''

Vicky Salas was on a religious retreat at the time of her daughter's disappearance. When she returned several days later, members of her church were in tears.

''They've found a dead girl,'' she remembers her friends telling her. ''They think it's Ivonne.''

A car accident delayed Vicky Salas's trip to the morgue, which was closed when she arrived. An unsmiling police officer told her, ''You'll have to come back tomorrow,'' and no amount of pleading by a panic-stricken mother could change his mind, she recalled.

Even as the death toll rose, victims' families continued to complain about insensitive investigators. One state attorney general suggested that the women encouraged their attackers by dressing provocatively. Other officials implied that the victims were prostitutes, living ''double lives,'' though their mothers insisted they were poor factory workers.

''They called them the morenitas,'' Juarez police criminologist Oscar Maynez said in an interview, invoking a derogatory term that was in vogue at the time and roughly translates to ''little brown ones.'' No one cared about investigating their deaths. There was clear sexism and classism.''

Mexican federal authorities and international human rights organizations that have investigated the cases have accused local authorities in Ciudad Juarez and the state of Chihuahua of covering up evidence and failing to properly investigate crimes for a decade and a half.

The Washington Office on Latin America, or WOLA, a Washington-based human rights organization, has said the true killers may have been protected by authorities who tortured innocents to confess to the killings. Victims' families have been subjected to harassment.

''One relative of a murder victim received a threatening voicemail message warning her to drop the case; the caller ID showed the call had come from the state judicial police,'' a WOLA report said.

Flor Rocío Munguía González, the special prosecutor for what has become known as the femicides in Juarez, said in an interview that such offenses are ''things of the past'' and that she has more than tripled her investigative staff to solve old cases before the time limits expire and to track down those responsible for the ongoing killings of women in Juarez.

''I take great satisfaction in our efforts—we're doing everything we can,'' said Munguía González, who has been in office since February 2006.

After seeing eight special prosecutors come and go with no results, local activists are not impressed. Maureen Meyer, a WO–LA analyst, said that a special federal investigator had found that 130 public officials had either been negligent or abused their authority during the murder investigations, but none has been disciplined.

''There's a real failure to hold them accountable,'' Meyer said in an interview.

Maynez, the criminologist, said he believes a powerful network of police, municipal officials and organized crime figures still protects the killers. He resigned from the job for a short time, after being asked to help frame two bus drivers in one of the cases. He refused, but the two men were arrested anyway. One died in suspicious circumstances during a jailhouse surgery. The other was released after testifying that he had been tortured by police into confessing.

An attorney for the bus drivers was killed by Chihuahua state police in a drive-by shooting in 2005, four days after vowing to file a corruption complaint. The police said the shooting was a case of mistaken identity.

Skepticism is growing as the Argentine forensics team nears the conclusion of its inquiry. The team has discovered that forensics officials in Ciudad Juarez boiled the corpses of some victims, destroying crucial DNA. The group also has found that the families of at least three victims received the wrong bodies for burial.

''The authorities just sealed the coffins and told the families not to ask any questions,'' said Doretti, the lead forensics investigator.

The Juarez families, Doretti said, have insisted that no evidence be sent to Mexican laboratories. Instead, Doretti has sent samples to a U.S. lab; she is expecting results soon.

The new forensic evidence and the approach of the statute of limitations deadlines are the sorts of developments that once would have prompted demonstrations in downtown Juarez. But the mothers who for years have pleaded for justice are exhausted, aging and in poor health.

The case of Silvia Morales, who was killed when she was 16, will expire in less than two years. Her mother, Ramona Morales, had been one of the most vocal critics in a protest movement of victim relatives, but is now suffering from diabetes and a bad knee.

''I can't do it anymore,'' she said one recent afternoon, tears trickling down her face.

Eva Arce, whose daughter Silvia Arce disappeared in 1998, was twice beaten by thugs after demonstrations demanding justice. She spends her days clipping newspaper articles about a new generation of murdered women in Juarez and writing poems.

''A tortured soul pours from a river of blood,'' she said one recent afternoon, reading from her notebook.

That same day, the newspaper El Norte of Ciudad Juarez carried a photograph of a pretty, dark-haired young woman. She didn't look so different from Silvia Arce or Silvia Morales or Guadalupe Ivonne Salas. The caption read: ''Edith Aranda Longoria, 729 days since she was last seen.''

□ 1930

RENAMING DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, this week the House will consider the 2008 defense authorization bill. For the sixth year in a row, the bill contains language to rename the Department of the Navy to be the Department of the Navy and Marine Corps.

I want to thank House Armed Services Chairman IKE SKELTON and Ranking Member DUNCAN HUNTER for their continued support for this change because the need to recognize the coequal status of the Navy and the Marine Corps team is long overdue. I have continued to introduce legislation to rename the department. I hope this year the Senate will support the House position and join in bringing the proper respect to the fighting team of the Navy and Marine Corps.

Over the years, this name change has received not only the support of the full House Armed Services Committee but also the support of former Navy Secretaries and Marine Corps Commandants.

The Honorable Wade Sanders, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Reserve Affairs, 1993 to 1998, voiced his support for the change when he stated: ''As a combat veteran and former Navy officer, I understand the importance of the team dynamics and the importance of recognizing the contribution of team components. The Navy and Marine Corps team is just that, a dynamic partnership, and it is important to symbolically recognize the balance of that partnership.''

General Carl Mundy, the 30th Commandant of the Marine Corps stated: ''I believe the changes you propose will do much to clarify the relationship, responsibilities, and functions of the appointed civilian authority over the United States naval services. I believe that any Secretary, present, past or future, will be very proud to bear the title 'Marine' as well as 'Navy.' ''

Admiral Stansfield Turner, United States Navy, Retired, former Director of Central Intelligence, stated: ''I think this change in title enhances the prestige and pride of the people in the Marine Corps. And it does not necessarily take anything away from the Navy in that process.''

Mr. Speaker, last year an editorial in the Chicago Tribune on April 21, 2006, also supported the change stating: ''No service branch shows more respect for tradition than the United States Marine Corps does, which makes it all the more ironic that tradition denies the Corps an important show of respect: Equal billing with the other services and the branches.''

Mr. Speaker, as I begin to close, I want to show the Members of the House, these are the orders from the Secretary of the Navy. Sergeant Michael Bitz, United States Marine Corps, was killed for this country 2 years ago and his family received in his memory the Silver Star for Valor. And yet, Mr. Speaker, you can see that the title of the order says the Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D.C. and the Navy flag. This was a Marine who gave his life for this country.

Isn't it proper that the orders for the Silver Star should look like this and say at the top the Secretary of the Navy and Marine Corps, Navy flag, Marine flag, they are one fighting team and they should be recognized as a fighting team.

It is about time, after 40-some years, the House, with the Goldwater-Nichols bill, said there are four separate branches: The Marine Corps, the Navy, the Air Force, and the Army, and it is time that the Marine Corps be recognized as one of the strongest fighting teams in this country.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. WELCH of Vermont addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

HONORING SHERIFF JOE GOODSON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCCAUL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to tell the Nation about one of the finest and most dedicated members of America's law enforcement community, and one of the best sheriffs to ever have served in the 10th Congressional District of Texas.

For 29 years, the good people of Lee County, Texas, trusted Joe Goodson to be their sheriff. He passed away last month, but left those he protected with a safe, friendly and God-fearing community.

Sheriff Joe, as he was known to the thousands of people who called him a friend, worked hard, not just for the people of his county, but for all Texans and for all Americans.

His fellow Texas sheriffs chose him to lead the Sheriffs' Association of Texas. He was a member of the Auto Theft Task Force, the Narcotics Task Force, and he was the head of the cold case review people team.

But it wasn't just that he was among the finest lawmen in Texas that made Sheriff Joe so well liked and so respected. Sheriff Goodson always treated others the same way he wanted to be treated, and the thousands of people who knew him respected him for it.

Law enforcement ran in Sheriff Joe's blood. His dad, Vernon Goodson, served as sheriff in Lee County for 25 years before his son Joe was elected and took over the position. And as Buddy Price, the editor of the Giddings Times and News in Lee County, will tell you, they were both dedicated to their jobs and loved the people they served. While they both enforced the law vigorously, they also used commonsense and resolved situations peacefully whenever they could.

One of the things Sheriff Joe is best known for is a responsible, some would even say the conservative way in which he ran his sheriff's office. He saw the money entrusted to him and his deputies as the people's money. He ran a tight ship and accounted for every dollar his department spent.

But once again, I have to go back to who Sheriff Goodson was as a person.

As his family will tell you, one of the things he loved most was leading the Blue Santa Program to provide gifts for needy families during the Christmas season. He helped raise money for Blue Santa with auctions, and he even served as an auctioneer.

To Joe's wife, Robyn, and Joe's entire family, and to the good people of Lee County, you have the thanks of a grateful Nation. We are indebted to you, and we mourn your loss.

So to the good Lord above, I hope you are ready for one more angel up there because Sheriff Joe is on his way.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MCCARTHY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

LEADERSHIP NEEDED IN THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to discuss the topic of leadership. The American people are demanding action from this Congress and so far they have really seen very little.

A recent Wall Street Journal-NBC poll shows that more than 60 percent of Americans think that this Congress has done little or nothing since the leadership change took place in November. And you know what, Mr. Speaker, they are right. Not one piece of the liberal agenda has been signed into law. Instead of crafting legislation that can be implemented, this Congress has wasted the last 4 months and taxpayer dollars as a stage for political theater, and they have nothing to show for it.

When I go home to my district, like I did this weekend, and visit with my constituents, what I am hearing from them is really a lot of frustration. They are getting tired of the political grandstanding. What they want to see, Mr. Speaker, is action. They want us to be problem solvers on the problems they face every day.

The people of the Seventh District want us to hold the line and to not raise taxes. They want to keep more of their hard-earned money. They don't want government to have first right of refusal on that money. They want first right of refusal, and they want to keep those paychecks in their pocket. I believe that the American taxpayer knows how to better spend his own money than the Federal Government.

In my district, we hear a lot of people talk about keeping that money. I have said many times, if 10 percent is good enough for God, 10 percent ought to be good enough for the government. My constituents agree with that.

The people of Tennessee want to win in the war on terror. They want us to support our men and women in uniform by giving them the supplies they need to win. Anything less than that is insulting to the men and women who stand to protect us every day. The liberal leadership of this Congress says the war is lost. It is time to give up. They also claim to support the troops. In my district, Mr. Speaker, we believe you can't have it both ways. You don't support the troops by threatening to withhold critical funding. You don't support the troops by imposing artificial deadlines and taking control of battlefield operations out of the hands of the men and women and the commanders in the field. And you don't support the troops by telling them that you think the war is lost.

The people of Tennessee want our borders secure and they want us to enforce the immigration laws on the books. Granting illegal immigrants amnesty is insulting and unrealistic. It is insulting to all of our constituents who have spent years of time and money entering the country the legal and right way. It devalues all of their hard work and their efforts, and if anyone thinks that granting amnesty to illegal immigrants that are already here will stop more people from crossing the border in the middle of the night, well, they are just fooling themselves.

All of this talk of amnesty will only increase illegal immigration and the traffic that it brings at our borders because it is setting a precedent for the future. We know that. We have seen history repeat itself. Do they actually think that those who are illegally here will voluntarily go back to their home country, stand at the back of the line, and pay a fine when they are already here? And if they are caught, it is rare that they are deported. That is the incentive to integrate the right way, to come into this country through legal channels.

The law should be enforced, Mr. Speaker. That is what people want to see. No amnesty, enforce the laws on the book, not reward those that have illegally entered the country, be certain that people immigrate to this Nation the right way.

It is also a matter of national security. In this post-9/11 era, it is against our national security interest to allow an open border. For instance, three of the six people that are charged in plotting to attack U.S. Army post, Fort Dix, were in the country illegally. Records show there is no record of them ever entering this country. Many of the 9/11 hijackers were in the country with expired visas. Yet, several of them still had their driver's license.

It is evident that radical terrorists whose sole purpose is to destroy this Nation and our way of life are here living among us. It is time that we stand in the gap. It is time that we do our job, that we lead, and we do it to protect the American people. They are watching.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

COMMENDING WE THE PEOPLE WINNERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. DAVIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, last month more than 1,200 students from across the country visited Washington to participate in the national finals of We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution.

This program is the most extensive educational program in the country, developed to educate young people about the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

It is with great pride that I recognize a class from my own Highlands High School of Fort Thomas, Kentucky, in the Fourth District for their accomplishment in this competition.

These outstanding students, using knowledge of the U.S. Constitution, won their statewide competition and earned the chance to come to our Nation's capital and compete at the national level. At the national level, these dedicated students won the Unit One: Foundations of Democracy Award.

I would like to take a moment to recognize the names of these outstanding young people from Highlands High School: Alex Adams, Evan Bush, Kara Dyer, Jessica Earlywine, Jessica Federle, Maria Gurren, John Holloway, Alan Hutchinson, Marjorie Kimball, Connie Kremer, Sam Laskey, Heather Moyer, Emily Nordling, Anna Remley, Lauren Runk, Andrea Spencer, and Corwyn Wyatt.

I also wish to commend the teacher of the class, Julie Kuhnhein, who is responsible for preparing these young constitutional experts for the national finals. Also worthy of special recognition are Rachel Bingham and Robin Winkfield, the State coordinators, and Glenn Manns, the district coordinator, who are among those responsible for implementing the We the People program in my State.

I congratulate these students on their exceptional achievement at the We the People national finals. One thing we can all remember is that

there is no substitute for participating in the governmental process, no substitute for the investment of our lives and our time. I commend all of you for your hard work and for the long hours of preparation, and commend you for a victory well earned, well deserved and bringing honor and credit to the Fourth District of Kentucky.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. MALONEY of New York addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

□ 1945

IMMIGRANT SOLDIERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GONZALEZ) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I welcome this opportunity today to rise and speak on a subject that has been conspicuously absent from legislative debate over the issue of immigration reform. Over the length of this debate, the proponents of the enforcement-only approach, some of which you heard earlier this evening, have repeatedly referred to immigrants as dangerous to the American economy, as dangerous to our society and dangerous to our culture.

A number of my colleagues argue that immigrants take away jobs from American citizens and that immigration has a net effect of shrinking the middle class. They suspect immigrants generally of bringing crime, drugs, and even terrorism into our country. And they suggest that immigrants weaken our patriotic culture by failing to assimilate into American society.

Fear characterizes all of these sentiments and arguments. Fear of change, both economic and social change. Fear of new contributions to the fabric of American culture. Generally, a fear of the ''other.''

Fear can be a powerful and dangerous force. It can motivate hate. It can impede toleration and understanding. Fear can paralyze us with paranoia and blind us to reasoned and logical argument. Fear in the media and in the Halls of Congress have distorted the image of immigrants in this country.

Much as sensationalist TV programming can make us believe that our communities are more dangerous than they really are, sensationalist characterizations of the immigrant population based on anecdotal examples or predictions of worst-case scenarios can falsely lead us to negative, reactionary, and unfounded opinions about immigrants.

I can no longer tolerate the blanket generalizations used to cast our Nation's immigrant population in a universally negative and threatening light. They do not reflect reality. They misrepresent our national interest with respect to immigration. These arguments polarize the public and prevent reasoned and productive dialogue, and they promote a legislative climate that distracts us from our national interest in reforming our broken immigration policies.

We can all agree that we need comprehensive immigration reform, but we must also come to an understanding that demonizing immigrants will not get us there. Ostracizing immigrants in this country with venomous and inapt rhetoric will not move us toward the integration of newcomers into our economy, or the promotion of safe streets for our children to play in, or assimilation of the immigrant population into American society.

It can only delay the time when the immigrant population becomes a fully functional and participatory component of our American society. It can only set back the day when we can guarantee the security of our borders and documentation of all individuals that cross those borders.

Like my colleagues that emphasize tough border enforcement, I, too, believe in reform that provides security for our country and documentation for all the individuals that enter American territory. I think that we speak with a common voice regarding our homeland security goals. Our approaches to talking about the issues of immigration and the methods for solving the problem may differ, but we share common goals in promoting our national and economic security. Debate over approaches to immigration reform is a topic for responsible legislative discourse.

Today, my colleagues and I speak on a related topic about some of the immigrants that are the subjects of our larger debate over immigration. The immigrants we want to talk about are not threats to our national security, they are not threats to our economy, and they are not threats to our people. They, in fact, have demonstrated their solidarity with our Nation. Unquestionably, they wish to contribute to our security and to our economy. And the individuals we speak of cannot be considered separately as friend or foe to the American people, because they demonstrate daily that they are, in fact, Americans in their own right.

The individuals we rise to speak of today are the tens of thousands of brave men and women in the American Armed Forces that were not born in the United States. Like the courageous sons and daughters born and raised in my home State of Texas and throughout this country, these individuals have taken an oath to defend the United States of America with their very lives if necessary.

These immigrant soldiers may differ from their native-born brothers and sisters in terms of location of their birth and even in their citizenship status; however, on the battlefield, they are united by a common purpose.

Among the soldiers in the United States military, there is no distinction between those that are born in Texas, in the Philippines, or in Mexico. They all take an oath. They all assume the same risks. They all make the same sacrifice. All are worthy of honor and distinction, and we must thank them all equally for giving so generously that we, living in communities across this great Nation, may do so peacefully.

Mr. Speaker, it is my great privilege tonight and a true honor that the first member of the United States Armed Services that we are about to honor is Lance Corporal Jose Antonio Gutierrez, and this is the photo of Jose Antonio when he was a little boy, an orphan and I will be a little more specific in a minute, to the time he put on this uniform of the United States Marine.

He was the first member of the United States Armed Forces killed in Iraq. He was not a citizen of this country.

Marine Lance Corporal Jose Antonio Gutierrez, like most Guatemalans, was born into poverty. He was orphaned in 1983 at the age of 9 and taken in by Casa Alianza, or Covenant House, in Guatemala City. The causes and dates of his parents' deaths are unknown to us today.

For the next 10 years, Lance Corporal Gutierrez led a tragic and tumultuous life, bouncing from the orphanage to the street and back again. His adulthood, like his childhood, was characterized by hardship. He worked for a time in a maquila plant, a sweatshop, operating a sewing machine. Even as a single person, making ends meet at such a job was incredibly difficult for this young man.

In early 1997, Lance Corporal Gutierrez made a decision to travel to the United States to seek a better life. He arrived in California an undocumented immigrant. He attended North High School in Torrance, California.

In March 2002, Lance Corporal Gutierrez enlisted in the United States Marine Corps because he wanted to become a citizen of this great country. He was assigned to the 2nd Battalion of the Expeditionary Forces of the United States Marines 1st Division.

Lance Corporal Gutierrez was killed a year later, close to the city of Umm al Qasr in southern Iraq, on March 21, 2003. He was 28 years old.

This man's sacrifice, the first life laid down in the sands of Iraq on behalf of the United States, is testament to the belief of immigrants in the promise of America. It is a symbol of patriotism, of commitment to defending a dream that we all share.

In May of last year, according to the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service, nearly 69,000 foreign-born soldiers, 5 percent of the entire military, are on active duty. Five percent are foreign born.

Can it be said of these immigrants that they are a threat to our national security? Clearly, no. They ensure our national security.

Can it be said that these immigrants threaten American workers? Clearly, no. They ensure that American workers can go to their jobs in peace.

Can it be said of these immigrants that they threaten the safety of our communities with drugs or violence? Again, clearly, no. They are the pillars of their communities when home and defenders of their communities when abroad.

Why then have so many in this debate over immigration missed the contributions these brave individuals make to the peace, the prosperity, and the security of our country? Do examples of immigrants' courage and sacrifice occur as seldom as those acts of violence some use to characterize an entire immigrant population? Is their heroic service anecdotal in the larger discussion about the contributions of immigrants to our society?

Once again, I hardly believe so. One out of every 20 soldiers in the United States military was born outside the United States. Two members of an average platoon immigrated to this country and now serve us all honorably.

What more can we ask of these young people? Lance Corporal Gutierrez not only gave his life for his adopted country; he was the first to do so in this war.

What more can we ask of immigrant parents when they have already given up their brave sons and daughters for the defense of an adopted homeland?

Mr. Speaker, these immigrant soldiers are among the most prominent faces of immigration today, but they are not uncharacteristic of the larger immigrant population. They represent the honest work ethic, the ambition and the patriotism characteristic of immigrants of all national origins and across all eras.

They represent the frontier spirit that built our country and continues to bring the best the world has to offer here to our shores, to the United States, in pursuit of our common American Dream.

At this time I would like to recognize a dear friend, a colleague, the dean of the Texas delegation, Congressman Solomon Ortiz of Texas.

Mr. ORTIZ. Thank you, Charlie, for allowing me some time to speak tonight, and I would like to acknowledge your leadership in bringing this to the forefront.

Mr. Speaker, as we continue the national discussion of immigration and the value of immigrants to our Nation, we must not forget the immigrant men and women who populate our Armed Forces, who fight for freedoms that we all enjoy each day, yet who in the current debate are cast aside as unworthy for citizenship. Yes, more than 70,000 of them serve our military today.

Now, they have a unique love of America. They consider this great Nation as a beacon of light that drew them here, with a promise of freedom, of democracy and opportunity.

The voices of these immigrant soldiers are remarkably missing from the debate on the value of immigrants in this Nation. I would like to add their voices today. For them, the United States is their only chance to make a new life. Like all soldiers, they don't want our Nation to be harmed. This is their brass ring, the key to the rest of their lives.

They are willing to risk their life for this country because it is the promise of what working hard can give you. They come to the United States longing for a better life than they had in their homeland. Their last light of hope resides in what this Nation promises in terms of honoring our soldiers and supporting our troops.

Many have said that they would rather fight and die for the United States because they so desperately want their home countries to emulate, to copy, their adopted Nation. They hope beyond hope that their public service in our military will someday influence their home countries, the ones in which they were born, so their families will someday have similar living conditions promised by this Nation and the same economic opportunities.

They fear that if America's beacon of light is extinguished, the long-lasting effect of that would inspire great fear, in this hemisphere and around the world.

One of the most heartbreaking exercises for me is going to military funerals, as it is for all of us. One of the most heartbreaking moments is with a family after losing a loved one and bestowing citizenship upon the lost soldier after he's buried.

At this point, I would like my colleagues to join me in commending the service of Private First Class Rey Cuervo, killed in Baghdad by an IED just before New Year's Eve in 2003. He left behind a young wife, pregnant with his first child, a child of immigrants who will never see his father again, who died for this Nation.

I still remember the moment I was there for the ceremony granting Rey his citizenship in 2004 after his death.

□ 2000

Tears in the eyes of all who attended the funeral spoke volumes. Yes, so far to the price of citizenship, now so close to God, so that you and I and the rest of the citizens of this great country could enjoy the freedoms and privileges and liberties that we have today.

Mr. GONZALEZ. I yield at this time to my colleague from Colorado, an Army veteran himself. I do want to point out, without his permission, but knowing this particular fact, that the Salazar family, I know that he lost his uncle during World War II, and that was incredible and brave service by the Salazar family, Congressman JOHN SALAZAR of Colorado.

Mr. SALAZAR. I want to thank the gentleman from Texas for yielding, Mr. GONZALEZ, and I want to thank your leadership for bringing this very important issue to the forefront.

Tonight, I would like to tell the story of Christopher Herrera. Lance Corporal Evenor Christopher Herrera was just 9 years old when his family came to the United States from Honduras in search of opportunity. He found that opportunity for himself in the United States serving in the Marine Corps, which he joined a year after graduating from Gypsum's Eagle Valley High School in Colorado.

He figured that enlisting he could pave the way to a better future, or, as he told his family, the 22 year-old would be considered a hero if he should die while serving his adopted country. Fate chose him the latter. On August 10, 2005 while manning a machine gun during a clash near Ar Ramadi in Iraq, an improvised explosive device detonated. Herrera was killed in combat with a month and a half left before he was to return home.

From the time his family immigrated from Honduras, he began talking about joining the Army. Christopher, as he was known to his family and friends, was not naive about the dangers he faced in Iraq. His brother, who was also a Marine, said that Christopher was happy to fight for the country that he loved. He would rather die over there as a hero and be remembered as doing something good, as opposed to being here and not remembered at all.

His mother, Blanca, said that he joined because he wanted to have more opportunity in this country. He wanted a career in the Marines. The stories about Christopher come easily. His sister recalled about how shy he was, but yet he was fearless, and once drove a 4-wheel-drive vehicle down a muddy hill, nearly flipping it over. Christopher enjoyed typical mountain activities like most young men in Colorado, like fishing and snowboarding.

The brothers often went camping. The brothers were close, but because they were both deployed Balmore Herrera hadn't seen his brother in 7 months. When Christopher was killed, Balmore was called to act as official military transport as his brother's body was transported from Maryland to Colorado.

There have been 3,396 servicemembers killed in Iraq and Afghanistan, and over 25,000 Americans wounded. This evening, members of the Hispanic Caucus rise to recognize immigrant servicemembers because these brave men and women didn't have the privilege of being born in this country. They chose to live here, and also made the choice to serve the country they loved in the Armed Forces.

Many immigrants, like Christopher, have paid the ultimate sacrifice for their country. Each of them has a story. Each story is filled with struggle and a hope for opportunity. Like Christopher, each story is also filled with sacrifice.

There is an Internet blog set up as a memorial for Lance Corporal Herrera. Whiskey 3, Red 2, left these words for him:

''To my fellow brother Evenor, I had the great privilege of serving with you in the good and the bad times.

''I'll keep fighting the good fight, and one day I'll see you again . . . and together we can guard the gates of heaven as we once guarded each other in Iraq.

''You will never be forgotten.''

Mr. GONZALEZ. At this time I would yield to my dear friend, a fellow Texan, the gentleman from Texas, Mr. Ciro Rodriguez.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. I want to thank my friend and colleague from San Antonio, Congressman Charlie Gonzalez, for taking this opportunity tonight for us to recognize those soldiers that have served our country and that have been immigrants and are noncitizens of this country. I want to personally thank him for allowing this opportunity for us to be able to do that.

There are approximately 69,300 foreign-born men and women who serve in the United States Armed Forces, roughly 5 percent of the total active duty force. Of those 43 percent, which is 29,800, are not U.S. citizens. I repeat, of those that are serving our country, of those 69,000, 43 percent, or 29,800, are non-U.S. citizens.

The Pentagon says more than 100 immigrant soldiers have died in combat in Iraq and Afghanistan in the last 5 years. I want to repeat that again, that over 100 immigrant soldiers have died both in the war in Iraq and Afghanistan.

This evening, I join my colleagues in paying tribute and recognizing the service of these men and women who, out of the desire to become citizens of the United States, enlist and fight proudly and bravely for our country. They display the ultimate symbol of patriotism and of commitment to defending a dream that we all share.

The service and sacrifice of these brave immigrants is often lost in our debate over immigration reform. That is why I am here this evening to share the story of immigrant soldiers from the 23rd Congressional District. The story and life of the soldier is of great significance to the State of Texas and the Nation.

Earlier this year, Texas State Representative Chente Quintanilla of Texas introduced a resolution to the Texas House of Representatives paying tribute to the life of Sergeant Israel Devora Garcia. Sergeant Garcia of Clint, Texas, died in Iraq on April 1, 2006, at the age of 23.

Sergeant Garcia was attached to the Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 6th Infantry, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, based in Baumholder, Germany, and was serving his second tour of duty in Iraq. He was mortally wounded while conducting a dismounted patrol in Baghdad.

He was born in Zacatecas, Mexico. Sergeant Garcia came to the United States at the age of 6 and graduated in 2001 from Clint High School in Texas, where he was an honor student. Although he completed all of his required courses ahead of schedule and was told that he only needed to attend school part-time, he insisted on attending a full day and, in his spare time, helped tutor other kids.

Drawn to the military at an early age, Sergeant Garcia spent 4 years in the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps and demonstrated a notable capacity for leadership. In addition to winning first and second place medals during week-long camps at Ft. Bliss, Texas, he attained the rank of major and served in the executive office of these units.

Family and friends will forever remember Sergeant Garcia for his cheerful nature, his great zest for life and his strong desire to help others. In his leisure time, he enjoyed playing the guitar with friends, and he had a special passion for soccer.

After fulfilling his commitment to the Army, Sergeant Garcia's plan was to study law enforcement at Texas A&M University and hopefully apply for the FBI in the Border Patrol. Sergeant Garcia earned United States citizenship shortly before he died, and he was officially proclaimed a citizen at the cemetery in Clint, Texas.

Notwithstanding the dangerous nature of his mission, this courageous soldier performed his mission with dedication and professionalism. He was awarded the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart. Through his unfaltering devotion to duty, honor and his country, Sergeant Israel Devora Garcia embodied the highest ideals of the United States Armed Forces, and his valiant efforts in the memorable sacrifice are deserving of honor by every American.

Sergeant Garcia is survived by his mother and his father, Frances and Lorenzo Sandoval; his sister, Rosa Sandoval; and his brothers, Adrian Sandoval and Lorenzo Sandoval, Jr. Sergeant Garcia's story may not seem like that of other veterans, but this represents part of the American history that has too often been overlooked.

His story, like the stories my colleagues are sharing tonight, are stories of immigrants in this country. This evening we share those stories of individuals that are out there giving their all. More notably, the American public must understand and recognize that noncitizens have served and have died for our country, not only during the Iraq and Afghanistan war, but during every single war during this country's struggle.

I take this opportunity to once again thank CHARLIE GONZALEZ for allowing us to have this opportunity.

Mr. GONZALEZ. Thank you very much for your attention and for your story of Israel Garcia.

At this time I would like to yield to the gentlelady, Congresswoman GRACE NAPOLITANO, from the great State of California.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Thank you, Congressman GONZALEZ. Thank you for allowing the Hispanic Caucus to speak today on this very important issue of Hispanic veterans and the problems that we have seen them face.

I would like to relate a story of SGT Henry Meraz, an Army veteran of the Vietnam War, who lives in my district. Sergeant Meraz grew up in El Paso, Texas, moved to California at age 17, registered with the Selective Service and was drafted into the Army in 1967.

He served honorably on the special forces team in Vietnam, receiving five distinguished medals and a Purple Heart before being honorably discharged in October of 1969. He has lived a full, normal, law abiding, average American life with his family. He is married, he has retired from his job. He has one child currently in the university and a second one who is a Los Angeles deputy sheriff.

In 2003, Mr. Meraz, Sergeant Meraz, went to renew his driver's license, whereupon he was shocked to learn that he was not a U.S. citizen, that his Social Security was not being recognized and the administration had listed him as a Mexican national.

Upon checking into this further, he could not find his birth certificate in the city he grew up in in El Paso. He then immediately applied for United States citizenship based upon his exemplary military service and quickly relinquished, gave up his voting rights he thought he had the right to exercise since his 18th birthday.

His application for citizenship was denied on the grounds of failure to show good moral character, citing his illegal voting history as bad moral character, even though he was and convinced he was a U.S. citizen. His DD214, the military discharge, lists him as a U.S. citizen.

Then Henry appealed the decision so he could legally become what he thought he was always, a U.S. citizen. He signed a statement and swore under penalty of perjury that the votes he cast under his sincere belief of citizenship were true. Psychiatrists provided letters attesting to Henry's good moral character and the sincerity of his prior belief in his citizenship, because he was undergoing psychiatric treatment for Vietnam War related PTSD, post traumatic stress disorder.

Thankfully, Henry won his appeal and will be taking his citizenship oath in my district at the City of Pomona, California, on May 30. I hope to be there to help him celebrate. This is not necessarily a unique story. Henry is but one of many, of many immigrants, who have served and continue to serve loyally and bravely in our Armed Services.

As you have heard, there are currently nearly 69,000 immigrants in the United States Armed Services, which account, as you have heard again, for roughly 5 percent of our total Armed Forces. Any soldier will tell you, race, color, religion, et cetera, it does not

matter when you are fighting the enemy shoulder to shoulder. These brave men and women risk their lives for this country.

We should, we must embrace them. What matters is there is loyalty to our country and their undying love for it, evidenced by their willingness to die for it.

□ 2015

They have earned and should receive the same benefits, the same rewards and the same recognitions, and they should be welcomed for the patriotic and brave dedicated service to our country through the small measure of granting them their citizenship. It is overdue and high time Congress addressed this issue. Just ask any veteran. It's the right thing to do.

Our Congressional Hispanic Caucus is working on what we call the STRIVE Act, H.R. 1645, which addresses immigrants in our Armed Forces. The act, among other things, grants citizenship immediately after combat zone service, grants citizenship after 2 years of active duty, and creates a naturalization information telephone service for armed service members. We can do no less than to honor and respect the many immigrants who have served, those who are currently serving, and those who will continue to serve our country ensuring our country's freedom.

Thank you Congressman GONZALEZ, and thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, it's my pleasure at this time to yield to my colleague and chairman of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, the gentleman from California (Mr. BACA).

Mr. BACA. Thank you very much, Mr. GONZALEZ, for carrying this issue this afternoon, and thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

I rise to honor the more than 69,300 legal permanent residents who are currently serving in the United States Armed Services, which represents 43 percent noncitizens and 5 percent of the armed services who are serving now.

Their courage, their honor and their sacrifices prove what we've always known, that you don't have to be born in America to love America. Each and every person who serves in the Armed Forces generally loves his country and is willing to give their ultimate sacrifice. And these individuals gave their ultimate sacrifice for this country, for a dream of coming here.

Each individual was prepared to lay down his or her life to protect what is sacred to all of us, hope, freedom and opportunity, not only for them, but for all of us who believe in this country, because we know ultimately every person who has served in our military has been willing to lay down their lives so that we can enjoy the freedoms, the freedoms that we have today. And the 69,300, 43 percent noncitizens, or 5 percent of the United States, believed in the same sacrifice as other individuals who have served us. They know that our freedom comes from men and women who are willing to serve this great Nation.

When I look at the names of immigrant soldiers who've died in Iraq and Afghanistan, it makes me realize why America is the greatest country in the world. And when we look at those individuals who served in World War II, the 500-some thousand, how many of those were noncitizens and immigrants?

And when we look at my district, or the State of California, 26 foreign-born soldiers from my State have given their lives in Iraq and Afghanistan. And they come from all over the world. But whether they come from El Salvador, Korea, Mexico, Jamaica or Honduras, when they put on that United States military uniform, they do it as Americans and with pride.

Douglas Jose Marencoreyes, a young man from my district, was an immigrant to this country from Nicaragua. Corporal Marencoreyes came to this country with his family in search of opportunity and hope. Yet he was willing to serve in the Armed Forces when many others were not even willing to serve. And yet he found that by serving in the military that it was an honor.

The same goes for Sergeant Jorge Alberto Molinabautista, an immigrant from Mexico who lived in my hometown of Rialto, California. Both of these young men died while serving in the global war on terror. And they did so proudly, with honor, with honor for what they believed and what this country stands for, for the freedoms, so they know that their children and others can enjoy the freedoms that we have, because this is the greatest Nation, the greatest country; and they knew it and they served for this country.

Both men were posthumously awarded citizenship for their service to this Nation. Why? Because nothing would have honored the sacrifices more than to be recognized and acknowledge their love for this country.

Mr. Speaker, our country is currently engaged in a great debate regarding immigration. And there are many who want to diminish or even deny the great contributions of immigrants to our Nation's history, economy, and culture. And many of these have contributed and continue to contribute to our country because they believe in this country. They come here for hope, for freedom and opportunity and are willing to serve and die for this country.

But as we move forward in this debate, let us not forget the 69,300 immigrants soldiers out there in the battlefields, those who are willing to risk their lives every day to protect the same people who are criticizing them, the same people who are criticizing, they're willing to stand up and defend those individuals because they believe in the principles and the freedoms and opportunities of this country.

I urge the American people to support all troops, all individuals and the sacrifices of every one of our soldiers, regardless of where they were born, because at the end of the day they are willing to give their lives for this country and to sacrifice for this country. Each one of them are patriots and are true American heroes.

Mr. GONZALEZ. Thank you very much, Mr. BACA.

There is another individual that I want to recognize tonight, an extraordinary individual from an extraordinary family. This is Specialist Rodrigo Gonzalez-Garza. He comes from San Antonio. He died on February 25, 2003, when the Black Hawk helicopter in which he was riding crashed during a night mission 30 miles north of the Kuwaiti border. He was 26 years young.

Specialist Gonzalez-Garza was born in Sabinas Hidalgo, Nuevo Leon, Mexico and was brought to the United States by his parents as an infant.

He graduated from San Antonio's Fox Tech High School in 1996 and joined the Army in 1998. Specialist Gonzalez-Garza, like many other casualties of the Iraq war, did not die an American citizen. He died defending the United States and pursuing a dream to become a citizen of this country. Only in death was his goal finally achieved. After he gave his life, Specialist Gonzalez-Garza was awarded posthumous citizenship.

Specialist Gonzalez-Garza's sacrifice on our behalf is remarkable and perhaps only matched by the contribution that his parents have made to this great country. Specialist Gonzalez-Garza's parents, Ramiro and Orelia Gonzalez, have three other sons in the military, Staff Sergeant Ramiro Gonzalez, PVT Roland Gonzalez, and PVT Ricardo Gonzalez, Rodrigo's twin brother.

One would find it difficult to find a family more devoted to the United States and our American way of life than the Gonzalez family. Specialist Gonzalez-Garza has given his life. His three brothers continue to defend our security and liberty with their lives, and the parents, they have given not one, not two, but all four of their sons to the service of their adopted country.

I would like to share some of the sentiments posted on fallenheroesmemorial.com, a Web site devoted to the memory of soldiers killed in Iraq and Afghanistan during operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

The following are postings from fellow Americans who apparently did not know Specialist Gonzalez-Garza, but wished to express their gratitude for his service.

From Grayslake, IL: ''Thank you Rodrigo Gonzalez-Garza. You will not be forgotten. Your bravery goes beyond words. I want to express my deepest gratitude for your sacrifice. To the family and friends, my prayers and deep condolences on your loss. May God strengthen you from knowing that fellow Americans and people around

the world care about you and grieve with you in your loss. God bless you all. Signed, a very appreciative fellow American.''

From Wells, NV: ''To the family and friends of Specialist Rodrigo Gonzalez-Garza, may God's grace be with you during your time of grief. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you and we feel your loss and share your sorrow. Bless Rodrigo for his sacrifice he has made to make a better life for the rest of us in this country.''

From Montrose, ME: ''Thanks for stepping forward when America needed you. To the family, thank you for your contribution to our liberty and to our freedom. I'm so sorry for your tremendous loss.''

From Houston, TX: ''Specialist Gonzalez-Garza, goodbye soldier, and thank you. You are my hero.''

All those individuals that didn't know Specialist Rodrigo Gonzalez-Garza, they didn't know about his background. They didn't know about an undocumented family that came to this country and made the grandest sacrifice of all with four sons in the armed services, and one of those that gave his life in service of this country, their adopted country.

Did any of these individuals that posted those sentiments on that Web site ask is he documented or undocumented?

Had they known he was undocumented, or that the family had been undocumented, it would not have mattered, because we are united in purpose. We are united in spirit. And this is what the whole immigration reform debate is all about. Not what separates us. Not that which differentiates us, but rather, what binds us as a country, a country of immigrants, each making his unique contribution, wanting to be part of this country.

I want to join all those individuals that posted on the Web site to share my gratitude for Specialist Rodrigo Gonzalez-Garza's service and sacrifice.

Thank you, Specialist Gonzalez-Garza. Thank you also to Ramiro and Orelia Gonzalez, the parents, for the service of your sons. You emigrated from Mexico, but you have devoted yourselves and your family to the United States of America. We owe you comprehensive immigration reform. We owe you the opportunity to make your contribution in this country.

Before we took the floor here tonight to highlight the lives of these individuals, you may have heard previous speakers. One felt great pride that a town in the State of Texas had passed a law that will make it an offense to rent accommodations to undocumented individuals that may find themselves in that particular township.

What pride can be derived from a law of that nature? Who are you shutting the door to? In whose face are you slamming that door? I'll tell you. You are slamming it in the faces of Lance Corporal Gutierrez, Specialist Gonzalez-Garza, Lance Corporal Evenor Herrera, Sergeant Israel Devora-Garcia, SGT Henry Meraz, Corporal Douglas Jose Marencoreyes, and PFC Rey Cuervo. Those are the individuals.

What is it that binds us, truly? Is it the color of our skin, our appearance, our ethic origin? No, it's what beats within us all.

We are a Nation of laws. Our obligation as Members of Congress is to pass just and fair laws, and that's what we are seeking. Not those that will demonize, criminalize and punish individuals that are coming to this country at our behest. And make no mistake about that. They are coming because we are asking them to come and to be employed by fine, upstanding Americans.

□ 2030

And so they come, not to take but to give, to contribute.

What we are attempting to do tonight is put a human face on this immigrant that so often is criticized, demonized, characterized as a threat to our way of life. Do not be so concerned. People are so concerned: Is the face of America changing? That should not be our concern. Is the heart and the spirit and the soul of America changing? That should be our concern. And I am here to tell you and we give testament tonight that it is not.

For the next few weeks, my colleagues and I will take this floor, and we will demonstrate to you over and over again the contribution of the immigrant to this country, that their sons and daughters have donned this uniform. We have placed them in harm's way, and they have performed honorably and with great courage. There is no difference in that courage or the contribution that they make because of their ethnicity or undocumented status of a parent.

You saw the face of that young boy from Guatemala who was an orphan who came to the United States illegally. Now, he wasn't good enough, brave enough, strong enough to maybe deserve getting an apartment in a certain town in Texas; but he was good enough and brave enough to serve as a United States Marine and give his life up defending this country. Where is the justice and fairness?

Our soldiers are dying and protecting a way of life. And it is our obligation that that way of life is reflected in our laws, fair and just laws. That is what this debate is all about.

So I ask that my colleagues give careful thought as we debate this issue, and at the conclusion of this debate we will have a meeting of the minds and come up with a plan that doesn't accommodate those that are breaking the law, but rather allows them an opportunity to redeem themselves and to serve this country in a capacity that will utilize their unique talents and contributions, and I look forward to that time.

PERMISSION FOR COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES TO FILE SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT ON H.R. 1585, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be allowed to submit a supplemental report on H.R. 1585, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

PEAK OIL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. BARTLETT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, this is really a very important day in our history. Exactly 50 years ago today in St. Paul, MN, Admiral Hyman Rickover gave a very famous speech. In a few moments, I will have here a copy of that speech, and I want to spend most of the hour that we have this evening going over that speech, because he was amazingly prophetic. This was a speech given to a group of physicians, and it was about energy. Of course, his primary interest was nuclear energy, and this was a speech about energy in general.

As I said, he was amazingly prophetic. He understood some relationships, which today, with 50 years of history behind us, he couldn't have seen. He was amazingly more cognizant of some realities than many of our people today.

We, of course, recognize that for several reasons we need to be moving away from fossil fuels. There are several groups of people with different interests who have really a common goal in their desire to move away from fossil fuels to renewables. And these several groups find common cause, and I hope that there will be less discussion of the potential limitations of the other groups' premise and more focus on a common goal, and that is to help our country and our world move away from fossil fuels to renewables.

The groups that have common cause in this are, first of all, environmentalists, and there are two groups in the environmentalists who are concerned about this. One is a group which is large and growing, and that is a group that believes that our excessive use of fossil fuels releasing carbon dioxide that was sequestered a very long time ago, perhaps millions of years ago, with subtropical seas and plumes of organisms like our algae today, which then fell to the bottom and were covered by sediment washed in from the adjoining hills and then later submerged by movements of tectonic

plates and with time and pressure became what we know today as gas and oil. Coal is a little simpler. It wasn't buried so deep, and you can see in the broken block of coal the ancient fern leaves from which the coal was produced. I saw that many times as a little child in western Pennsylvania, coal country, when I broke lumps of coal to feed our coal furnace. And what we are doing today, of course, is releasing that carbon dioxide very fast. It took maybe millions of years to sequester, but we are releasing it very fast; and so it is producing greenhouse gases, which are warming the Earth and producing temperature changes.

For those who may wonder what difference does it make, a degree here and a degree there. I would like to remind them that during the last Ice Age about 10, 12,000 years ago, our world was only 5 degrees centigrade colder than it is today. That is 9 degrees Fahrenheit. And what this says is that very small temperature changes can make huge changes in our weather.

A second group of environmentalists who have common cause in wanting to move away from fossil fuels are those who believe that our air is polluted enough and why would we want to pollute it further.

Then there are those who yearn for the day when America was a leading exporter, and they believe that moving from fossil fuels to renewables, sustainable renewables, that we can develop technologies which will be saleable world-around.

And then there is a growing group of people who have major concerns that, with only 2 percent of the known reserves of oil and using 25 percent of the world's oil and importing almost two-thirds of what we use, that this represents a totally unacceptable national security risk, and so their desire is to move from fossil fuels, which we have very little of, to renewables, which we hopefully could produce more of.

And then there is the last group of these five, and by the way, I subscribe in varying degrees to all of these other goals, but the last one is particularly significant because we might somehow make it through, luckily, the other crises that may be there. But the peak oil crisis is one we won't make it through, and that is one that Hyman Rickover talked a good deal about.

Here is his speech. It was for delivery at a banquet of the Annual Scientific Assembly of the Minnesota State Medical Association, St. Paul, MN, May 14, 1957. That is exactly 50 years ago today, and I am very pleased that in the gallery with us is the widow of Admiral Hyman Rickover.

Mrs. Rickover, welcome.

And we are here to celebrate a great American who gave a really, really prophetic speech. And I am going to spend most of the time pretty much reading this speech, and I will put up here some charts from particularly significant quotes from his speech and some others which will help illuminate what he said. The title of his speech was ''Energy Resources and Our Future.'' He starts out by saying:

''I am honored to be here tonight, though it is no easy thing, I assure you, for a layman to face up to an audience of physicians. A single one of you, sitting behind his desk, can be quite formidable.

''My speech has no medical connotations. This may be a relief to you after the solid professional fare you have been absorbing. I should like to discuss a matter which will, I hope, be of interest to you as responsible citizens: the significance of energy resources in the shaping of our future.''

Now, all of this is 50 years ago. I want you to listen to how profound his statements were and how completely he recognized the problems that we would be facing.

''We live in what historians may some day call the Fossil Fuel Age. Today coal, oil, and natural gas supply 93 percent of the world's energy; water power accounts for only 1 percent; and the labor of men and domestic animals the remaining 6 percent.'' Now, those figures have changed somewhat since then.

''This is a startling reversal of corresponding figures for 1850, only a century ago. Then fossil fuels supplied 5 percent of the world's energy, and men and animals 94 percent. Five-sixths of all the coal, oil, and gas consumed since the beginning of the Fossil Fuel Age has been burned up in the last 55 years.'' Now if you were to bring that forward, it would be a bigger percentage than that.

''These fuels have been known to man for more than 3,000 years. In parts of China, coal was used for domestic heating and cooking, and natural gas for lighting as early as 1000 B.C. But these early uses were sporadic and of no economic significance. Fossil fuels did not become a major source of energy until machines running on coal, gas, or oil were invented. Wood, for example, was the most important fuel until 1800, when it was replaced by coal. Coal, in turn, has only recently been surpassed by oil in this country.

''Once in full swing, fossil fuel consumption'' had been ''accelerated at phenomenal rates. All the fossil fuels used before 1900 would not last 5 years at today's rate of consumption.'' And that was 50 years ago. What would it be today?

''Nowhere are these rates higher and growing faster than in the United States. Our country, with only 6 percent of the world's population,'' today a bit less than 5, ''uses one-third of the world's total energy input.'' Today it is about 25 percent because much of the rest of the world is catching up with us, but, still, 25 percent for less than 5 percent of the world's population is very significant.

''This proportion would be even greater except that we use energy more efficiently than other countries.'' Still true today, only we use 25 percent of the world's energy. We use it more efficiently than most of the rest of the world.

''Each American has at his disposal, each year, energy equivalent to that obtainable from eight tons of coal.'' This was just 50 years ago. It would be more than that today.

Time magazine, a little while back, had on its cover, and you may remember that, a pile of coal that they said was a quarter of a ton, and that was the amount of coal that would be saved for power production if you unscrewed that incandescent light and put in it one of the little fluorescent bulbs that you can screw into a regular socket.

□ 2045

This is six times the world's per capita energy consumption, what we were using in this country. Though not quite so spectacular, corresponding figures for other highly industrialized countries also show above average consumption figures. The United Kingdom, for example, uses more than three times as much energy as the world average.

I want you to look at this first chart while I am reading this because you have to look at the colors and what each of the men stand for and each of those different colors to understand this. But this was in his day, 50 years ago. What would these numbers be today?

With high energy consumption goes a high standard of living. Thus the enormous fossil fuel energy which we in this country control feeds machines which make each of us master of an army of mechanical slaves. Man's muscle power is rated at 35 watts continuously, or 120th horsepower. That is on a 24/7 basis. It's a bit more than that. I generally think of about a 70 watt bulb if you're awake and not working much. Machines therefore furnish every American industrial worker with energy equivalent to that of 244 men, while at least 2,000 men push his automobile along the road and his family is supplied with 33 faithful household helpers. Each locomotive engineer, as you can see on the chart, controls energy equivalent to that of 100,000 men, each jet pilot of 700,000 men. Truly, he says, the humblest American enjoys the services of more slaves than were once owned by the richest nobles and lives better than most ancient kings. In retrospect, and despite wars, revolutions and disasters, the hundred years just gone by may well seem like a Golden Age. And we have continued that Golden Age another 50 years, until today. And then he says, whether this Golden Age will continue depends entirely upon our ability to keep energy supplies in balance with the needs of our growing population.

Before I go into this question, let me review briefly the role of energy resources and the rise and falls of civilizations. And as I read, you may look at the next chart because some of the quotes in the next couple of paragraphs are in this chart.

I would like for you to pay particular attention to this because he describes very well the contribution that energy has made to the development of civilization. And if we understand how energy contributed to the development of civilization, we will get some clue as to what will happen when we start down the other side of this curve.

He mentions a little later that 8,000 years of recorded history in the age of oil will span but a brief time, probably about 300 years. We are about 150 years through the age of oil. So, concentrate on what he is saying about the contribution of energy to the development of civilization, because unless we are really clever and using the new technologies we have found, it is possible that we will see a reversal of this as energy becomes less and less available. Will civilization decline with decreasing energy as it increased with increasing energy?

Possession of surplus energy is of course a requisite for any kind of civilization. For if man possesses only the energy of his own muscles, he must expend all of his strength, mental and physical, to obtain the bare necessities of life.

Surplus energy provides a material foundation for civilized living, a comfortable and tasteful home instead of a bare shelter; attractive clothing, instead of mere covering to keep warm; appetizing food, instead of anything that suffices to appease hunger. It provides the freedom from toil without which there can be no art, music, literature or learning.

There is no need to belabor the point. What lifted man, one of the weaker mammals, above the animal world was that he could devise with his brain ways to increase the energy at his disposal and use the leisure so gained to cultivate his mind and spirit. He refers to us as one of the weaker mammals, and that is true. We cannot run nearly as fast as many. We have nowhere near the strength. A chimpanzee our size has several times our strength. Our sense of smell is really very poor compared to a dog, and a dog very poor compared to male moth that can detect the presence of a female 10 kilometers away and detect the concentration gradient so that he knows which direction to fly to find her. We are indeed one of the weaker mammals, but we have dominated the world because of our ability to control energy.

Where man must rely solely on the energy of his own body, he can sustain only the most meager existence. Man's first step on the ladder of civilization dates from his discovery of fire and his domestication of animals. With these energy resources, he was able to build a pastoral culture. To move upward to an agricultural civilization he needed more energy. In the past this was found in the labor of dependent members of large patriarchal families, augmented by slaves obtained through purchase or as war booty. There are some backward communities which to this day depend on this type of energy.

Now, some of the things he says here you are going to have to relate to 50 years ago. He talks about India and China in a few moments. And clearly they now have entered the industrialized part of the world and are growing very rapidly. But what he said about them then was very true of them then and true of other just beginning to develop countries today.

Slave labor was necessary for the city-states and the empires of antiquity. They frequently had slave populations larger than their free citizenry. As long as slaves were abundant and no moral censure attached to their ownership, incentives to search for alternative sources of energy were lacking. And this is a really interesting statement. ''This may well have been the single most important reason why engineering advanced very little in ancient times.'' Through all of the Dark Ages, centuries, civilization advanced very little because engineering advanced very little, and he thinks this may have been because of the availability of slave labor.

The next chart. A reduction of per capita energy consumption has always, in the past, led to a decline in civilization and a reversion to a more primitive way of life. And he gives some fascinating examples. For example, exhaustion of wood fuel is believed to have been the primary reason for the fall of the Mayan civilization on this continent and the decline of once fourishing civilizations in Asia. India and China once had large forests, as did much of the Middle East. Deforestation not only lessened the energy base, but had a further disastrous effect; lacking plant cover, soil washed away. And with soil erosion, the nutritional base was reduced as well.

Another cause of declining civilization comes with pressure of population on available land. A point is reached where the land can no longer support both the people and their domestic animals. Horses and mules disappear first. Finally, even the versatile water buffalo is displaced by man, who is 2.5 times as efficient an energy converter as are draft animals. It must always be remembered that while domestic animals and agricultural machines increase productivity per man, maximum productivity per acre is achieved only by intensive manual cultivation. And as he points out, the press of populations will eventually lead to this state in much of the world.

It is a sobering thought that the impoverished people of Asia, who today seldom go to sleep with their hunger completely satisfied, and remember, this is 50 years ago, were once far more civilized and lived better than the people of the West. And not so very long ago either. It was the stories brought back by Marco Polo of the marvelous civilization in China which turned Europe's eyes to the riches of the East and induced adventurous sailors to brave the high seas in their small vessels searching for a direct route to the fabulous Orient. The ''wealth of the Indies'' is a phrase still used, but whatever wealth may have been there is certainly not evident in the life of the people today. This is 50 years ago. They are now using energy, very large amounts of it. China probably has a greater percent increase in energy than about any other country and their economy is growing; the last quarter for which I saw data, 11.4 percent.

Asia failed to keep technological pace with the needs of her growing population and sank into such poverty that in many places man has become again the primary source of energy since other energy converters have become too expensive. This must be obvious to the most casual observer. What this means is quite simply a reversion into a more primitive stage of civilization with all that it implies for human dignity and happiness. But very fortunately, technology is moving into this part of the world and the quality of their life is now increasing.

Anyone who has watched a sweating Chinese farm worker, and again, this is 50 years ago, strain at his heavily laden wheelbarrow, creaking along a cobblestone road, or who has flinched as he drives past an endless procession of human beasts of burden moving to market in Java, the slender women bent under mountainous loads heaped on their heads, anyone who has seen statistics translated into flesh and bone realizes the degradation of man's stature when his muscle power becomes the only energy source he can afford. Civilization must wither when human beings are so degraded.

Where slavery represented a major source of energy, its abolition had the immediate effect of reducing energy consumption. Thus, when this time-honored institution came under more censure by Christianity, civilization declined until other sources of energy could be found. Slavery is incompatible with Christian belief in the worth of the humblest individual as a child of God.

As Christianity spread through the Roman empire and masters freed their slaves in obedience to the teaching of the church, the energy base of Roman civilization crumbled. This, some historians believe, may have been a major factor in the decline of Rome and the temporary reversion to a more primitive way of life during the Dark Ages.

Slavery gradually disappeared throughout the Western world, except in its milder form of serfdom. That it has revived a thousand years later merely shows man's inability to stifle his conscience, at least for a while, when his economic needs are great. Eventually, even the needs of overseas plantation economies did not suffice to keep alive a practice so deeply repugnant to Western man's deepest convictions.

It may well be that it was unwillingness to depend on slave labor for their energy needs which turned the minds of medieval Europeans to search for alternative sources of energy, thus

sparking the Power Revolution of the Middle Age which, in turn, paved the way for the Industrial Revolution of the 19th century.

When slavery disappeared in the West, engineering advanced. Men began to harness the power of nature by utilizing water and wind as energy sources. The sailing ship, in particular, which replaced the slave-driven galley of antiquity, was vastly improved by medieval shipbuilders and became the first machine enabling man to control large amounts of inanimate energy.

The next important high-energy converter used by Europeans was gunpowder, an energy source far superior to the muscular strength to the strongest bowman or lancer. With ships that could navigate the high seas and arms that could outfire any hand weapon, Europe was now powerful enough to preempt for herself the vast empty areas of the Western hemisphere into which she poured her surplus populations to build new nations of European stock. With these ships and arms, she also gained political control over populous areas in Africa and Asia from which she drew the raw materials needed to speed her industrialization, thus complementing her naval and military dominance with economic and commercial supremacy.

And then he notes, when a low-energy society comes in contact with a high-energy society, the advantage always lies with the latter. The Europeans not only achieved standards of living vastly higher than those of the rest of the world, but they did this while their population was growing at rates far surpassing those of other peoples. In fact, they doubled their share of total world population in the short span of three centuries. From one-sixth in 1650, the people of European stock increased to almost one-third of world population by 1950. Clearly, with the industrialization of other parts of the world today, their populations are growing so that the European percentage of the world is not as high as it was 50 years ago.

Meanwhile, much of the rest of the world did not even keep energy sources in balance with population growth. Per capita energy consumption actually diminished in large areas. It is this difference in energy consumption which has resulted in an ever-widening gap between the one-third minority who live in high-energy countries and the two-thirds majority who live in low-energy areas. These so-called underdeveloped countries are now finding it far more difficult to catch up with the fortunate minority than it was for Europe to initiate transition from low energy to high-energy consumption. For one thing, their ratio of land to people is much less favorable. And we see this in much of Africa, Darfur, for instance, where the arable land is really very small compared to the people. And you see what that has done to their standard of living and to their culture.

For one thing, the ratio of land to people is much less favorable. For another, they have no outlet for surplice populations to ease the transitions since all the empty spaces have already been taken over by people of European stock.

□ 2100

This was a correct observation 50 years ago.

''Almost all of today's low energy countries have a population density so great that it perpetuates dependence on intensive manual agriculture, which alone can yield barely enough food for their people. They do not have enough acreage per capita to justify using domestic animals or farm machinery, although better seeds, better soil management and better hand tools could bring some improvement.''

I think he would be very pleased that today that has happened and they can live better, even with this high population density per arable land than they could then.

''A very large part of their working population must nevertheless remain on the land, and this limits the amount of surplus energy that can be produced. Most of these countries must choose between using this small energy surplus to raise their very low standard of living or postpone present rewards for the sake of future gain while investing the surplus in new industries.''

A very good explanation of how difficult it is for some of these undeveloped countries to enter the march of the developing countries.

''The choice is difficult because there is no guarantee that today's denial may not prove to have been in vain. This is so because of the rapidity with which public health measures have reduced mortality rates, resulting in population growth as high or even higher than that of the high energy nations. Theirs is a bitter choice. It accounts for much of their anti-Western feeling and may well portend a prolonged period of world instability.''

That is quite prophetic, isn't it? We see a period of world instability now, and how much has this energy imbalance contributed to it?

''How closely energy consumption is related to the standard of living can be illustrated by the example of India.''

Then he goes back to the India of 50 years ago, where the people lived really a hand-to-mouth existence, where their infant mortality rate was four times ours and life expectancy for people less than one-half of that of industrialized nations. Fortunately, India is now industrializing, and these numbers are changing.

He says, ''I think no further elaboration is needed to demonstrate the significance of energy resources for our future. Our civilization rests upon a technological base which requires enormous quantities of fossil fuels.''

And this is a really significant statement. ''What assurance do we then have that our energy needs will continue to be supplied by fossil fuels.''

Let me repeat the question again. What assurance do we then have that our energy needs will continue to be supplied by fossil fuels? ''The answer is, in the long run, none.''

He saw this 50 years ago. There are a lot of people today in our country and in others also who, with the 50 years of history since Hyman Rickover, still don't understand that in the long run, there is no assurance that fossil fuels will meet our energy needs.

Then he goes on to say, ''The Earth is finite. Fossil fuels are not renewable. In this respect, our energy base differs from that of all earlier civilizations.''

A major report done by SAIC called the ''Hirsch Report on Energy and the Energy Future'' says that the world has never faced a problem like this, and Hyman Rickover understood that 50 years ago.

''In this respect, our energy base differs from that of all earlier civilizations. They could have maintained their energy supply by careful cultivation. We cannot. Fuel that has been burned is gone forever. Fuel is even more evanescent than metals. Metals too are non-renewable resources threatened with ultimate extinction, but something can be salvaged from scrap. Fuel leaves no scrap and there is nothing man can do to rebuild exhausted fossil fuel reserves.''

Some of these quotes appear in the next chart.

''They were created by solar energy 500 million years ago and took eons to grow to their present volume. In the face of the basic fact that fossil fuel reserves are finite, the exact length of time these reserves will last is important in only one respect.''

Wow, I wish that our leaders could read this.

''The longer they last, the more time that we have to invent ways of living off renewable or substitute energy sources and to adjust our economy to the vast changes which we can expect from such a shift.''

And in spite of increasing evidence from the engineering and scientific world, a large percent of our people and, unfortunately, of our leadership, are effectively in denial of this.

Then this next paragraph is just priceless: ''Fossil fuels resemble capital in the bank. A prudent and responsible parent will use his capital sparingly in order to pass on to his children as much as possible of his inheritance. A selfish and irresponsible parent will squander it in riotous living and care not one whit how his offspring will fare.''

He is using this and talking about energy and our relationship to energy and how we are using it.

When we found this incredible wealth under the ground, and Admiral Rickover understood how incredible it was, we really should have stopped and asked ourselves the question, what can we do with this to provide the most good for the most people for the longest time? That clearly is not what we did. With no more responsibility than the kids who found the cookie jar or

the hog who found the feed room door open, we just have been pigging out, and we want to continue to do that.

They asked me to vote to drill offshore and in ANWR, and I asked them, if you could pump ANWR tomorrow, what would you do the day after tomorrow? And there will be a day after tomorrow. I have 10 children, 15 grandchildren and two great grandchildren, so I really relate to this description of a selfish and irresponsible parent.

One of the writers has noted that future generations looking back on us may ask themselves, how could the monsters have done that? How could they have taken this incredible wealth without any thought for tomorrow and just gone through it?

Now the urge is just to find what little remains as quickly as we can. Where is the moral responsibility for our kids and our grandkids? Where is the moral responsibility for generations yet unborn?

''Engineers whose work familiarizes them with energy statistics; far-seeing industrialists who know that energy is the principal factor which must enter into all planning for the future; responsible governments who realize that the well-being of their citizens and the political power of their countries depend on adequate energy supplies; all these have begun to be concerned about energy resources.''

Boy, if that was true then, why, something happened, because far too few people today are concerned about energy resources.

''In this country,'' he says, then 50 years ago, ''in this country especially, many studies have been made in the last few years seeking to discover accurate information on fossil fuel reserves and foreseeable fuel needs. Statistics involving the human factor, of course, are never exact. The size of useable reserves depends on the ability of engineers to improve the efficiency of fuel extraction and use.''

The next chart is one that I will spend just a moment on, because it really amplifies what he is saying. This is referred to as the oil chart, and you can get a very large one if you do a Google search for that, and this is simply an insert in it.

What this shows in the bars is the discovery of oil, and anyone who has been through a seventh grade math class knows that if you add up all of these little bars, you will have determined the total amount of oil that we have found. Indeed, if you make a smooth curve over them, the area under that curve will be the total amount of oil that we have discovered. The heavy black line here represents the oil that we have used.

Now, one thing is certain: You cannot use oil that you haven't found. So what will the future look like?

You can extrapolate from this chart, which shows that ever since about 1980 we have progressively used more and more oil than we have found. The discoveries of oil have been falling off. You see they started back there in the 1960s or 1970s. There were very large discoveries, and they have fallen off ever since then.

Now, there are those who would have you believe that we are going to find much more oil as all the oil which still exists, all the recoverable oil which still exists, and that is about half of what was ever found. This represents all the oil that was ever found, and the area under this use curve up, until this point, represents about half of that area under the curve.

So we have used about half of all the oil we have found, and there are some who would have you to believe that we will find as much more oil as all the oil which still exists that is recoverable.

''The size of usable reserves depends on the ability of engineers to improve the efficiency of fuel extraction and use. It also depends on discovery of new methods to obtain energy from inferior resources at cost which can be borne without unduly depressing the standard of living. Estimates of future needs in turn rely heavily on population figures, which must always allow for a large element of uncertainty, particularly as man reaches a point where he is more and more able to control his own way of life.''

The next chart shows the estimates made by a number of different sources as to when we will reach that point where we can no longer increase the amount of oil that we are producing per day. As you can see, some of them have enormous uncertainties. Some have very little uncertainty. They are pretty sure when it is going to occur.

As you notice, the vast majority of them believe it is going to occur before 2020. Indeed, 35, I think, of the 45 oil-producing nations in the world have already peaked, and you may have noted an interesting article, upper right hand of the Wall Street Journal a week or two ago that the big oil field, the second largest oil field in the world, in Mexico, has declined 20 percent in production in the last 2 years.

''Current estimates of fossil fuel reserves vary to an astonishing degree.''

It was true then; it is true now.

''In part this is because the results differ greatly if cost of extraction is disregarded; or if in calculating how long reserves will last, population growth is not taken into consideration; or, equally important, not enough weight is given to increased fuel consumption required to process inferior substitute metals. We are rapidly approaching the time when exhaustion of better grade metals will force us to turn to poorer grades, requiring in most cases greater expenditure of energy per unit of metal.''

That really hasn't seemed to matter, simply because we have had so much energy available. The best iron ores in our country today I understand are the taconite ores with one-half of one percent iron. In years gone by, our iron ores were so rich in iron that you could literally smelt them in a backyard smelter. If you drive up into Frederick County just a few miles above my home, you will come to Catoctin Furnace and the hills up there in northern Frederick County were denuded making charcoal for that furnace. But we couldn't do that today, because the grade of iron is much too poor to smelt in a furnace like that.

The next chart shows a very interesting one, and I just want to read his comments relative to this:

''But the most significant distinction between optimistic and pessimistic fuel reserve statistics is that the optimists generally speak of the immediate future, the next 25 years or so, while the pessimists thinks in terms of a century from now. A century or even two is a short span in the history of a great people. It seems sensible to me to take a long view, even if this involves facing unpleasant facts.''

What we have here is a very interesting chart. A little later, if time permits, we will read his discussion of the growth of civilization and how it is rapidly expanding now.

Actually, if this were a chart of the growth of civilization, it would not look much different than this, because civilizations have grown as energy has become available. This goes back only about 400 years. We could extend this line back here, this is burning of wood for fuel, we could extend it back another couple of centuries and you would still have about the same population. Very low population.

Then we discovered the industrial age with wood, and then coal, and then look what happened when we found gas and oil? The energy production just exploded, and, with that, the population. He has a very interesting discussion of population in a moment or two.

I want you to note on this graph what happened in the 1970s. The rate of rise of that curve before the 1970s gave us a stunning statistic. Each decade, the world was using as much oil as it had used in all of previous history. If you think about that, what that means is when you have used half your oil, just 10 years of oil at that use rate remains.

Now we are doing much better than that now, and you can see how this has tipped over and is following a different curve.

''For it is an unpleasant fact that according to our best estimates, total fossil fuel reserves recoverable at not over twice today's unit cost are likely to run out at sometime between the years 2000 and 2050.''

So he was predicting that we would reach this point sometime in this half a century.

□ 2115

If present standard of living and population growth rates are taken into account, oil and natural gas will disappear first, coal last. There will be coal left in the Earth, but it will be so difficult to mine that energy costs will rise to economically intolerable

heights so that it would then become necessary either to discover new energy sources or to lower standards of living drastically.

For more than 100 years, we have stoked ever growing numbers, and this is a poetic the way explains this. For more than 100 years, we have stoked ever-growing numbers of machines with coal; for 50 years we have pumped gas and oil into our factories, cars, trucks, ships, planes and homes without giving a thought to the future. Occasionally, the voice of a Cassandra has been raised only to be quickly silenced when a lucky discovery revised estimates of our oil reserves upward or a new coal field was found in some remote spot. Fewer such lucky discoveries can be expected in the future, especially in industrialized countries where extensive mapping of resources has been done. Yet the popularizers of scientific news would have us believe there is no cause for anxiety, that reserves will last thousands of years, and that before they run out, science will have produced miracles. Our past history and security have given us the sentimental belief that the things we fear will never really happen, that everything turns out right in the end, but prudent men will reject these tranquilizers, he says, and prefer to face the facts so they can plan intelligently for the needs of their posterity. Wouldn't it be nice if we were doing that?

Looking to the future from the mid-20th century, we cannot feel overly confident that present high standards of living will of a certainty continue through the next century and beyond. Fossil fuel costs will begin to rise as the best and most accessible reserves are exhausted, and more effort will be required to obtain the same energy from remaining reserves.

I suspect oil was $2 or $3 a barrel when he wrote this. Today it is over $60 a barrel.

It is likely also that fossil fuel costs will soon definitely be more expensive. Can we feel certain when economically recoverable fossil fuels are gone, science will have learned how to maintain a high standard of living on renewable energy sources?

I believe it would be wise to assume that the principal renewable fuel sources which we can expect to tap before fossil fuels run out will supply only 7 to 15 percent of our energy needs.

I would like to look at the next chart because he was really prophetic in what he said in 1957.

Here we have a chart that shows where we get our energy from. I use the analogy of a couple whose grandparents have died and left them a large inheritance and they now have established a quite lavish lifestyle where 85 percent of the money they spend comes from the inheritance and only 15 percent earnings. They note with their age and the amount of inheritance and the way they are spending it, it is going to run out before they retire. They either have to spend less or make more or a combination. I use that 85–15 because it is pretty precisely where we are relative to energy. So 85 or 86 percent of our energy comes from fossil fuels: Coal, petroleum and natural gas. And only 15 percent of it comes from what they call renewables, something other than these fossil fuels. More than half comes from nuclear here. So it leaves only 7 percent to come from the true renewables. And those that we will have to increasingly depend on in the future, and this is a 2000 chart, solar was 1 percent of 7 percent. That is 0.07 percent. So today it is 5 or 6 times bigger. Big deal. It is still less than 1 percent.

Wood waste products is from paper industry and lumbering. Waste energy is a really great idea, but remember that these enormous piles of waste are the result of profligate use of fossil fuels. In a fossil fuel deficient world, there will be diminished piles of waste. Wind can produce electricity at 2.5 cents a kilowatt hour, growing roughly at 30 percent a year, but when you start at 0.07 percent, it takes a lot of years to matter much.

Nearly half of all of this renewable comes from something we cannot increase in our country, that is major hydro. Micro hydro, where you are using energy from small streams, with small turbines, some guess it may produce as much as this, but that is thousands of these streams and energy produced locally for a home or a couple of homes. We cannot increase conventional hydroelectric because we have probably dammed up all the rivers we should have and maybe some we shouldn't have.

Alcohol fuel 1 percent, 0.07 percent. I would like to note a recent article in the Washington Post and I think I have a chart. Let's put that chart up.

This is the energy produced from corn by converting it into ethanol. I refer to the bottom first because this points out something that very few people know. Farmers know it because they are paying an enormous amount for nitrogen fertilizer. It is almost all produced from natural gas. Almost half of the energy used to produce a bushel of corn comes from nitrogen fertilizer, ordinarily produced from natural gas and little of it is in this country. It is produced where natural gas is stranded; that is, there is natural gas but not very many people to use it, and it is hard to transport. So they are using it to produce nitrogen fertilizer.

This shows a comparison what you get from petroleum and what you get from corn ethanol. They are noting here that you get 0.75 million Btus for every one that went in. This recent article in the Washington Post said if we use all of our corn to produce ethanol, that is no tortillas for Mexicans and no corn for our pigs and chickens, all of it for ethanol, and you discounted for the fossil fuel input, which this says is 75 percent, they used 80 percent, some would say it is 100 percent, we use as much energy if you cost all of the energy that goes into producing as you get out of it, but the article assumed 80 percent, that it would replace 2.4 percent of our gasoline. That is discounting it for the fossil fuel input. And they noted if you tuned up your car and put air in the tires, you would save as much gas.

So this points out some of the challenges we have. This is because of the enormous energy density in these fossil fuels.

One barrel of oil has the energy equivalent of the work output of 12 people for a year. That means in terms of work output, the energy you get from these fossil fuels from oil, represents hiring a man for $10 for a whole year. No wonder we have such a magnificent quality of life with energy this relatively cheap. Gas at $3 a gallon is still cheaper than water in the grocery store if you buy water in small bottles.

My next chart is one that Hyman Rickover referred to as more promise for nuclear fuels. I want to spend just a moment on some of his concerns for the sources of energy that we are lauding today. He says wood fuel and foreign waste are dubious as substitutes because of growing food requirements to be anticipated. He anticipated the tension between food and energy. In just 2 months last year, corn almost doubled from $2.11 a bushel to $4.08 a bushel, and tortillas went up in price for the Mexicans and my dairy farmers are going bankrupt because of the price of feed for their cattle.

Land is more likely to be used for food production than for tree crops. He was thinking of biomass. Farm waste may be more urgently needed to fertilize the soil than to fuel machines.

There is a lot of hype today about biomass, and it is worth noting that you will never get more energy from any biological source than you can by burning it. What we do in the other ways of using it is sometimes just a slow process of burning it, but you end up with the same product. You end up with carbon dioxide and water.

Our topsoil is our topsoil because of organic material, and his caution was if you keep removing this organic material, you are mining the soil and you will end up with poorer soil and not enough food production.

Wind and water power can furnish only a very small percentage of our energy needs. That was true then because we didn't have the big wind machines we have today that produce electricity at 2.5 cents a kilowatt hour, but that is such a tiny percentage of the total production it will take a long time to ramp up.

More promising is the outlook for fossil fuels. These are not properly speaking renewable energy sources, and let's take a look at this chart. We have finite sources here, and actually the second bullet looks at nuclear energy which is not really finite. Fissionable uranium may be. There is a limited supply of that in the world. That

fuels the light water reactors that essentially every nation today uses for its electricity production. In France, it is 75 percent of their electricity.

In spite of that, we are still the largest nuclear energy producer in the world. It is only 20 percent of our electricity, while in France it is 75 percent of their electricity. We are so much bigger economy than France, quantity-wise, we are the biggest producer of energy from nuclear today.

Let's look at the finite resources which he talks about. The tar sands, the oil shales, coal. There is more potential energy in the tar sands in Canada than all the oil reserves in the world. So why then aren't we complacent about the future because there is potentially so much energy there? And there may be more energy in the tides. The Moon lifts the whole ocean 2 feet a day. The problem is harnessing the energy, and we have a similar problem harnessing the energy in the tar sands. They are getting about a million barrels a day, a bit over 1 percent of the 84–85 million barrels a day of oil production. They have a shovel which lifts 100 tons. It dumps it into a truck that hauls 400 tons. They haul it to a cooker which I am told uses more energy from natural gas than they get out of the oil. The gas is stranded so it is not worth much in dollars and cents, and they are producing oil at about $18 to $25 a barrel and it is selling for over $60, so it is economically productive to do. But they know this is not sustainable because they will run out of the gas, and now they are thinking of building a nuclear power plant. But if you think of this as a vein, it is largely surface and they can do surface mining. But it will shortly duck under a heavy overlay, and they will have to develop a technology to develop it in situ, and they don't know how doable that is. There has been some experiments in doing that by Shell Oil Company. They believe it will be several years before they know if it is economically feasible for getting energy. So there are potentially huge amounts of oil available in the tar sands and the oil shales, but the big problem is the difficulty in getting them out.

We have a chart that I would like to look at that looks at coal because everybody is going to tell you not to worry about nature because we have got so much coal. Okay, we don't have that chart.

Let me talk about the coal chart. We have 250 years of coal. That is true at current use rates. But if you increase the use of coal only 2 percent, that 250 years drops to 85 years.

□ 2130

Well, a 2 percent increase doubles in 35 years. It's four times bigger in 70 years, and it's eight times bigger in 105 years, and we're talking about 250 years. So now our 250 years of coal shrinks to only 85 years if we are increasing its use only 2 percent, and we will certainly have to increase the use more than that as we find less and less readily available oil and gas.

But for most uses, coal is not very convenient. So we are going to have to convert it to a liquid or a gas, and that will use some of the energy of coal. So now it shrinks to 50 years, but the reality in today's world is that energy is fungible, particularly liquid fuel energy, and we're going to have to share that with the world. There's not much of a way not to share that with the world. If you do that, since we use 25 percent of the world's energy, that now reduces it to 12½ years.

Be very cautious when somebody tells you about a resource that will last so many years at current use rates. It was Albert Einstein I think who said that the most powerful force in the universe was the power of compound interest.

We are running out of time, and I wanted to get to another quote here from Admiral Rickover's speech because he was so prophetic in his speech. ''In the 8,000 years from the beginning of history to the year 2000 A.D. world population will have grown from 10 million to 4 billion.'' He kind of missed that. We are what, over 6 billion today, but that is an enormous growth. ''With 90 percent of that growth taking place during the last 5 percent of that period.'' It would be more than 95 percent because we are now over 6 billion rather than 4 billion. ''It took the first 3,000 years of recorded history to accomplish the first doubling of population, 100 years for the last doubling, but the next doubling will require only 50 years.'' Matter of fact, it occurred in less than 50 years.

And then another chart from Admiral Rickover's talk: ''One final thought I should like to leave with you. High-energy consumption has always been a prerequisite of political power. The tendency is for political power to be concentrated in an ever-smaller number of countries. Ultimately, the Nation which controls the largest energy resources will become dominant. If we give thought to the problem of energy resources, if we act wisely and in time to conserve what we have and prepare well for necessary future changes, we shall insure this dominant position for our own country.''

Mr. Speaker, I wonder if Admiral Rickover would think that we have done that. ''If we give thought to the problem of energy resources, if we act wisely and in time to conserve what we have and prepare well for necessary future changes, we shall insure this dominant position for our own country.'' That's the dominant position where you control a lot of the energy. We have only 2 percent of the world's energy. We use 25 percent of the world's energy. In a chart which shows the 10 largest oil containing countries we're not even near that.

Our oil companies, which pump a fair amount of oil, own very little oil. They are pumping somebody else's oil. The oil resources which we own in this country are very small. The largest, 70 percent, of all the resources of course are in the Middle East and northern Africa.

As I read this talk from Admiral Rickover, I was reminded of how wise and farseeing he was. He says, for instance, ''It will be wise to face up to the possibility of the ultimate disappearance of automobiles, trucks, buses and tractors.''

Let me read that paragraph. That's a pretty interesting paragraph. ''Transportation, the lifeblood of all technically advanced civilizations, seems to be assured, once we have borne the initial high cost of electrifying railroads and replacing buses with streetcars or interurban electric trains.''

He's talking about nuclear energy, which could be huge, compared to the rate at which we are using now which produces electricity. Of course, today we don't have much that runs on electricity. We have torn out all of our streetcar lines. We're now replacing what we call light rail, I think that's what streetcars were, and we are using railroads. Very little for transportation of people.

''But, unless science can perform the miracle of synthesizing automobile fuel from some energy source as yet unknown,'' and I thought here of our corn ethanol and we were going to get so much from that. That article says if we turn all the corn into ethanol, discounted it for fossil fuel input, it would displace 2.4 percent of our gasoline.

Well, I commend this reading of Admiral Hyman Rickover's speech to anyone who's interested in energy. He was really farseeing.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ARCURI). All Members of the House are reminded to refrain from bringing to the attention of the House occupants of the galleries.

HEALTH CARE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor tonight to talk a little bit about the Nation's health care system, some of the challenges that face us and some of the successes that have happened in spite of the fact that they aren't generally noticed by the people who report on things.

Mr. Speaker, my career prior to coming to Congress was that of a physician. A lot of people will ask me how did we end up with the situation that we have, how did we end up with the system of health care that we have in this country? After all, Western Europe, we are not that much different from our Western European friends, and yet they have largely single-payer,

double-fund systems, and why is the American system so different?

Mr. Speaker, there are a lot of reasons for that, but at the risk of oversimplification, if we look back to the days when the country was involved in the Second World War, of course President Roosevelt at that time had put in place wage and price controls in order to keep down trouble from inflation. Employers who were anxious to keep their employees working, and there was competition for the workforce that remained behind and was not called off to fight, in order to keep that workforce employed and to keep that workforce interested in working, and not being able to expand wages like an employer might like to do, they offered benefits.

They actually sought an opinion, and the United States Supreme Court ruled that health insurance benefits could be provided and would be outside of the wage and price controls. And in fact, a tax advantage was given for employer-derived health insurance, and it made the program popular, not only during the war years but in the years immediately after the Second World War.

While this country was undergoing a significant economic expansion, this type of insurance policy remained in effect.

Now, contrast that with Europe, and even though some countries in Europe had emerged victorious, others were vanquished. Their backyard was the site where that war was fought. They faced significant humanitarian issues if they did not quickly stand up health care systems and other social systems in order to take care of their citizenry. So, it was an entirely different landscape presented to the people who represented constituents in this Congress during the war years and immediately thereafter.

I reference an article from Health Affairs from December 2006, just a few months ago, an article by Dr. Einthoven who's been a prolific writer. I don't always agree with him but a prolific writer on health issues, and he talked about employer-based health insurance past, present and future.

Talking about the past, the most familiar aspect of employment-based insurance past is its rapid growth in the first three decades after World War II, the relative stability that followed for about a decade.

And then he talks about the declining coverage that has occurred since the late 1980s, the exemption of employer payments for health insurance from employees' taxable income, combined with substantial efficiency advantages of group over individual insurance, fueled a rapid expansion.

And he goes on to cite that by the mid-1950s, 45 percent of the population had hospital insurance. Coverage increased to 77 percent by 1963, and coverage peaked sometime during the early 1980s and, as he points out, declined in the late 1980s.

Lest anyone think that I'm in complete agreement with the article, he does end up his piece that the most likely trajectory in the near term is continued erosion of employer-based health insurance. In the long term, we think that the likely and most desirable income is replacement of job-based insurance with some form of universal health insurance that encompasses choice competition.

Again, we may disagree with his conclusion, and I will go through during the course of this hour some of the reasons why I do disagree with that conclusion, there are a number of things that would need to be taken into account.

But other things that we need to consider with this balance of the hybrid system that we have, the public and private, we do need to talk a little bit about the uninsured in this country, what's happening with the reauthorization of the State Children's Health Insurance Program, what's going to happen with the reauthorization of federally qualified health centers, a bill we took up last year but didn't complete before the end of the 109th Congress and will have to face again this year.

I'd like to talk a little bit about health savings accounts and some about association health plans. Of course, it is hard for me to talk about health care without addressing medical liability reform, and I do want to spend a few minutes on that in the hour that we have ahead of us.

One of the most pressing needs and one of the issues that is brought to my attention with increasing regularity is the whole issue of maintaining our physician workforce. We have a problem in the Medicare system as to how we reimburse physicians. So certainly physicians who are in practice are feeling that burden right now. We also have physicians in graduate education and young people who are perhaps thinking about whether or not they want to go into medicine as a career, and all of those aspects of the physician workforce I think require some of our attention.

Some of the things that the States are doing right now, things that are happening in Massachusetts, California, some recent developments in Illinois, indicate some of the efforts that are going on at the State level, and largely that's because of flexibility we provided to State governors when we passed the Deficit Reduction Act in December of 2005.

Other health care issues, if time permits, I'll try to get into. We talked a little bit about the trauma bill that was recently signed into law by President Bush 2 weeks ago, some aspects of transparency within the health care system, and how we are going to approach coverage for long-term care, particularly as the so-called baby boomers continue to move along in the demographic chain in this country.

Again, we talked about how we got this system that looks the way it does, the hybrid system that is a combination of both public and private systems. I referenced the activity that was going on right after the end of the Second World War.

Fast forward 20 years and a new system into effect in 1965 that was called the Medicare system primarily focused on coverage for hospitalization and some doctor services for elderly Americans.

In 1965, my dad was a doctor when Medicare came into being in 1965, and I used to tease him that in 1965 you only had two medicines, penicillin and cortisone, and you used those interchangeably. So it didn't really matter that you didn't have a prescription drug coverage when Medicare was first passed. I know he didn't think that was very funny either, but that is a discussion we have had on several occasions.

Now, 40 years later, 40 years after the enactment of Medicare, how different the world looks just from the standpoint of the pharmaceutical agents that are available in the physician's armamentarium to not only treat disease when it strikes but to prevent the disease from ever manifesting itself in the first place, for keeping that patient in the state of relatively good health and not coming in, sweeping in at the end stage when the disease has already struck and caused the heart attacks or caused some of the problems that happens with untreated or poorly controlled diabetes over a lifetime.

To be able to reach in and control those medical conditions on a chronic, ongoing basis ahead of time results in a reduction in the overall health expenditure for that particular disease for that particular individual, and you don't have to take my word for it.

The Medicare Trustees Report that came out about a week-and-a-half ago pointed out that in the year 2005 there were about 600,000 hospital beds that were not filled that were expected to be filled, and they were not filled because America's physicians are doing a better job of diagnosing conditions early and treating them early and keeping people out of the hospital when the full-blown effects of the disease might be manifest that in many cases can, in fact, be avoided all together.

□ 2145

So when we did the Medicare prescription drug plan back in 2003, it was a fairly lengthy and involved debate. I remember the President of the United States standing in this very Chamber during his State of the Union during 2003. Remarkable for me, because it was the first State of the Union that I got to see here as a new Member of Congress at the time. He said the issues facing Medicare are too important to be left to another President. The issues facing Medicare are too important to be left to another Congress.

So, this Congress, at that time the 108th Congress, was going to tackle the problem of providing prescription drug benefits to America's seniors. Heretofore, prior to that time, they had not been available. Arguably, there were

some ups and downs with that, but the fact is today more American seniors have more access to coverage than at any time in Medicare's history. The coverage that is available to them is certainly vast and extensive.

Generally there are at least two medications in every one of the six major disease categories. I know Administrator McClellan worked on that very diligently in the years between the time the Medicare bill was passed and the actual rollout of the Medicare prescription drug plan. But that was simply setting the stage for the debate that continues today.

Who is better suited, is it the public sector or the private sector? Who is better suited to handle the health care of this Nation? Now, currently, the Federal Government pays for roughly half of health care in this country. I know I am oversimplifying, but the numbers actually back me up on this, the gross domestic product last year was approximately $11 trillion, and we spent $1.4 trillion on health care.

The Health and Human Services budget for Medicare and Medicaid alone was in excess of $600 billion. Add the Federal expenditure for the VA system, for the Indian Health Service, the Federal prison system, and you can see we are quickly going to be at that mark. It is about half of the health care expenditures in this country.

The other half is broken down with a significant amount, the lion's share, being covered by people who have traditional insurance, commercial insurance, HMO coverage and all the things that we generally associate with insurance in the private market, and then smaller amounts would be attributable to individuals who simply pay for their care out of their pocket, and are uninsured, but are available to pay for their care.

There is no question that there is some care rendered in this country, no doubt about it, given by the good graces of either the hospital or the doctor involved, so-called charitable care or uncompensated care, which does account for a significant amount of the care given in this country.

Well, what is the best way, this tension between public and private. Should we expand the public sector? We are going to have that debate in a big way, probably in the months to come regarding the expansion of the public sector, the public side of health care.

Certainly we can look to Canada as an example of a country that has done, essentially done away with the private practice of medicine and put a publicly funded payment plan in place. But even the Canadian Supreme Court a few years ago said that, you know what, access to a waiting list is not the same thing as access to health care. They acknowledge some of the problems that exist in the system, some of the problems that exist within the Canadian system.

The British National Health Service, again, I go back to my comments earlier about the time during World War II and its immediate aftermath, the British National Health Insurance came on the scene earlier in the last century, and has evolved essentially into a two-tier system. You have patients who are taken care of in the National Health Service, to be certain, and everyone has coverage to the National Health Service. But, again, there may be issues with waiting times, there may be an issue to waiting to see the practitioner or the specialist that you wish to see. As a consequence, some of the most expensive health care available today is in the private system that exists, that coexists, with the British National Health Service.

Another aspect to that that is troubling to some people because of the wait. How long is it reasonable to ask someone to wait for an artificial hip replacement, for example? Certainly some of the studies done at the National Institutes of Health have shown that with today's minimally invasive surgery, and the in-joint replacement surgery, the savings to the economy are significant because of the minimization of the lost days of work, the lost productivity by a worker who is having a problem.

But, if you have to wait, as in some systems you do, if you have to wait 1 month, 2 months, 3 months, is that such a big deal; 6 months, going on a year? Well, I would submit that if a patient is in their 70s or 80s, that length of time is a significant electricity of time and, in fact, may increase the morbidity and, in fact, the mortality of people who are suffering from those types of diseases. So those systems are not inherently fair if someone is in their seventh or eighth decade of life, or they may not survive the wait for the care that is involved. So, expanding the private sector, is that the answer? I don't know if it's the entire answer, but it's certainly a big part of what must be the ultimate answer that we come to.

I would reference what has happened with medical savings accounts. They just turned 10 years old last year. The Kennedy-Kassebaum Act was passed in 1996. I was a practicing physician at the time with no thought of ever running for Congress, but I knew I wanted a medical health savings account as soon as I could get one.

In fact, 750,000 policies was the cap placed under the Kennedy-Kassebaum legislation. I was significantly concerned that I would not be able to get signed up for one before the cap was reached and no more were available. Turns out, I needn't have worried, because the cap was never fully prescribed because of some of the restrictions that were placed on the old medical savings accounts that were the original type of policy that was available.

In my home State of Texas, because of the restrictions placed on insurance carriers, only two carriers were really interested in providing what might be regarded as an account, a high deductible account, that could be coupled with a medical IRA or a medical savings account, which would continue to earn interest, be available to pay that high deductible if someone got sick, but in the event that it was not required to be used, would grow over time.

These were pretax dollars that were put away into the savings account, again, much like an IRA, but the only difference being that these dollars would be earmarked, and I realize that's a bad word, but these dollars would be sequestered only for paying for medical care.

Well, that changed in 2003 with the advent of the health savings accounts, as we passed the Medicare Modernization Act. Health savings accounts today are accounting for a significant number of policies, and I don't have the most recent statistics at hand, but 3- to 4 million policies that have now been obtained, and about 40 percent of the people who have a health savings account today previously lacked health insurance coverage.

Now, one of the great things that I tell, particularly younger audiences, when I address them about health insurance, 1994, trying to buy a health insurance policy for someone who was not employed, someone who didn't get their insurance through their employer, just wanted to go out on their own and get a policy that would provide them coverage, if they needed it, and pay for it themselves.

Number one, they are paying for it with aftertax dollars, so that's a more expensive way to go about getting insurance, but the other thing was, in 1994, you couldn't get it at any price. It just was not available. I know this, because I attempted to buy a policy for a family member who was not working at the time, but I thought needed insurance coverage.

Well, fast forward by 10 years. A young American getting out of college today, 24, 25 years old, now not able to be carried on his parents' insurance any longer, wants to go into business for himself or herself, wants to be a entrepreneur, wants to take part in the American dream but also wants to do the responsible thing and have health insurance. That individual can go to the Internet, go to the search engine of choice and type in ''health savings account.''

Very quickly, they will find a vast array of insurance products that are available to them at a high deductible, PPO product, may cost in the range, in my home State of Texas, for a male, age 25, nonsmoker, those premiums are going to be in the range of about $65 a month. It is eminently affordable for someone just getting out of college who wants to do the right thing and have that insurance coverage. Moreover, if they want to further do the right thing and save some money towards that high deductible, should they ever be called on to make that expenditure, those monies can go into

that account as pretax expense, and they will grow tax deferred over the life of the account.

Now, why is that significant? It's significant in that, correct, it's a high deductible policy. So if that person needs a flu shot, their insurance is not going to cover it. That is going to be contained within the deductible. Yes, they will, in all likelihood, either pay for it out of the money they have held in the health savings account, or they may just choose to pay for it out of pocket.

But, if they have a motorcycle accident some night and wind up with an evening in the emergency room, and 3 or 4 days in the intensive care unit, and face a hospital bill of $15- to $25,000, guess what, that bill is going to be covered. That is a significant difference from what was available in this country in 1994.

I would also reference the expansion of, well, you think, gosh, that high deductible policy, if you need anything more than a flu shot, who is going to want that because the cost of health insurance is so high, or the cost of health care is so high?

In today's Wall Street journal on the back page, the op ed page, there's an article about customer health care. One of the things it talks about is the growth of so-called minute clinics or urgent care centers. Quoting from the article now, written by Grace-Marie Turner, these new retail health clinics are opening in big box stores and local pharmacies around the country to treat common maladies at prices lower than a typical doctor's visit, and much lower than the emergency room, no appointment necessary, open daytime, open evenings, open weekends, most do take insurance.

Prices vary from services like from flu shots from $15- to $30 to care for allergies, poison ivy, pinkeye, $50- to $60 and tests for cholesterol, diabetes, less than $50. Competition is already starting to drive these prices down.

So there we have some good news. We have the health savings accounts, which are now available and sold on the Internet, and that competition has driven those premiums down, and we have the growth of people who are providing care for someone who is willing to pay for it out-of-pocket, whether they be someone who just wants to have the convenience of a walk-in clinic, or someone who perhaps has one of the consumer oriented products, one of the high deductible products, and wants to, is shopping around for that bargain in health care. Now there are other options available that weren't there before.

Other things to talk about within the private sector, association health plans, that's legislation that we have passed before in this House, both in the 108th and 109th Congress. Clearly, we need to take a look at that again in this Congress.

Association health plans allow groups of employers who have a similar business model to band together and buy insurance in the larger group market to take advantage of some of those economies of scale that may be gleaned by a larger employer, make those available to small businesses as well. Again, we have passed that legislation twice in the House of Representatives, in the 108th and 109th Congress, and something that we do need to consider taking up again this year.

When I talk about consumer oriented health care, when I talk about the health savings accounts or the growth in health savings accounts, one of the things that is so important for consumers, if they are going to be educated consumers, if they are going to make informed decisions about when and how they purchase their health care, we are going to have to make more information available to people to rationally make those decisions.

Information about cost, price and quality is going to have to be more generally available, and I recognize that there is a value in opacity, or it wouldn't have developed in the first place, but more information available to the health care consumer. In fact, in my home State of Texas, this recently has happened with hospital charges.

In all except for the smallest of hospital markets, an individual can go to a Web site, txpricepoint.org, and find out information about the hospitals in their area for given classes of hospital care, childbirth, for example, fixing a broken leg, for example, with or without complications, all listed there. Very quickly you can get information about how hospitals in the area compare and how the hospitals compare with other hospitals statewide that are of similar size and have a similar patient mix.

This is just the first step in providing that information. I recognize there is only so much that can be gained from looking at the overall hospital charge for a particular diagnosis, but as more information becomes available, and as more information is placed up and available on these Web sites, consumers are going to be able to make more informed choices about how they spend their health care funds.

One of the biggest problems ahead us and one of the biggest problems we have to tackle is the uninsured.

□ 2200

Currently the United States Census Bureau says that there are over 46 million people who lack health insurance in this country. And I know we can have the arguments about who is represented in that 46 million and that there are some people who lack insurance only during part of the year. But they're still counted toward the total number. But the reality is it is a significant number of Americans who lack health insurance.

As a physician, first, I will be the first to point out that having no insurance does not equate to having no access to health care because every physician can tell you about cases they've had where reimbursement either never arrived or they just simply did the case knowing that the person was uninsured and no reimbursement would be forthcoming.

But I think we also recognize that delivering care in that manner, it is not always delivered in the most timely of fashions, and you don't always get your best health outcome.

Now, one of the solutions that we will have to deal with in Congress is the reauthorization of the Children's Health Insurance Program. Again, that program is 10 years old and had a 10-year reauthorization requirement upon it.

It's not different from Medicaid. It's not an entitlement. It is a block grant to States to provide coverage for uninsured children within that State. It does provide flexibility for the States to determine standards and providing health care funding for those children who are not eligible for Medicare, but whose parents truly cannot afford health insurance.

The bill, when we work on that in committee, there are several things that I think are important that we do need to look at. One the problems of course we have run into with S-CHIP is that some States have found themselves in a shortfall situation. And one of the things that is troubling about the reason some States are in a shortfall situation is that they are covering adults and not just children.

Now, providing health care insurance or providing health insurance for children is less expensive than providing health insurance for adults because children obviously, are younger, they tend to be healthier, they tend to get better quicker. And although there are some illnesses that are particular to children, in general, the children's population in this country tends to be very healthy. And if you provide a modicum of health insurance and a modicum of prevention on top of that population, they are going to be even healthier still.

So States that cover adults as well as children, if a State is not covering all of the children that it could cover under its S-CHIP program, perhaps it's not a good idea to be covering adults, non-pregnant adults. Pregnancy should rightfully be covered under an S-CHIP program.

And, in fact, Mr. Speaker, there are four States that cover more adults than children. And I do hope we will look at this when we take up our S-CHIP reauthorization in our Energy and Commerce Committee, in the Subcommittee on Health, I certainly hope we will look at that.

One of the ongoing arguments with the Children's Health Insurance Program is, do we tend to drive out the private sector by the State taking on the burden of insurance children whose parents make too much money for Medicaid but not enough money to provide them health insurance.

If an individual has insurance through their employer, but they cannot afford the dependent coverage that the employer offers, and therefore don't take advantage of that dependent coverage that the employer offers, we should allow the flexibility for S-CHIP funds to be used to purchase that, or at least buy down the cost of that dependent coverage. We'll leverage our S-CHIP dollars so that they go so much further if we will do that.

Indeed, we heard testimony in a hearing the other day from an individual who said that as much as 10 percent of a State's S-CHIP funding may be used for so-called premium support. And if that is the case, I think we need to, but most States find that that is a program that is not well subscribed to. So we need to get that information out there. And if we need to make more dollars available for that type of premium support, then, indeed we should do that.

Now, that's not going to take care of all the problems within S-CHIP, but we certainly don't want to crowd the private sector out with a Federal program or a State program because there is value, I believe, in keeping the private sector involved and invested in providing health care for children.

A number of other things we could do during the authorization of that bill, it's a great opportunity to perhaps expand some of the health information technology that everyone talks about but no one ever seems to be able to get done, and the opportunity for providing some demonstration projects in, say, two or three States, a large State, a small State and one somewhere in between might provide us some of the background, some of the tools, some of the data that we need to be able to make rational decisions when it comes to health information technology, and to also get some of the advantages that's going to come from a well-functioning information system that provides almost instantaneous feedback on what things are working, what things aren't, where can we best spend our health care dollars so we maximize the return on the taxpayers' investment.

These are just a few things that I hope we'll take up when we have the opportunity to look at that bill in committee. It will be of necessity. That has to be reauthorized before the end of the fiscal year, and I feel certain that Congress will do that.

Federally qualified health centers I've already referenced. We did do the reauthorization last year, but that did not get completed before the end of the 109th Congress. I trust that we will take that up again this year. That is an important program that does provide a medical home and does provide an insurance equivalent to 15 million Americans. 15 million uninsured individuals actually have a medical home and continuity of care and identified provider through a federally qualified health center.

And one of the things that we talk about, relief of mandates on private insurance, one of the things that always gets my attention is that we seem to have so much difficulty when we sit down and talk. And we saw this last year in our Health Subcommittee. When a bill was put forward to allow insurance companies to sell insurance that didn't have all the mandates that some States will put on an insurance policy, and we had a dreadful fight about that one, it went late into the night. And a lot of hard feelings were expressed during the debate on that bill.

But the fact is, not in this Congress, not in the last Congress, but several years ago, Members of Congress came together and agreed on the types of benefits that should be covered in a basic package, and those benefits are the benefits that are mandated to be covered under a federally qualified health center. Any community that wants to petition for a federally qualified health center will have to show that they are going to provide at least this level of care for an identified number of illnesses or ailments.

And it seems to me, if we could extrapolate that experience from the federally qualified health center legislation that, again, is almost 35 years old, if we could extrapolate that cooperation that had to have been required to get that legislation up and moving over 3 decades ago, perhaps we could come together on the basic package of benefits that should be available in an insurance policy that's going to be sold in the private market.

I have trouble understanding that a private insurance company would not look at 46 million people as potentially market share if they had a product that people could afford to buy. And I do think that's one thing that this Congress does need to take up.

Health savings accounts I've already talked about. There are some additional improvements that we can make to health savings accounts, although they have been improved significantly in 2003 with the Medicare Modernization Act.

The HSA, the so-called flexible spending account or the health reimbursement arrangement that an employer may provide, a flexible spending account of course is money that an employee may sequester, pre-tax, and use that money on health care expenditures, but if they don't use it by the end of the year it goes away. It disappears, the so-called use it or lose it phenomenon.

Similar situation with the health reimbursement arrangement. If an employer is willing to provide additional dollars to take care of an employee's health care, why not allow those dollars, if they're not used at the end of the year, to become a part of that employee's health savings account, to become part of that medical IRA, to be able to grow over time?

We already heard the previous speaker reference Einstein's comment about the miracle of compound interest. And this is exactly the type of power that we could tap into if we were to be able to increase the amount of money that either the employee or the employer could put into that savings account that will be dedicated exclusively for that person's health expenditures.

Some of the other improvements that we could make in health savings accounts would be allow individuals to purchase their health savings account with pre-tax dollars. That would leverage so much more, the purchase of so much more insurance, even for someone in a relatively modest 15 or 20 percent tax bracket. They'd still be buying their insurance with 80-cent dollars, and that means that their insurance, that part of their budget that they allow for insurance, would go a great deal farther.

Perhaps we could allow early retirees to pay some of their continued premiums out of money they've saved in a health savings account. There is lots of flexibility that we could build into the program, and I believe that we've only just started to tap into the power that is available, the power that we can put in the health care consumers hands to be able to provide for themselves and their families with this type of insurance.

Again, I had a medical savings account when they first became available back in 1996. The reason I did it wasn't because I got to have an additional IRA, though that was a great benefit. But the main reason I did it was because it left me in charge of health care decisions. I didn't have to dial 1–800–California and talk to an HMO director somewhere. I was in charge of the expenditure of those medical dollars, and I made the decisions for myself and my family. And realistically, that is a lot of power that we should put back in the hands of the health care consumer.

Well, a lot of the things that we've talked about so far, about the public and private, the creative tension, if you will, that exists between the public and private aspects of providing for health care in this country. But one of the things that I've referenced before, and I think we do need to spend a few minutes on, is we've got to be careful we don't put the cart before the horse, because if we are not careful, this country could face a significant shortage or a significant crisis in manpower, in physicians, in nurses, in other health care providers, other people that we rely upon to give us the health care that we need when we need it.

We need to ensure that doctors in practice today, those at the peak of their clinical abilities, aren't driven out of the system by decisions that we make here in this Congress. And we need to make certain that the best and brightest that are in training programs now, and those that may be looking at going into medicine or nursing as a career, that we don't, because of our decisions in this Congress, that we don't drive them out of, we don't drive them away from their career goals.

Now, about a year and a half ago, Alan Greenspan, just before he retired as the Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, was talking to a group of us one morning and talked about, someone asked him a question about the, being able to afford Medicare in the future. And he said, yes, he was concerned about that. But he felt certain that when the correct time came, Congress would deal with how to pay for Medicare.

He said, what concerned him more was, is there going to be anyone there to deliver the services when you want them. And those were words that really stuck with me, because I'm afraid if we don't take some steps to acknowledge and encourage the health care work force in this country, we may find we get to that point where a substantial number of baby boomers have retired and we face manpower shortages, and then it's going to be very difficult to deal with the situation. So I do encourage us in this Congress, just like the President said when he talked about Medicare. It's too important to wait for another Congress. We need to take up those issues in this Congress and deal with them.

Now, perhaps one of the most striking things that we have to deal with every year since I've come to Congress is in the Medicare system we get toward the end of the year, and physicians in part B of Medicare face a 5 percent pay reduction. And every year, they become very concerned about that. And every year, except 2002, we've come in at the last minute and done something to help.

Now, it may be nothing more than just holding off the cuts for that year, but we come in at the 11th hour and do something to help.

Last year, in an effort to prevent that from being an 11th hour decision, I introduced a bill, 5866, to do away with the formula under which physicians are paid. And not to go into too much detail, Mr. Speaker, but when you look at Medicare part A, part C and part D, hospitals, HMOs drug companies, each year get, if you will, a cost of living adjustment, a market basket update that increases the reimbursement for each of those three entities.

□ 2215

Physicians, for whatever reason, are treated differently, and there is a finite number of dollars allocated for the part B expenditure; and the more people who put claims in against that finite number of dollars, the thinner the slices of pie are that are ultimately distributed to the providers.

So Congress's attempt many years ago to control Medicare expenditures by controlling volume and intensity of services has created this system, which every year causes a significant amount of strife not only for Members of Congress, not only for practicing physicians, but just tension in general in the medical profession that, since Congress doesn't value the work that we do, maybe we ought not to work for Congress any longer. And I hear that frequently when addressing groups of physicians. And, of course, this time of year, Mr. Speaker, as you know there are a large number of physician groups through town.

So last year I introduced 5866 that said let's do away with the SGR; let's replace it with the Medicare economic index. That is not some formula that I was smart enough to think up. That is basically a market basket index, a cost-of-living update that would occur for expenditures under part B of Medicare. And this formula was worked out by the MED PAC folks many, many years ago. And a lot of physicians asked why we don't use the Medicare economic index. The main problem with going from the SGR to the Medicare economic index is it scores as an extremely high expense when the Congressional Budget Office looks at the bill and says this is how much it costs to do it. In fact, last year when I introduced 5866, the cost of going from an SGR formula to the Medicare economic index minus 1 percent was about $180 billion, and it was just a bridge too far, a hill too high, and we didn't get that done.

This year, for me, it is not just about looking at the Medicare payment problems but also looking at physicians at the beginning of their time in the workforce as well.

But getting the Medicare payment policy right has to be one of the main pillars, one of the main things that we do to effect reform that stabilizes the physician workforce. So paying doctors fairly will increase the career of many physicians who will either opt out of the Medicare system altogether or perhaps seek early retirement, or you never know. They might run for Congress. But principles of the bill that I am introducing this Congress will eliminate the SGR, but it is going to eliminate it in 2 years' time rather than this year. And I know that is a point of contention for a lot of people, but the reality is we are not allowed to look at dynamic scoring.

The Congressional Budget Office simply looks at a static model and tries to make predictions on the future with that static model, and by law we are not allowed to use dynamic scoring. And yet in the Medicare Trustees Report that I earlier referenced, 600,000 hospital beds were not filled in this country because of the things that doctors are doing in their offices, in their ambulatory surgery centers, in their outpatient imaging centers. These were dollars that were savings to part A; but, actually, the reimbursement for those was drawn from part B. So if we could somehow gather and collect and sequester those savings that are happening every day from part A and offsetting the cost of the ultimate repeal of the SGR formula, perhaps we could get to a number that would be much more workable.

Additionally, there is the audit enforcement that has increased lately. The Inspector General of Health and Human Services came and talked to our Oversight and Investigations Committee earlier this year, and they talked about the dollars that they were recovering in various areas of Medicare. These dollars that are recovered were stolen from part B; so these are not dollars that go to the Department of Justice or the Department of Health and Human Services in some other form. They go to part B to offset the expenditure for repealing the SGR. And I think if we will collect and allocate and sequester those funds and use those against the scoring for repealing the SGR, within 2 years' time we should have a significant dollar amount to be able to use to offset the expense of the SGR repeal.

Now, in the meantime, yes, it is necessary to protect physicians who are practicing against the cuts that are already programmed to happen in the SGR formula for 2008 and 2009, and I would propose voluntary reporting, voluntary health information technology upgrades, and if a doctor or medical group is willing to do that, they could achieve as much as a 6 percent bonus payment for those 2 years to offset the reduction in payment that would come about as a result of the SGR formula. But the reality is that if we don't put a premium on prevention, if we don't put a premium on timely treatment of disease, and if we continue to drive mature physicians out of the workforce, we are probably not going to get our best fiscal results with the Medicare program, not to mention our best medical results.

Well, what about the other aspects of the physician workforce? What about graduate medical education? And currently we know we are going to need more physicians in primary care, OB/GYN, pediatrics, those specialties that are devoted to treatment of aging individuals. And it only makes sense to increase the number of residencies, particularly in or near communities where the need is the highest. So high-need areas with high-need physician specialties is something that we could bring together and allow hospitals that haven't previously offered a residency program the ability to do that.

We know, for example, in Texas that a physician who trains is likely to practice within 100 miles of where that training occurred. We are losing Texas-educated medical students who are going to other parts of the country for their training and they are not coming back to Texas, and the same thing is happening in other States as well. In an effort to deal with that, if we were to allow medium-size hospitals to start up residency programs, provide some Federal grants and loans for these residency programs to start up, it would encourage physicians to be in practice in high-need specialties in medically underserved areas for those high-need specialties.

Now, further expanding that to the younger individual who is perhaps

thinking about a career in medicine, if we expanded the old health profession scholarship loan concept and provided loan forgiveness, provided tax forgiveness for individuals in medical school, in training, who are willing to go and serve after their training is complete in a medically underserved area in a high-needs specialty, and again, family practice, pediatrics, OB/GYN, and gerontology would be the specialties that immediately come to mind; so all three aspects, keeping the physician workforce of today involved and providing care to arguably that group of the population that is our most challenging, our senior citizens, providing help to physicians who are in training today, and providing some additional help for young people who are looking at medicine as a career but might be concerned about their ability to deal with the large number of dollars that they would owe at the end of that training, to provide some loan forgiveness and some tax incentives for these individuals to, indeed, practice in medically underserved areas in high-need specialties.

Well, I almost can't talk about reform in the Nation's health care system without at least talking briefly about medical liability reform. We have passed medical liability reform in both the 108th and 109th Congresses. We passed it, in fact, a couple of times in each Congress. And this medical liability reform, H.R. 5, that we passed in this Congress in my first months here, in March of 2003, was legislation that put a cap on noneconomic damages in medical liability lawsuits. Modeled after the 1975 Medical Injury Compensation Reform Act from California, this legislation was scored by the Congressional Budget Office as a savings of $15 billion over 5 years back in 2003 when this was first proposed by Congressman Greenwood of Pennsylvania. A savings, Mr. Speaker, and we held many hours to spend looking for savings that the Congressional Budget Office would allow us to credit against additional spending. Well, here was savings that we essentially just walked away from.

Now, in my home State of Texas, we passed a medical liability reform in 2003 for the State of Texas that has been enormously effective in keeping physicians in the State. Previously, physicians were leaving the State. Keeping insurance companies providing the coverage in state. We had gone from 17 insurers down to two the year I first ran for Congress in 2002. And now we are back up to 13 and 14. And, most importantly, those insurance companies that stayed and those that have come back to the State have done so without increasing their rates. And over all, Texas Medical Liability Trust, my last insurer of record before I left my practice at the end of 2002, has dropped their premiums for their medical liability insurance by 22 percent since this law was passed in September of 2003. And mind you Texas Medical Liability Trust in the State of Texas was increasing my premiums by 20 to 50 percent each year for the 3 years preceding 2003. So a real victory as far as providing some relief in medical liability premiums.

The real beneficiary of this law when it passed has been the smaller or the midsize community not-for-profit hospital, and these hospitals, largely self-insured, have now found millions of dollars that have come back to their bottom line that they are able to use to reinvest in capital expansion, to pay nurses' salaries, exactly the type of thing that you want your smaller community not-for-profit hospital to be doing.

So this is important legislation that passed in Texas. I have drafted legislation that essentially copies the Texas law. The Texas law was a little different from what we passed in this House that never got through the other body. The cap on noneconomic damages in the House-passed bill, H.R. 5 in 2003, was a $250,000 cap on noneconomic damages. The Texas plan actually trifurcates the cap. There is a $250,000 cap on noneconomic damages in regards to the physician, a $250,000 cap for noneconomic damages for the hospital, and an additional $250,000 cap for a second hospital or a nursing home if one is involved. So basing off the Texas plan, I think, could give us at least room for discussion about how we might provide some stability, some fairness in our medical justice system in this country.

□ 2230

Other things that we have talked about in our committee, we have had hearings on concepts like arbitration and mediation, the concept of an early offer, where a medical entity, be it a doctor or hospital, could make an early offer to an injured party or a family that would put the reimbursement or the cash in the hands of the person who is injured much more quickly. The current system that we have doesn't do a good job of delivering dollars to people who are injured. And the time it takes, average 8 years time, between the injury and the time of any payment or any settlement is further injury to the person who has already suffered something.

Now, we do need to look at how we structure reporting to the National Practitioner Data Bank if we were to have the concept of an early offer. But again, it's something we talked about and had testimony about in our Subcommittee on Health and I think is something that is worthwhile for us to consider.

One of the other things that I just want to bring up because it is so important, we passed the Deficit Reduction Act in December of 2005. A lot of stuff has been written about the Deficit Reduction Act, but one of the little noticed things about the Deficit Reduction Act was it did allow of State Governors a good deal more flexibility to do things within their State if they thought they had a plan that would provide more people with insurance coverage. And of course the prototype is the Massachusetts plan that has been talked about so much. And I recognize that there are plenty of things that you can talk about in Massachusetts that would not extrapolate to my home State of Texas, but still it is a significant feat where a Republican Governor working with a Democratic legislature and State senate could get this legislation through. Now, the proof is going to be in July, when the program actually takes effect and we will see how well it works. But you have also seen California and Governor Schwarzenegger talk about providing a similar sort of plan in his State. Jeb Bush, before he left office in the State of Florida, had additionally a plan for covering more people and providing people more coverage with the dollars that were being spent under the State's Medicare program; again, all because of the flexibility that was brought by the Deficit Reduction Act.

We recently saw in Illinois where a bold attempt at universal coverage did not pass the State legislature. And there I think the issue was largely because of the gross receipts tax and not so much the health care aspects. But nevertheless, many States are tentatively trying to see if there may be some system that works better in their State. Again, the one-size-fits-all philosophy may not be in the best interest of every citizen in every State.

The States taking the lead in crafting new approaches I think are reasonable attempts, and I think these are attempts that should be encouraged by this Congress and not discouraged by this Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I realize that the information that I've been talking about tonight, some of it is technical and complex, some of it is confusing, there are some topics that some people do not even want to think about, but we are in a debate this year, next year, the year after that will forever change how health care is delivered in this country. The decisions we make in this body over the next 12 months, 36 months time are going to affect the health care of our children, of our children's children. And it is important to talk about it, it is important to debate it and it is important to get it right. We must understand the things that are working in our system and the things that are not. Fix the things that are not, and encourage the things that are working.

The only way, I believe, is to keep the public private partnership that has developed in this country since the end of the Second World War, to keep that working for providing health care for the American people; plenty of places where it can be improved, and we are obligated to work on those improvements. But to simply scuttle the system because someone thinks they have a different idea, well, we saw what happened back in 1993, the enormous upheaval that happened in this country

where people really got concerned about whether or not their doctor would be there and able to see them if they got sick. We want to reassure the American people that, indeed, their doctor will be there, their hospital will be there. And keep the thriving private sector, keep the growing public sector and allow that creative tension that exists between the two to expand coverage for more Americans, and most importantly, so that we keep it affordable for our children, our children's children and into the future.

Mr. Speaker, it has been a long day. Many of us traveled today. And I appreciate your indulgence. I am going to yield back whatever time is remaining.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. CARNEY (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today.

Mr. ENGEL (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today and the balance of the week on account of a family medical emergency.

Mr. GUTIERREZ (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today and until 3:00 p.m. May 15.

Mr. CULBERSON (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of personal business.

Mr. WHITFIELD (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of attending a funeral.

Mr. CRENSHAW (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of business in his district.

Mr. WAMP (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of family health reasons.

Mr. EVERETT (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of business in his district.

Mr. PITTS (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today and May 15 on account of attending a funeral.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. SOLIS) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. EMANUEL, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WELCH of Vermont, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. SOLIS, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. MCCAUL of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FORTENBERRY, for 5 minutes, May 15.

Mr. POE, for 5 minutes, May 21.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today and May 15, 16, 17, and 18.

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. BLACKBURN, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 34 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, May 15, 2007, at 9 a.m., for morning-hour debate.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for speaker-authorized official travel during the fourth quarter of 2006 and the first quarter of 2007, pursuant to Public Law 95–384 are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, CINDY M. BUHL, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN MAR. 2 AND MAR. 5, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. James P. McGovern (MA–3)	3/2	3/5	Colombia	1,845,600	828.00		1,590.00			1,845,600	$2,418.00
Committee total											

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

CINDY M. BUHL, Mar. 22, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, HON. FRANK R. WOLF, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN MAR. 29 AND APR. 4, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Frank Wolf		3/29	USA				9,176				
	3/30	4/1	Syria		500						
	4/1	4/1	Jordan [3]								
	4/1	4/3	Israel		794						
	4/4		USA								
Committee total					1,294		9,176				10,470

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
[3] Pass through.
NOTE: Airline ticket price includes flight from Syria to Istanbul that was changed and then Istanbul to Israel.

FRANK R. WOLF.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DANIEL F. SCANDLING, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN MAR. 29 AND APR. 4, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Daniel Scandling		3/29	USA				9,176				
	3/30	4/1	Syria		500						
	4/1	4/1	Jordan [3]								
	4/1	4/3	Israel		794						
	4/4		USA								
Committee total					1,294		9,176				10,470

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
[3] Pass through.
NOTE: Airline ticket price includes flight from Syria to Istanbul that was changed and then Instansbul to Israel.

DANIEL SCANDLING, Apr. 23, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 14 AND APR. 16, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Yvette D. Clarke	4/14	4/15	Grenada								842.16
	4/15	4/16	Trinidad								
Committee total											842.16

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

YVETTE D. CLARKE, Apr. 30, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO NATO PARLIAMENTARIAN ASSEMBLY WINTER MEETING IN BRUSSELS, BELGIUM, FOLLOWED BY ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT (OECD) MEETING IN PARIS, FRANCE; AND BILATERAL MEETING IN ROME, ITALY AND RAMSTEIN AIR FORCE BASE, GERMANY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN FEB. 17 AND FEB. 25, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. John Tanner	2/17	2/20	Belgium		1,671.06		(3)				4,129.05
	2/20	2/22	France		1,069.03						
	2/22	2/24	Italy		1,172.96						
	2/24	2/25	Germany		216.00						
Hon. Melissa Bean	2/17	2/20	Belgium		1,671.06		(3)				4,129.05
	2/20	2/22	France		1,069.03						
	2/22	2/24	Italy		1,172.96						
	2/24	2/25	Germany		216.00						
Hon. John Boozman	2/17	2/20	Belgium		1,671.06		(3)				4,129.05
	2/20	2/22	France		1,069.03						
	2/22	2/24	Italy		1,172.96						
	2/24	2/25	Germany		216.00						
Hon. Ben Chandler	2/17	2/20	Belgium		1,671.06		(3)				4,129.05
	2/20	2/22	France		1,069.03						
	2/22	2/24	Italy		1,172.96						
	2/24	2/25	Germany		216.00						
Hon. Jo Ann Emerson	2/17	2/20	Belgium		1,671.06		(3)				4,129.05
	2/20	2/22	France		1,069.03						
	2/22	2/24	Italy		1,172.96						
	2/24	2/25	Germany		216.00						
Hon. Paul Gillmor	2/17	2/20	Belgium		1,671.06		(3)				4,129.05
	2/20	2/22	France		1,069.03						
	2/22	2/24	Italy		1,172.96						
	2/24	2/25	Germany		216.00						
Hon. Dennis Moore	2/17	2/20	Belgium		1,671.06		(3)				4,129.05
	2/20	2/22	France		1,069.03						
	2/22	2/24	Italy		1,172.96						
	2/24	2/25	Germany		216.00						
Hon. Mike Ross	2/17	2/20	Belgium		1,671.06		(3)				4,129.05
	2/20	2/22	France		1,069.03						
	2/22	2/24	Italy		1,172.96						
	2/24	2/25	Germany		216.00						
Hon. David Scott	2/17	2/20	Belgium		1,671.06		(3)				4,129.05
	2/20	2/22	France		1,069.03						
	2/22	2/24	Italy		1,172.96						
	2/24	2/25	Germany		216.00						
Ms. Melissa Adamson	2/17	2/20	Belgium		1,671.06		(3)				7,190.56
	2/20	2/22	France		1,069.03		2,691.02				
	2/22	2/25	Italy		1,759.45						
Ms. Kathy Becker	2/17	2/20	Belgium		1,671.06		(3)				4,129.05
	2/20	2/22	France		1,069.03						
	2/22	2/24	Italy		1,172.96						
	2/24	2/25	Germany		216.00						
Mr. Lee Cohen	2/16	2/20	Belgium		2,024.08		7,381.12				11,647.19
	2/20	2/22	France		1,069.03						
	2/22	2/24	Italy		1,172.96						
Dr. Paul Gallis	2/16	2/20	Belgium		2,024.08		6,633.12				11,485.68
	2/20	2/22	France		1,069.03						
	2/22	2/24	Italy		1,172.96						
Dr. Kay King	2/16	2/20	Belgium		2,024.08		6,633.12				11,485.68
	2/20	2/22	France		1,069.03						
	2/22	2/25	Italy		1,759.45						
Ms. Susan Olson	2/16	2/20	Belgium		2,024.08		6,633.12				11,485.68
	2/20	2/22	France		1,069.03						
	2/22	2/25	Italy		1,759.45						
Ms. Marilyn Owen	2/16	2/20	Belgium		2,024.08		6,633.12				11,485.68
	2/20	2/22	France		1,069.03						
	2/22	2/25	Italy		1,759.45						
Mr. Mark Wellman	2/16	2/20	Belgium		2,024.08		6,633.12				11,485.68
	2/20	2/22	France		1,069.03						
	2/22	2/25	Italy		1,759.45						

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO NATO PARLIAMENTARIAN ASSEMBLY WINTER MEETING IN BRUSSELS, BELGIUM, FOLLOWED BY ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT (OECD) MEETING IN PARIS, FRANCE; AND BILATERAL MEETING IN ROME, ITALY AND RAMSTEIN AIR FORCE BASE, GERMANY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN FEB. 17 AND FEB. 25, 2007—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Delegation Expenses:											
—Representational Functions									13,283.33		13,283.33
—Miscellaneous									238.00		238.00
Committee total					74,318.91		43,237.74		13,521.33		131,077.98

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
[3] Military air transportation.

JOHN TANNER, Chairman, Mar. 27, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, OSCE PA WINTER MEETING, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN FEB. 20 AND FEB. 25, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Alcee L. Hastings, M.C.		2/19	United States				7,875.50				7,875.50
	2/20	2/24	Austria	Euro	1,390.40						1,390.40
Hon. Mike McIntyre, M.C.		2/20	United States				4,086.39				4,086.39
	2/21	2/24	Austria	Euro	1,042.80						1,042.80
Hon. Hilda Solis, M.C.		2/20	United States				7,991.39				7,991.39
	2/21	2/24	Austria	Euro	1,042.80						1,042.80
Fred L. Turner		2/20	United States				5,246.61				5,246.61
	2/21	2/25	Austria	Euro	1,390.40						1,390.40
Shelly Han		2/20	United States				6,180.39				6,180.39
	2/21	2/24	Austria	Euro	867.80						867.80
Robert Hand		2/20	United States				6,180.39				6,180.39
	2/21	2/24	Austria	Euro	742.80						742.80
Delegation Expenses			Austria					Euro	2,187.48		2,187.48
Committee total					6,477.00		37,560.67		2,187.48		46,225.15

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

ALCEE L. HASTINGS, Apr. 30, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS DELEGATION TO GHANA, WEST AFRICA, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN MAR. 3 AND MAR. 6, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Carolyn C. Kilpatrick	3/3	3/6	Ghana	3,840.500	417.00		(3)				
Hon. G.K. Butterfield											
Hon. Donna Christensen											
Hon. Danny Davis											
Hon. Sheila Jackson-Lee											
Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson											
Hon. Kendrick Meek											
Hon. Gregory Meeks											
Hon. Bobby Rush											
Hon. Stephanie Tubbs-Jones											
Kimberly Rudolph											
Dr. Joe Leonard											
Committee total					5,004.00						

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
[3] Military air transportation.

CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK, Apr. 9, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO JORDAN, IRAQ AND ITALY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN MAR. 2 AND MAR. 5, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Loretta Sanchez	3/2	3/3	Jordan		273.00		(3)				273.00
Hon. Allyson Schwartz	3/2	3/3	Jordan		273.00		(3)				273.00
Hon. Hilda Solis	3/2	3/3	Jordan		273.00		(3)				273.00
Hon. Nancy Boyda	3/2	3/3	Jordan		273.00		(3)				273.00
Hon. Carol Shea-Porter	3/2	3/3	Jordan		273.00		(3)				273.00
Ms. Debra Wada	3/2	3/3	Jordan		273.00		(3)				273.00
Hon. Loretta Sanchez	3/3	3/4	Italy		447.00		(3)				447.00
Hon. Allyson Schwartz	3/3	3/4	Italy		447.00		(3)				447.00
Hon. Hilda Solis	3/3	3/4	Italy		447.00		(3)				447.00
Hon. Nancy Boyda	3/3	3/4	Italy		447.00		(3)				447.00
Hon. Carol Shea-Porter	3/3	3/4	Italy		447.00		(3)				447.00
Ms. Debra Wada	3/3	3/4	Italy		447.00		(3)				447.00
Committee total											4,320.00

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
[3] Military air transportation.

LORETTA SANCHEZ, Mar. 26, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO GREECE, SUDAN, EGYPT AND GERMANY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN MAR. 31 AND APR. 7, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Steny Hoyer	4/1	4/2	Greece		371.00		(3)				371.00
Hon. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen	4/1	4/2	Greece		371.00		(3)				371.00
Hon. Jerry Moran	4/1	4/2	Greece		371.00		(3)				371.00
Hon. Bob Goodlatte	4/1	4/2	Greece		371.00		(3)				371.00
Hon. Ray LaHood	4/1	4/2	Greece		371.00		(3)				371.00
Hon. Barbara Lee	4/1	4/2	Greece		371.00		(3)				371.00
Hon. Jim Costa	4/1	4/2	Greece		371.00		(3)				371.00
Hon. Gregory Meeks	4/1	4/2	Greece		371.00		(3)				371.00
Hon. Brad Miller	4/1	4/2	Greece		371.00		(3)				371.00
Hon. John Barrow	4/1	4/2	Greece		371.00		(3)				371.00
Hon. G.K. Butterfield	4/1	4/2	Greece		371.00		(3)				371.00
Mariah Sixkiller	4/1	4/2	Greece		371.00		(3)				371.00
Yleem Poblete	4/1	4/2	Greece		371.00		(3)				371.00
Sudafi Henry	4/1	4/2	Greece		371.00		(3)				371.00
Hon. Steny Hoyer	4/2	4/4	Sudan		696.00		2,028.00				2,724.00
Hon. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen	4/2	4/4	Sudan		696.00		2,028.00				2,724.00
Hon. Jerry Moran	4/2	4/4	Sudan		696.00		2,028.00				2,724.00
Hon. Bob Goodlatte	4/2	4/4	Sudan		696.00		2,028.00				2,724.00
Hon. Ray LaHood	4/2	4/4	Sudan		696.00		2,028.00				2,724.00
Hon. Barbara Lee	4/2	4/4	Sudan		696.00		2,028.00				2,724.00
Hon. Jim Costa	4/2	4/4	Sudan		696.00		2,028.00				2,724.00
Hon. Gregory Meeks	4/2	4/4	Sudan		696.00		2,028.00				2,724.00
Hon. Brad Miller	4/2	4/4	Sudan		696.00		2,028.00				2,724.00
Hon. John Barrow	4/2	4/4	Sudan		696.00		2,028.00				2,724.00
Hon. G.K. Butterfield	4/2	4/4	Sudan		696.00		2,028.00				2,724.00
Mariah Sixkiller	4/2	4/4	Sudan		696.00		2,028.00				2,724.00
Yleem Poblete	4/2	4/4	Sudan		696.00		2,028.00				2,724.00
Sudafi Henry	4/2	4/4	Sudan		696.00		2,028.00				2,724.00
Hon. Steny Hoyer	4/4	4/6	Egypt		580.00		(3)				580.00
Hon. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen	4/4	4/6	Egypt		580.00		(3)				580.00
Hon. Jerry Moran	4/4	4/6	Egypt		580.00		(3)				580.00
Hon. Bob Goodlatte	4/4	4/6	Egypt		580.00		(3)				580.00
Hon. Ray LaHood	4/4	4/6	Egypt		580.00		(3)				580.00
Hon. Barbara Lee	4/4	4/6	Egypt		580.00		(3)				580.00
Hon. Jim Costa	4/4	4/6	Egypt		580.00		(3)				580.00
Hon. Gregory Meeks	4/4	4/6	Egypt		580.00		(3)				580.00
Hon. Brad Miller	4/4	4/6	Egypt		580.00		(3)				580.00
Hon. John Barrow	4/4	4/6	Egypt		580.00		(3)				580.00
Hon. G.K. Butterfield	4/4	4/6	Egypt		580.00		(3)				580.00
Mariah Sixkiller	4/4	4/6	Egypt		580.00		(3)				580.00
Yleem Poblete	4/4	4/6	Egypt		580.00		(3)				580.00
Sudafi Henry	4/4	4/6	Egypt		580.00		(3)				580.00
Hon. Steny Hoyer	4/6	4/7	Germany		289.00		(3)				289.00
Hon. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen	4/6	4/7	Germany		289.00		(3)				289.00
Hon. Jery Moran	4/6	4/7	Germany		289.00		(3)				289.00
Hon. Bob Goodlatte	4/6	4/7	Germany		289.00		(3)				289.00
Hon. Barbara Lee	4/6	4/7	Germany		289.00		(3)				289.00
Hon. Jim Costa	4/6	4/7	Germany		289.00		(3)				289.00
Hon. Ray LaHood	4/6	4/7	Germany		289.00		(3)				289.00
Hon. Gregory Meeks	4/6	4/7	Germany		289.00		(3)				289.00
Hon. Brad Miller	4/6	4/7	Germany		289.00		(3)				289.00
Hon. John Barrow	4/6	4/7	Germany		289.00		(3)				289.00
Hon. G.K. Butterfield	4/6	4/7	Germany		289.00		(3)				289.00
Mariah Sixkiller	4/6	4/7	Germany		289.00		(3)				289.00
Yleem Poblete	4/6	4/7	Germany		289.00		(3)				289.00
Sudafi Henry	4/6	4/7	Germany		289.00		(3)				289.00
Committee total											$55,496.00

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
[3] Military air transportation.

STENY H. HOYER, Apr. 30, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Clifford Bond		1/16	United States			Dollar	7,513.18				7,513.18
	1/17	1/23	Serbia	Dinar	1,952.00						1,952.00
		3/7	United States			Dollar	6,619.00				6,619.00
	3/8	3/13	Bosnia & Herzegovina	Marka	400.00						400.00
Robert Hand		1/16	United States			Dollar	2,440.18				2,440.18
	1/17	1/23	Serbia	Dinar	1,221.25						1,221.25
Shelly Han		1/20	United States			Dollar	5,180.28				5,180.28
	1/21	1/24	Austria	Euro	897.00						897.00
		3/10	United States			Dollar	9,195.64				9,195.64
	3/11	3/14	Spain	Euro	750.00						750.00
Janice Helwig		1/17	United States			Dollar	5,200.53				5,200.53
	1/18	3/31	Austria	Euro	13,068.26						13,068.26
Committee total					18,288.51		36,148.81				54,437.32

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

ALCEE L. HASTINGS, Apr. 26, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Randy Neugebauer	3/9	3/10	Kuwait		426.00						426.00

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2007—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
	3/10	3/11	Iraq		0.00						0.00
	3/11	3/12	Germany		424.00						424.00
Committee total					850.00						850.00

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

———, Apr. 26, 2007.

(AMENDED) REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Randy Neugebauer	3/9	3/10	Kuwait		155.00						155.00
	3/10	3/11	Iraq		0.00						0.00
	3/11	3/12	Germany		328.00						328.00
Committee total					483.00						483.00

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

———, Apr. 27, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Visit to China, Shanghai, Guam, December 27, 2006–January 3, 2007:											
Hon. Roscoe Bartlett	12/30	1/1	China		302.00						302.00
	1/1	1/2	Shanghai		174.00						174.00
Hon. Thelma Drake	12/30	1/1	China		302.00						302.00
	1/1	1/2	Shanghai		174.00						174.00
Hon. Madeleine Z. Bordallo	12/30	1/1	China		302.00						302.00
	1/1	1/2	Shanghai		174.00						174.00
Hon. Steve Israel	12/30	1/1	China		302.00						302.00
	1/1	1/2	Shanghai		174.00						174.00
Hon. Rick Larsen	12/30	1/1	China		302.00						302.00
	1/1	1/2	Shanghai		174.00						174.00
Ms. Stephanie Sanok	12/30	1/1	China		302.00						302.00
	1/1	1/2	Shanghai		174.00						174.00
Ms. Lynn Williams	12/30	1/1	China		302.00						302.00
	1/1	1/2	Shanghai		174.00						174.00
Mr. William Natter, III	12/30	1/1	China		302.00						302.00
	1/1	1/2	Shanghai		174.00						174.00
Visit to Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Germany With Codel Bayh, January 11–17, 2007:											
Hon. John McHugh	1/12	1/13	Kuwait		146.00						146.00
	1/13	1/13	Iraq		0.00						0.00
	1/13	1/14	Pakistan		126.00						126.00
	1/14	1/14	Afghanistan		0.00						0.00
	1/14	1/17	Germany		328.00						328.00
Ms. Jeanette James	1/12	1/13	Kuwait		146.00						146.00
	1/13	1/13	Iraq		0.00						0.00
	1/13	1/14	Pakistan		126.00						126.00
	1/14	1/14	Afghanistan		0.00						0.00
	1/14	1/17	Germany		328.00						328.00
Visit to Germany, Kosovo With Codel Lieberman; February 8–11, 2007:											
Hon. Ellen Tauscher	2/9	2/11	Germany		364.00						364.00
	2/9	2/9	Kosovo		0.00						0.00
Hon. Mark Udall	2/9	2/11	Germany		364.00						364.00
	2/9	2/9	Kosovo		0.00						0.00
Visit to Iraq, Kuwait, Israel With Codel Kyl, February 16–20, 2007:											
Hon. Gabrielle Giffords	2/17	2/18	Kuwait		19.19						19.19
	2/18	2/18	Iraq		0.00						0.00
	2/18	2/20	Israel		0.00						0.00
Visit to Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Belgium, February 17–22, 2007:											
Hon. Marty Meehan	2/18	2/19	Kuwait		146.00						146.00
	2/19	2/20	Iraq		0.00						0.00
	2/20	2/21	Jordan		273.00						273.00
	2/21	2/22	Belgium		204.00						204.00
Hon. Robert E. Andrews	2/18	2/19	Kuwait		146.00						146.00
	2/19	2/20	Iraq		0.00						0.00
	2/20	2/21	Jordan		273.00						273.00
	2/21	2/22	Belgium		204.00						204.00
Hon. Dave Loebsack	2/18	2/19	Kuwait		146.00						146.00
	2/19	2/20	Iraq		0.00						0.00
	2/20	2/21	Jordan		273.00						273.00
	2/21	2/22	Belgium		204.00						204.00
Hon. W. Todd Akin	2/18	2/19	Kuwait		146.00						146.00
	2/19	2/20	Iraq		0.00						0.00
	2/20	2/21	Jordan		273.00						273.00
	2/21	2/22	Belgium		204.00						204.00
Hon. Michael R. Turner	2/18	2/19	Kuwait		146.00						146.00
	2/19	2/20	Iraq		0.00						0.00
	2/20	2/21	Jordan		273.00						273.00
	2/21	2/22	Belgium		204.00						204.00
Dr. Lorry Fenner	2/18	2/19	Kuwait		146.00						146.00

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2007—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
	2/19	2/20	Iraq		0.00						0.00
	2/20	2/21	Jordan		273.00						273.00
	2/21	2/22	Belgium		204.00						204.00
Ms. Stephanie Sanok	2/18	2/19	Kuwait		146.00						146.00
	2/19	2/20	Iraq		0.00						0.00
	2/20	2/21	Jordan		273.00						273.00
	2/21	2/22	Belgium		204.00						204.00
Delegation Expenses	2/18	2/19	Kuwait				230.10		2,842.57		3,072.67
Visit South Korea, China, India With Staffdel Farkus, February 18–25, 2007:											
Ms. Aileen Alexander	2/19	2/21	Korea		772.00						772.00
	2/21	2/22	China		296.00						296.00
	2/23	2/24	India		536.00						536.00
Visit to Turkey, Kuwait, Iraq, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Germany With Codel Dicks, February 19–26, 2007:											
Hon. Patrick Murphy	2/19	2/20	Turkey		396.00						396.00
	2/20	2/22	Pakistan		340.00						340.00
	2/21	2/21	Afghanistan		0.00						0.00
	2/22	2/23	Kuwait		406.00						406.00
	2/23	2/24	Iraq		0.00						0.00
	2/24	2/25	Kuwait		406.00						406.00
	2/25	2/26	Germany		374.00						374.00
Visit to Kuwait With Staffdel Sutey, March 1–5, 2007:											
Ms. Vickie Plunkett	3/2	3/5	Kuwait		91.00						91.00
Commerical airfare							7,603.58				7,603.58
Ms. Lynn Williams	3/2	3/5	Kuwait		267.00						267.00
Commerical airfare							7,623.58				7,623.58
Visit to Iraq, Kuwait, March 8–12, 2007:											
Hon. Dan Boren	3/9	3/10	Kuwait		155.00						155.00
	3/10	3/11	Iraq		0.00						0.00
	3/11	3/12	Germany		328.00						328.00
Hon. Duncan Hunter	3/9	3/10	Kuwait		155.00						155.00
	3/10	3/11	Iraq		0.00						0.00
	3/11	3/12	Germany		328.00						328.00
Hon. Ken Calvert	3/9	3/10	Kuwait		155.00						155.00
	3/10	3/11	Iraq		0.00						0.00
	3/11	3/12	Germany		328.00						328.00
Mr. Robert L. Simmons, II	3/9	3/10	Kuwait		155.00						155.00
	3/10	3/11	Iraq		0.00						0.00
	3/11	3/12	Germany		328.00						328.00
Mr. Jesse Tolleson	3/9	3/10	Kuwait		155.00						155.00
	3/10	3/11	Iraq		0.00						0.00
	3/11	3/12	Germany		328.00						328.00
Committee total					16,415.19		15,457.26		2,842.57		34,715.02

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

IKE SKELTON, Apr. 30, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Paul Ryan	2/18	2/19	Kuwait		146.00		(3)				146.00
	2/19	2/20	Iraq				(3)				0.00
	2/20	2/21	Jordan		273.00		(3)				273.00
	2/21	2/22	Belgium		204.00		(3)				204.00
Committee total					623.00		(3)				623.00

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
[3] Military air transportation.

JOHN M. SPRATT, JR., Apr. 18, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR, HOUSE REPSENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expeditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

GEORGE MILLER, Apr. 17, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Jane Harman MC:											
February 8–11, 2007			Germany								
			Kosovo								

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2007—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
February 18–26, 2007			Israel								
			Turkey								
			Pakistan								
			Afghanistan								
			Kuwait								
			Iraq								
			Germany								
			Qatar								
			Jordan								

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
[3] Per diem and other travel expenses not available. Amended report to follow.

JOHN D. DINGELL, Apr. 30, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 3 AND MAR. 31, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Manpreet Anand	2/17	2/20	India (New Delhi)		1,330.19						1,330.19
	2/20	2/22	Nepal		248.51		180.00				428.51
	2/22	2/24	India (Mumbai)		462.41						462.41
	2/17	2/24					[3] 7,900.26				7,900.26
M. Pope Barrow	2/20	2/24	Kenya		952.00		8,780.35				9,732.35
Michael Beard	2/18	2/21	Russian Federation		543.00						543.00
	2/21	2/23	Denmark		786.00						786.00
	2/23	2/24	Romania		0.00						0.00
	2/24	2/26	Hungary		542.00						542.00
	2/26	2/27	The Netherlands		373.00						373.00
	2/18	2/27					[3] 8,913.19				8,913.19
Hon. Berman	2/9	2/11	Germany, Kosovo		239.00		(4)				239.00
Hon. Boozman	2/21	2/21	Italy				1,346.78				1,346.78
Joan Condon	2/18	2/21	Kenya		976.00						976.00
	2/21	2/24	Ethiopia		900.00						900.00
	2/18	2/24					[3] 8,819.16				8,819.16
Hon. Chabot	2/18	2/20	The Philippines		448.00						448.00
	2/20	2/21	Taiwan		262.00						262.00
	2/21	2/23	Bangladesh		333.00						333.00
	2/18	2/23					[3] 8,642.58				8,642.58
Hon. Faleomavaega	2/19	2/21	Fiji		255.00						255.00
	2/21	2/23	Tonga		610.00						610.00
	2/23	2/23	Samoa		285.00						285.00
	2/19	2/23					[3] 5,031.05				5,031.05
David Fite	2/17	2/20	India (New Delhi)		1,363.00						1,363.00
	2/20	2/22	Nepal		314.00		180.00				494.00
	2/22	2/24	India (Mumbai)		722.00						722.00
	2/17	2/24					[3] 7,900.26				7,900.26
Kirsti Garlock	2/18	2/24	Thailand		1,302.00		8,154.37				9,456.37
Hon. Jackson-Lee	2/19	2/22	Venezuela		975.00		4,341.08		[5] 480.00		5,796.08
Eric Jacobstein	3/16	3/19	Guatemala		588.00		2,008.20				2,596.20
Eric Johnson	1/14	1/16	Belgium		789.94		5,461.42				6,251.36
	2/18	2/21	Germany		1,284.00		6,507.15				7,791.15
Jonathan Katz	1/14	1/16	Belgium		789.94		5,461.42				6,251.36
	2/18	2/21	Germany		1,284.00		6,527.15				7,811.15
Hon. Lantos	2/18	2/21	Russian Federation		543.00						543.00
	2/21	2/23	Denmark		786.00						786.00
	2/23	2/24	Romania		142.00						142.00
	2/24	2/26	Hungary		250.00						250.00
	2/26	2/27	The Netherlands		199.00						199.00
	2/18	2/27					[3] 8,773.46				8,773.46
John Mackey	2/18	2/21	Peru		714.00						714.00
	2/21	2/22	Argentina		220.00						220.00
	2/18	2/22					[3] 7,044.70				7,044.70
Pearl-Alice Marsh	2/18	2/19	United Kingdom								0
	2/19	2/21	Kenya		931.00						931.00
	2/21	2/25	Ethiopia		837.00						837.00
	2/18	2/25					[3] 9,153.76				9,153.76
James McCormick	2/17	2/20	India		1,458.00						1,458.00
	2/20	2/22	Nepal		314.00		180.00				494.00
	2/22	2/24	Thailand		436.00						436.00
	2/17	2/24					[3] 8,351.13				8,351.13
Francis Miko	2/22	2/24	Haiti		460.00		1,361.20				1,821.20
Sheri Rickert	2/19	2/20	Italy		437.00						437.00
	2/20	2/22	Nigeria (Abuja)		354.00						354.00
	2/22	2/24	Nigeria (Lagos)		715.00		89.00				804.00
	2/19	2/24					[3] 9,755.47				9,755.47
Robin Roizman	2/18	2/21	Peru		607.00						607.00
	2/21	2/23	El Salvador		282.00				[5] 255.00		537.00
	2/18	2/23					[3] 2,393.20				2,393.20
Doug Seay	2/17	2/20	India (New Delhi)		1,358.00						1,358.00
	2/20	2/22	Nepal		289.00		180.00				469.00
	2/22	2/24	India (Mumbai)		722.00						722.00
	2/17	2/24					[3] 10,236.26				10,236.26
Hon. Smith	2/19	2/20	Italy		437.00						437.00
	2/20	2/22	Nigeria (Abuja)		354.00						354.00
	2/22	2/24	Nigeria (Lagos)		715.00		89.00				804.00
	2/19	2/24					[3] 9,755.47				9,755.47
Jason Steinbaum	2/21	2/23	El Salvador		382.00		2,284.20				2,666.20
Mark Walker	2/18	2/21	Peru		714.00						714.00
	2/21	2/23	El Salvador		382.00						382.00
	2/18	2/23					[3] 3,518.20				3,518.20
Lynne Weil	2/18	2/21	Peru		612.00						612.00
	2/21	2/23	El Salvador		292.00						292.00
	2/18	2/23					[3] 3,518.20				3,518.20
Kristen Wells	2/18	2/24	Thailand		1,302.00		9,154.85		[5] 4,681.01		15,137.86
Hon. Wexler	1/14	1/16	Belgium		789.94		6,855.61				7,645.55
	2/19	2/20	Germany		428.00		6,507.15				6,935.15

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 3 AND MAR. 31, 2007—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Committee total					37,418.93		195,355.28		5,416.01		238,190.22

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
[3] Round trip airfare.
[4] Military air transportation.
[5] Indicated delegation costs.

TOM LANTOS, Apr. 27, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Christopher Carney	2/20	2/20	Turkey		303.00		(3)				303.00
	2/21	2/22	Pakistan		287.00		(3)				287.00
	2/22	2/25	Kuwait		292.00		(3)				292.00
	2/25	2/26	Germany		278.00		(3)				278.00
Hon. Dave Reichert	2/9	2/11	Germany		856.32		(3)				856.32
	2/29	2/9	Kosovo		0		(3)				0
Committee total					2,016.32						2,016.32

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
[3] Military air transportation.

BENNIE G. THOMPSON, Apr. 30, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Bobby Vassar	2/17	2/25	Thailand		1,302.00		9,174.85				10,476.85
Keenan Keller	2/22	2/24	Haiti		460.00		1,366.20				18,262.00
Committee total					1,762.00		10,541.05				28,738.85

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

JOHN CONYERS, Jr., Apr. 30, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Stevan Pearch	2/17	2/18	Kuwait		146.00						146.00
	2/18	2/20	Israel		334.00						334.00
Committee total					480.00						480.00

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

NICK J. RAHALL II, Apr. 27, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 30, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HENRY A. WAXMAN, Apr. 26, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON RULES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. James P. McGovern	3/31	4/3	Ethiopia	1,007.76 Bur	114.00					1,007.76 Bur	114.00
					1,086.00						1,086.00
	4/03	4/04	Kenya	19840 Shilling	300.83					19,840 Shilling	300.83
	4/04	4/05	Ethiopia		160.00						160.00

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON RULES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2007—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
	4/05	4/07	Chad	191,590 CFA	391.00					191,590 CFA	391.00
	3/30	4/08					[3] 11.567.94				11.567.94
Miles Lackey	3/31	4/03	Ethiopia	1,007.76 Bur	114.00					1,007.76 Bur	114.00
					1,086.00						1,086.00
	4/03	4/04	Kenya	19,840 Shilling	300.83					19,840 Shilling	300.83
	4/04	4/05	Ethiopia		160.00						160.00
	4/05	4/07	Chad	191,590 CFA	391.00					191,590 CFA	391.00
	3/30	4/08					[3] 11,567.94				11,567.94
Cindy Buhl	3/31	4/03	Ethiopia	1,007,76 Bur	114.00					1,007.76 Bur	114.00
					1,086.00						1,086.00
	4/03	4/04	Kenya	19,840 Shilling	300.83					19,840 Shilling	300.83
	4/04	4/05	Ethiopia		160.00						160.00
	4/05	4/07	Chad		391.00						391.00
	3/03	4/08					[3] 11,547.94				11,547.54
Hon. James P. McGovern	3/02	3/05	Colombia		828.00						
							[3] 2,418.00				2,418.00
Hon. Phil Gingrey	12/30	1/01	China		302.00						
	1/01	1/02	Shanghai		174.00						
Committee total					7,459.49		37,121.82				44,581.31

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used enter amount expended.
[3] Round trip air fare.

LOUISE M. SLAUGHTER, Apr. 30, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]

HOUSE COMMITTEES
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

BART GORDON, Apr. 9, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Ken Kellner	1/23	1/27	Belize		312.00		1,431.20		150.00		1,893.20
Committee total					1,893.20						

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
[3] All funding for this trip was provided by the Department of State Bureau of International Information Programs.

STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES, Apr. 20, 2007

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]

HOUSE COMMITTEES
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

JIM OBERSTAR, Apr. 27, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]

HOUSE COMMITTEES
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

BOB FILNER, Apr. 17, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND APR. 30, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
HOUSE COMMITTEES											
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒											

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

CHARLES B. RANGEL, Apr. 30, 2007

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2006

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Heather Wilson	12/28	12/31	Middle East		812.00						
Commercial airfare							8,143.85				8,955.85
Hon. Rick Renzi	12/28	12/31	Middle East		812.00						
Commercial airfare							8,143.85				8,955.85
Kathleen Reilly	12/28	12/31	Middle East		812.00						
Commercial airfare							8,143.85				8,955.85
Frank Garcia	12/28	12/31	Middle East		812.00						
Commercial airfare							8,143.85				8,955.85
Hon. Michael Rogers	11/27	11/28	Europe		530.00						
	11/29	12/3	Europe		1,210.00						
							9,887.94				11,627.94
Fred Fleitz	11/27	11/28	Europe		530.00						
	11/29	12/3	Europe		1,210.00						
Commercial airfare							9,887.94				11,627.94
Hon. Peter Hoekstra	12/12	12/13	Europe		308.00						
	12/13	12/15	Europe		1,060.00						
Commercial airfare							8,031.76				9,399.76
Michael Meermans	12/12	13/13	Europe		308.00						
	12/13	12/15	Europe		1,060.00						
Commercial airfare							8,804.25				10,172.25
Hon. Darrell Issa	12/13	12/15	Europe		1,060.00						
Commercial airfare							10,055.93				11,115.93
Hon. Peter Hoekstra	11/27	11/28	Europe		558.46						
	11/28	12/2	Europe		1,156.00						
Commercial airfare							8,385.12				10,099.58
Hon. Darrell Issa	11/28	12/2	Europe		1,156.00						
Commercial airfare							8,343.12				9,499.12
James Lewis	11/28	12/2	Europe		1,156.00						
Commercial airfare							8,343.12				9,499.12
	12/18	12/19	Europe		530.00						
	12/19	12/20	Europe		390.00						
	12/21	12/23	Middle East		470.00						
							6,788.13				8,178.13
Jody Houck	12/18	12/19	Europe		530.00						
	12/19	12/20	Europe		390.00						
	12/21	12/23	Middle East		470.00						
Commercial airfare							6,788.13				8,178.13
Jacob Abel	12/18	12/19	Europe		530.00						
	12/19	12/20	Europe		390.00						
	12/21	12/23	Middle East		470.00						
Commercial airfare							6,788.13				8,178.13

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1703. A letter from the Under Secretary, Research, Education and Economics, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Small Business Innovation Research Grants Program (RIN: 0524-AA31) received May 2, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1704. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's report on the Critical Skills Retention Bonus (CSRB) program, pursuant to 37 U.S.C. 323 (h) Public Law 106-398, section 633 (a); to the Committee on Armed Services.

1705. A letter from the Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Joseph R. Inge, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

1706. A letter from the Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a report to Congress on the use of Aviation Continuation Pay (ACP) for Fiscal Year 2006, pursuant to 37 U.S.C. 301b(i); to the Committee on Armed Services.

1707. A letter from the Chairman, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting The Board's report pursuant to Section 837 of the Transportation, Treasury, Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act of 2006; to the Committee on Financial Services.

1708. A letter from the Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Final Flood Elevation Determinations — received April 23, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

1709. A letter from the Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations — received April 23, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

1710. A letter from the Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations — received April 23, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

1711. A letter from the Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations [Docket No. FEMA-B-7712] received April 23, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

1712. A letter from the General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's first annual Homeless Assessment Report; to the Committee on Financial Services.

1713. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to Ghana pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

1714. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final rule — Title 1-Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged; Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)-

Assistance to States for the Education of Children With Disabilities (RIN: 1810-AA98) received May 2, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

1715. A letter from the Chairman, National Endowment for the Arts, National Foundation on the Arts & the Humanities, transmitting the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities' thirty-first annual report on the Arts and Artifacts Indemnity Program for Fiscal Year 2006, pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 959(c); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

1716. A letter from the Interim Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule — Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans; Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Valuing and Paying Benefits — received May 2, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

1717. A letter from the Acting Chief Financial Officer, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's operating plan for fiscal year 2007, pursuant to Public Law 110-5, section 113; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1718. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Mgmt. Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Blood Vessels Recovered With Organs and Intended for Use in Organ Transplantation [Docket No. 2006N-0051] (RIN: 0910-AF65) received April 23, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1719. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Mgmt. Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Blood Vessels Recovered With Organs and Intended for Use in Organ Transplantation [Docket No. 2006N-0051] received April 23, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1720. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Mgmt. Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Dandruff, Seborrheic Dermatitis, and Psoriasis Drug Products Containing Coal Tar and Menthol for Over-the-Counter Human Use; Amendment to the Monograph [Docket No. 2005N-0448] (RIN: 0910-AF49) received April 23, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1721. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Anthropomorphic Test Devices; SID-IIs Side Impact Crash Test Dummy 5th Percentile Adult Female [Docket No. NHTSA 25442] (RIN: 2127-AJ16) received April 23, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1722. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Source-Specific Federal Implementation Plan for Four Corners Power Plant; Navajo Nation [EPA-R09-OAR-2006-0184; FRL-8308-6] (RIN: 2009 AA01) received May 3, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1723. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Revisions to the Nevada State Implementation Plan, Washoe County [EPA-R09-OAR-2006-0677a FRL-8303-2] received May 3, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1724. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Revisions to the Arizona State Implementation Plan, Maricopa County Environmental Services Department [EPA-R09-OAR-2006-0827; FRL-8302-9] received May 3, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1725. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of State Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants; States of Iowa, Kansas, and Missouri [EPA-R07-OAR-2007-0258; FRL-8310-8] received May 3, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1726. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; West Virginia; Redesignation of the Parkersburg, West Virginia Portion of the Parkersburg-Marietta, WV-OH 8-Hour Ozone Nonattainment Area to Attainment and Approval of the Maintenance Plan [EPA-R03-OAR-2006-0817; FRL-8309-9] received May 3, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1727. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Missouri [EPA-R07-OAR-2007-0095; FRL-8309-3] received May 3, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1728. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Revisions to the Nevada State Implementation Plan; Visible Emissions and Particulate Matter Rules [EPA-R09-OAR-2006-0635; FRL-8308-2] received May 3, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1729. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Missouri; Interstate Transport of Pollution [EPA-R07-OAR-2007-0249; FRL 8310-6] received May 3, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1730. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans and Designation of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes: California [EPA-R09-OAR-2007-0101; FRL-8308-4] received May 3, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1731. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Ambient Air Monitoring Regulations: Correcting and Other Amendments [EPA-HQ-OAR-2004-0018; FRL-8308-7] (RIN: 2060-AO06) received May 3, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1732. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Delegation of National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Source Categories; State of Arizona, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality; State of Nevada, Nevada Division of Environmental Protection [EPA-R09-OAR-2007-0322; FRL 8309-7] received May 3, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1733. A letter from the Executive Director, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — annual update of Commission filing fees. [Docket No. RM07-12] received April 27, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1734. A letter from the Secretary of the Commission, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Test Procedures and Labeling Standards for Recycled Oil — received April 23, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1735. A letter from the Office Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Relief from Fingerprinting and Criminal History Records Checks (RIN: AI04) received April 17, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1736. A letter from the Deputy Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, Transmittal No. 07-14, concerning the Department of the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to France for defense articles and services, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(a); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1737. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, Transmittal No. 07-18, concerning the Department of the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to Turkey for defense articles and services, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(a); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1738. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a copy of the Department's ''Country Reports on Terrorism: 2006,'' pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2656f; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1739. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report pursuant to Section 804 of the PLO Commitments Compliance Act of 1989 (title VIII, Foreign Relations Authorization Act, FY 1990 and 1991 (Pub. L. 101-246), and Sections 603-604 (Middle East Peace Commitments Act of 2002) and 699 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, FY 2003 (Pub. L. 107-228), including a copy of Presidential Determination No. 2007-12 on the Implementation of Sections 603 and 604 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2003; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1740. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report concerning methods employed by the Government of Cuba to comply with the United States-Cuba September 1994 ''Joint Communique'' and the treatment by the Government of Cuba of persons returned to Cuba in accordance with the United States-Cuba May 1995 ''Joint Statement,'' together known as the Migration Accords, pursuant to Public Law 105-277, section 2245; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1741. A letter from the Architect of the Capitol, transmitting a written statement in response to the Government Accountability Office report, ''Architect of the Capitol: Committed, Sustained, Leadership Needed to Continue Progress,'' pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 720; to the Committee on House Administration.

1742. A letter from the Inspector General, U.S. House of Representatives, transmitting the final report on the post-implementation audit of HR-Paylinks; to the Committee on House Administration.

1743. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designation of Critical Habitat for Cirsium hydrophilum var. hydrophilum (Suisun thistle) and Cordylanthus mollis ssp. mollis (soft bird's-beak) (RIN: 1018-AU44) received April 13, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1744. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, transmitting a copy of draft legislation entitled, ''To provide for the use and distribution of the funds awarded to the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, et al., by the United States Court of Federal Claims in Docket Nos. 19 and 188, and for other purposes''; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1745. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — List of Fisheries for 2007 [Docket No. 061106290-7059-02, I.D. 101706C] (RIN: 0648-AV01) received April 23, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1746. A letter from the Administrator, General Services Administration, transmitting a report and recomendation concerning the claim of Mr. Patrick Truver, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3702(d); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

1747. A letter from the Director, Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, transmitting the annual report on applications for court orders made to federal and state courts to permit the interception of wire, oral, or electronic communications during calendar year 2006, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 2519(3); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

1748. A letter from the Director, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, transmitting the second annual report to Congress on victims' rights, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 3771; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

1749. A letter from the Director, Federal Judicial Center, transmitting the Federal Judicial Center's Annual Report for the 2006 calendar year, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 623(b); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

1750. A letter from the Deputy General Counsel, Small Business Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Liquidation and Debt Collection (RIN: 3245-AE83) received April 27, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Small Business.

1751. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Limitations on Benefits and Contributions Under Qualified Plans [TD 9319] (RIN: 1545-BD52) received April 10, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

[Filed on May 11, 2007]

Mr. SKELTON: Committee on Armed Services. H.R. 1585. A bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2008, and for other purposes; with amendments (Rept. 110–146). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

[Filed on May 14, 2007]

Mr. SKELTON: Committee on Armed Services. Supplemental report on H.R. 1585. A bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2008, and for other purposes (Rept. 110–146 Pt. 2). Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed.

Mr. OBERSTAR: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 1773. A bill to limit the authority of the Secretary of Transportation to grant authority to motor carriers domiciled in Mexico to operate beyond United States municipalities and commercial zones on the United States-Mexico border; with an amendment (Rept. 110–147). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. CONYERS: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 916. A bill to provide for loan repayment for prosecutors and public defenders; with an amendment (Rept. 110–148). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. CONYERS: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 1615. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide penalties for aiming laser pointers at airplanes, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 110–149). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. CONYERS: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 1700. A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to enhance the COPS ON THE BEAT grant program, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 110–150). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. YARMUTH (for himself, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. BOYD of Florida, Mr. CHANDLER, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. BONNER, Mr. REGULA, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. ALTMIRE, and Ms. HIRONO):

H.R. 2289. A bill to establish an adolescent literacy program; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. SCHIFF (for himself, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, Ms. CARSON, Mr. GOODLATTE, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. ISSA, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. MCCAUL of Texas, and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi):

H.R. 2290. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to better assure cyber-security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PEARCE (for himself, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. SAXTON, Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. FEENEY, and Mr. KLINE of Minnesota):

H.R. 2291. A bill to grant immunity from civil liability to any person who voluntarily notifies appropriate security personnel of suspicious activity believed to threaten transportation safety or security or takes reasonable action to mitigate such activity; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HALL of New York (for himself, Mr. SPACE, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. WALZ of Minnesota, Ms. HOOLEY, Ms. BEAN, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. HARE, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. MAHONEY of Florida, Mr. ALTMIRE, and Mr. KAGEN):

H.R. 2292. A bill to prohibit the payment of bonuses to certain officers of the Department of Veterans Affairs unless fewer than 100,000 disability compensation claims are pending before the Department; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ACKERMAN (for himself, Mr. PENCE, and Mr. LANTOS):

H.R. 2293. A bill to require the Secretary of State to submit to Congress a report on efforts to bring to justice the Palestinian terrorists who killed John Branchizio, Mark Parson, and John Marin Linde; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida:

H.R. 2294. A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to revise the definition of ''violent offender'' for the purpose of participation in drug courts; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ENGEL (for himself, Mr. TERRY, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. UPTON, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. RUSH, Mr. FOSSELLA, Mr. WYNN, Mrs. BONO, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. FERGUSON, Mrs. CAPPS, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. ALLEN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. SOLIS, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. INSLEE, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. ROSS, Mr. WEINER, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. BARROW, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. MCCRERY, Mr. STARK, Mr. GOODE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. ROTHMAN, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. EMANUEL, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. HIGGINS, Ms. FALLIN, Mr. COHEN, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. PATRICK MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. EHLERS, Mr. MCNULTY, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. NADLER, Ms. CARSON, Mr. OLVER, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. KANJORSKI, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. MURTHA, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. CAPUANO, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. SIRES, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. BOSWELL, and Mr. KIND):

H.R. 2295. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment of an Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Registry; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GERLACH:

H.R. 2296. A bill to reduce the Nation's oil dependence and enhance the Nation's ability to produce alternative fuels; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. GIFFORDS (for herself and Mr. RENZI):

H.R. 2297. A bill to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Arizona

National Scenic Trail; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. GORDON (for himself, Mr. COOPER, and Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California):

H.R. 2298. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make geothermal heat pump systems eligible for the energy credit; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HELLER (for himself, Ms. BERKLEY, and Mr. PORTER):

H.R. 2299. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the City of Henderson, Nevada, certain Federal land located in the City, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois (for himself, Mr. RUSH, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. EMANUEL, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. BEAN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. KIRK, Mr. WELLER, Mr. COSTELLO, Mrs. BIGGERT, Mr. HASTERT, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. HARE, Mr. LAHOOD, and Mr. SHIMKUS):

H.R. 2300. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 127 East Locust Street in Fairbury, Illinois, as the ''Dr. Francis Townsend Post Office Building''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. KING of Iowa:

H.R. 2301. A bill to establish a Livestock Identification Board to create and implement a national livestock identification system; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. KING of Iowa (for himself, Mr. AKIN, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mrs. MUSGRAVE, Mr. PENCE, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. MACK, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. TERRY, and Mr. WESTMORELAND):

H.R. 2302. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a deduction for premiums for high deductible health plans required with respect to health savings accounts; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KING of New York (for himself, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. SOUDER, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. WALSH of New York, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. KUHL of New York, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. EMANUEL, Mr. HALL of New York, Mr. FOSSELLA, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. MCCOTTER, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. WOLF, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. WICKER, Mr. MCNULTY, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. HOLT, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Ms. FALLIN, Mr. FEENEY, Mr. SESTAK, Mr. PAUL, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, and Mr. WAMP):

H.R. 2303. A bill to provide for the issuance of a ''forever stamp'' to honor the sacrifices of the brave men and women of the armed forces who have been awarded the Purple Heart; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. MCNERNEY (for himself, Mr. GORDON, and Mr. LAMPSON):

H.R. 2304. A bill to direct the Secretary of Energy to conduct a program of research, development, demonstration, and commercial application for geothermal energy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science and Technology.

By Mr. NUNES (for himself and Mr. THOMPSON of California):

H.R. 2305. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a five-year applicable recovery period for depreciation of qualified energy management devices; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota:

H.R. 2306. A bill to provide for the use and distribution of the funds awarded to the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, et al., by the United States Court of Federal Claims in Docket Numbers 18 and 188, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. SCHWARTZ (for herself, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Ms. HIRONO):

H.R. 2307. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide broader and more informed protection to Medicare eligible individuals from abusive marketing practices of Medicare prescription drug plans and MA-PD plans to permit enrollees under Medicare prescription drug plans that have been sanctioned to elect to enroll under other plans; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. TANCREDO:

H.R. 2308. A bill to repeal the amendment made by section 796 of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006, exempting from harboring sanctions compensation for alien volunteers for certain religious organizations; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WESTMORELAND (for himself, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. GINGREY, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. LINDER, Mr. DEAL of Georgia, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. BARROW, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. FALLIN, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. TERRY, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, Mr. PENCE, Ms. FOXX, and Mr. MICA):

H.R. 2309. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3916 Milgen Road in Columbus, Georgia, as the ''Frank G. Lumpkin, Jr. Post Office Building''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico:

H.R. 2310. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to permit certain E-2 nonimmigrant investors to adjust status to lawful permanent resident status; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. LEE (for herself, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. PASCRELL, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. HONDA, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. FORTUÑO, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. WEXLER, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Ms. CARSON, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. HINCHEY, Ms. CLARKE, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. SIRES, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. WYNN, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, and Ms. NORTON):

H. Con. Res. 148. Concurrent resolution recognizing the significance of National Caribbean-American Heritage Month; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. BOUSTANY:

H. Res. 398. A resolution recognizing the long and mutually-beneficial relationship between the United States and France and congratulating France's President-elect Nicolas Sarkozy on his victory in the May 6, 2007, Presidential election; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. FORTENBERRY (for himself, Mr. TERRY, and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska):

H. Res. 399. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Mother's Day; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. MORAN of Kansas (for himself, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, and Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas):

H. Res. 400. A resolution expressing the sympathy of the House of Representatives to the citizens of Greensburg, Kansas, over the devastating tornado of May 4, 2007; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California:

H. Res. 401. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Trails Day; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

Mr. RAMSTAD introduced a bill (H.R. 2311) for the relief of Grace Dufia Gana; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 17: Mr. HALL of Texas and Mr. TURNER.

H.R. 21: Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mr. THOMPSON of California.

H.R. 78: Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee.

H.R. 174: Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts.

H.R. 175: Mr. PALLONE.

H.R. 176: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 180: Mr. LOEBSACK and Ms. ESHOO.

H.R. 278: Mr. LOEBSACK.

H.R. 358: Mr. COHEN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Ms. CARSON, and Mr. NADLER.

H.R. 368: Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. CLAY, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. BUCHANAN, and Mr. LOBIONDO.

H.R. 380: Mr. ALTMIRE and Mr. HALL of New York.

H.R. 464: Mr. DELAHUNT.

H.R. 471: Mr. ELLSWORTH.

H.R. 480: Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, and Mr. GINGREY.

H.R. 522: Mr. VAN HOLLEN.

H.R. 539: Mr. TURNER.

H.R. 552: Mr. MURTHA, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. ARCURI, and Mr. CLAY.

H.R. 555: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.R. 592: Mr. LARSEN of Washington and Mr. MEEKS of New York.

H.R. 610: Mr. TURNER.

H.R. 632: Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida.

H.R. 695: Mr. PALLONE.

H.R. 697: Mr. TANCREDO, Mr. COBLE, and Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas.

H.R. 711: Ms. SHEA-PORTER and Mr. KIND.

H.R. 741: Mr. MEEKS of New York.

H.R. 743: Ms. MATSUI, Mr. PAUL, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, and Mr. BUCHANAN.

H.R. 748: Mrs. JONES of Ohio.

H.R. 772: Ms. SCHWARTZ and Mr. BURGESS.
H.R. 773: Mr. ELLISON.
H.R. 782: Mr. PLATTS and Mr. OLVER.
H.R. 811: Ms. GIFFORDS, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. MARKEY.
H.R. 821: Mr. GERLACH and Mr. CLAY.
H.R. 822: Mr. NADLER.
H.R. 829: Mrs. DAVIS of California.
H.R. 876: Mr. FRANKS of Arizona.
H.R. 882: Mr. DOYLE, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. GILCHREST, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, and Mr. CULBERSON.
H.R. 916: Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. BECERRA, and Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 943: Mr. WOLF.
H.R. 945: Mr. YOUNG of Florida.
H.R. 947: Mr. UDALL of New Mexico.
H.R. 977: Ms. CARSON.
H.R. 1004: Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California.
H.R. 1014: Mr. WALSH of New York, Mr. KUHL of New York, Mr. KANJORSKI, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. MILLER of North Carolina, Mr. FORTENBERRY, and Mr. GRAVES.
H.R. 1031: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 1058: Mr. POE.
H.R. 1076: Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania and Mr. MICHAUD.
H.R. 1078: Mr. ALLEN and Mr. UPTON.
H.R. 1088: Mr. RYAN of Ohio.
H.R. 1110: Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. PITTS, Mr. HONDA, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. MCNULTY, Mr. BACA, and Mr. HINCHEY.
H.R. 1134: Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. KIND, and Ms. BALDWIN.
H.R. 1157: Mr. ELLSWORTH, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. HODES, Mr. SNYDER, Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. MAHONEY of Florida, Mr. CHANDLER, and Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California.
H.R. 1192: Ms. CARSON.
H.R. 1193: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. CLAY, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. WOLF, Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. ALTMIRE, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. BURGESS, and Mr. FILNER.
H.R. 1194: Mr. KAGEN, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. PATRICK MURPHY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. ENGEL.
H.R. 1198: Mr. UPTON, Mr. RAHALL, and Mr. ETHERIDGE.
H.R. 1199: Mr. UDALL of New Mexico.
H.R. 1200: Mr. PAYNE, Mr. BERMAN, and Mr. TIERNEY.
H.R. 1222: Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. Payne, and Mrs. JONES of Ohio.
H.R. 1223: Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. Payne, and Mrs. JONES of Ohio.
H.R. 1225: Mr. MOORE of Kansas, and Mr. SIRES.
H.R. 1230: Mr. CRAMER and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 1237: Mr. PITTS and Mr. YOUNG of Alaska.
H.R. 1246: Mrs. CHRISTENSEN and Ms. KILPATRICK.
H.R. 1252: Mr. SPACE, Mr. CARDOZA, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. ROTHMAN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Ms. SLAUGHTER.
H.R. 1279: Mr. LOEBSACK, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, and Ms. HIRONO.
H.R. 1280: Mr. SHERMAN and Mr. DELAHUNT.
H.R. 1304: Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. GORDON, Mr. FILNER, and Mr. MARSHALL.
H.R. 1314: Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania and Mr. MCCOTTER.
H.R. 1320: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 1344: Mr. RAHALL and Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 1394: Mr. MEEKS of New York.
H.R. 1400: Mr. FARR, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. VISCLOSKY, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. ELLSWORTH, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. MARCHANT, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. JORDAN, Ms. CASTOR, Mr. BOYD of Florida, Mr. BUCHANAN, and Mr. FILNER.
H.R. 1406: Mr. TERRY, and Mr. SOUDER.
H.R. 1410: Ms. CLARKE, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
H.R. 1411: Ms. CLARKE, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
H.R. 1412: Ms. CLARKE, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
H.R. 1413: Mr. PUTNAM.
H.R. 1422: Mr. LOEBSACK and Mr. NUNES.
H.R. 1453: Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California.
H.R. 1474: Mr. WALDEN of Oregon, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mrs. LOWEY, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, MR. WAMP, Mr. GORDON, Mr. ELLSWORTH, Mr. MCNULTY, and Mr. DELAHUNT.
H.R. 1483: Mr. KUCINICH.
H.R. 1497: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 1498: Mr. CHANDLER and Mr. UDALL of New Mexico.
H.R. 1499: Mr. SHAYS.
H.R. 1518: Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, and Mr. TIAHRT.
H.R. 1551: Mr. LIPINSKI.
H.R. 1561: Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota.
H.R. 1567: Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. HINOJOSA, and Mr. LOEBSACK.
H.R. 1576: Mr. MCCOTTER and Mr. WAXMAN.
H.R. 1583: Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. REYNOLDS, MS. SLAUGHTER, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. KUHL of New York, and Mr. MCHUGH.
H.R. 1589: Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. WU, Mr. ROSKAM, and Mr. WALZ of Minnesota.
H.R. 1621: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. COHEN, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut, Mr. WALSH of New York, Mr. WELLER, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H. R. 1640: Mrs. MUSGRAVE.
H.R. 1649: Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, and Mr. WHITFIELD.
H.R. 1653: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 1663: Ms. SUTTON, Mr. WELCH of Vermont, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Mr. PLATTS.
H.R. 1673: Mr. SALI.
H.R. 1683: Mrs. SCHMIDT.
H.R. 1687: Mr. ROTHMAN, Mrs. DAVIS of California, and Mr. CAPUANO.
H.R. 1700: Mr. KAGEN, Mr. FOSSELLA, Mr. HOLT, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. CARNEY, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. BACA, and Ms. LEE.
H.R. 1705: Mr. WALSH of New York and Mr. KIRK.
H.R. 1707: Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. ROTHMAN, Ms. KILPATRICK, and Mr. LOEBSACK.
H.R. 1709: Mr. MARSHALL and Mr. WALSH of New York.
H.R. 1711: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 1713: Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. STARK, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mr. DELAHUNT.
H.R. 1721: Mr. MATHESON and Mr. BUTTERFIELD.
H.R. 1732: Mr. LOEBSACK.
H.R. 1740: Mr. NADLER and Mr. FILNER.
H.R. 1804: Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 1813: Mr. BISHOP of New York and Ms. BEAN.
H.R. 1819: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H.R. 1821: Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, and Mr. DOGGETT.
H.R. 1838: Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. MELANCON, Mr. ROSS, Ms. HARMAN, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida, and Mr. ROYCE.
H.R. 1840: Mr. RAMSTAD, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. PAUL, and Mr. EMANUEL.
H.R. 1866: Mr. GILLMOR, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. WALSH of New York, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. EVERETT, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. BONNER, and Mr. RODRIGUEZ.
H.R. 1871: Mr. PAUL, Mrs. LOWEY, and Mr. MARSHALL.
H.R. 1877: Mr. RAHALL.
H.R. 1892: Mr. MCCOTTER.
H.R. 1907: Mr. CASTLE, Mr. LOBIONDO, and Mr. THOMPSON of California.
H.R. 1909: Mr. ORTIZ and Mr. UDALL of New Mexico.
H.R. 1921: Ms. ESHOO.
H.R. 1924: Mr. HIGGINS.
H.R. 1930: Mr. MCCAUL of Texas and Mrs. DRAKE.
H.R. 1932: Ms. CASTOR.
H.R. 1943: Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Ms. CLARKE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. JEFFERSON, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, and Mr. AL GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 1944: Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. KILDEE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. WALZ of Minnesota, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and Mr. HIGGINS.
H.R. 1961: Mr. LOEBSACK.
H.R. 1967: Mr. PAUL, Mr. BAKER, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. FEENEY, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, and Mr. MAHONEY of Florida.
H.R. 1971: Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas and Mr. NADLER.
H.R. 1985: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 2005: Ms. BALDWIN.
H.R. 2017: Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. CAPUANO, Ms. DELAURO, and Mr. NADLER.
H.R. 2021: Mr. SOUDER, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. NADLER, and Ms. SUTTON.
H.R. 2023: Mr. MCCOTTER.
H.R. 2052: Mr. ENGEL and Mr. HINCHEY.
H.R. 2053: Mr. GILLMOR, Mr. CARDOZA, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. KIRK, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. WELCH of Vermont, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. WAMP, Mr. JINDAL, Mr. BONNER, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. WU, Mr. KUHL of New York, and Mr. MCCAUL of Texas.
H.R. 2060: Ms. NORTON, Mrs. MUSGRAVE, Mr. TIERNEY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. STARK, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. DOOLITTLE, and Mr. FATTAH.
H.R. 2063: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. PITTS, Mr. DELAHUNT, and Mr. WAXMAN.
H.R. 2067: Mr. TIBERI.
H.R. 2091: Mr. JONES of North Carolina.
H.R. 2109: Mrs. MYRICK.
H.R. 2111: Mr. ACKERMAN and Ms. WATSON.
H.R. 2129: Mr. RUSH and Mr. WALSH of New York.
H.R. 2134: Mr. SOUDER, Mr. HENSARLING, and Mr. WOLF.
H.R. 2135: Mr. FORTENBERRY.
H.R. 2138: Mr. BAKER.
H.R. 2147: Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HALL of New York, and Mr. LOEBSACK.
H.R. 2159: Mr. BARROW and Mr. PAUL.
H.R. 2164: Mr. WALZ of Minnesota, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. WU, and Mr. RAMSTAD.
H.R. 2169: Mr. WOLF, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. MATSUI, and Mr. HIGGINS.
H.R. 2192: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. COHEN, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. ALLEN, and Mr. MARSHALL.
H.R. 2199: Mr. HARE, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. ALTMIRE, and Mr. WALSH of New York.

H.R. 2213: Mr. POMEROY.

H.R. 2253: Mr. CULBERSON.

H.R. 2260: Mr. PITTS and Mr. SCOTT of Georgia.

H.R. 2266: Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California and Mr. MCNULTY.

H.R. 2267: Mr. PAUL.

H.J. Res. 9: Mr. SESSIONS, and Mr. HUNTER.

H. Con. Res. 21: Ms. DELAURO, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, and Mr. ROYCE.

H. Con. Res. 70: Mr. CLAY.

H. Con. Res. 120: Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania and Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland.

H. Con. Res. 125: Mr. ROTHMAN and Mr. PAUL.

H. Con. Res. 131: Mr. MCNULTY, Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. SHADEGG, Mr. FORTUÑO, and Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California.

H. Con. Res. 133: Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. DELAHUNT.

H. Con. Res. 137: Mr. SESSIONS.

H. Con. Res. 138: Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.

H. Con. Res. 139: Mr. PASTOR, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina, Mr. WOLF, Mr. PITTS, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, and Mr. ROTHMAN.

H. Con. Res. 144: Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Ms. SUTTON, Ms. KILPATRICK, and Mr. DELAHUNT.

H. Res. 97: Mr. LOEBSACK.

H. Res. 106: Mr. COURTNEY and Mr. UDALL of New Mexico.

H. Res. 111: Mr. GERLACH.

H. Res. 121: Mr. BILBRAY, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, and Mr. BAIRD.

H. Res. 148: Mr. SARBANES.

H. Res. 164: Mr. MCCOTTER.

H. Res. 194: Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California.

H. Res. 227: Mr. HONDA.

H. Res. 241: Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. NADLER, Mr. STARK, Mr. MCNULTY, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H. Res. 257: Mrs. CAPPS, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. SHUSTER, and Mr. THOMPSON of California.

H. Res. 259: Mr. WALSH of New York and Mr. NADLER.

H. Res. 282: Mr. BARROW, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Ms. NORTON, Mr. NADLER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WATERS, and Mr. COOPER.

H. Res. 287: Mr. YOUNG of Alaska.

H. Res. 295: Mr. PUTNAM.

H. Res. 296: Mrs. LOWEY, Ms. GIFFORDS, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. RAHALL, and Mr. ALTMIRE.

H. Res. 309: Mr. ROTHMAN and Mr. MCGOVERN.

H. Res. 335: Ms. SUTTON, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, and Mr. MCNULTY.

H. Res. 351: Mrs. MYRICK and Mrs. DRAKE.

H. Res. 353: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.

H. Res. 378: Mr. HONDA, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. MARSHALL, and Ms. BORDALLO.

H. Res. 385: Mr. ALTMIRE, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. WU, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. HOLT, Mr. REYES, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. CAPUANO, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. HONDA, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. MURTHA, Mr. NADLER, Mr. PATRICK MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. FARR, and Mr. HARE.

H. Res. 397: Mr. BLUNT and Mrs. MUSGRAVE.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

The amendment to be offered by Representative Skelton, or a designee, to H.R. 1585, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008, does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(d), 9(e), or 9(f) of Rule XXI.

AMENDMENTS

Under clause 8 of rule XVIII, proposed amendments were submitted as follows:

H.R. 1427

OFFERED BY: MR. NEUGEBAUER

AMENDMENT NO. 1: Page 128, strike lines 18 through 20 and insert the following: ''amount equal to the lesser of (A) 1.2 basis points for each dollar of the average total mortgage portfolio of the enterprise during the preceding year, (B) the number of basis points for each dollar of the average total mortgage portfolio of the enterprise during the preceding year, which when applied to such average portfolios of both enterprises, results in an aggregate allocation under this paragraph by the enterprises for the year of $520,000,000, or (C) a lesser amount, as determined by the Director, if the Director determines for such year that allocation of the lesser of the amounts under subparagraphs (A) and (B) poses a safety or soundness concern to the enterprise.''.

H.R. 1585

OFFERED BY: MR. TERRY

AMENDMENT NO. 1: Title II, subtitle C, add at the end the following:

SEC. 2___. INCREASED FUNDS FOR X LAB BATTLESPACE LABORATORY.

(a) INCREASE.—The amount in section 201(4), research, development, test, and evaluation, Defense-wide, is hereby increased by $10,000,000, to be available for the X Lab battlespace laboratory, program element 0603175C.

(b) OFFSET.—The amount in section 201(2), research, development, test, and evaluation, Navy, is hereby reduced by $10,000,000, to be derived from Joint Tactical Radio System Navy.

H.R. 1585

OFFERED BY: MR. SKELTON

AMENDMENT NO. 2: In section 122(a), strike ''enter into multiyear contracts, beginning with the fiscal year 2008 program year'' and insert ''enter into a multiyear contract, beginning with the fiscal year 2009 program year''.

In section 301(10), strike the dollar amount and insert ''$5,847,609,000''.

In section 301(11), strike the dollar amount and insert ''$5,042,565,000''.

In section 576, strike subsection (i) and insert the following new subsection:

(i) FUNDING.—Of the amount authorized to be appropriated pursuant to section 301(5) for Defense-wide activities, $3,000,000 shall be available for deposit in the Fund for fiscal year 2008.

In section 944(b)(2) (page 444, lines 13 and 14), strike ''Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)'' and insert ''Director of the Office of Program Analysis and Evaluation''.

In title XIII, add at the end the following new section:

SEC. 1307. CLARIFICATION OF AMOUNTS FOR COOPERATIVE THREAT REDUCTION PROGRAMS.

The amount in section 1302(a)(9), and the corresponding amounts in section 1302(a) (in the matter preceding paragraph (1)) and in section 301(19), are hereby increased by $48,000, all of which is to expand staff capacity, capabilities, and resources necessary for activities related to new Cooperative Threat Reduction initiatives.

In section 1508, add at the end the following new paragraph:

(11) For the Strategic Readiness Fund, $1,000,000,000.

Redesignate section 1517 as section 1518 and insert after section 1516 the following new section (and conform the table of contents accordingly):

SEC. 1517. NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION.

Funds are hereby authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2008 to the Department of Energy for the National Nuclear Security Administration for defense nuclear nonproliferation in the amount of $50,000,000.

In section 2104(a), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), strike the dollar amount and insert ''$5,133,817,000''.

In section 2104(a)(1), strike the dollar amount and insert ''$3,089,400,000''.

In section 2204(a), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), strike the dollar amount and insert ''$2,757,249,000''.

In section 2204(a)(1), strike the dollar amount and insert ''$1,496,532,000''.

In section 2204(a)(2), strike the dollar amount and insert ''$293,858,000''.

In section 2304(a)(1), strike the dollar amount and insert ''$710,173,000''.

In section 2404(a), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), strike the dollar amount and insert ''$10,253,464,000''.

In section 2404(a)(1), strike the dollar amount and insert ''$898,483,000''.

Title XXXI, subtitle A, add at the end the following new section:

SEC. 3105. OTHER ATOMIC ENERGY DEFENSE ACTIVITIES.

Funds are hereby authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Energy for fiscal year 2008 for energy security and assurance programs necessary for national security in the amount of $6,000,000.

Make the following technical amendments:

(1) Page 302, lines 13 to 20, move the margins 2 ems to the right.

(2) Page 332, line 20, insert ''in'' before ''subparagraph (B)''.

(3) Page 478, lines 12 to 15, move the margins 2 ems to the right.

(4) Page 513, line 22, strike ''(I)'' and insert ''(i)''.

(5) Page 514, line 20, strike ''(I)'' and insert ''(i)''.

(6) Page 623, line 19, strike the period and insert a semicolon.

(7) Page 669, line 16, strike ''(I)'' and insert ''(i)''.

(8) Page 734, line 10, strike ''redesignation'' and insert ''redesignating''.