

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CHRIS SWARTWOOD

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 18, 2013*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Chris Swartwood for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Chris Swartwood is a 12th grader at Jefferson County Open School and received this award because of his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Chris Swartwood is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Chris Swartwood for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 18, 2013*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present for several votes taken on the House floor last week as I was directed by my doctor to not fly back from my District. As a result, I missed rollcall Votes Nos. 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74 and 75.

Had I been present, on rollcall Vote No. 63 I would have voted 'aye'; on rollcall Vote No. 64 I would have voted 'no'; on rollcall Vote No. 65 I would have voted 'no'; on rollcall Vote No. 66 I would have voted 'present'; on rollcall Vote No. 67 I would have voted 'aye'; on rollcall Vote No. 68 I would have voted 'no'; on rollcall Vote No. 69 I would have voted 'no'; on rollcall Vote No. 70 I would have voted 'no'; on rollcall Vote No. 71 I would have voted 'no'; on rollcall Vote No. 72 I would have voted 'aye'; on rollcall Vote No. 73 I would have voted 'aye'; on rollcall Vote No. 74 I would have voted 'aye'; and on rollcall Vote No. 75 I would have voted 'no'.

HONORING LOREN DUKE ABDALLA  
FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO  
HIS COUNTRY DURING WORLD  
WAR II

**HON. BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 18, 2013*

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Loren Duke Abdalla.

Duke is the great-grandson of Chief Running Bull of the Yankton Sioux. He enlisted in the Marine Corp in 1943, and for his courageous service, Duke earned a Purple Heart and a rank of Corporal.

In September of 1944, at the Battle of Peleliu, Duke's machine gun team was shelled. Duke lost his machine gunner and two ammo carriers, while himself taking shrapnel that left him with holes in both legs. Rather than being sent home, Duke recovered and then quickly was promoted to leader of 3rd Squad, 1st Platoon, A Company.

Beginning April of 1945, Duke and A Company began an assault on Okinawa. In early May, Duke demonstrated true bravery in a series of heroic maneuvers and actions. Over the course of the day, Duke carried a wounded fellow Marine to safety and successfully neutralized six machine gun nests, clearing the way for U.S. forces to advance. Duke lost his entire squad after clearing four of the nests, but he continued on and cleared the final two by himself.

Duke and his fellow Marines fought valiantly and withstood fierce counterattacks from enemy forces. Their commitment and selfless dedication to their country was emblematic of the effort put forth by "The Greatest Generation" during the world's time of greatest need.

I thank Loren Duke Abdalla for his service to this nation. We all owe a great debt of gratitude to Duke and to all those brave men and women who sacrifice so much for the good of this country.

CHEYAYN TUCKER

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 18, 2013*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Cheyayn Tucker for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Cheyayn Tucker is an 12th grader at Arvada West High School and received this award because of her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Cheyayn Tucker is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Cheyayn Tucker for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

CONGRATULATING DR. ANNE MARION  
TAYLOR, 2013 SLOAN RESEARCH  
FELLOW

**HON. RENEE L. ELLMERS**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 18, 2013*

Mrs. ELLMERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Anne Marion Taylor of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, for receiving the 2013 Sloan Research Fellowship from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. Dr. Taylor, a Biomedical Engineer at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, will receive a two-year, \$50,000 grant to expand her research in Neurosciences.

The fellowship is designed to provide supplemental funding and support to enhance the careers of its young recipients. This prestigious honor is reserved only for the best and brightest to highlight the newest generation of scientific leaders by opening new doors for those in the pursuit of scientific innovation.

Dr. Taylor researches neurosciences and biomedical engineering to find ways to better understand cellular mechanisms involved in cognition. As a result of Dr. Taylor's studies, we now have commercially available devices that have led to breakthroughs in the study of synapse development.

I congratulate Dr. Taylor for this impressive achievement and thank her for her dedicated work at UNC School of Medicine.

CASSIE BROWN

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 18, 2013*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Cassie Brown for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Cassie Brown is an 8th grader at North Arvada Middle School and received this award because of her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Cassie Brown is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Cassie Brown for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

## LONNIE NUTT MEMORIAL

**HON. PHIL GINGREY**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 18, 2013*

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the memory of Lonnie Lee Nutt, a City of Marietta, Georgia firefighter, and fallen hero. On the evening of March 7th—at the young age of 49—Nutt was in the line of duty, assisting the victim of a car accident when he tragically suffered a fatal heart attack.

For nearly 20 years, Nutt selflessly served and protected his community as a firefighter, inspector, investigator, and most recently as a firefighter engineer.

He was a tested veteran and deeply respected by his colleagues. But more importantly, he was a devoted husband to his wife Rosa, and loving father to his daughter Cassandra.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my deepest felt condolences to his family and friends, his fellow firefighters, and the Marietta community for their loss during this most difficult time.

## CANADA ALBIN

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 18, 2013*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Canada Albin for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Canada Albin is a 12th grader at Standley Lake High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Canada Albin is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Canada Albin for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

## A RECOGNITION OF MR. ROB WHITE

**HON. ERIC SWALWELL**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 18, 2013*

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my friend, Mr. Rob White, for his contributions to the innovation community of the Bay Area. Rob recently announced that he is stepping down as CEO of the iGate Innovation Hub and as Director of Economic Development for the City of Livermore, California. As cofounder of the iGate hub, Rob was instrumental in establishing a broad regional partnership that is helping le-

verage public investments at the Lawrence Livermore and Sandia National Laboratories into economic development that benefits the growth of small businesses focused on bringing new green energy technologies to market.

Just last year, the White House named Rob a Champion of Change for Local Innovation, acknowledging him as “a thought leader in government led collaborative networks, public policy assessment in support of entrepreneurship, and economic development frameworks that focus on technology growth and innovation.” Under Rob’s leadership, iGate received an award for Regional Collaboration from the International Economic Development Council, the Thomas H. Muehlenbeck Award for Excellence in Local Government from the Alliance for Innovation; and the Outstanding Partnership Award from the Federal Laboratory Consortium, Far West Region.

Rob has worked for more than two decades in researching, assessing, and developing the ecosystem for regional innovation networks. His tireless support of small businesses, focusing on green transportation and clean-energy technologies, is already helping transform the economic climate in the Tr-Valley area and the region at large.

On a more personal note, Mr. Speaker, Rob has played a vital role in assisting me in the development of my economic policy and strategy. I was honored when he agreed to serve on my Economic Development Advisory Committee and I have learned a great deal from him. I want to thank Rob for his contributions to the East Bay. I wish him the best of luck as he begins this new chapter of his life.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BILL FOSTER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 18, 2013*

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, on March 15, I missed three recorded votes. Had I been present, on rollcall No. 73, I would have voted “yea.” On rollcall No. 74, I would have voted “yea.” On rollcall No. 75, H.R. 803, the SKILLS Act, I would have voted “no.”

## BREANNA WILSON

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 18, 2013*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Breanna Wilson for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Breanna Wilson is an 8th grader at Drake Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Breanna Wilson is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Breanna Wilson for winning the Arvada Wheat

Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

## RECOGNIZING LAILA GORING

**HON. TULSI GABBARD**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 18, 2013*

Ms. GABBARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight a very special member of my team, Laila Goring. Laila is a University of Hawai'i student and former soldier who has been serving in my office as an intern this spring. Friday was her final day on Capitol Hill.

In her work, she has truly displayed the aloha spirit and a heart for servant leadership. She has set the bar high for our internship program, and I hope many more students like Laila will serve and learn in my office.

A congressional internship should not be about grabbing coffee or making copies, but about learning and growing in an environment that encourages service. Our students have so much to offer, and we have the opportunity to cultivate the next generation of leaders by demonstrating firsthand the value of public service.

Mahalo nui loa, thank you very much, Laila, and we wish you the best of luck as you continue to pursue your goals.

## CHRIS McNABB

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 18, 2013*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Chris McNabb for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Chris McNabb is an 8th grader at Oberon Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Chris McNabb is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Chris McNabb for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

## RECOGNIZING ANDREW A. ATHENS

**HON. NITA M. LOWEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 18, 2013*

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Andrew A. Athens for his lifetime of philanthropic service, most notably to the Greek Community and Orthodox Church.

Known as the leader of millions of Greeks living outside of Greece, Mr. Athens served as the President of the World Council of Hellenes Abroad, SAE, since its founding in 1995. In 2006, Mr. Athens was named President Emeritus by the Sixth World Assembly of SAE.

Since its founding, SAE has worked to promote Hellenism, support the efforts of the Greeks worldwide, and strengthen ties between Greece and the countries of residence of Greek expatriates.

During his tenure with SAE, Mr. Athens has travelled to every continent to further SAE's mission. He also worked closely with other notable Hellenes in the Coordinated Effort of Hellenes. He has met with nearly every U.S. President and leader in the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives on Hellenic and Orthodox issues. It is with Mr. Athens' care and dedication that SAE has thrived.

Mr. Athens was also a proud founder of Hellenicare, a Primary Health Care Initiative and humanitarian effort. Under his direction, a total of seven medical care centers were opened in Hellenic areas of the Republic of Albania, Armenia, Georgia, and Ukraine. These centers provide free medical services for those who would otherwise have no access to high quality medical treatment.

A decorated U.S. Army Captain, Mr. Athens was honored with the Bronze Star and the U.S. Army Commendation Medal for his service in World War II. He has also led a successful career in business, founding the Metron Steel Corporation, which continues to be one of the largest steelworks in the country.

Mr. Athens has been honored with more than 42 awards, medals and distinctions for his service to the community.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize my friend Andrew A. Athens for his remarkable service and his lifelong commitment to enriching the lives of others. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring his tremendous accomplishments.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 18, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 3, 2009, the day I took office, the national debt was \$10,627,961,295,930.67.

Today, it is \$16,723,061,528,495.80. We've added \$6,095,100,232,565.13 to our debt in 4 years. This is \$6 trillion in debt our Nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a Balanced Budget Amendment. We must stop this unconscionable accumulation of debt.

CHELSEY BOCK

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 18, 2013

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Chelsey Bock for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Chelsey Bock

is a 12th grader at Standley Lake High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Chelsey Bock is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Chelsey Bock for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING THE SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 18, 2013

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the extraordinary merit of the Seattle Seahawks today, March 18, 2013.

The Seattle Seahawks finished the 2012 season with an overall record of 11–5, including a perfect home field record of 8–0 in an entertaining season. Included in their 11–5 record, they dominated with back to back 50 point games against their opponents.

They advanced to the playoffs, winning the NFC wild card and fighting through two rollercoaster playoff games—the spirit of the “12th man” supporting and driving them forward. With six Seahawks players, one being their rookie quarterback, on the roster for the 2013 Pro Bowl, they helped ensure a NFC victory.

Seattle demonstrated great cohesion and teamwork throughout the season, being ranked number one in the NFL in scoring defense. The offense set single season records for total rushing yards, average rushing yards and per carry average during the 2012 regular season.

Coach Pete Carroll has been an inspirational leader rebuilding the Seahawks and strengthening team unity. He has also been instrumental working with youth in our communities through A Better Seattle, a partnership to help create a culture for safety and peace while reducing violence in our communities.

As the Chairman of the Charitable/Exempt Organizations Tax Reform Working Group, I am pleased that, in addition to Coach Carroll, there are so many players from my hometown sports team that have Charitable Foundations. Their passion for giving back to their community exemplifies the spirit of the Pacific Northwest.

Mr. Speaker, I again offer my appreciation for the community spirit of Seattle Seahawks and congratulations for an outstanding and entertaining 2012 season and look forward to their 2013 season. Go Hawks.

CASEY BARRETERO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 18, 2013

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Casey Barretero for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Casey Barretero is a 9th grader at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Casey Barretero is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Casey Barretero for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

SEQUESTRATION CUTS HARMING AMERICANS

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 18, 2013

Mr. LEWIS. Mr. Speaker, the people of this Nation are looking to this Congress for help. My constituents and the constituents of every elected representative here sent us to Congress to take action on their behalf.

They are worried about how they will keep a roof over their heads, food on their plates, the lights turned on, and get back and forth from work. They are holding out some hope that we might actually do what they sent us here to accomplish. They have told us they want Social Security and Medicare to continue. They want to keep their health benefits and hope to hear that this Nation's resources will be used to restore our infrastructure, create jobs and educational opportunities, strengthen our economy and restore confidence in our leadership as a nation.

They expect elected officials to build, and not to tear down. They want to unify this Nation and not divide it into two camps of the super-rich and the struggling poor. They have told us this in so many ways, especially during the last election. But instead, they are witnessing what seems to be a full-scale assault at every level of government on American life as we know it. From the U.S. Capitol to State capitols even in Georgia, extremists seem determined to reverse our climb toward recovery and drive this Nation into a ditch.

Our first priority should be trying to improve the lives of the middle class, the working class, and low-income Americans, not negotiating lay-offs, freezing salaries, scapegoating government employees, eliminating civil rights protections and collective bargaining. Public servants at every level of government are under constant attack, and in these urgent times we are reducing service to communities and teetering on the edge of economic instability. At the same time that we are reducing

the number of livable-wage jobs, we are gutting re-training and reemployment opportunities. These policies will pull the rug out from under people's lives in the name of some kind of pseudo-fiscal discipline that legislators declare will do this Nation some good.

For yet another week, the Republican-led Congress has turned its back on the number one issue in this country—jobs. Instead of brainstorming a way to fix the massive problems sequestration presents, the House is considering legislation which guts 40 years of bipartisan engagement in Workforce Investment Act (WIA) programs. This bill would consolidate or eliminate successful initiatives like YouthBuild, the Disabled Veterans Outreach Program, Women in Apprenticeship and Non-traditional Occupations, and Community-Based Job Training Grants.

Last week, House Republicans also passed H.R. 890, the partisan welfare bill that would overturn the Obama Administration proposal to allow States the flexibility to move more Americans from welfare to work.

Looking forward to the week ahead, this Congress will move closer to making massive sequestration cuts permanent for millions of Americans. Instead of alleviating suffering, these bills will add to the woes of my constituents and Americans across the country.

We need to come together to find a way to help the people in this country keep their jobs and become gainfully employed, not slashing and cutting when there is no emergency that really warrants these measures. We must not balance the budget on the backs of the poorest and most vulnerable Americans, especially when closing common-sense loopholes could easily raise the revenue we need.

Every day, millions of Americans go to bed hungry because they have fallen into poverty. They were evicted from their homes and have lost their jobs. This Congress has turned a blind eye to their suffering and seems to be determined to pile on more. When will we do the work of policy and put aside partisan politics? How can we look our constituents in the eye, knowing these changes will do them harm?

We are here to help solve the problems of America, not create more problems for this country. Legislators can do better; we must do better.

BRIANNA ESQUIBEL

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 18, 2013*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Brianna Esquibel for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Brianna Esquibel is an 8th grader at Mandalay Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Brianna Esquibel is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Brianna Esquibel for winning the Arvada

Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

SUPPORTING KNOWLEDGE AND INVESTING IN LIFELONG SKILLS ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 15, 2013*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 803) to reform and strengthen the workforce investment system of the Nation to put Americans back to work and make the United States more competitive in the 21st century:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Chair, today's legislation is a missed opportunity. As our economy recovers, job training services are more essential than ever, and we should be reauthorizing the Workforce Investment Act to ensure that these services are delivered efficiently and effectively. Unfortunately, H.R. 803 will not do that.

This bill establishes a single block grant for Workforce Investment Act funds, creating a one-size-fits-all model and jeopardizing services for the most at-risk populations, including workers with disabilities, older workers, disabled veterans, and youth. It also weakens Workforce Investment Boards by eliminating representation requirements for community-based organizations, community colleges, and labor. Without these important stakeholders, Boards will lose vital expertise in training and placement.

While Democrats believe the Workforce Investment Act needs to be updated to meet today's job training needs, H.R. 803 is not the way to do it. I support the substitute offered by Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. HINOJOSA, and Mr. MILLER that would streamline programs and improve accountability without threatening services for underserved populations. It would authorize the President's Community College Fund to expand the role of community colleges in job training and allow them to offer specialized skills and recognized credentials. It would increase access for work experience programs, including summer employment, internships, and pre-apprenticeship programs, so workers can receive training on the job. And it would establish common reporting and performance measures across all programs so we can better assess what is working. It is a better approach and I regret that the Republican Majority did not work with us to incorporate these ideas into the final bill.

Unfortunately, H.R. 803 on the floor today is a step backwards, dismantling protections and access for underserved populations and weakening community involvement in job training and placement. I urge my colleagues to vote against this legislation and come together to in a bipartisan way to responsibly reform our workforce development programs.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. PATRICK T. MCHENRY**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 18, 2013*

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, on March 14, 2013, I was unavoidably absent from the House and missed rollcall votes 70, 71, and 72. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes 70, 71, and 72.

On March 15, 2013, I was unavoidably absent from the House and missed rollcall votes 73, 74, and 75. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall votes 73 and 74, and I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote 75.

BRANDON HELLER

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 18, 2013*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Brandon Heller for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Brandon Heller is an 8th grader at Moore Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Brandon Heller is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Brandon Heller for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SYLVIA MEHAS

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 18, 2013*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, today, along with my colleague, Mr. NUNES, we pay tribute to the life of Sylvia Mehas who passed away on March 9, 2013 at the age of 94. Sylvia will be remembered in the hearts of many as a passionate woman who loved her heritage, family, and faith.

Sylvia grew up in an immigrant family that was from a small village in Greece. Her roots were from the old country; therefore, strong values and morals were instilled in Sylvia early on. Sylvia knew the importance of hard work, and she understood that a little tough love was necessary every once in a while. Her children: Tulla, Peter, and Georgia, appreciate their mother for the lessons she taught them and for the principles that are now ingrained in them.

Sylvia was married to her late husband, George, for over 53 years. Together, they

were very involved in their church, St. George Parish. George served as a President, and Sylvia taught Sunday school, and served on the parish council for five years as Treasurer and Vice President. In addition, Sylvia was a founding member of the church choir. She sang in the choir for 25 years. Sylvia's Greek Orthodox faith was the foundation for her life, so she cherished the opportunities she had to serve at the church.

Fresno's Greek community was an integral part of Sylvia's life. She was co-chair of the Annual Grecian Food Festival, chair of the Greek Community Booth for Passport Fresno and Downtown Fresno Centennial, and she was a member of the Daughters of Penelope, where she served as President and District Lt. Governor.

Civic engagement was also very important to Sylvia. She served on numerous boards and committees. She was a past President of the Federation of Republican Women and an elected member of the Republican Central Committee. Sylvia was proud of her beliefs, but she was not against hearing other peoples' thoughts and arguments. She was happy to sit and talk with anyone. Sylvia served on the Fresno Grand Jury, Fresno County Solid Waste Committee, Fresno City Urban Design Task Force, Fresno City Citizen's Commission, Fresno County Reorganization Committee, and Fresno Chamber of Commerce Legislative Committee and Local Government Committee.

Beyond her participation in the community, Sylvia also ran two successful businesses with George. The Fresno Malt Shop and the Athenian Restaurant were staples in downtown Fresno. Sylvia and George worked hard to keep them up and running because they understood the important lessons they were teaching their children about hard work.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join Mr. NUNES and myself in paying tribute to the life of Sylvia Mehas. Sylvia's leadership, guidance, and kindness will be greatly missed by many.

50 YEARS LATER, WE MUST WORK  
TO FULFILL THE PROMISE OF  
GIDEON

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 18, 2013*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of *Gideon v. Wainwright*. This Supreme Court case established that all Americans have a right to counsel in criminal trials—even if they cannot afford it. The *Gideon* decision was clear: American citizens moving through the criminal justice system deserve appropriate representation under the law.

Unfortunately, fifty years after this case was decided, that promise of *Gideon* has not been fully realized. Today, ever increasing numbers of American citizens fall through the cracks in our justice system, sitting behind bars because they did not have access to legal representation.

On this important anniversary, we must commit ourselves to ensuring that all Americans have meaningful access to legal rep-

resentation so that they are not left at the mercy of a justice system that is difficult to navigate and weighted against them. As Michelle Alexander's explains in *The New Jim Crow*, "tens of thousands of poor people go to jail every year without ever talking to a lawyer." An article by Karen Houppert in this Sunday's *Washington Post* describes how "one man, accused of burglary, sat in jail for more than a year while waiting for an attorney to be assigned to him." I believe that those situations are unconscionable. Wealth should not be required buy access to a responsive justice system. All Americans should have ready, meaningful access to an attorney when their futures and interests are at risk.

We must make sure that the services aimed at assisting the poor are adequately funded. Attorney General Holder has quite accurately referred to the "crisis" facing services that provide legal services to the poor. Today, public defenders have caseloads that are often hundreds of cases above the numbers recommended by the American Bar Association. With staff stretched that thin, the level of service provided in any one case inevitably suffers. As is noted in *The New Jim Crow*, "...those who do meet with a lawyer for a drug offense often spend only a few minutes discussing their case and options before making a decision that will profoundly affect the rest of their lives." We must make sure that the attorneys who are assisting low-income individuals have the ability and resources to do so in a way that is meaningful and effective.

We must also commit ourselves to broadening the scope of cases that warrant a right to legal counsel. *Gideon* applies only to criminal cases—legal issues like home foreclosures, job loss, spousal abuse and parental custody are not covered. Individuals in these situations may lose their homes, their livelihoods, or worse, because they do not have access to representation.

While these cases are "civil" in nature, they often carry a very real risk of jail time. I believe that *Gideon* should be applicable in these situations, because individuals facing a potential loss of liberty deserve the right to representation.

The Legal Services Corporation, which provides civil legal services to people who cannot otherwise afford them, received \$70 million less in fiscal year 2012 than it did at its peak funding. This comes as the Legal Services Corporation is more strained than ever, helping low-income families dealing with the greatest economic crisis since the Great Depression. According to the *New York Times*, over 60 million Americans qualify for the Corporation's services, but 80% of the legal needs of the poor go unmet. Those numbers are disheartening and unacceptable and must be addressed.

I urge my colleagues to read the attached articles and to work to restore the meaning of the *Gideon* decision by ensuring that all individuals have meaningful access to legal counsel.

[From the *Washington Post*, Mar. 15, 2013]

INDIGENT CLIENTS SUFFER AS PUBLIC DEFENDERS STRUGGLE TO KEEP UP WITH CASELOADS

(By Karen Houppert),

In 1961, an itinerant man named Clarence Earl Gideon was accused of breaking into a pool hall in Florida and stealing some liquor, as well as money from a jukebox and a ciga-

rette machine. He asked the judge in his burglary trial for a lawyer. He was too poor to hire one himself. *Gideon* said, but he needed help with his case. The judge said the state was under no obligation to provide him with an attorney. So *Gideon* represented himself, badly, and ended up in prison. But he fought his conviction—all the way to the Supreme Court, insisting that there was no such thing as a "fair trial" if both sides didn't have representation.

Monday marks the 50th anniversary of the landmark Supreme Court decision in that case, *Gideon v. Wainwright*, which established the constitutional right to free counsel for poor people accused of serious crimes. Most Americans are familiar with this result, thanks to television and movies; police officers say as they arrest someone: "You have a right to an attorney. If you cannot afford an attorney, one will be provided for you."

In the 1960s, complying with the ruling seemed quite possible. Sure, it would be expensive for local governments that had to oversee and fund such efforts. But the number of indigent folks accused of crimes was smaller and, arguably, more manageable. Cities and counties established public-defender offices, staffed by salaried lawyers who were paid by the city, county, state or some combination of these; they also developed a roster of private attorneys whom judges appointed on an as-needed basis, paying an hourly rate; and some contracted with a single law firm or attorney for all local public defense.

It sort of worked.

But over time the war on drugs, the "three strikes" laws and the lock-'em-up mentality of politicians have led to indigent clients flooding the courts. Courts are overburdened, and across the country, lawyers for the poor are routinely buried beneath crushing caseloads and working in underfunded offices. Without adequate resources, it's hard to hire the investigators, experts or paralegals to mount a good defense. The stakes are high—for the man on death row to the teen picked up for marijuana possession.

Attorney General Eric Holder decried the "crisis" in indigent defense when he spoke to the American Bar Association last year. Programs across the country were "underfunded and understaffed," he said. Citing "insufficient resources, overwhelming caseloads and inadequate oversight," he worried about a breakdown: "Far too many public defender systems lack the basic tools they need to function properly."

The problems have been well documented. A 2009 investigation by the Constitution Project, the National Legal Aid & Defender Association and the National Right to Counsel Committee concluded that the system of providing counsel for the poor was broken and that defendants' constitutional rights were routinely violated. The groups drew from news articles, law reviews and myriad panicked reports that cities, counties and states had generated. Their report, "Justice Denied: America's Continuing Neglect of Our Constitutional Right to Counsel," documented instances in which public defenders carried as many as 500 active felony cases at a time (the American Bar Association recommends 150) and as many as 2,225 misdemeanor cases (the ABA recommends 400).

The recent economic crisis has exacerbated the problem. In New Orleans last year, the chief public defender had to lay off a third of his staff. Hundreds of people languished in jail for months, waiting for a lawyer to be appointed. One man had been there two months for possessing a joint. Another man, accused of burglary, sat in jail for more than a year while waiting for an attorney to be assigned to him.

These shortcomings greatly affect people's lives every day. In Washington state in 2004,

a 12-year-old was accused of molesting his 5-year-old neighbor after the boys had played a game that, the younger one said, involved the older boy putting his hands down his pants. The 12-year-old's overworked public defender advised his client to quickly plead guilty. The lawyer carried 240 other criminal cases, never spoke to a witness, hired no investigator, spoke to no experts, met with his client's family for less than two hours and failed to speak to his client alone once; the court ordered the 12-year-old to register as a sex offender for the rest of his life, be tested for sexually transmitted diseases and attend sex rehab workshops. Six years later, on appeal, the state Supreme Court determined that the boy's counsel had been inadequate, and Washington is making strides in reforming indigent defense.

But plenty of cases are rushed through courts around the country, with equally disturbing results. The crisis in our courts raises questions about how we as a nation define "justice." Will we pay lip service to the notion that everyone has a lawyer to represent them in court? Will we provide a warm body in a suit and tie to stand next to a defendant? Or do we equate "justice" with fairness—and provide folks who are accused of crimes with meaningful representation? Is the country committed to a level playing field, the adversarial system of justice in which both sides are properly armed to argue and from which truth emerges? Are we committed to making the system work as it is designed to?

In the 1800s, Mark Twain joked that "the law is a system that protects everybody who can afford a good lawyer." In many ways, unfortunately, that remains true today.

[From the New York Times, Mar. 16, 2013]  
RIGHT TO LAWYER CAN BE EMPTY PROMISE  
FOR POOR

(By Ethan Bronner)

Billy Jerome Presley spent 17 months in a Georgia jail because he did not have \$2,700 for a child support payment. He had no prior jail record but also no lawyer. In Baltimore last fall, Carl Hymes, 21, was arrested on charges of shining a laser into the eyes of a police officer. Bail was set at \$75,000. He had no arrest record but also no lawyer. In West Orange, N.J., last summer, Walter Bloss, 89, was served with an eviction notice from the rent-controlled apartment he had lived in for 43 years after a dispute with his landlord. He had gone to court without a lawyer.

Fifty years ago, on March 18, 1963, the Supreme Court unanimously ruled in *Gideon v. Wainwright* that those accused of a crime have a constitutional right to a lawyer whether or not they can afford one. But as legal officials observe the anniversary of what is widely considered one of the most significant judicial declarations of equality under law, many say that the promise inherent in the *Gideon* ruling remains unfulfilled because so many legal needs still go unmet.

Civil matters—including legal issues like home foreclosure, job loss, spousal abuse and parental custody—were not covered by the decision. Today, many states and counties do not offer lawyers to the poor in major civil disputes, and in some criminal ones as well. Those states that do are finding that more people than ever are qualifying for such help, making it impossible to keep up with the need. The result is that even at a time when many law school graduates are without work, many Americans are without lawyers.

The Legal Services Corporation, the Congressionally financed organization that provides lawyers to the poor in civil matters, says there are more than 60 million Americans—35 percent more than in 2005—who qualify for its services. But it calculates that

80 percent of the legal needs of the poor go unmet. In state after state, according to a survey of trial judges, more people are now representing themselves in court and they are failing to present necessary evidence, committing procedural errors and poorly examining witnesses, all while new lawyers remain unemployed.

"Some of our most essential rights—those involving our families, our homes, our livelihoods—are the least protected," Chief Justice Wallace B. Jefferson of the Texas Supreme Court, said in a recent speech at New York University. He noted that a family of four earning \$30,000 annually does not qualify for legal aid in many states.

James J. Sandman, president of the Legal Services Corporation, said, "Most Americans don't realize that you can have your home taken away, your children taken away and you can be a victim of domestic violence but you have no constitutional right to a lawyer to protect you."

According to the World Justice Project, a nonprofit group promoting the rule of law that got its start through the American Bar Association, the United States ranks 66th out of 98 countries in access to and affordability of civil legal services.

"In most countries, equality before the law means equality between those of high and low income," remarked Earl Johnson Jr., a retired justice of the California Court of Appeal. "In this country for some reason we are concerned more with individuals versus government."

With law school graduates hurting for work, it may appear that there is a glut of lawyers. But many experts say that is a misunderstanding.

"We don't have an excess of lawyers," said Martin Guggenheim, a law professor at New York University. "What we have is a miserable fit. In many areas like family and housing law, there is simply no private bar to go to. You couldn't find a lawyer to help you even if you had the money because there isn't a dime to be made in those cases."

Even in situations where an individual is up against a state prosecutor and jail may result, not every jurisdiction provides lawyers to the defendants. In Georgia, those charged with failing to pay child support face a prosecutor and jail but are not supplied with a lawyer.

Mr. Presley lost his job in the recession and fell way behind on support payments for his four children. In 2011, he was jailed after a court proceeding without a lawyer in which he said he could not pay what he owed. He was brought back to court, shackled, every month or two. Each time, he said he still could not pay. Each time, he was sent back.

A year later, he contacted a public defender who handles only criminal cases but who sent his case to the Southern Center for Human Rights. Atteyah Hollie, a lawyer there, got him released that same day, helped him find work and set up a payment plan.

An important service lawyers can provide defendants like Mr. Presley is knowledge of what courts want—receipts of medical treatment, evidence of a job search, bank account statements. On their own, many people misstep when facing a judge.

In Adel, Ga., a town of 5,000, child support court meets monthly. On a recent morning, a dozen men in shackles and jail uniforms faced Chuck Reddick, a state prosecutor, on their second or third round in court.

"In most cases, they simply can't pay," said John P. Daughtrey, who was sheriff here until losing an election in November. "An attorney could explain to the judge why jail is not the solution and how to fix it. As a sheriff, I want criminals in my jail, not a debtor's prison."

Mr. Reddick and Judge Carson Dane Perkins of Cook County Superior Court in Adel both said they would welcome lawyers for defendants because it would make the process clearer and smoother.

"If we could extend the right to a lawyer to civil procedures where you face a loss of liberty, that would be good," Judge Perkins said. "Lawyers can get affidavits from employers and help make cases for those who can't pay."

The Southern Center for Human Rights has filed a class-action suit seeking a guarantee of a lawyer for such cases in Georgia. Sarah Geraghty, a lawyer there, said the center had received thousands of calls from Georgians facing child support hearings. Among them was Russell Davis, a Navy veteran with post-traumatic stress disorder who was jailed three times and lost his apartment and car while in jail.

Georgia also offers a case study on the mismatch between lawyers and clients at a time when each needs the other. According to the Legal Services Corporation, 70 percent of the state's lawyers are in the Atlanta area, while 70 percent of the poor live outside it. There are six counties without a lawyer and dozens with only two or three.

Mr. Bloss, who faced eviction in New Jersey, went to legal services, which won for him the right to stay in his apartment while his case is under appeal.

In Baltimore, where Mr. Hymes was accused of shining a laser at a police officer and assigned bail of \$75,000, first bail hearings do not include a lawyer. Tens of thousands are brought through Central Booking every year, facing a commissioner through a glass partition, who determines whether to release the detainee on his own recognizance or assign bail and at what level.

"For the poor, bail is a jail sentence," said Douglas L. Colbert, a law professor at the University of Maryland. A study he conducted on 4,000 bail cases of nonviolent offenders found that two and a half times as many detainees were released on their own recognizance and bail was set at a far more affordable level if a lawyer was at the hearing.

Mr. Hymes was relatively lucky. When he eventually faced a judge with the help of a public defender, bail was slashed to \$200 cash. It took his family a few weeks to pay. A student of Mr. Colbert's, Iten Naguib, acted as an intermediary.

"If there had been an attorney involved at the initial stages," Ms. Naguib said, "Mr. Hymes would likely have been released much earlier."

## THE HOUSTON LIVESTOCK SHOW AND RODEO

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 18, 2013

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, when out-of-towners (especially those from up North) land in Houston in the month of March, the traditional Texas stereotype comes to life. Many Texans sport their Cowboy hats and boots year round, but even more so this month, because this is the time that we celebrate Texas history. March 2nd is Texas Independence Day and on March 6th, we remember the Alamo. March is also the month of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. There is something special about all the pomp and circumstance that takes place on the streets of downtown Houston. It starts out with the trail

riders and parade through downtown Houston. This year was a little different than years past and did not take place on Texas Avenue, but to me the old route will always symbolize the rich history of the rodeo. Texas Avenue is wider than other streets downtown. This was to accommodate the early longhorn cattle drives coming into town headed to the rail station.

There's a long history behind the Houston rodeo. It started in 1931 when a handful of men had an idea to get together and have a "Fat Stock Show." Each year after, the show got a little bit bigger. While the show was originally held in the modest confines of the Sam Houston Coliseum, it has since had several distinguished homes. I remember the first year it moved to the "Eighth Wonder of the World," the Astrodome before finding home at Reliant Park, and when the king of country music, George Strait, thanked the Astrodome for hosting so many amazing years of Houston Rodeo by singing a "Cowboy Rides Away." It is amazing to think that in 1931, a few men just wanted to show off their livestock and help educate people about agriculture in Texas. Today, their simple idea has turned into the world's largest livestock exhibition, the world's largest regular-season rodeo, top musical performers, and one of Houston's most popular and profitable events. As a kid, I remember seeing Roy Rogers and Elvis at the Rodeo Spectacular.

The Houston Livestock Show provides an impressive economic boost. Last year, over 2 million people came to the Houston Rodeo. Aside from having a great time at the show, this pilgrimage to the rodeo draws people to our great city and boosts the Houston economy. The show alone brings in over \$320 million and create over 7,000 full time jobs. That is something to be proud of.

The Houston Rodeo's "founding fathers" in 1931 also wanted to establish a charitable event that provided for the educational and scientific advancement of Texas agriculture. They succeeded. Today, over its history, the Rodeo has given \$330 million to Texas' youth through scholarships, research, endowments, calf scramble participants, junior show exhibitors, school art participants and other educational youth programs. All the work behind the scenes is done by hundreds of volunteers.

A Texas-sized thank you to all of those who make the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo what it is today. The Show is the world's largest livestock exhibition, world's largest barbecue cook-off, world's richest regular-season rodeo and the entertainment lineup is nothing to sneeze at either. This year, some music greats like Tim McGraw, Toby Keith and Dierks Bentley just to name a few, performed. Whether one is a volunteer, local Go Texan member, youth livestock participant, employee, organizer, sponsor or attendee—those contributions go well beyond the three weeks of the Rodeo. It's a Western celebration for us in Houston, Texas. It's almost like our Mardi Gras, just with boots and cowboy hats. The rodeo is truly something for everyone. After all, it's our cultural duty "to Rodeo Texas." For there is no place like Texas. And that's just the way it is.

SUPPORT OF THE CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS ALTERNATIVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 18, 2013

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Congressional Black Caucus Alternative Budget for Fiscal Year 2014. As we debate the various budget proposals this week, the CBC has developed a budget that will reduce the deficit, continue to foster growth in our economy, and strengthen our Nation's safety net.

The CBC's budget would raise \$1 trillion in new revenue and avoid the drastic sequestration cuts that took effect March 1. In addition to raising new revenue, our budget protects and strengthens critical domestic programs: Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and SNAP. These are critical programs that the American people depend upon, and are slashed beyond recognition in the Ryan budget.

In addition, a key factor in creating jobs is the continued investment in our Nation's infrastructure. The CBC's budget invests in rebuilding our crumbling infrastructure, as well as in transit and workforce development programs. These investments are crucial to bolstering our economy and protecting working families.

These priorities stand in stark contrast to those in the Ryan Budget. The Ryan Budget fails to replace the drastic spending cuts, cuts which would cost 750,000 jobs a year. The Republican budget also transfers the burden of the discretionary sequester to non-defense programs, further gutting the funding needed to pursue innovation and research, and to staff our country's air traffic controllers and food safety inspectors. By slashing these critical investments, we jeopardize domestic economic growth and the wellbeing of American families.

Mr. Speaker, the American people spoke loudly in November concerning the fiscal policies we should pursue. The American people rejected the Ryan Budget, and the misplaced priorities of the GOP.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, March 19, 2013 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 20

10 a.m.  
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
Subcommittee on Science and Space  
To hold hearings to examine assessing the risks, impacts, and solutions for space threats.

SR-253

Committee on Environment and Public Works  
Business meeting to consider S. 601, to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States.

SD-406

Committee on Finance  
To hold hearings to examine reforming the delivery system, focusing on the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation.

SD-215

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions  
Business meeting to consider an original bill entitled, "Animal Drug and Animal Generic Drug User Fee Reauthorization Act of 2013", and S. 330, to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish safeguards and standards of quality for research and transplantation of organs infected with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

SD-430

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
To hold hearings to examine Hurricane Sandy, focusing on getting the recovery right and the value of mitigation.

SD-342

Committee on Veterans' Affairs  
To hold hearings to examine Veterans Affairs mental health care, focusing on ensuring timely access to high-quality care.

SR-418

10:30 a.m.  
Committee on the Judiciary  
To hold hearings to examine the future of drones in America, focusing on law enforcement and privacy considerations.

SD-226

2 p.m.  
Committee on the Judiciary  
To hold hearings to examine building an immigration system worthy of American values.

SD-226

2:15 p.m.  
Committee on Foreign Relations  
To hold hearings to examine counterterrorism policies and priorities, focusing on addressing the evolving threat.

SD-419

2:30 p.m.  
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
To hold hearings to examine aviation safety, focusing on the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) progress on key safety initiatives.

SR-253

MARCH 21

10 a.m.  
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  
Business meeting to consider the nomination of Sarah Jewell, of Washington, to be Secretary of the Interior.

SD-366



Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
To hold hearings to examine the Department of Homeland Security at 10 years, focusing on a progress report on management.

SD-342

Committee on the Judiciary  
Business meeting to consider the nominations of Jane Kelly, of Iowa, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eighth Circuit, and Kenneth John Gonzales, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Mexico.

SD-226

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations  
Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs  
To hold hearings to examine Asia, focusing on democracy, good governance and human rights.

SD-419

2:30 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence  
To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

APRIL 9

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services  
To hold hearings to examine U.S. Pacific Command and U.S. Forces Korea in re-

view of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2014 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session.

SD-G50

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Ernest J. Moniz, of Massachusetts, to be Secretary of Energy.

SD-366

APRIL 11

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services  
To hold hearings to examine the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2014 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SD-G50

APRIL 17

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services  
To hold hearings to examine the Department of the Air Force in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2014 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session.

SH-216

APRIL 23

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services  
To hold hearings to examine the Department of the Army in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2014 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SD-106

APRIL 25

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services  
To hold hearings to examine the Department of the Navy in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2014 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session.

SD-106

MAY 8

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services  
Subcommittee on Airland  
To hold hearings to examine Army modernization in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2014 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SR-222