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# House of Representatives

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

## DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
*December 9, 2014.*

I hereby appoint the Honorable DOUG LAMALFA to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

**NOTICE**

If the 113th Congress, 2nd Session, adjourns sine die on or before December 24, 2014, a final issue of the *Congressional Record* for the 113th Congress, 2nd Session, will be published on Wednesday, December 31, 2014, to permit Members to insert statements.

All material for insertion must be signed by the Member and delivered to the respective offices of the Official Reporters of Debates (Room HT–59 or S–123 of the Capitol), Monday through Friday, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. through Tuesday, December 30. The final issue will be dated Wednesday, December 31, 2014, and will be delivered on Monday, January 5, 2015.

None of the material printed in the final issue of the *Congressional Record* may contain subject matter, or relate to any event, that occurred after the sine die date.

Senators' statements should also be formatted according to the instructions at http://webster/secretary/cong__record.pdf, and submitted electronically, either on a disk to accompany the signed statement, or by e-mail to the Official Reporters of Debates at "Record@Sec.Senate.gov".

Members of the House of Representatives' statements may also be submitted electronically by e-mail, to accompany the signed statement, and formatted according to the instructions for the Extensions of Remarks template at https://housenet.house.gov/legislative/research-and-reference/transcripts-and-records/electronic-congressional-record-inserts. The Official Reporters will transmit to GPO the template formatted electronic file only after receipt of, and authentication with, the hard copy, and signed manuscript. Deliver statements to the Official Reporters in Room HT–59.

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By order of the Joint Committee on Printing.

CHARLES E. SCHUMER, *Chairman.*

## MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 7, 2014, 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 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

## REPRESSIVE CUBAN REGIME

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, just 90 miles from U.S. shores the most repressive human rights abuses in our hemisphere are being perpetrated by a regime that has shown no respect for human life and that will never change as long as the Castro brothers and their kind remain in power in Cuba.

Every day these brutal thugs continue to repress 11 million Cubans who yearn for freedom and the respect of

their basic human rights. But the regime isn't just a threat to the people of Cuba. They also operate within the United States, with sophisticated espionage, tradecraft, and are allies of our worst enemies.

We have but to remember the story of Ana Belen Montes. A senior analyst in our Defense Intelligence Agency, Ana Belen Montes was one of the masterminds of Cuba intelligence in the U.S. She was the top spy for the Castro regime and undermined U.S. foreign policy efforts throughout the world due to her nefarious espionage activities. She is certainly serving a long sentence in Texas.

But Castro also harbors fugitives from U.S. law, such as Joanne Chesimard. She is a New Jersey cop killer and earned the terrible distinction of being the first woman on the FBI's most wanted list of terrorists.

In 2001, Fidel Castro went to Iran and met with Iranian Supreme Leader Khamenei, and Castro said at that time: Together, Cuba and Iran will bring America to its knees.

These are just a few of the examples of why it is imperative for the Obama administration to get tough with Castro, not only to protect our U.S. national security interests, but also to extend a helpful hand to the pro-democracy leaders on the island who are struggling for freedom.

The Cuban regime continues to repress independent journalists, human rights activists, and commits arbitrary detentions every day, all to thwart any attempt at the exercise of freedom of expression. I will show you just a few of the names and faces of the voices of those opposition leaders in the push for freedom on the island, and each deserves the attention of this body.

Mr. Speaker, this is Berta Soler. Berta Soler is the leader of a movement called Ladies in White, Las Damas de Blanco, a group of women tirelessly advocating for the release of political prisoners in Cuba. These courageous women walk to mass peacefully holding up flowers and are met with brutal attacks by Castro's state security. Berta Soler became the leader of this organization after the death of her predecessor, Laura Pollan.

Laura Pollan started this movement in Cuba. She died under mysterious causes in October 2011. Many people in the island and outside have blamed the Castro regime for the unfortunate and suspicious circumstances of her passing.

We also have many pro-democracy leaders who are still languishing in Cuban jails, and these are some of their faces. This first young man, his name is Angel Yunier Remon. He is also known as El Critico. He is another face of repression on the island. Angel was arrested in March for criticizing the Castro regime's brutal human rights abuses and the oppression of 11 million of his fellow countrymen. To this day, El Critico remains in prison for the mere crime of simply expressing his right to address grievances through rhyme.

Then there is the face of Sonia Garro. Sonia is another member of the Ladies in White. Sonia and her husband were arrested 2 years ago in a violent raid. Her trial has been suspended four times without an explanation or any reason being given.

Along with Sonia, fighting for the causes of freedom and liberty is this young man, Jorge Luis Garcia Perez, better known as Antunez, who has been in prison in Castro's gulag for nearly 17 years. Antunez and his wife, Yris, have repeatedly been assaulted and beaten by state security forces, and their scars tell a story of resilience and commitment to the cause of freedom on the island. They are free now, but one does not know for how long.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, there is the case of Juan Carlos Gonzalez, another freedom fighter I would like to highlight. He is a lawyer who is blind. He has spent years defending the human rights of the Cuban people.

These are just a few of the faces of the pro-human rights activists in Cuba, Mr. Speaker. I could not possibly cover the face of every single dissident on the island, but these faces are representative of the horrors of the Cuban regime and the horrors that liberty fighters face there every day; and that is why, Mr. Speaker, it is our moral obligation to stand in solidarity with these pro-democracy activists and to be a voice for 11 million people who are being oppressed and silenced in Cuba.

## PAUL SIMON WATER FOR THE WORLD ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, by unanimous consent motion offered by my friend, and the bill's Republican lead, TED POE, the House passed H.R. 2901, our Paul Simon Water for the World Act. It was almost anticlimactic, considering all the ins and outs it has taken for years to be able to hammer out the details necessary to take the next step in reform.

The hard work was all worth it, enhancing our efforts to have the United States embrace its responsibility to help the world deal with our water and sanitation crisis. Make no mistake about it; it is a crisis.

Today 152 million hours will be spent by women and girls to get water—often dirty, polluted water—to meet the basic needs of their families. Almost three-quarter billion people still lack access to this fundamental necessity of life.

There is an even greater crisis with inadequate sanitation. There are approximately 2.5 billion people who suffer from this lack of what most of us take for granted. It results in horrific disease, stunted growth, and malnutrition. In fact, the children under 5 who are malnourished in India are suffering less from a lack of food and more from the diseases produced by poor sanitation. The children who do survive are left with mental and physical burdens for their entire life.

In a world where there are more cell phones than toilets, this is something that we can do something about. It is seriously out of kilter. The world knows what to do, and we can afford a solution. The enactment of the Water for the World legislation moves us in that direction by focusing the United States' efforts on things that will work, areas of the world most in need, and making sure our solutions are sustainable.

I deeply appreciate the leadership of my friend, colleague, and principle cosponsor of the bill, TED POE, who has been tireless in his efforts; the work of Chairman ROYCE and the Foreign Affairs Committee; our partners in the other body, Senators DICK DURBIN and BOB CORKER; and, of course, dozens of nongovernmental organizations that have been at work around the globe making progress while they have been unrelenting advocates here at home.

I must also acknowledge the tireless efforts of my legislative director, Michael Harold, who has done as much as any human alive to get this across the finish line.

Mr. Speaker, this is an amazing and important accomplishment, but it makes me pause. What else could we do in the spirit of bipartisan cooperation and doing what is right?

Might it be possible to take a small step, show a little courage, and embrace what Ronald Reagan and Tip O'Neill could do over 30 years ago? President Reagan used his radio address on Thanksgiving 1982 to provide leadership to more than double the gas tax, which he correctly pointed out was really a user fee and which had not increased in 23 years while roads were falling apart.

Well, the current gas tax has not been increased in almost 22 years, and America is falling apart and falling behind. The highway trust fund is going bankrupt. Everyone acknowledges an increase is long overdue. With gasoline prices falling dramatically, seemingly every week, and expected to continue doing so well into the foreseeable future, a nickel a gallon per year is hardly going to be noticed.

But as President Reagan pointed out, people will directly benefit. Today poor road maintenance costs the typical family $377 per year in damage to their cars, far more than they would pay in a small increase in the gas tax. Millions of hours and billions of dollars are wasted due to highway congestion.

So let's square our shoulders. Let's show some backbone and vision and take another step forward. Let's raise the user fee we call the gas tax, put hundreds of thousands of people to work all across America at family wage jobs, and renew and rebuild this great country. This would be a nice

Christmas present that Americans will enjoy for years to come.

## THE NDAA AND MILITARY BENEFITS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, let me quote from Roger Simon in a recent article, titled, ''Down the Opium Rathole.'' Mr. Simon writes about Afghanistan:

> If you spent 13 years pounding money down a rathole with little to show for it, you might wake up one morning and say, ''Hey, I'm going to stop pounding money down the rathole.'' Unfortunately, the United States Government does not think this way.

Mr. Speaker, last week we passed a $585 billion bill known as the defense bill, with a large percentage of that money going into overseas contingencies: Afghanistan, Iraq, and Syria. I question how much damage this bill causes our military Active Duty and our retirees.

Let me quote from Lori Falkner Volkman, a former prosecutor and spokesman for the Keep Your Promise Alliance, an online coalition of military families and organizations. She said: ''This is the second Christmas in a row that national leaders have tried to cut military pay benefits. Earned benefits should not even be on the table when entitlement budgets soar and appropriations budgets are billions of dollars over budget.''

I did not vote for the NDAA bill. It was 1,648 pages, and we did not have enough time to read and comprehend the contents of the bill. In a recent article in the Jacksonville Daily News regarding my ''no'' vote on this bill, Mike Hayden, a retired Air Force colonel and present director of governmental relations for the Military Officers Association of America, known as MOAA, said: ''An E–5 servicemember would lose more than $800 in purchasing power annually when the bill takes effect. This is going to cost them a loss of about $600 a month just in pay.''

In the same article, Jim Davis, a retired marine who now lives in Jacksonville and serves as a senior vice commander of the local DAV chapter, said the cuts could adversely affect military families.

Charlie Brown, a quartermaster for the VFW post in Jacksonville, agreed with Mr. Davis and said the bill doesn't accurately reflect what servicemembers actually deserve.

□ 1015

Mr. Speaker, I would like to quote James Madison. James Madison wrote: ''The power to declare war, including the power to judge the causes of war, is fully and exclusively vested in the legislature.''

Mr. Speaker, for too long, we have not had policy debates on the floor of this House, whether it be Iraq, Syria, or Afghanistan. When I look at the waste, fraud, and abuse in Afghanistan, I want to say to the Active Duty in the military and the retirees, I regret so much that the Congress is not debating the issues that we should be debating based on our constitutional duties.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to quote Pat Buchanan. Pat says: ''Is it not a symptom of senility to be borrowing from the world so we can defend the world?'' I repeat: ''Is it not a symptom of senility to be borrowing from the world so we can defend the world?'' Mr. Speaker, that is so prophetic. And I thank Pat Buchanan for trying to wake up Congress before it is too late.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I have a poster beside me with Uncle Sam. And Uncle Sam says: ''I want you to understand that if you can't afford to take care of your veterans, you can't afford to go to war.'' That, again, is what Pat Buchanan is saying.

Mr. Speaker, those of us in Congress in both parties need to understand that we have a constitutional responsibility to not commit our young men and women to fight and die and be wounded unless we debate the policy on the floor of the House.

And with that, Mr. Speaker, I ask God to please bless our men and women in uniform and their families, and please, God, continue to bless America.

## EQUAL JUSTICE UNDER LAW

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF) for 5 minutes.

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, equal justice under the law—impartial and uniformly applied—has been, for more than two centuries, the ideological underpinning of American democracy.

But from the very beginning, this noblest aspiration has been intertwined with our struggle with race, a battle that has sometimes come to define our Nation and to divide it in ways that too often cleave us still today.

Mr. Speaker, 150 years since the Emancipation Proclamation and half a century after the Civil Rights Act of 1964 formally ended Jim Crow, our President, his Attorney General, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the National Security Adviser are all African American.

Blacks are now prominent in every facet of American life. But much of this has occurred during my lifetime because people marched and sat and voted and demanded greater equality.

Yet despite the progress, equal justice under law is not the reality for too many of our fellow citizens, and injustice continues to limit their lives and their livelihoods in ways that are difficult for many White Americans to comprehend.

Inequality manifests itself at every rung of the criminal justice system, but its most deadly consequences are to be found in the encounters of young men of color with the police.

I have seen the video of Eric Garner in New York and watched the tragedy in Ferguson in the aftermath of the shooting of Michael Brown. The agony of those families and the anger of their communities have rightfully moved the Nation.

Sadly, they are not alone. The deaths of Eric Garner and Michael Brown grabbed national headlines, but decades of strife between police and many poor and minority neighborhoods have resulted in an endemic mistrust of law enforcement there.

One need only consider a phenomenon almost completely foreign to much of America, ''the talk.'' It is a ritual that plays out in Black and Brown households across our Nation every day as parents teach their young children about the special dangers they face from law enforcement.

As a father, to hear that is heartbreaking. As someone who has long worked with and on behalf of law enforcement and who has deep respect for the bravery and integrity of so many who wear the uniform, it is a call to action.

First, in the months since the Michael Brown shooting, I have pressed for greater deployment of body-worn cameras to police departments across the country, an idea that the President has now endorsed. Cameras are not a panacea, but they are a first step on a path to greater accountability and transparency.

Second, since cameras alone will not bridge the chasm of mistrust between many communities of color and the police there to protect them, we must invest in 21st century police departments.

Effective policing requires mutual respect between the public and the police and a renewed emphasis on community policing strategies. Diversifying police forces so that they are more reflective of the communities they patrol and improving the training of officers to reduce the likelihood of violent confrontations are essential. This cannot be accomplished overnight, however, and generations of injustice have left deep scars.

So the third leg of any law enforcement reform agenda must be enhanced oversight by the Department of Justice, which has a long record of working with State and local police agencies to modernize and improve practices and behavior.

Justice Department intervention, as in the recent release of a report detailing excessive use of force by Cleveland Police, can be instrumental in overcoming opposition to reform. And I know that Attorney General Holder's successor will make this a priority.

We ask a lot from our police, who have a difficult and often dangerous job, and we grant them enormous power, including the right to take a life under certain circumstances. It is not only proper that we insist this power is used impartially and as a last resort. It is fundamental to a just society.

In a 1951 speech to the New York Legal Aid Society, the great jurist Learned Hand challenged his audience: ''It is the daily, it is the small, it is the cumulative injuries of little people that we are here to protect. If we are able to keep our democracy, there must be one commandment: Thou shalt not ration justice.''

Mr. Speaker, 63 years later, on a street corner in the same city, Eric Garner hauntingly invoked Hand when he pleaded in vain: ''Every time you see me, you want to mess with me. I'm tired of it. It stops today. I'm minding my business, officer. I'm minding my business. Please just leave me alone.''

Mr. Speaker, it must stop today.

Mr. Speaker, equal justice under law—impartial and uniformly applied—has been for more than two centuries the ideological underlining of American democracy.

But, from the beginning, this noblest aspiration has been intertwined with our struggle with race—a battle that has sometimes come to define our nation, and to divide it in ways that too often cleave us still today.

One hundred fifty years since the Emancipation Proclamation and half a century after the Civil Rights Act of 1964 formally ended Jim Crow, our President, his Attorney General, Secretary of Homeland Security and National Security Advisor are all African-American.

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It is a ritual that plays out in black and brown households across our nation every day—as parents teach their young children about the special dangers they face from law enforcement.

Even the mayor of New York, Bill de Blasio, said last week that he and his wife had to prepare their son—''as families have all over this city for decades—how to take special care in any encounter he has with police officers.''

As a father, to hear that is heartbreaking. As someone who has long worked with and on behalf of law enforcement, and who has deep respect for the bravery and integrity of so many who wear the uniform, it's a call to action.

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Mr. Speaker, it must stop today.

## TAX REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, last week, the House passed legislation to extend a number of individual and business tax provisions that expired on December 31, 2013. This legislation would reinstate the provisions retroactively and extend them through the end of 2014.

As a former small business owner, I recognize the tremendous cost that Federal policy can have on American businesses and believe the temporary extension of many of these tax breaks is necessary. However, I have long been a consistent and vocal supporter of simplifying the Tax Code and decreasing the tax burden of hardworking Americans.

If you listen to the political discussion in our country very long, you will inevitably hear some liberal lawmakers repeat one of their favorite lines: all of our country's budget problems would be solved if only we increased taxes. But our old friend across the pond, Mr. Churchill, once said: ''A nation trying to tax itself into prosperity is like a man standing in a bucket trying to lift himself up by the handle.'' History has shown the truth of this statement: increasing taxes increases government spending and crowds out private sector investment, diminishing our prosperity.

It is ridiculous that Americans labor, on average, 111 days just to make enough to pay the government before starting to keep what they earn for the year.

At 70,000 pages long, the U.S. Tax Code is also far too complicated. It is almost five times wordier than the Bible, minus the grace and mercy. It is so complex and intimidating that the majority of Americans pay good money just to have someone else tell them how much the government is going to take from them.

It is also important that we reduce the number of loopholes in the Tax Code, which is why I have voted for the budget proposals introduced by Chairman RYAN since Republicans regained the majority in the House of Representatives in 2011. These Path to Prosperity budgets provide for comprehensive tax reform, close loopholes, and make our country more economically competitive.

The simple truth is that the United States has the highest corporate tax rates in the developed world. Continuing to make it more expensive to do business in the U.S. than elsewhere in the world will not encourage companies to operate and keep jobs in this country.

As we move forward with comprehensive tax reform in the 114th Congress, it is vital that we enact policies that strengthen and stabilize our economy as well as give individuals and businesses long-term certainty.

## RECOGNIZING MINNIE MINOSO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday there was a vote by the Major League Baseball committee on who should be inducted into the Hall of Fame from a particular area. One of the players who was up for consideration—and, unfortunately, wasn't chosen—was Minnie Minoso, and it reminded me of the debt I owe Minnie Minoso.

Minnie Minoso was the first African Latin baseball player. And in 1954, in Memphis, Tennessee—a town I was born in and a town in the Southern United States that was especially a

part of the Jim Crow era—I went to a baseball game, an exhibition baseball game. And I was on crutches because I had polio. I had a Chicago White Sox cap on and a Chicago White Sox T-shirt.

A player came to give me a baseball from the opposing team, the St. Louis Cardinals. I thanked him. And I went and told my father. And we came down to thank him. And he said: ''Don't thank me. Thank that player over there.'' He was the blackest player on the field, number nine, Minnie Minoso. He didn't feel comfortable in 1955 to give me a baseball. Yet he was the player with the most compassionate heart and humility on the field because that was the segregated South.

Minnie Minoso became my hero, and I followed his career and became friends with him. We exchanged gifts. He came to Memphis, and I went to Chicago.

In 1960 when he came to Memphis, he was staying at the Lorraine Motel—the segregated African American hotel in Memphis—because African Cuban Latin players, African Americans weren't allowed at the Peabody Hotel, where the other players were.

I couldn't believe that my baseball hero, a great all-star, was staying at the Lorraine, which happens to be where Dr. King was murdered. But that is where he had to stay.

I learned about segregation from living in Memphis and from being befriended by Minnie Minoso. The insanity of segregation and the separation of people by race, that period of Jim Crow and previous slavery—which existed in this country for 250 years of slavery and 100-and-some-odd years of Jim Crow—still pervades this country.

There are lingering consequences which must be dealt with. The gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF) well addressed them. Much must be done in law enforcement and criminal justice but also in education and opportunities for jobs, which people don't have today in the South and many other places, in inner cities.

So as I think about Minnie Minoso, and I think about segregation and the effect that it has had on America—America's original sin was slavery. We haven't overcome it.

Some write about it and get recognition. People read their books. Ta-Nehisi Coates wrote in the Atlantic. Edward Baptist has written a book about the benefits that America got from the slave trade and how many people made money from it shipping cotton, making clothes, insuring the slave trade. It was the great economic benefit of this country and made this country great, all on slavery. Edward Baptist writes it well.

Michelle Alexander writes in ''The New Jim Crow'' about the incarceration rate of African Americans, that it is wrongfully high. If you are African American, the likelihood that you are going to be arrested and incarcerated is so much greater than a Caucasian for living in the same society and doing the same things.

We must put an end to discrimination in all its forms and fashions. In the criminal justice system, sentencing reform needs to take place. In the criminal justice system, we need to see that law enforcement agencies and prosecutions of law enforcement officers are done transparently and fairly and justly.

We need to be sure that Americans continue to have faith that this is the land of the free and the home of the brave, and that our Nation is one in which people get equal justice, as was planned by our Founding Fathers but was never quite implemented.

## VETERANS MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Alabama (Mrs. ROBY) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss mental health services for veterans.

As you know, physical injuries are not the only ones endured in war. Many soldiers return home with wounds that we cannot see. For some veterans, the psychological trauma endured on the battlefield affects them and their families long after the shots stop firing.

□ 1030

Of the 2 million Americans who served in combat in Iraq or Afghanistan, as many as 300,000 meet criteria for posttraumatic stress disorder. Another 300,000 may have suffered a traumatic brain injury.

Mr. Speaker, for these servicemen and servicewomen, access to quality mental health care is crucial, so imagine being one of these soldiers who recently returned home with the lasting psychological effects that so commonly result from war.

Now, imagine that in seeking treatment from the VA, you are forced to go 67 days without an appointment. Sixty-seven days is the new average wait time for new mental health patients at the central Alabama VA; and, Mr. Speaker, that number has gotten worse. In May, the wait time for new mental health patients was 57 days.

Mr. Speaker, administrators claim that scheduling and labeling errors have contributed to making the problem appear worse on paper than it actually is, but if after all of this time we haven't figured out how to properly schedule patients at the VA, we have worse problems than I thought. I don't expect it to magically improve overnight, but we shouldn't be moving in the wrong direction.

My primary focus is improving care for veterans in Alabama, and there are ways that we can do it. I am eager to see greater utilization of the Patient-Centered Community Care program, otherwise known as PC3, which connects veteran patients with local doctors or specialists.

It makes no sense to make a veteran wait 2 months for an appointment when we can refer them to an outside provider right away. I believe PC3 is a difference-maker, and I will continue to insist the VA leadership utilize it on the mental health side.

Mr. Speaker, a 2-month wait for mental health patients at the VA is obviously a disservice to our veterans, but it is also a major safety concern for veterans, their families, and the public. It might be uncomfortable to talk about, but the fact is we have a very high suicide rate among veterans.

Twenty-two veterans commit suicide every day. The tendency is even higher for young, male veterans, the very type that are returning home right now from war. The last thing that we should do is make it harder for veterans to get the treatment that they need.

That is why I rise today in support of H.R. 5059, the Clay Hunt Suicide Prevention Act. This bipartisan bill aims to, number one, increase access to mental health care for veterans; number two, better meet the demand for mental health professionals; and number three, improve accountability of suicide prevention efforts through the Department of Defense and the VA.

The bill is named for Clay Hunt, a Marine veteran who served in Iraq and Afghanistan, earning the Purple Heart. He was diagnosed with PTSD and actually worked to raise awareness about problems facing people like him returning home from combat.

Like many veterans, Clay ran into roadblocks in his efforts to access care for his PTSD. I encourage everyone to look up Clay Hunt's full story and read about the difficulty he faced getting needed care from the VA. For some veterans, it might sound all too familiar. On March 31, 2011, at the age of 28, Clay took his own life. Clay's story is sad, it is disheartening, and it is infuriating. But what Clay's story is not? It is not uncommon enough, 22 veterans a day.

Mr. Speaker, we have a long way to go as a Nation in making sure veterans in need of mental health care aren't left behind, but let's start this week by passing the Clay Hunt Suicide Prevention Act.

## HONORING PALO ALTO COLLEGE IN SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GALLEGO) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GALLEGO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Palo Alto College on the famed south side of San Antonio. Making a high impact through education, Palo Alto College has been meeting the needs of first generation college students in the San Antonio area and in the surrounding communities.

In doing so, Palo Alto College prepares students for a 4-year degree program or to enter the workforce with

the skills and the training necessary to strengthen the future of San Antonio, Bexar County, and the 23rd District of Texas.

Palo Alto College was officially chartered by the State of Texas in 1983. Two years later, in 1985, it began offering its first classes, and since then, Palo Alto has quickly grown with the city of San Antonio.

In 1991, because of its deep roots in the Hispanic community and its dedication to helping Hispanic families overcome common barriers to higher education, Palo Alto College was named a Hispanic-Serving Institution by the Federal Government.

Today, Palo Alto College serves over 8,000 students and offers 95 relevant academic programs that move the country forward. Programs include criminal justice and aviation technology, among many others. It also works very closely with employers like Toyota to be sure that its students are receiving cutting-edge training. In ensuring the college can meet the demands of Texas' energy production, it also offers programs in oil and gas technology.

It is ably led by Dr. Mike Flores who, prior to assuming the presidency, had worked his way up through each of the three vice president positions at Palo Alto, and he has served the Palo Alto community for over 19 years.

Where others have provided lip service, Palo Alto College has found success. With a firm understanding of the promise that our Nation has made to its veterans, Palo Alto College is committed to ensuring higher education remains accessible to veterans and Active Duty servicemen and servicewomen alike.

Palo Alto College has been listed among the top 20 percent of schools that support veteran education. It has an incredible network of people and resources available to serve veterans. I thank Palo Alto College for the work that they do with our veterans and the Active Duty military. It really is very impressive.

Palo Alto college also plays a fundamental role in the success of many individuals in our community, and its impact will be seen for many generations. Whether it's providing a second chance to nontraditional students through its GED programs or whether it is preparing students for the next level of education, Palo Alto College is there. It is there to meet the needs of the community and to help families achieve prosperity in the American Dream.

I congratulate Palo Alto College on its upcoming birthday—30 years of educational excellence—and I thank them for their continued commitment to ensure education remains accessible. Their mission to provide relevant and needed educational opportunities is admirable.

I look forward to seeing the many successes of those who pass through the doors of Palo Alto College.

## PAYING TRIBUTE TO MASTER GUNNERY SERGEANT JIMMY MILLS HARGROVE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. RIGELL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. RIGELL. Mr. Speaker, it is a special and high honor to be in this Chamber of the people's House to honor, to remember, and to pay respectful tribute to a most remarkable American, a true patriot, and one of the finest marines I have ever known, Master Gunnery Sergeant Jimmy Hargrove. He was a dear friend of mine and my family.

Jimmy was enlisted. He was an enlisted marine. This is my father, Ike; he is also an enlisted marine. He is doing great at the age of 91. He is an Iwo Jima veteran. There is something about enlisted marines, when we meet each other, we often ask, ''Are you a Parris Island marine?'' I was.

If you are a Parris Island marine, you usually give the other alternative, which is this. You say, ''Or are you a Hollywood marine?'' That is, did you go through boot camp in San Diego?

Well, that question applies to virtually all enlisted marines, but there are some whom that question really doesn't apply to because the answer is neither Parris Island nor San Diego, but it is a different place they went to boot camp, Montford Point, North Carolina.

From 1942 to 1949, 20,000 young African American men, young Black men from across our country like Jimmy, didn't go to Parris Island or San Diego. He went to Montford Point, and that is where he endured the training that defines, shapes, and molds young men and women now into marines—fully segregated units.

These marines have gone on to fight in our Nation's battles. Jimmy, for example, fought in Korea and then Vietnam. Some have been grievously wounded. Many gave the ultimate sacrifice for our Nation.

It was fitting and proper, Mr. Speaker, when in 2012 this body and the Senate unanimously passed legislation which President Obama then signed into law which gave to all Montford Point marines, all surviving Montford Point marines, the Congressional Gold Medal. It was a privilege to be at that ceremony. Jimmy took great pride in this, and he was there as well with his family and his wife, Cheryl.

There is no question, Mr. Speaker, that we are a better, stronger, and safer America because of our Montford Point marines, and we are a better, safer, and stronger America because of the life of Jimmy Hargrove.

This picture from 2013 at the Marine Corps ball is one of my favorite pictures. It shows the bond between two marines, really one generation to the next. I consider it an honor to pay tribute to him today.

Yesterday, Jimmy was laid to rest in Arlington. It is fitting that he is there in Arlington in eternal rest. What I really remember about Jimmy and think about is—it is not pictured in this picture, but his smile, Jimmy's smile. He was always so optimistic, and though he knew the bitter fruit of segregation, he, himself, was not bitter.

He was fully optimistic about our Nation, and he fought for our Nation even after his retirement. He engaged in shaping public policy and shaping the way our country is headed. I deeply respect him for this. He did not yield to apathy's seductive call, but he chose to continue to fight for his country.

We marines are a proud lot. It is even embedded in our Marines' Hymn. The last verse is:

If the Army and the Navy
Ever look on Heaven's scenes;
They will find the streets are guarded
By United States Marines.

I think of Jimmy as still being on duty and in Heaven as well. He was a man of deep faith, and so I would say to my friend, in respect for his life and his service to our country, ''Master Gunnery Hargrove, mission accomplished. Job well done, marine. Semper Fidelis. Semper Fi.''

May God grant eternal rest to this fine American, and may God also provide a special measure of comfort and grace to his wife, Cheryl, and their entire family.

## MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 78. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4110 Almeda Road in Houston, Texas, as the ''George Thomas 'Mickey' Leland Post Office Building''.

H.R. 1707. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 302 East Green Street in Champaign, Illinois, as the ''James R. Burgess Jr. Post Office Building''.

H.R. 2112. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 787 State Route 17M in Monroe, New York, as the ''National Clandestine Service of the Central Intelligence Agency NCS Officer Gregg David Wenzel Memorial Post Office''.

H.R. 2223. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 220 Elm Avenue in Munising, Michigan, as the ''Elizabeth L. Kinnunen Post Office Building''.

H.R. 2678. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 10360 Southwest 186th Street in Miami, Florida, as the ''Larcenia J. Bullard Post Office Building''.

H.R. 3534. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 113 West Michigan Avenue in Jackson, Michigan, as the ''Officer James Bonneau Memorial Post Office''.

H.R. 4939. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2551 Galena Avenue in Simi Valley, California, as the ''Neil Havens Post Office''.

H.R. 5030. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13500 SW 250 Street in Princeton, Florida, as the ''Corporal Christian A. Guzman Rivera Post Office Building''.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed with an amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 1281. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize programs under part A of title XI of such Act.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 2142. An act to impose targeted sanctions on persons responsible for violations of human rights of antigovernment protesters in Venezuela, to strengthen civil society in Venezuela, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 100–702, the Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, announces the appointment of the following individual to the board of the Federal Judicial Center Foundation:

Peter Kraus of Texas, vice Richard D. Casey of South Dakota.

## 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 42 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

## AFTER RECESS

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

## PRAYER

Reverend Dr. Robert Jeffress, First Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas, offered the following prayer:

Heavenly Father, we come into Your presence recognizing that You are the one true God, the Lord over all creation.

Father, today I want to thank You for the men and women in this House who so selflessly serve You and serve our Nation. I pray that You would bless their work, protect their families, reassure them that they are in this place of leadership because You have promoted them here.

Today, Father, we acknowledge that all of us are here on Earth not to do our will but to accomplish Your will. We affirm the words of the psalmist who said, ''Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord.''

We confess that no individual, no nation can experience Your favor apart from obeying Your commands, following Your principles. Father, I pray You would grant these Representatives the wisdom to lead our Nation and to do just that, so that we may experience Your blessings and not Your judgment.

We pray all of these things in the name of the One who was born in Bethlehem, who died on a cross, and rose again that we might have eternal life, Jesus Christ our Lord. It is in His name that we pray.

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 gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. FOXX 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.

## WELCOMING DR. ROBERT JEFFRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, our chaplain today is Dr. Robert Jeffress, senior pastor of the 11,000-member First Baptist Church in Dallas. His opinions are ubiquitous on radio and television, as is his radio program, ''Pathway to Victory.''

His weekly TV program is on over 1,200 stations and systems worldwide, while he has authored 21 books and is a FOX News contributor.

While some churches flee downtown areas, Dr. Jeffress led his church in a massive revitalization of downtown Dallas. He has a bachelor's from Baylor, master's from Dallas Theological Seminary, doctorates from Southwestern Theological Seminary and Dallas Baptist University.

He and his wife, Amy, have two daughters, Julia and Dorothy, who are here today, and son-in-law, Ryan Sadler.

Dr. Robert Jeffress is principled, brilliant, charitable, and his faith in God leaves no room for fear of man. He and my wife, Kathy, grew up together in church, and he is a dear, treasured friend of mine.

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee). The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

## NORTH STATE AVIATION

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize North State Aviation, an aircraft maintenance company based in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

In November I had the pleasure of attending the company's fourth anniversary event to celebrate the completion of work on their 300th United Airlines aircraft and 400th aircraft overall.

In just 4 short years, North State Aviation has experienced exponential job growth, going from zero to 365 full-time employees. More than 100 of those employees are military veterans.

However, the economic impact of North State Aviation goes beyond the company itself. While the company's ambitious growth plan has enabled hundreds of workers to find jobs in Winston-Salem, the local community and the region's aviation industry have benefited as well.

As a result of North State's success, Smith Reynolds Airport has been able to afford the ongoing construction of Runway 4–22, and the airport's master plan includes an additional hangar, in part to give North State more expansion space.

North State Aviation is a company that recognized an opportunity and seized it through hard work and innovation. Its resulting success is well deserved.

## SOUTH SUDAN

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my deep concern about the ongoing situation in South Sudan. Next Monday we will mark the 1-year anniversary of the outbreak of civil conflict in that young country, which gained its independence in 2011.

Since that conflict began, as many as 2 million people have been displaced, while 1.5 million people are without secure access to food. 50,000 civilians are estimated to have been killed as a result of the fighting between the rival factions.

Alarmingly, Mr. Speaker, both sides have been stockpiling weapons and are expected to launch fresh attacks once the rainy season ends.

The international community, with strong American leadership, must encourage a peaceful resolution before further bloodshed occurs.

I want to commend the United Nations Mission in South Sudan peacekeepers for their hard work bringing aid to those in need, and I thank Secretary Kerry for his efforts to achieve a political settlement.

I traveled to Juba in 2007. As a matter of fact, the former chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee, the gentlewoman from Florida, was with me. I saw a nation full of promise and hope for the future on the cusp of its independence. That bright future of possibilities for the people of South Sudan ought not to be dimmed by violence, instability, and enmity.

As Americans, we must exert our diplomatic arsenal to bring an end to the fighting and restore that promise of a peaceful and hopeful future for South Sudan.

## SANCTIONS IN IRAN

(Mr. TIPTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, recently negotiations with Iran over the country's nuclear program were extended again for another 7 months. This extension, however, carried no additional or strengthened economic sanctions on Iran. Disturbingly, we have now heard that the administration has considered sanctions against Israel, our ally.

A nuclear Iran poses an incredible threat to the Middle East and to the United States. The security of our allies, including Israel, and the stability of the region is at stake. Stronger sanctions are needed regarding Iran—not our ally Israel—to increase pressure, advance negotiations, and achieve a favorable outcome for the U.S. and all of our allies. There is no room for error, and the administration must get a strong agreement in place.

H.R. 850, the Nuclear Iran Prevention Act of 2013, seeks to strengthen and update sanctions on Iran. This passed the House of Representatives. Despite broad bipartisan support, the Senate has done nothing on this bill. The Senate needs to take it up and increase pressure on Iran to reach an agreement. We cannot afford to wait.

## FEMA AID FOR WESTERN NEW YORK

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, when a natural disaster strikes, the damage and cleanup costs often far exceed the local government's ability to respond and to rebuild.

Americans take comfort in the knowledge that the Federal Government will aid in the response by providing assistance to mitigate the often massive costs of natural disasters.

The recent record-breaking snowstorm in western New York reminded the Nation that Buffalonians are resilient and generous people. That was on display during the storm and its aftermath with so many instances of neighbors helping neighbors.

The storm also left my community with significant expenses in terms of the emergency response and structures that collapsed under the weight of the snow. That is why I have joined the western New York delegation to urge FEMA to act quickly to certify the disaster and disburse assistance.

Western New Yorkers are the first to volunteer to aid other communities in need. Now we must ensure a helping hand is there for them when they are in need.

## THE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

(Mr. DAINES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAINES. Mr. Speaker, last week, the House moved forward historic legislation that represents widespread Montana priorities. From protecting some of our State's greatest treasures, as well as access to our public lands, to developing Montana's energy resources and creating better certainty for our farmers and ranchers, this bill reflects the concerns of Montanans from across our entire State. But just as importantly, it represents the way we do things in Montana and the kind of change we need to see in Washington.

In Montana, we know the importance of rolling up our sleeves and working together to get something done. By coming together, the Montana delegation and Montanans from all corners of our State were able to break gridlock in Washington and bring this most important legislation forward.

I am proud that the House acted last week and passed this bill with strong bipartisan support. I call on the Senate to quickly do the same.

## RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF STEVE SAULS

(Mr. GARCIA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my friend Steve Sauls, Florida International University's vice president for governmental relations, who is retiring after more than 30 years of commitment to the community and the State of Florida.

During his tenure at FIU, Steve helped secure funding for the International Hurricane Center in the wake of Hurricane Andrew, fought to receive authorization for the College of Law at FIU, and played a key role in creating the College of Medicine. Through these efforts and countless others, Steve has helped develop FIU into one of the top public universities in the country. I have been honored to represent FIU in my district and work with Steve to help support this vibrant educational community.

After building a long track record of impressive accomplishments, Steve will be sorely missed. I urge you to join me in recognizing his contributions to south Florida and our country.

## HONORING MAJOR KEVIN TANN, UNITED STATES ARMY

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Army congressional liaison to the U.S. House of Representatives Major Kevin Tann. Major Tann will be leaving his post at the end of this month but will continue to serve our great Nation working in cyber intelligence at the U.S. Army Cyber Command in Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

Originally a native of North Carolina, Kevin chose to attend college at my alma mater, Florida International University, where he earned a degree in criminal justice and a master of arts in public administration.

Commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Army's Aviation Branch, Kevin participated in multiple combat tours in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He has earned the Army Aviation and Parachutist Badges, the Bronze Star Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal, and many others.

It is my distinct pleasure to join with Kevin's family, friends, peers, his wife, Joy Tann, and his son, Kevin Joseph Tann, as they honor the many accomplishments of his outstanding career.

## THE HOUR OF CODE

(Mr. HONDA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the issue of gender imbalance in the computing industry.

Today, women make up over half of the American workforce but only a quarter of the professional computing occupations. We see a similar imbalance in the classrooms. Girls in high school take over half of all the advanced placement exams but only a fifth of computer science exams.

This imbalance deprives the computing industry of a great resource of human capital, and it limits its creativity. To address this imbalance, we need to encourage our female students to pursue computer science as early as possible.

In that spirit, I would like to recognize Computer Science Education Week and the Hour of Code. These programs have reached tens of millions of students worldwide. We need programs like these to ensure that the next generation of computer professionals is diverse so we have all the best talent.

□ 1215

## RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF MAJOR D. ''JIM'' OLMES, JR., OF OIL CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize the life of Major D. ''Jim'' Olmes, Jr., of Oil City, Venango County, Pennsylvania. A World War II veteran, a beloved family member, and community leader, Mr. Olmes passed away last week at the age of 93.

Major Olmes was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for valor as a forward air observer during the Battle of Iwo Jima and the Air Medal and also served as an officer in the United States Marine Corps.

Following his service, Olmes attended the University of Pittsburgh, where he earned his law degree before starting his own private practice. He was also active in the community, serving on the Oil City school board and the former Northwest Pennsylvania Bank and Trust Company board.

Major Olmes was preceded in death by his wife, Virginia Lee Pence, following more than 60 years of marriage together. As reported in the Oil City Derrick, ''His greatest joy was his family.''

Mr. Speaker, let us remember the special life of Major D. ''Jim'' Olmes as we pray for his family during this time of mourning.

## THE USE OF VIOLENCE IS ABHORRENT

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as we come to this season of joy, I am always committed to wishing all of my colleagues of this body, this government, and our people a happy holiday.

We are on the brink of the release of a report that talks about issues of torture which America has stood against. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to communicate that any report of past practices which we abhor does not indicate our lack of respect for the men and women of the CIA, nor does it give excuse to any international provocateur or terrorist to do violence to their own people.

This is a deliberative assessment of how we can go forward, how we can continue to protect this Nation, and as a member of the Homeland Security Committee, it is important to protect our Nation. But we should not yield to those who will use this recklessly and violently to do terror around the world.

Let me thank our marines who are on high alert. Let me also bring to the attention of my colleagues that tomorrow is Human Rights Day, and I hope that we will stand on this floor and promote the values of human rights.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I challenge and charge those who would use this in a violent way: you are wrong, you are wrong, and you are wrong.

## RECOGNIZING THE PUBLIC SERVICE OF NEBRASKA'S LONGEST-SERVING GOVERNOR, DAVE HEINEMAN

(Mr. SMITH of Nebraska asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the public service of Dave Heineman, Nebraska's longest-serving Governor. More important than his time in office is what he has accomplished.

He has kept our State prosperous by supporting agriculture, opening new trade opportunities, reforming economic development incentives, and improving education through greater local control. He has also been an ally of taxpayers by keeping our budget balanced and also advocating for tax reform. Under his watch, Nebraska consistently ranks among the best States to live, work, do business, and raise a family.

Mr. Speaker, I am thankful and grateful for Governor Heineman's leadership and service. I join all Nebraskans in wishing him and his wife, Sally Ganem, Godspeed as they embark on the next chapter of their lives.

## CALIFORNIA EMERGENCY DROUGHT RELIEF ACT OF 2014

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I represent a very rural district in northern California which has been greatly impacted by the drought. The town of Redding, for example, has had its water supplies cut to 50 percent this year. Farmers along the Tehama-Colusa Canal received no water at all from the Central Valley Project, leaving thousands of acres of productive farmland fallow.

After the third year of historic drought—the worst drought in 1,200 years, historic in California—it is imperative that we act immediately to prepare for another dry year.

H.R. 5781 by DAVID VALADAO takes immediate action to store more water and start on this remedy. This legislation is just 18 months in duration, giving us time to continue working with the Senate on a longer-term solution.

H.R. 5781 has two simple components: creating flexibility so we can store more water in preparation for the coming year; and preserving the most fundamental water right of all, the idea that those who live where water originates should have access to it.

We also protect northern California to ensure that those who live where our water originates do not have to have their water cut off while other areas of the State receive deliveries. Under this measure, northern California will be guaranteed access to the water that rains on their communities.

Mr. Speaker and Members, we have worked in good faith to negotiate a bipartisan bill to address California's drought. Nothing in this measure is controversial. It leaves the Endangered Species Act intact, it respects water rights, and it helps every region of California. Twenty million Californians will benefit in some fashion or another.

After several years of drought, it is imperative we get on the ball and prepare California for the coming year. We are prepared to continue negotiating, but there is no water to waste, and there is no time to waste. California needs us to act today by passing this measure while we continue to work through the process.

## RENEWING OUR GREAT NATION

(Mr. YODER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, with each new day brings new opportunities for our Congress to work together and solve problems on behalf of the American people.

As the 113th Congress comes to a close, we do so leaving almost 400 bills that have passed the people's House that we sent to the Senate which create jobs, reduce government waste, and support investment in our Nation's future; yet these bills were never even considered or voted upon by the Senate, and they were never heard from again.

As evidenced by the recent elections, the American people reject this blatant partisanship, they reject the dysfunction of the Senate, and they reject the unilateral action by the executive branch to run roughshod over the voice of the people.

As the national debt soared past $18 trillion last week, we were reminded that it is time to roll up our sleeves and get to work to reduce spending and balance our budgets, to promote energy independence, and to create jobs and grow our economy, to fix our broken immigration system, and to ensure the safety and security of the American people.

Mr. Speaker, we know there is much work to be done. As we turn to hopeful optimism for the next Congress, let's turn the page together, and let's renew our great Nation.

## 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, December 9, 2014.*

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
*The Speaker, U.S. Capitol,*
*House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. 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 December 9, 2014 at 9:22 a.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 2520.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

## 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 incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

## CHESAPEAKE BAY ACCOUNTABILITY AND RECOVERY ACT OF 2014

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1000) to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to prepare a crosscut budget for restoration activities in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 1000

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

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the ''Chesapeake Bay Accountability and Recovery Act of 2014''.

**SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

In this Act:

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term ''Administrator'' means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

(2) CHESAPEAKE BAY STATE.—The term ''Chesapeake Bay State'' or ''State'' means any of—

(A) the States of Maryland, West Virginia, Delaware, and New York;

(B) the Commonwealths of Virginia and Pennsylvania; and

(C) the District of Columbia.

(3) CHESAPEAKE BAY WATERSHED.—The term ''Chesapeake Bay watershed'' means all tributaries, backwaters, and side channels, including watersheds, draining into the Chesapeake Bay.

(4) CHESAPEAKE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.—The term ''Chesapeake Executive Council'' has the meaning given the term by section 117(a) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1267(a)).

(5) CHIEF EXECUTIVE.—The term ''chief executive'' means, in the case of a State or Commonwealth, the Governor of the State or Commonwealth and, in the case of the District of Columbia, the Mayor of the District of Columbia.

(6) DIRECTOR.—The term ''Director'' means the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

(7) FEDERAL RESTORATION ACTIVITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ''Federal restoration activity'' means a Federal program or project carried out under Federal authority in existence as of the date of enactment of this Act with the express intent to directly protect, conserve, or restore living resources, habitat, water resources, or water quality in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, including programs or projects that provide financial and technical assistance to promote responsible land use, stewardship, and community engagement in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

(B) CATEGORIZATION.—Federal restoration activities may be categorized as follows:

(i) Physical restoration.

(ii) Planning.

(iii) Feasibility studies.

(iv) Scientific research.

(v) Monitoring.

(vi) Education.

(vii) Infrastructure development.

(8) STATE RESTORATION ACTIVITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ''State restoration activity'' means any State program or project carried out under State authority that directly or indirectly protect, conserve, or restore living resources, habitat, water resources, or water quality in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, including programs or projects that promote responsible land use, stewardship, and community engagement in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

(B) CATEGORIZATION.—State restoration activities may be categorized as follows:

(i) Physical restoration.

(ii) Planning.

(iii) Feasibility studies.

(iv) Scientific research.

(v) Monitoring.

(vi) Education.

(vii) Infrastructure development.

**SEC. 3. CHESAPEAKE BAY CROSSCUT BUDGET.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director, in consultation with the Chesapeake Executive Council, the chief executive of each Chesapeake Bay State, and the Chesapeake Bay Commission, shall submit to Congress a financial report containing—

(1) an interagency crosscut budget that displays, as applicable—

(A) the proposed funding for any Federal restoration activity to be carried out in the succeeding fiscal year, including any planned interagency or intra-agency transfer, for each of the Federal agencies that carry out restoration activities;

(B) to the extent that information is available, the estimated funding for any State restoration activity to be carried out in the succeeding fiscal year;

(C) all expenditures for Federal restoration activities from the preceding 2 fiscal years, the current fiscal year, and the succeeding fiscal year;

(D) all expenditures, to the extent that information is available, for State restoration activities during the equivalent time period described in subparagraph (C); and

(E) a section that identifies and evaluates, based on need and appropriateness, specific opportunities to consolidate similar programs and activities within the budget and recommendations to Congress for legislative action to streamline, consolidate, or eliminate similar programs and activities within the budget;

(2) a detailed accounting of all funds received and obligated by each Federal agency for restoration activities during the current and preceding fiscal years, including the identification of funds that were transferred to a Chesapeake Bay State for restoration activities;

(3) to the extent that information is available, a detailed accounting from each State of all funds received and obligated from a Federal agency for restoration activities during the current and preceding fiscal years; and

(4) a description of each of the proposed Federal and State restoration activities to be carried out in the succeeding fiscal year (corresponding to those activities listed in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1)), including—

(A) the project description;

(B) the current status of the project;

(C) the Federal or State statutory or regulatory authority, program, or responsible agency;

(D) the authorization level for appropriations;

(E) the project timeline, including benchmarks;

(F) references to project documents;

(G) descriptions of risks and uncertainties of project implementation;

(H) a list of coordinating entities;

(I) a description of the funding history for the project;

(J) cost sharing; and

(K) alignment with the existing Chesapeake Bay Agreement, Chesapeake Executive Council goals and priorities, and Annual Action Plan required by section 205 of Executive Order 13508 (33 U.S.C. 1267 note; relating to Chesapeake Bay protection and restoration).

(b) MINIMUM FUNDING LEVELS.—In describing restoration activities in the report required under subsection (a), the Director shall only include—

(1) for the first 3 years that the report is required, descriptions of—

(A) Federal restoration activities that have funding amounts greater than or equal to $300,000; and

(B) State restoration activities that have funding amounts greater than or equal to $300,000; and

(2) for every year thereafter, descriptions of—

(A) Federal restoration activities that have funding amounts greater than or equal to $100,000; and

(B) State restoration activities that have funding amounts greater than or equal to $100,000.

(c) DEADLINE.—The Director shall submit to Congress the report required by subsection (a) not later than September 30 of each year.

(d) REPORT.—Copies of the report required by subsection (a) shall be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations, Natural Resources, Energy and Commerce, and Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Appropriations, Environment and Public Works, and Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall apply beginning with the first fiscal year after the date of enactment of this Act.

**SEC. 4. INDEPENDENT EVALUATOR FOR THE CHESAPEAKE BAY PROGRAM.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—There shall be an Independent Evaluator for restoration activities in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, who shall review and report on—

(1) restoration activities; and

(2) any related topics that are suggested by the Chesapeake Executive Council.

(b) APPOINTMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of submission of nominees by the Chesapeake Executive Council, the Independent Evaluator shall be appointed by the Administrator from among nominees submitted by the Chesapeake Executive Council with the consultation of the scientific community.

(2) NOMINATIONS.—The Chesapeake Executive Council may nominate for consideration as Independent Evaluator a science-based institution of higher education.

(3) REQUIREMENTS.—The Administrator shall only select as Independent Evaluator a nominee that the Administrator determines demonstrates excellence in marine science, policy evaluation, or other studies relating to complex environmental restoration activities.

(c) REPORTS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of appointment and once every 2 years thereafter, the Independent Evaluator shall submit to Congress a report describing the findings and recommendations of reviews conducted under subsection (a).

**SEC. 5. PROHIBITION ON NEW FUNDING.**

No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from

Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, first, I would like to commend Congressman WITTMAN, the author of the House companion bill, H.R. 739, which has already passed the House earlier in this Congress. I would like to thank him for his work for this government efficiency bill for the Chesapeake Bay.

Mr. WITTMAN is a true champion for the Chesapeake Bay, and this bill is another example of his effective leadership for the bay and his Virginia constituents.

Mr. Speaker, there are two parts to this bill, and I will let Mr. WITTMAN explain that, but I would like to comment also that while section 3(d) of the bill does not require that a copy of the financial report be submitted to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, it is our intent that the director should also transmit a copy to that committee.

Finally, I would like to thank Chairman SHUSTER of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee for his assistance in scheduling this bill for floor consideration. I include in the RECORD the exchange of letters on S. 1000 between our two committees.

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
*Washington, DC, December 5, 2014.*

Hon. DOC HASTINGS,
*Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources, Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I write concerning S. 1000, the Chesapeake Bay Accountability and Recovery Act of 2014. S. 1000 contains provisions that fall within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

I recognize and appreciate your desire to bring S. 1000 before the House in an expeditious manner and, accordingly, I will not seek a referral of the bill. However, this is conditional on our mutual understanding that forgoing consideration of the bill does not prejudice the Committee with respect to any future jurisdictional claim over the subject matters contained in the bill or similar legislation that fall within the Committee's Rule X jurisdiction.

I would appreciate your response to this letter, confirming this understanding, and would request that you insert our exchange of letters on this matter into the committee report on S. 1000 and the Congressional Record during consideration of this bill on the House floor.

Sincerely,

BILL SHUSTER,
*Chairman.*

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES,
*Washington, DC, December 8, 2014.*

Hon. BILL SHUSTER,
*Chairman, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding S. 1000, the Chesapeake Bay Accountability and Recovery Act of 2014.

I appreciate your willingness to forego a referral of this bill, and agree that by not exercising this authority for S. 1000, your committee is not prejudiced in any future jurisdictional claim over the subject matter contained in the bill or similar legislation that falls within the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure's Rule X jurisdiction.

As the Committee on Natural Resources won't be filing a report on S. 1000, I will instead be pleased to include this exchange of letters in the Congressional Record during consideration of the bill.

Sincerely,

DOC HASTINGS,
*Chairman.*

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. With that, Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, the Chesapeake Bay is America's largest estuary, and restoration of the estuary will be an incredible conservation challenge. The Federal Government, States, localities, and conservation groups have spent billions of dollars to improve water quality, habitat, fisheries, recreational opportunities, and tributaries since the first Chesapeake Bay agreement was signed back in 1983; yet the water quality has continued to deteriorate.

The efforts have yielded some impressive successes, but by many metrics, the bay is still in poor health. This is due in large part to the fact that since bay cleanup began in earnest in the eighties, the population of the watershed has increased dramatically by more than one-third.

There is more wetland loss, more polluted runoff, and more nutrients in the wastewater and other sources entering the bay. In a sense, the bay is being loved to death by those who live near it.

President Obama's 2009 executive order on Chesapeake Bay protection and restoration has refocused Federal efforts, and that is a good thing; however, taxpayers and bay advocates deserve to know more about how and how much money is being spent.

S. 1000 would require the Office of Management and Budget to prepare a crosscut budget of Federal agency and State expenditures on bay restoration. This exercise will help identify areas where Bay partners can better coordinate or eliminate redundancy.

Mr. Speaker, this is commonsense legislation that will help improve the efficiency and effectiveness of Chesapeake Bay cleanup efforts. I would certainly congratulate the representative from Virginia (Mr. WITTMAN) for championing this cause and shepherding his version of this legislation through the House.

I would note that today I did hear on the radio that the Governor-elect of Maryland is proposing to further delay or undo some additional restrictions on the applications of chicken manure and other phosphate nitrogen-rich fertilizers that are contributing to the dramatic deterioration of the bay.

I would say this new Governor is being very shortsighted in terms of the benefits of the bay in total versus the small cost that would be imposed upon farmers to get these needed restrictions in place, and I would hope that he reconsiders and hears a lot about this from his constituents.

Mr. Speaker, I support passage of this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WITTMAN). He is the gentleman who sponsored the House version of this legislation.

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would first like to commend and thank Chairman HASTINGS for all of his efforts and his support in bringing this legislation to the floor. We would not be where we are today without his leadership, and it has been a true pleasure and honor to serve with him during his time as chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee.

Mr. Chairman, you have been a tireless champion for preserving our Nation's bountiful natural resources. We thank you so much for the legacy that you have left in leadership, but also for the improvements that you have made in this Nation's natural resources, and I wish you all the best.

Mr. Speaker, S. 1000 is the Chesapeake Bay Accountability and Recovery Act of 2014. I am the author of the House companion legislation, H.R. 739, which has already passed the House earlier this Congress and in previous sessions of Congress.

The Chesapeake Bay is the economic and cultural backbone of our region, and it is one of our Nation's most prized natural resources. Many activities are currently underway to clean up the bay, but without a coordinated effort, it is impossible to ascertain the effectiveness of these programs or to accurately gauge their success.

The restoration effort includes multiple Federal agencies and also includes six States and the District of Columbia, as well as more than 1,000 localities and multiple nongovernmental operations.

While the drive and determination to restore the bay is shared by all of these entities, the effort can be muddled due to the complexity of various participants. As we have seen, we have taken in some instances steps forward, but in some instances, those steps have not

been forthcoming with other efforts. We need to make sure that every effort is indeed making progress on restoring the bay.

□ 1230

At the same time as we look at those efforts, it is difficult to pinpoint exactly where and how much money is being spent across this wide scope of bay restoration activities. To remedy this, we must ensure that Federal, State, and local efforts are not working at cross-purposes and that the restoration effort, as a whole, is coordinated and efficient. Today, when we are in a resource-challenged environment, we must get the most out of the dollars we spend to restore the bay.

This simple legislation would require a crosscut budget to ensure Federal dollars currently spent on bay restoration activities produce results and ensure that we are coordinating how restoration dollars are being spent. That coordination at the local, State, and Federal level is critical to make sure that we demonstrate results and that we continue those efforts that have proven to be successful. It is also critical to make sure that we are not duplicating efforts or unnecessarily spending money in areas that are not producing results.

Second, the bill would require the appointment of an independent evaluator to review restoration activities in the watershed. The Chesapeake Bay Accountability and Recovery Act is a smart, commonsense piece of legislation that will lead to better spending decisions and better government, which will ensure that more resources are available to help restore the Nation's largest estuary, the Chesapeake Bay.

This has been a truly cooperative effort, and I am very grateful for the leadership of Senator MARK WARNER and Senator TIM KAINE as champions of Chesapeake Bay restoration. I would also like to thank my fellow Virginia Representatives FRANK WOLF, JIM MORAN, BOBBY SCOTT, GERRY CONNOLLY, and SCOTT RIGELL—as well as CHRIS VAN HOLLEN of Maryland—and Congressman RANDY FORBES for their consistent support in getting this bill through the House.

I first introduced this bill in 2008, and it has been a difficult road to get to where we are now, but the Chesapeake Bay, too, has had a difficult road. With the House passage today, Mr. Speaker, we will be one step closer to the next chapter of the Chesapeake Bay's long history of efforts to restore her to her previous bounty.

Today, we see that the economic foundation of our region remains vested in the Chesapeake Bay, and it continues to be a national treasure. We hope that with today's efforts it will continue to be enjoyed for generations and generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the Chesapeake Bay and this commonsense bill.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to adopt this very hard bill that went through arduous examination from all aspects, and I commend the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WITTMAN) for his work on it.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 1000.

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. HASTINGS of Washington. 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, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

## JOHN MUIR NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE EXPANSION ACT

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5699) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire approximately 44 acres of land in Martinez, California, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5699

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

***SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.***

*This Act may be cited as the ''John Muir National Historic Site Expansion Act''.*

***SEC. 2. JOHN MUIR NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE LAND ACQUISITION.***

*(a) ACQUISITION.—The Secretary of the Interior may acquire by donation the approximately 44 acres of land, and interests in such land, that are identified on the map entitled ''John Muir National Historic Site Proposed Boundary Expansion'', numbered 426/127150, and dated November, 2014.*

*(b) BOUNDARY.—Upon the acquisition of the land authorized by subsection (a), the Secretary of the Interior shall adjust the boundaries of the John Muir Historic Site in Martinez, California, to include the land identified on the map referred to in subsection (a).*

*(c) ADMINISTRATION.—The land and interests in land acquired under subsection (a) shall be administered as part of the John Muir National Historic Site established by the Act of August 31, 1964 (Public Law 88–547; 78 Stat. 753; 16 U.S.C. 461 note).*

*(d) DATE CERTAIN.—The authority provided in subsections (a), (b), and (c) shall apply only if the lands identified on the map entitled ''John Muir National Historic Site Proposed Boundary Expansion'' are held in title by the Muir Heritage Land Trust by May 31, 2015.*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the John Muir Historic Site was established in 1964 and currently consists of 345 acres in Martinez, California. H.R. 5699 allows the National Park Service to accept the donation of 44 acres of property adjacent to the John Muir National Historic Site. This donation will enhance the recreational value of the existing park by creating new opportunities for visitors. It is a good bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Mr. MILLER on this legislation. H.R. 5699 will authorize the National Park Service to expand the boundary of the John Muir National Historic Site and acquire, by donation, 44 acres of land from the Muir Heritage Land Trust. It will expand the site and help carry on Muir's legacy of conservation and environmental stewardship.

John Muir is an important historic figure to me and to millions of other Americans in terms of his advocacy for the environment. Obviously, we owe him a great debt of gratitude for many, many of the actions of his legacy—Yosemite and Sequoia National Parks, and he also founded the Sierra Club back in the early part of the last century. This bill will contribute to his legacy and help protect and conserve the place where he found solace and inspiration in his later years.

It was interesting to me. I read an article that I would describe as sort of ascribing 21st century political correctness on the part of a few historians—one from UCLA, one from Stanford, and one person from the Center for Biological Diversity—essentially criticizing and denying the legacy of John Muir and using a 21st century politically correct backwards telescope to look at it. It is just extraordinary to me that there are people like that who exist. Sure, he didn't live up to 21st century political correctness, and he certainly couldn't have predicted the phenomenal growth of the Western United States and the need for amenities that relate to the environment in major urban areas, but what he saved is an extraordinary gift enjoyed by millions of Americans and people from around the entire world every year. I just have to say to those people that they are a bit misguided.

With that, I want to congratulate my friend and colleague Representative

GEORGE MILLER on this. Obviously, this is coming at the end of an extraordinary career of service to America and protecting our environment for future generations. I think it is really, really appropriate that Mr. MILLER is moving this bill to help perpetuate the legacy of someone else who, at a much earlier time, also contributed phenomenally to our public resources and assets.

With that, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER).

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I want to thank Chairman HASTINGS and Ranking Member DEFAZIO for their help in bringing this bill to the floor. It has been subject to negotiations that didn't end until just a couple of weeks ago, and fortunately, we have this time for Congress to consider it. It is a very simple bill that will greatly benefit our national park system by expanding the John Muir National Historic Site in my congressional district in Martinez at no cost to the Federal Government.

The Muir Historic Site is a terrific resource for people living in and visiting the bay area. Thousands and thousands and thousands of people come to the historic site every year. Schoolchildren visit it on a regular basis, and certainly visitors from Scotland come to the site to learn about this rather remarkable native of Scotland who stirred up so much activity in the United States.

As Ranking Member DEFAZIO pointed out, he was absolutely key to the founding and existence of Yosemite National Park and Sequoia National Park. In fact, he left his home site that is part of this park and walked to the Sierras to explore the Sierras and to live in them and to write about them. Some of his most famous books were written on those journeys.

This land, what we know locally as the Plummer Ranch, is contiguous to the John Muir National Historic Site. It was once part of a ranch owned by John Swett. John Swett was a very close friend of John Muir. There are many historic pictures of them together. John Swett was, in fact, the father of the California public school system. They spent a great deal of time in this area, both farming, farming fruit and grapes and other agricultural products, and were very close friends. So this donation by the Muir Heritage Land Trust to the Federal Government, if we accept it, will bring these two pillars of California's history together, linking the physical connectedness of their ranches. It will connect this area to Mount Wanda, which was named after John Muir's daughter. He used to have orchards at the top and side of Mount Wanda.

So this is really a win-win for the historic community, and it is a win-win for this historic site which is visited by so many people. It is a win for the taxpayers since the money was raised locally to purchase this land from the original owner and to provide it in donation to the National Park Service. With the passage of this bill, that transaction will be completed. It will expand this park. The Nation will have the benefit of this additional historic asset to the site for people to visit and to understand.

Again, I want to thank Chairman HASTINGS for making time for this legislation in his committee's jurisdiction and deliberations, and my good friend PETER DEFAZIO for allowing me to present this on the floor. Thank you so much to both of you.

I urge all of my colleagues to vote ''aye'' on this matter.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, this is a good piece of legislation. I urge its adoption.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5699, as amended.

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. HASTINGS of Washington. 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, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

## CHIEF STANDING BEAR NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL FEASIBILITY STUDY

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5086) to amend the National Trails System Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Chief Standing Bear National Historic Trail, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5086

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

**SECTION 1. CHIEF STANDING BEAR NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL FEASIBILITY STUDY.**

(a) AMENDMENT.—Section 5(c) of the National Trails System Act (16 U.S.C. 1244(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(____) CHIEF STANDING BEAR NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Chief Standing Bear Trail, extending approximately 550 miles from Niobrara, Nebraska, to Ponca City, Oklahoma, which follows the route taken by Chief Standing Bear and the Ponca people during Federal Indian removal, and approximately 550 miles from Ponca City, Oklahoma, through Omaha, Nebraska, to Niobrara, Nebraska, which follows the return route taken by Chief Standing Bear and the Ponca people, as generally depicted on the map entitled 'Chief Standing Bear National Historic Trail Feasibility Study', numbered 903/125,630, and dated November 2014.

''(B) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The map described in subparagraph (A) shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Department of the Interior.

''(C) COMPONENTS.—The feasibility study conducted pursuant to subparagraph (A) shall include a determination on whether the Chief Standing Bear Trail meets the criteria in subsection (b) of for designation as a national historic trail.''.

(b) TIMELINE.—The feasibility study authorized by the amendment in subsection (a) shall be completed not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 5086, authored by the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. FORTENBERRY), directs the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Chief Standing Bear National Historic Trail.

The proposed trail would extend approximately 550 miles between Nebraska and Oklahoma, following the route taken by Chief Standing Bear and the Ponca people during the Federal Indian removal. The trail would also commemorate the chief's return to Nebraska and subsequent trial in 1879 when he became the first Native American to be recognized as a person in a Federal court decision. It is a good piece of legislation. I urge its adoption.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I rise in support of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 5086 directs the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Chief Standing Bear National Historic Trail in Oklahoma, Nebraska, and Kansas. The trail extends 550 miles following the same route taken by Chief Standing Bear and the Ponca people during Federal Indian removal in 1877 and their subsequent return to Nebraska.

Chief Standing Bear played an important role in American history. He was the first Native American recognized by the United States Government as a person under law, following his arrest

and ensuing trial for leaving his reservation in Oklahoma without permission.

Chief Standing Bear was honoring his son's dying wish to be buried in the land of his birth and traveled with his son's remains, along with 20 other members of his tribe, through harsh conditions from Oklahoma back to their ancestral lands in Nebraska.

□ 1245

Unfortunately, at that time, leaving the reservation was a violation of law.

At the very least, 135 years later, it is only right that we look into the feasibility of including this trail as part of the National Historic Trails system, to reflect on a not-so-proud period of American history in our country when Native Americans were treated as second-class citizens and honor the courage of Chief Standing Bear in living up to the promise he had made to his son.

I thank my colleagues on the other side of the aisle for advancing this legislation, and Representative FORTENBERRY for his leadership on this bill.

I support passage, and urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this legislation.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. FORTENBERRY), the author of this legislation.

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, let me thank the distinguished chairman of the House Committee on Natural Resources for his leadership on this issue and for his many, many years of devoted service to this body. We will miss you. All the best in the future. Thank you so much for your service.

Let me also thank the ranking member, Mr. DEFAZIO, for his support on this important piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, this bill directs the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a feasibility study for the Chief Standing Bear National Historic Trail.

Why is this important? Because, as has already been mentioned, Chief Standing Bear holds a special place in Native American, as well as United States history. Establishing a trail in his name would be an outstanding way to recognize his deep contribution to the well-being of our country.

I would like to provide some additional background on this extraordinary individual who, again, prevailed in one of the most important court cases for Native Americans in our country's history.

Chief Standing Bear was a Ponca chief. In the 1800s, the Ponca tribe made its home in the Niobrara River Valley in the area of northeast Nebraska. In 1877, the United States Government pressured the Poncas from their homeland, compelling them to move to Indian territory in Oklahoma.

Not wanting to subject his people to a confrontation with the government, Standing Bear obliged and led them from their homes to their new reservation in Oklahoma. That journey was particularly harsh and the new land was inhospitable. Nearly a third of the tribe died along the way from starvation, malaria, and other illness, including Standing Bear's own daughter, Prairie Flower, and later, his son named Bear Shield.

Standing Bear had promised Bear Shield that he would bury him back home, back home in their native land in the Niobrara River Valley of northeast Nebraska. Embarking on that trip in the winter of 1878, Standing Bear led a group of Poncas. When they reached the Omaha reservation, the United States Army stopped Standing Bear and arrested him for leaving Oklahoma without permission. He was then taken to Fort Omaha and held there to stand trial.

In the meantime, Standing Bear's plight actually attracted national attention; first, in the predecessor to the current Omaha World Herald, the Omaha Daily Herald, which is our local newspaper back home, and through that, the story became well publicized.

At the conclusion of his 2-day trial, Standing Bear himself was allowed to speak. In doing so, he raised his hand, Mr. Speaker, and he had this to say:

> That hand is not the color of yours, but if I pierce it, I shall feel pain. If you pierce your hand, you will feel pain. The blood that will flow from mine will be the same color as yours. I am a man. God made us both.

With those profound words, Mr. Speaker, on that late spring day in 1879, I believe that Chief Standing Bear expressed the most profound of American sentiments: the belief in the inherent dignity and, therefore, rights of all persons, no matter their ethnicity, no matter their color. To the credit of Judge Elmer Dundy, he ruled then that Native Americans were full persons within the meaning of the law for the first time in that trial.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that the story of the great Ponca chief is a story of strength and grace and dignity in the protection of the most basic of human rights. I also believe it is a story that needs to be told again and again, understood, and cherished by all Americans of coming generations.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that the establishment of the Chief Standing Bear National Historic Trail would honor both his courage and legacy, the legacy of this brave individual, and his contribution to the civil liberties of our Nation.

With that, I urge my colleagues to support the bill and, again, thank the gentlemen for their support as well.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. 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 Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5086, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed with an amendment bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 1204. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to direct the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security (Transportation Security Administration) to establish an Aviation Security Advisory Committee, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2719. An act to require the Transportation Security Administration to implement best practices and improve transparency with regard to technology acquisition programs, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 2521. An act to amend chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, to provide for reform to Federal information security.

## WESTERN OREGON INDIAN TRIBAL LANDS ACT

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5701) to require that certain Federal lands be held in trust by the United States for the benefit of federally recognized tribes in the State of Oregon, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5701

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

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the ''Western Oregon Indian Tribal Lands Act''.

**SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.
Sec. 2. Table of contents.

TITLE I—RESERVATION OF CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE GRAND RONDE COMMUNITY OF OREGON

Sec. 101. Additional lands for reservation.

TITLE II—OREGON COASTAL LANDS

Sec. 201. Short title.
Sec. 202. Definitions.
Sec. 203. Conveyance.
Sec. 204. Map and legal description.
Sec. 205. Administration.
Sec. 206. Land reclassification.

TITLE III—COW CREEK UMPQUA LAND CONVEYANCE

Sec. 301. Short title.
Sec. 302. Definitions.
Sec. 303. Conveyance.
Sec. 304. Map and legal description.
Sec. 305. Administration.
Sec. 306. Land reclassification.

TITLE IV—SILETZ TRIBE INDIAN RESTORATION ACT

Sec. 401. Purpose; clarification.

Sec. 402. Treatment of certain property of the Siletz tribe of the State of Oregon.

TITLE V—AMENDMENTS TO COQUILLE RESTORATION ACT

Sec. 501. Amendments to Coquille Restoration Act.

## TITLE I—RESERVATION OF CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE GRAND RONDE COMMUNITY OF OREGON

### SEC. 101. ADDITIONAL LANDS FOR RESERVATION.

Section 1 of the Act entitled ''An Act to establish a reservation for the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon, and for other purposes,'' approved September 9, 1988 (Public Law 100–425; 102 Stat. 1594; 102 Stat. 2939; 104 Stat. 207; 106 Stat. 3255; 108 Stat. 708; 108 Stat. 4566; 112 Stat. 1896), is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking ''Subject to valid'' and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to valid''; and

(B) by adding after paragraph (1) (as designated by subparagraph (A)) the following:

''(2) ADDITIONAL TRUST ACQUISITIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may accept title to any additional number of acres of real property located within the boundaries of the original 1857 reservation of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon established by Executive order dated June 30, 1857, comprised of land within the political boundaries of Polk and Yamhill Counties, Oregon, if that real property is conveyed or otherwise transferred to the United States by or on behalf of the Tribe.

''(B) TREATMENT OF TRUST LAND.—

''(i) Applications to take land into trust within the boundaries of the original 1857 reservation shall be treated by the Secretary as an on-reservation trust acquisition.

''(ii) Any real property taken into trust under this paragraph shall not be eligible, or used, for any Class II or Class III gaming activity carried out under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.), except for real property within 2 miles of the gaming facility in existence on the date of enactment of this paragraph that is located on State Highway 18 in the Grand Ronde community of Oregon.

''(C) RESERVATION.—All real property taken into trust within those boundaries at any time after September 9, 1988, shall be part of the reservation of the Tribe.''; and

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in the matter preceding the table, by striking ''in subsection (a) are approximately 10,311.60'' and inserting ''in subsection (a)(1) are approximately 11,349.92''; and

(B) in the table—

(i) by striking the following:

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ''6 | 7 | 8 | Tax lot 800 | 5.55''; |

and inserting the following:

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ''6 | 7 | 7, 8, 17, 18 | Former tax lot 800, located within the SE ¼ SE ¼ of Section 7; SW ¼ SW ¼ of Section 8; NW ¼ NW ¼ of Section 17; and NE ¼ NE ¼ of Section 18 | 5.55''; |

(ii) in the acres column of the last item added by section 2(a)(1) of Public Law 103–445 (108 Stat. 4566), by striking ''240'' and inserting ''241.06''; and

(iii) by striking all text after

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ''6 | 7 | 18 | E ½ NE ¼ | 43.42''; |

and inserting the following:

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ''6 | 8 | 1 | W ½ SE ¼ SE ¼ | 20.6 |
| 6 | 8 | 1 | N ½ SW ¼ SE ¼ | 19.99 |
| 6 | 8 | 1 | SE ¼ NE ¼ | 9.99 |
| 6 | 8 | 1 | NE ¼ SW ¼ | 10.46 |
| 6 | 8 | 1 | NE ¼ SW ¼, NW ¼ SW ¼ | 12.99 |
| 6 | 7 | 6 | SW ¼ NW ¼ | 37.39 |
| 6 | 7 | 5 | SE ¼ SW ¼ | 24.87 |
| 6 | 7 | 5, 8 | SW ¼ SE ¼ of Section 5; and NE ¼ NE ¼, NW ¼ NE ¼, NE ¼ NW ¼ of Section 8 | 109.9 |
| 6 | 8 | 1 | NW ¼ SE ¼ | 31.32 |
| 6 | 8 | 1 | NE ¼ SW ¼ | 8.89 |
| 6 | 8 | 1 | SW ¼ NE ¼, NW ¼ NE ¼ | 78.4 |
| 6 | 7 | 8, 17 | SW ¼ SW ¼ of Section 8; and NE ¼ NW ¼, NW ¼ NW ¼ of Section 17 | 14.33 |
| 6 | 7 | 17 | NW¼ NW ¼ | 6.68 |
| 6 | 8 | 12 | SW ¼ NE¼ | 8.19 |
| 6 | 8 | 1 | SE ¼ SW ¼ | 2.0 |
| 6 | 8 | 1 | SW ¼ SW ¼ | 5.05 |
| 6 | 8 | 12 | SE ¼, SW ¼ | 54.64 |
| 6 | 7 | 17, 18 | SW ¼, NW ¼ of Section 17; and SE ¼, NE ¼ of Section 18 | 136.83 |
| 6 | 8 | 1 | SW ¼ SE ¼ | 20.08 |
| 6 | 7 | 5 | NE ¼ SE ¼, SE ¼ SE ¼, E ½ SE ¼ SW ¼ | 97.38 |
| 4 | 7 | 31 | SE ¼ | 159.60 |
| 6 | 7 | 17 | NW ¼ NW ¼ | 3.14 |
| 6 | 8 | 12 | NW ¼ SE ¼ | 1.10 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | SW ¼ SW ¼ | 0.92 |
| 6 | 8 | 12 | NE ¼ NW ¼ | 1.99 |
| 6 | 7 | 7 | NW ¼ NW ¼ of Section 7; and | |
| 6 | 8 | 12 | S ½ NE ¼, E ½ NE ¼ NE ¼ of Section 12 | 86.48 |
| 6 | 8 | 12 | NE ¼ NW ¼ | 1.56 |
| 6 | 7 | 6 | W ½ SW ¼ SW ¼ of Section 6; and | |
| 6 | 8 | 1 | E ½ SE ¼ SE ¼ of Section 1 | 35.82 |
| 6 | 7 | 5 | E ½ NW ¼ SE ¼ | 19.88 |
| 6 | 8 | 12 | NW ¼ NE ¼ | 0.29 |
| 6 | 8 | 1 | SE ¼ SW ¼ | 2.5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | NE ¼ NW ¼ | 7.16 |
| 6 | 8 | 1 | SE ¼ SW ¼ | 5.5 |
| 6 | 8 | 1 | SE ¼ NW ¼ | 1.34 |
| | | | Total | 11,349.92''. |

## TITLE II—OREGON COASTAL LANDS

### SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the ''Oregon Coastal Lands Act''.

### SEC. 202. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) CONFEDERATED TRIBES.—The term ''Confederated Tribes'' means the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians.

(2) OREGON COASTAL LAND.—The term ''Oregon Coastal land'' means the approximately 14,408 acres of land, as generally depicted on the map entitled ''Oregon Coastal Land Conveyance'' and dated March 27, 2013.

(3) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the Interior.

### SEC. 203. CONVEYANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to valid existing rights, including rights-of-way, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the Oregon Coastal land, including

any improvements located on the land, appurtenances to the land, and minerals on or in the land, including oil and gas, shall be—

(1) held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Confederated Tribes; and

(2) part of the reservation of the Confederated Tribes.

(b) SURVEY.—Not later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall complete a survey of the boundary lines to establish the boundaries of the land taken into trust under subsection (a).

**SEC. 204. MAP AND LEGAL DESCRIPTION.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall file a map and legal description of the Oregon Coastal land with—

(1) the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives.

(b) FORCE AND EFFECT.—The map and legal description filed under subsection (a) shall have the same force and effect as if included in this title, except that the Secretary may correct any clerical or typographical errors in the map or legal description.

(c) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The map and legal description filed under subsection (a) shall be on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the Secretary.

**SEC. 205. ADMINISTRATION.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Unless expressly provided in this title, nothing in this title affects any right or claim of the Confederated Tribes existing on the date of enactment of this Act to any land or interest in land.

(b) PROHIBITIONS.—

(1) EXPORTS OF UNPROCESSED LOGS.—Federal law (including regulations) relating to the export of unprocessed logs harvested from Federal land shall apply to any unprocessed logs that are harvested from the Oregon Coastal land taken into trust under section 203.

(2) NON-PERMISSIBLE USE OF LAND.—Any real property taken into trust under section 203 shall not be eligible, or used, for any gaming activity carried out under Public Law 100–497 (25 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.).

(c) LAWS APPLICABLE TO COMMERCIAL FORESTRY ACTIVITY.—Any commercial forestry activity that is carried out on the Oregon Coastal land taken into trust under section 203 shall be managed in accordance with all applicable Federal laws.

(d) AGREEMENTS.—The Confederated Tribes shall consult with the Secretary and other parties as necessary to develop agreements to provide for access to the Oregon Coastal land taken into trust under section 203 that provide for—

(1) honoring existing reciprocal right-of-way agreements;

(2) administrative access by the Bureau of Land Management; and

(3) management of the Oregon Coastal land that are acquired or developed under the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 4601–4 et seq.), consistent with section 8(f)(3) of that Act (162 U.S.C. 4601–8(f)(3)).

(e) LAND USE PLANNING REQUIREMENTS.—Except as provided in subsection (c), once the Oregon Coastal land is taken into trust under section 203, the land shall not be subject to the land use planning requirements of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) or the Act of August 28, 1937 (43 U.S.C. 1181a et seq.).

**SEC. 206. LAND RECLASSIFICATION.**

(a) IDENTIFICATION OF OREGON AND CALIFORNIA RAILROAD GRANT LAND.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary shall identify any Oregon and California Railroad grant land that is held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Confederated Tribes under section 203.

(b) IDENTIFICATION OF PUBLIC DOMAIN LAND.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall identify public domain land in the State of Oregon that—

(1) is approximately equal in acreage and condition as the Oregon and California Railroad grant land identified under subsection (a); and

(2) is located in the vicinity of the Oregon and California Railroad grant land.

(c) MAPS.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress and publish in the Federal Register one or more maps depicting the land identified in subsections (a) and (b).

(d) RECLASSIFICATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—After providing an opportunity for public comment, the Secretary shall reclassify the land identified in subsection (b) as Oregon and California Railroad grant land.

(2) APPLICABILITY.—The Act of August 28, 1937 (43 U.S.C. 1181a et seq.), shall apply to land reclassified as Oregon and California Railroad grant land under paragraph (1).

## TITLE III—COW CREEK UMPQUA LAND CONVEYANCE

**SEC. 301. SHORT TITLE.**

This title may be cited as the ''Cow Creek Umpqua Land Conveyance Act''.

**SEC. 302. DEFINITIONS.**

In this title:

(1) COUNCIL CREEK LAND.—The term ''Council Creek land'' means the approximately 17,519 acres of land, as generally depicted on the map entitled ''Canyon Mountain Land Conveyance'' and dated June 27, 2013.

(2) TRIBE.—The term ''Tribe'' means the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians.

(3) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the Interior.

**SEC. 303. CONVEYANCE.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to valid existing rights, including rights-of-way, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the Council Creek land, including any improvements located on the land, appurtenances to the land, and minerals on or in the land, including oil and gas, shall be—

(1) held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Tribe; and

(2) part of the reservation of the Tribe.

(b) SURVEY.—Not later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall complete a survey of the boundary lines to establish the boundaries of the land taken into trust under subsection (a).

**SEC. 304. MAP AND LEGAL DESCRIPTION.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall file a map and legal description of the Council Creek land with—

(1) the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives.

(b) FORCE AND EFFECT.—The map and legal description filed under subsection (a) shall have the same force and effect as if included in this title, except that the Secretary may correct any clerical or typographical errors in the map or legal description.

(c) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The map and legal description filed under subsection (a) shall be on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the Secretary.

**SEC. 305. ADMINISTRATION.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Unless expressly provided in this title, nothing in this title affects any right or claim of the Tribe existing on the date of enactment of this Act to any land or interest in land.

(b) PROHIBITIONS.—

(1) EXPORTS OF UNPROCESSED LOGS.—Federal law (including regulations) relating to the export of unprocessed logs harvested from Federal land shall apply to any unprocessed logs that are harvested from the Council Creek land.

(2) NON-PERMISSIBLE USE OF LAND.—Any real property taken into trust under section 303 shall not be eligible, or used, for any gaming activity carried out under Public Law 100–497 (25 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.).

(c) FOREST MANAGEMENT.—Any forest management activity that is carried out on the Council Creek land shall be managed in accordance with all applicable Federal laws.

**SEC. 306. LAND RECLASSIFICATION.**

(a) IDENTIFICATION OF OREGON AND CALIFORNIA RAILROAD GRANT LAND.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary shall identify any Oregon and California Railroad grant land that is held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Tribe under section 303.

(b) IDENTIFICATION OF PUBLIC DOMAIN LAND.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall identify public domain land in the State of Oregon that—

(1) is approximately equal in acreage and condition as the Oregon and California Railroad grant land identified under subsection (a); and

(2) is located in the vicinity of the Oregon and California Railroad grant land.

(c) MAPS.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress and publish in the Federal Register one or more maps depicting the land identified in subsections (a) and (b).

(d) RECLASSIFICATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—After providing an opportunity for public comment, the Secretary shall reclassify the land identified in subsection (b) as Oregon and California Railroad grant land.

(2) APPLICABILITY.—The Act of August 28, 1937 (43 U.S.C. 1181a et seq.), shall apply to land reclassified as Oregon and California Railroad grant land under paragraph (1).

## TITLE IV—SILETZ TRIBE INDIAN RESTORATION ACT

**SEC. 401. PURPOSE; CLARIFICATION.**

(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this title is to facilitate fee-to-trust applications for the Siletz Tribe within the geographic area specified in the amendment made by this title.

(b) CLARIFICATION.—Except as specifically provided otherwise by this title or the amendment made by this title, nothing in this title or the amendment made by this title, shall prioritize for any purpose the claims of any federally recognized Indian tribe over the claims of any other federally recognized Indian tribe.

**SEC. 402. TREATMENT OF CERTAIN PROPERTY OF THE SILETZ TRIBE OF THE STATE OF OREGON.**

Section 7 of the Siletz Tribe Indian Restoration Act (25 U.S.C. 711e) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(f) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN PROPERTY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—

''(A) TITLE.—The Secretary may accept title to any additional number of acres of real property located within the boundaries of the original 1855 Siletz Coast Reservation established by Executive order dated November 9, 1855, comprised of land within the political boundaries of Benton, Douglas, Lane, Lincoln, Tillamook, and Yamhill Counties in the State of Oregon, if that real property is conveyed or otherwise transferred to the United States by or on behalf of the tribe.

''(B) TRUST.—Land to which title is accepted by the Secretary under this paragraph shall be held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the tribe.

''(2) TREATMENT AS PART OF RESERVATION.—All real property that is taken into trust under paragraph (1) shall—

''(A) be considered and evaluated as an on-reservation acquisition under part 151.10 of title 25, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations); and

''(B) become part of the reservation of the tribe.

''(3) PROHIBITION ON GAMING.—Any real property taken into trust under paragraph (1) shall not be eligible, or used, for any gaming activity carried out under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.).''.

**TITLE V—AMENDMENTS TO COQUILLE RESTORATION ACT**

**SEC. 501. AMENDMENTS TO COQUILLE RESTORATION ACT.**

Section 5(d) of the Coquille Restoration Act (25 U.S.C. 715c(d)) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (5) and inserting the following:

''(5) MANAGEMENT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), the Secretary, acting through the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, shall manage the Coquille Forest in accordance with the laws pertaining to the management of Indian trust land.

''(B) ADMINISTRATION.—

''(i) UNPROCESSED LOGS.—Unprocessed logs harvested from the Coquille Forest shall be subject to the same Federal statutory restrictions on export to foreign nations that apply to unprocessed logs harvested from Federal land.

''(ii) SALES OF TIMBER.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all sales of timber from land subject to this subsection shall be advertised, offered, and awarded according to competitive bidding practices, with sales being awarded to the highest responsible bidder.'';

(2) by striking paragraph (9); and

(3) by redesignating paragraphs (10) through (12) as paragraphs (9) through (11), respectively.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would first like to acknowledge the gentlemen from Oregon, Mr. DEFAZIO and Mr. WALDEN, for their hard work on this piece of legislation, which will benefit several Indian tribes in the State of Oregon.

H.R. 5701 is a compilation of several stand-alone bills, most of which have been reported out of the Natural Resources Committee and passed by the full House.

Title I of H.R. 5701 would ease the process for the Grand Ronde Tribe to apply for trust land within the original boundaries of its 1857 reservation, which encompassed 60,000-plus-acre acres in Polk and Yamhill Counties in Oregon.

Further, the bill deems property placed in trust for the tribe after 1988 to be part of the tribe's reservation.

Finally, specific tracts of land totaling 288 acres would be placed in trust for the tribe in its former reservation.

Mr. Speaker, title I is identical to H.R. 841, which previously passed the House.

Title II and title III are similar to provisions found in H.R. 1526, the Restoring Healthy Forests for Healthy Communities Act, which passed the House in September of 2014.

Title IV would make it easier for the Siletz Indian Tribe to apply for trust land within the original boundaries of the 1855 Siletz Coast Reservation, which encompassed a large part of the coast of Oregon. Gaming on this land to be held in trust would be prohibited. This is identical to the Natural Resources Committee-reported version of H.R. 931.

Finally, title V would correct a situation with respect to the management of the Coquille Tribal Forest in Oregon. This forest has been regulated as part of the Northwest Forest Plan, which is inconsistent with the management of other tribally-managed forests in the United States. Under this title, the Coquille Tribe would be able to manage its forest under the National Indian Forest Resources Management Act. This will provide the tribe with the ability to better manage their timber resources.

Mr. Speaker, this is a good piece of legislation, as I mentioned, encompassing three other pieces of legislation that the House and/or the committee has already acted on.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, this is the last in the series of bills from the Resources Committee and, perhaps, the last time that I will be on the floor as ranking member and Chairman HASTINGS will be on the floor as chairman.

I just want to thank my colleague from Washington State for all of the work we have done together. We obviously don't always agree on issues, but I think the Resources Committee has reported out more bills and passed more bills in the House than any other committee in this Congress. We have been very active. We are hoping that the Senate will go along with a few that we have pending, and we will get some of those bills enacted into law.

In particular, I want to thank the chairman for his partnership on an issue absolutely critical to the Pacific Northwest, which is the management of the Columbia River system and the Bonneville Power Administration, in the phenomenal gift of that clean and inexpensive power to our region and to the Western U.S. generally.

We have some major issues looming, in particular, the negotiation or renegotiation or termination of the treaty with Canada regarding the Columbia River Treaty. A session that the chairman held in his district in Washington State on a cold day in February was, I think, very critical in helping move that discussion and debate in a productive direction for all the stakeholders and was particularly critical for a position of our region in this negotiation.

I am only hopeful that we will soon get the attention of the State Department and whomever else they have seen fit to involve in this process and have a recommendation from the State Department regarding modification or termination of that treaty so we can enter into meaningful negotiations with the Canadians. The gentleman played a particularly key role in that, and I want to thank him for that and, obviously, a lot of other work on forestry and other issues.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. DEFAZIO. I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Since you opened up commending DOC HASTINGS for his career in the Congress, I want to join you in that. We were both discussing yesterday that we started our careers battling over California water when he came to the Congress and when I came to the Congress, and on the last days of our legislative action we will, once again, be discussing California water. Those are the twists and the turns that this place takes with legislation.

But I want to thank him for his service and leadership of the Resources Committee. He knows how dear those issues are to me in many years of service on that committee. Thank you for your fairness in dealing with a lot of the issues. As Mr. DEFAZIO pointed out, it wasn't about whether we always agreed, but it was about whether or not you could work with one another with some respect and figure out where you could get together on particular issues.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, for too long, Federal policies have unfairly disadvantaged Indian tribes in western Oregon and, obviously, elsewhere around the country. After signing many treaties with the western Oregon tribes, the United States removed them from their original homelands throughout the western part of the State and put them on only two reservations, which were established at the time to house potentially people from more than 60 tribal governments.

Many of the tribes confederated on these reservations far from their ancestral homes. Other tribes refused to leave their ancestral homes and were basically forgotten by the United States, despite its promises that it had made in treaty agreements with them.

Later, in 1954, one of the darkest chapters was when all but one of the

Oregon tribes west of the Cascade Mountains lost their Federal recognition in the Western Oregon Termination Act.

□ 1300

The termination era, as scholars call it, was terrible Federal Indian policy. It was so bad that it was only 30 years later that it was formally rebuked by Congress.

Starting in the seventies, Congress began the process of restoring the western Oregon tribes to Federal recognition and of cleaning up the mess that the United States Government made in western Oregon. In fact, I began my congressional career as an original sponsor of the Coquille Restoration Act, legislation to restore one of Oregon's terminated tribes. I partnered with then-Senator Mark Hatfield on that legislation, which was later enacted into law.

While six Oregon tribes are now federally recognized, it remains difficult for these tribes to function as the sovereign nations they are and to govern themselves as effectively as they could.

Shifts in Federal Indian policy have made it time-consuming and expensive for western Oregon tribes—and other tribes around the country—and the Department of the Interior to work together on land-into-trust issues. These policy shifts have also deprived two of the tribes of sufficient land bases, and it has created a legal anomaly with regard to the Coquille Indian Tribe's forest.

H.R. 5701, the Western Oregon Indian Tribal Lands Act, is a long overdue, no-cost, commonsense bill that will go a long way to helping resolve some of the problems the Federal Government and its policy shifts over more than a century have created for the western Oregon tribes.

This legislation clarifies on-reservation land-into-trust procedures for the Grand Ronde and Siletz tribes, so the tribes don't have to face outrageous delays in dealing with the Department of the Interior. The bill also makes good on decades-old promises to restore land bases for the Coos and Cow Creek tribes, and it puts the Coquille Indian Tribe's forest on an equal footing with those of other Indian tribes nationwide.

H.R. 5701 deals only with Oregon issues, Oregon tribes, and Oregon constituents. All of the provisions in this Oregon tribal bill have received some form of consideration by both the House and the Senate. This package also enjoys bipartisan, bicameral support, the rarest of rare things, I would say, in Washington, D.C., these days.

I strongly encourage my colleagues here in the House to join with me in passing this legislation swiftly, so we can get it over to the Senate and hopefully get the Senate to act before the hopefully soon-looming adjournment of the 113th Congress.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I commended two of my colleagues from Oregon for their work on this, Mr. WALDEN and Mr. DEFAZIO. I failed to mention Mr. SCHRADER, who was the author of H.R. 931, which is title IV of this bill. I want to correct that oversight that I made.

I want to thank my two colleagues for their very kind words. This will, I think, be the last time that I have the opportunity to manage a bill on the floor. I will just say that both gentlemen made the observation that while we don't always agree on things, at least we can understand when somebody comes from a particular position, you can deal with that.

I want to take this time then to correct an assertion that my friend from Oregon made when I had my portrait unveiled. I say that because I think most of my colleagues know my position on wilderness areas is probably contrary to what their vision is.

I want to correct the record because Mr. DEFAZIO asserted that my position on wilderness areas was because, as a child, I was lost in the wilderness when we were camping. I thought that was very clever, but it is not the truth, and so while what he said is not on the record, I get the last word here and will say on the record that I was not lost in the wilderness and that is not how I derived my position on wilderness areas.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to yield back if the gentleman from Oregon is prepared to yield back, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

You forgot I reserved, Doc, so I do get to respond.

I have to say we were looking for a logical reason for what I would say is your recalcitrance to further create wilderness so that areas may remain undisturbed for future generations. I thought that was potentially a plausible reason.

In fact, it was so plausible that the next day in the gym a Republican Member who was there that didn't know either me or you that well asked if that indeed was a true story. I played him along for just a brief period of time and said, ''No.'' I appreciate that you have corrected the record.

In the NDAA bill, we also did do a wilderness package as it relates to your State and some other wilderness bills that I think were very bipartisan and reasonable. I appreciate the fact you supported that.

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

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

I will just simply say it has been a pleasure for me to have worked with you in your position as ranking member, and I wish you the best as you move over to be the ranking member of T&I in the next Congress.

This is a good piece of legislation. As the gentleman from Oregon mentioned several times, tribal issues, particularly in Oregon, are somewhat contentious. I am somewhat familiar with that because I do go to the Oregon coast at least every other year.

I congratulate my colleagues from Oregon for this legislation, urge its passage, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5701, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## CALIFORNIA EMERGENCY DROUGHT RELIEF ACT OF 2014

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, further consideration of the bill (H.R. 5781) to provide short-term water supplies to drought-stricken California, will now resume.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion to recommit at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentleman opposed to the bill?

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I am.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. George Miller of California moves to recommit the bill H.R. 5781 to the Committee on Natural Resources with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith, with the following amendment:

At the end of the bill, add the following:

**TITLE IV—PRESERVING FISHING INDUSTRY JOBS AND THE REGIONAL ECONOMY AND PROT E C T I N G EXISTING WATER RIGHTS PRIORITIES IN WESTERN STATES AND TRIBAL SOVEREIGNTY**

**SEC. 401. PRESERVING FISHING INDUSTRY JOBS AND THE REGIONAL ECONOMY.**

Nothing in this Act shall adversely impact the commercial or sport fishing industries of California, Oregon, or Washington or any population of west coast salmon.

**SEC. 402. PROTECTING EXISTING WATER RIGHTS PRIORITIES IN WESTERN STATES.**

Provisions in this Act changing the relative priority of water rights in California shall not create any legal precedent for any other State.

**SEC. 403. PROTECTING TRIBAL SOVEREIGNTY.**

Nothing in this Act shall undermine Native American tribal sovereignty, or reduce the quantity or quality of the water available to affected Indian tribes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes in support of his motion.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, this is the final amendment to this bill, which will not kill the bill or send it back to committee. If adopted, the bill will proceed immediately to final passage as amended.

There is no question that the underlying bill is controversial, but wherever you stand on the goals of this bill, it is clear that it was not drafted properly. That is no surprise. It was introduced just a week ago and did not go through the normal legislative process. It did not receive a hearing or a markup.

On top of that, the sponsors of the bill failed to consult the interested parties. They didn't consult the fishermen, both commercial and sports fishermen; duck hunters; and others who are deeply impacted by this bill, such as the thousands of farmers who are farming hundreds of thousands of acres and millions of dollars in crops.

They didn't consult the water agencies that are responsible for delivering safe and clean drinking water to the Western States and to many in my district. They didn't consult the tribes whose rights may very well be affected by this legislation. They didn't even consult the Members of Congress from this great delta, the largest delta of the Pacific Ocean. They didn't even consult the Members with direct interest in this legislation.

In fact, it was only when Senator BARBARA BOXER insisted that there be transparency in the process and that we be given copies of the bill that negotiations were called off and Senator FEINSTEIN said that she would take up this bill next year under regular order.

Where does that leave us? With a bill intended to help one region of California at the expense of endangered species that could end up hurting millions of dollars' worth of commercial fishing interests, farmers, tribes, and neighboring States.

My amendment would fix that. First, it clarifies that nothing in this bill would adversely impact the fishing industries in California, Oregon, or Washington. Without this clarification, the bill would result in exporting additional water, which would devastate the salmon population and harm thousands of small businesses and commercial fishermen.

Second, my bill would clarify that this bill would not create a precedent of impacting water rights in other States. This bill is a major rewrite of California's water rights, plain and simple. Most notably, under existing State water rights, the bill's increased pumping for the Central Valley Project would require a reduction in State water project pumping; yet the bill specifically mandates that the water supply for the State water project cannot be reduced, contrary to California law.

This will mean that a small subgroup of water users in California will get a higher priority access to water than they are entitled to under their contracts.

Finally, my amendment clarifies that the bill protects tribal sovereignty and won't reduce the quality and quantity of water provided to the Indian tribes under the Federal Government's tribal trust obligations.

To give you one example of a tribe that could be harmed by this legislation, the Hoopa Valley Tribe in Humboldt County is dependent on water from the Trinity River. Their economy is dependent upon it, their fisheries are dependent upon it, and the tourism of the tribe is dependent upon the water of this river.

We already saw this year emergency water releases from the Trinity River to prevent mass fish kills. If the water is all pumped out of the dam before then, the problem is there won't be any to help the tribe or to help other parts of the economy lower in the State.

Truly, the House should reject this radical, ill-conceived bill. At a minimum, we should pass my amendment that would ensure that the reckless actions of this bill's sponsors do not result in significant harm to our tribes, fishermen, and neighboring States.

One of the rationales for passing this bill by the supporters of it is that this water just flows to the ocean, that is sort of the way God created the plain; but the fact of the matter is it doesn't just flow to the ocean.

As it goes to the ocean, as it leaves the Sierra mountains and comes down the State, it goes past the cities of Sacramento, Concord, and Pittsburg, where hundreds of thousands of people live and depend upon it for their drinking water supply—clean water.

It goes past the United States Steel mill that uses and needs clean water for steel production. It goes past the DuPont chemical facility that needs clean water for production. It mixes with the saltwater in the Suisun Marsh which allows fish to survive the difference between saltwater and freshwater.

It provides all of those kinds of benefits and jobs for hundreds and thousands of people in the industries that are located in the delta and that are located there because of the delta.

Finally, if there is no water, it does not flow to the ocean. That seems to be some kind of indictment against the river systems of California, that it flows to the ocean. If it doesn't flow to the ocean, then the salmon can't get out into the bay, they can't get out into the ocean, and the incoming salmon can't get up to spawn for the next generation.

What happens when that happens? It means that in Oregon and Washington, it will affect the runs that come up here and provide for commercial fishing; that provide for sport fishing; that provide for recreation; that provide for tourism; that provide revenues to the States in terms of fishing licenses, revenues to all of the States, like California. It provides for the wetlands, for duck hunters, and preserves one of the great byways.

That is not just going to the ocean. That is an incredibly important water system. A small group of farmers here want to take it all for themselves.

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

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Washington is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I just simply want to say that we kind of alluded to California water in just a prior exchange. Yes, it is complicated, but I want to be very, very specific.

□ 1315

The bill under consideration today is a short-term fix to something that needs a long-term fix. And the gentleman made a number of arguments, but I think the gentleman failed to read the bill because there are two specific sections in there that are contrary to what he is asserting would happen. Those are section 203 and section 301.

Let me try to be as concise as I can on what this legislation does and why it is important to pass it out of this Congress. This legislation, to cut to the chase, simply says that during rainy periods—California is getting rain right now. They will probably get rain for another couple of months, hopefully. During rainy periods, this legislation simply gives Federal agencies and State agencies the flexibility to direct water to where it is needed—nothing more. It is nothing more complicated than that because it doesn't preempt the Endangered Species Act. It doesn't preempt other environmental laws. It simply says that when it rains, and we are in rainy season right now, that we should have the ability to direct that water where it is needed. That is why this legislation has an expiration date in September of 2016, to give time for a more comprehensive solution to this.

So, from my point of view, this motion to recommit is simply a procedural motion to hopefully stop this process of trying to give short-term relief to the drought in California. I urge my colleagues to vote ''no'' on the motion to recommit and to vote ''yes'' on the underlying legislation.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to recommit.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, the Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the minimum time for any electronic vote on the question of passage.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 182, nays 228, not voting 24, as follows:

[Roll No. 552]

YEAS—182

Adams
Barrow (GA)
Bass
Beatty
Becerra
Bera (CA)
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capps
Cárdenas
Carney
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Connolly
Conyers
Courtney
Crowley
Cuellar
Davis (CA)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Enyart
Eshoo
Esty
Farr
Fattah
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Gutiérrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Heck (WA)
Higgins
Himes
Hinojosa
Holt
Honda
Horsford
Hoyer
Huffman
Israel
Jackson Lee
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
Kirkpatrick
Kuster
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lynch
Maffei
Maloney, Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
Matsui
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McNerney
Meeks
Michaud
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nolan
Norcross
O'Rourke
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters (CA)
Peters (MI)
Pingree (ME)
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Rahall
Rangel
Richmond
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Sherman
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Speier
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NAYS—228

Aderholt
Amash
Amodei
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Benishek
Bentivolio
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burgess
Byrne
Calvert
Camp
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Clawson (FL)
Coble
Coffman
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Conaway
Cook
Costa
Cotton
Cramer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Culberson
Daines
Davis, Rodney
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guthrie
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Heck (NV)
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Holding
Hudson
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jolly
Jones
Jordan
Joyce
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Lankford
Latham
Latta
LoBiondo
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Marino
Massie
Matheson
McAllister
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meadows
Meehan
Messer
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Mullin
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Perry
Peterson
Petri
Pittenger
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Royce
Runyan
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Sanford
Scalise
Schock
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stewart
Stivers
Stockman
Stutzman
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—24

Barber
Campbell
Capuano
Cohen
Cooper
Cummings
Davis, Danny
Duckworth
Graves (MO)
Grijalva
Hall
Jeffries
Labrador
Marchant
McCarthy (NY)
Meng
Miller, Gary
Negrete McLeod
Quigley
Rice (SC)
Rogers (MI)
Shea-Porter
Smith (WA)
Waxman

□ 1343

Messrs. BENISHEK, SESSIONS, COFFMAN, GINGREY of Georgia, and BRIDENSTINE changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia changed his vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 230, noes 182, not voting 22, as follows:

[Roll No. 553]

AYES—230

Aderholt
Amash
Amodei
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Barr
Barrow (GA)
Barton
Benishek
Bentivolio
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burgess
Byrne
Calvert
Camp
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Clawson (FL)
Coble
Coffman
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Conaway
Cook
Costa
Cotton
Cramer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Culberson
Daines
Davis, Rodney
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Guthrie
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Heck (NV)
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Holding
Hudson
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jolly
Jones
Jordan
Joyce
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Lankford
Latham
Latta
LoBiondo
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Marino
Massie
Matheson
McAllister
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meadows
Meehan
Messer
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Mullin
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Neugebauer
Noem
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Perry
Peterson
Petri
Pittenger
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Rahall
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rice (SC)
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Royce
Runyan
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Sanford
Scalise
Schock
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stewart
Stivers
Stockman
Stutzman
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NOES—182

Adams
Bass
Beatty
Becerra
Bera (CA)
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capps
Cárdenas
Carney
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Connolly
Conyers
Courtney
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Enyart
Eshoo
Esty
Farr
Fattah
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Gutiérrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Heck (WA)
Higgins
Himes
Hinojosa
Holt
Honda
Horsford
Hoyer
Huffman
Israel

Jackson Lee
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
Kirkpatrick
Kuster
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lynch
Maffei
Maloney, Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
Matsui
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Michaud
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nolan
Norcross
O'Rourke
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters (CA)
Peters (MI)
Pingree (ME)
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rangel
Richmond
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Sherman
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Speier
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—22

Barber
Campbell
Capuano
Cohen
Cooper
Duckworth
Graves (MO)
Grijalva
Grimm
Hall
Jeffries
Labrador
Marchant
McCarthy (NY)
Meng
Miller, Gary
Negrete McLeod
Nugent
Rogers (MI)
Shea-Porter
Smith (WA)
Waxman

□ 1352

Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia changed his vote from ''no'' to ''aye.''

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mrs. McCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent on December 9, 2014. If I were present, I would have voted on the following: rollcall No. 552—On motion to recommit with instructions—"yea"; rollcall No. 553—On final passage of H.R. 5781—"nay."

## EARLY ACT REAUTHORIZATION OF 2014

Mrs. ELMERS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5185) to reauthorize the Young Women's Breast Health Education and Awareness Requires Learning Young Act of 2009, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5185

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

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the ''EARLY Act Reauthorization of 2014''.

**SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF THE YOUNG WOMEN'S BREAST HEALTH EDUCATION AND AWARENESS REQUIRES LEARNING YOUNG ACT OF 2009.**

Section 399NN(h) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280m(h)) is amended by striking ''$9,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2010 through 2014'' and inserting ''$4,900,000 for each of fiscal years 2015 through 2019''.

**SEC. 3. GAO REPORT ON HHS ACTIVITIES TO PROVIDE BREAST CANCER EDUCATION.**

Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the appropriate committees of the Congress a report—

(1) listing and detailing the activities of the Department of Health and Human Services that provide or support breast cancer education described in subsection (a), (b), (c), or (d) of section 399NN of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280m); and

(2) identifying any such activities that are duplicative with each other or with other Federal breast cancer education efforts.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. ELLMERS) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GENE GREEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. ELLMERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous materials in the RECORD on the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

Mrs. ELLMERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON), the chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise this afternoon in strong support of H.R. 5185, the EARLY Act. This very important bipartisan bill would reauthorize education and outreach programs at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention created to highlight the breast cancer risks facing young women.

Breast cancer, as we know, is an issue that hits close to home for many Americans. While most breast cancers are found in women who are over 50 years old or older, about 11 percent of all new cases of breast cancer in the U.S. are found in women 45 and younger. And while diagnosis and treatment are difficult for women of any age, young survivors often find it even more challenging.

This bill would reauthorize the important programs created in the EARLY Act, first passed to increase an understanding of breast cancer among young women by conducting prevention research and a campaign to raise awareness among the public and medical providers about early cases of breast cancer.

This bill continues to improve the health and quality of life of young breast cancer survivors and young women who are at a higher risk of getting the disease.

I want to particularly thank the two authors of the bill, Representative DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, herself a breast cancer survivor, and Energy and Commerce Committee member RENEE ELLMERS, who is managing the bill this afternoon. I am so proud to support this effort.

The prevention, treatment, and ultimately curing of diseases requires an all-hands-on-deck effort to not only educate but also innovate on new cures and treatments.

Early this year, the Energy and Commerce Committee embarked on the 21st Century Cures initiative with a goal of finding cures and treatments for thousands without one, including this terrible disease.

□ 1400

Sadly, we have all been touched in some manner by cancer or some other disease, whether it is a personal diagnosis or a courageous fight by a loved one. We have been encouraged and humbled by the support that we have seen for this initiative, but also understand that there is a great deal of work ahead. We look forward to meeting that challenge, and this bill helps us.

I would urge my colleagues to support this legislation. Again, I particularly want to commend the two gentleladies who will be speaking here this afternoon and urge all my colleagues to vote for it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to our colleague from Florida, Congresswoman DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, the Democratic sponsor of this legislation.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5185, the reauthorization of the Breast Health Education and Awareness Requires Learning Young Act, or the EARLY Act.

The EARLY Act, which I first introduced in 2009 with my good friend and former colleague Sue Myrick of North Carolina, was cosponsored by a humbling 378 Members of the House and became law in 2010.

This law, which has been capably implemented by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, must now be reauthorized so we can ensure the good work being done by the CDC can continue.

I am very thankful to my good friend, Congresswoman RENEE ELLMERS, for leading the reauthorization effort with me this year. I also deeply appreciate the support and assistance of Chairman FRED UPTON and Ranking Member FRANK PALLONE in helping bring this reauthorization bill to the floor today. It would not have happened without their willingness and their support.

Lastly, but certainly not least, thank you to Senators AMY KLOBUCHAR and DAVID VITTER for sponsoring the Senate version of this important reauthorization bill.

The EARLY Act focuses, Mr. Speaker, on a central tenet, that we must empower young women to understand their bodies and speak up for their health. Too many women and their health practitioners think that breast

cancer is not something that happens to younger women, but the hard truth is that more than 26,000 women under age 45 are diagnosed with this deadly disease each year, and too often, their breast cancer is a more aggressive form and is caught later than it should be.

The EARLY Act created a crucial education and outreach campaign administered by the CDC and highlights the breast cancer risks facing young women while empowering them with the tools they need to fight this deadly disease.

It is also designed to help education and sensitize healthcare providers about the specific threats and warning signs of breast cancer in younger women that lead to early detection, diagnosis, and survival.

The EARLY Act also created the Advisory Committee on Breast Cancer in Young Women within the CDC, made up of breast cancer medical professionals and advocates from around the Nation. The advisory committee is hard at work developing evidence-based messages for groups at high risk, from genetic testing to fertility preservation and the basics of insurance coverage.

The CDC is rolling out a number of targeted media outreach strategies to reach specific groups of young women who are more at risk for developing breast cancer.

Understanding these risks is critical, Mr. Speaker, because the statistics are sobering. One in eight women we know will get breast cancer in her lifetime. Breast cancer strikes women from all backgrounds, races, and ethnicities. It strikes the rich and the poor, those with access to quality health care and those with little or no health care.

I was a young woman at high risk, but I didn't know it. Just months after a clean mammogram in late 2007—I know my colleagues here have heard me tell my story—I heard those terrible words, ''You have breast cancer.''

Thinking of my children and their future, I underwent seven surgeries, including a double mastectomy, and for as much as I thought I knew as an advocate in the fight against breast cancer throughout my legislative career, there was so much I didn't know.

I did not know that as an Ashkenazi Jew, I was five times more likely to have a genetic mutation that drastically increased the likelihood of getting breast or ovarian cancer. I did not know that I am in fact a carrier of the BRCA gene, which gave me up to an 85 percent lifetime chance of getting breast cancer and up to a 60 percent chance of getting ovarian cancer.

I was fortunate that I had the resources I needed to learn about my risks and got the help I needed, but I didn't find my tumor through luck, Mr. Speaker. I found it through knowledge and awareness, which is what the EARLY Act has been able to give so many young women.

After I was diagnosed with breast cancer and experienced the importance of early detection firsthand, I knew that I had to introduce legislation to help other young women facing this terrible disease.

In the first few years of this law, the CDC has already accomplished incredible work: identifying where the gaps exist in education and awareness among young women and healthcare providers about breast health; supporting young survivors through grants to organizations focused on helping these survivors cope with the many unique challenges that they face as young survivors, including fertility preservation and long-term survivorship challenges; and in implementing a targeted media campaign, including innovative social media efforts to reach women at the highest risk.

The EARLY Act has also supported specific statewide initiatives. In Georgia, the State established a statewide breast cancer genetics services network for referrals of women at high risk and to help collect baseline and post-implementation data.

In 2012, Michigan distributed over 14,000 Michigan Department of Community Health cancer family history guides to assist providers in identifying high-risk patients for referral to genetic specialists.

In addition to the 30 bipartisan cosponsors here in the House, the reauthorization of the EARLY Act has the support of the Susan G. Komen foundation, the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, Livestrong Foundation, Young Survival Coalition, Living Beyond Breast Cancer, Cancer Support Community, FORCE, the Black Women's Health Imperative, and the Tigerlily Foundation.

I know these groups have a deep understanding of both the amazing work we have accomplished so far but also the challenges that lie ahead. We must continue these important efforts and empower more women with the knowledge and tools they need to fight this disease, not just to survive, but to thrive. Together, we can save more of our moms, sisters, grandmothers, daughters, and sister friends.

Please help us keep up the momentum and stand with Congresswoman ELLMERS and myself and countless young women in support of reauthorization of the EARLY Act.

Mr. Speaker, if I might add, on Sunday, I marked a celebration of 7 years as a survivor of breast cancer, so this is particularly poignant and significant, and I am so appreciative of the leadership of the House on both sides of the aisle for giving this bill the full attention that it needs and deserves.

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

Mr. Speaker, I just want to say that I am so proud and honored to have been asked to join with my good friend, DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ from Florida, as an original cosponsor on this very important bipartisan EARLY Act and thrilled to see this reauthorization considered in the House of Representatives.

The EARLY Act has a proven record of success, saving countless lives through both preventive and early detection measures. Unfortunately, like many good friends like my friend from Florida, they were stricken with an awful cancer.

There are still far too many courageous women fighting this disease, including a dear friend of mine back home in Dunn, Fonnie Godwin. Fonnie was diagnosed with breast cancer at the age of 42, and 4 years later, she continues her courageous fight against this disease.

The EARLY Act will serve to shed light on this disease and give hope to all women like Fonnie who are still fighting this awful, awful cancer. This legislation ensures that all women, young and old, have the information and resources necessary to protect themselves and also supports those who are in remission.

This legislation will continue its important work of educating future generations on the risks associated with this disease. I look forward to seeing the EARLY Act pass this House and advance on to the Senate today.

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

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5185, the EARLY Act Reauthorization of 2014. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, over 220,000 women and 2,000 men were diagnosed with breast cancer in 2011, making breast cancer the most common cancer among women. Approximately 11 percent of the new breast cancer cases occur in women under 45 years of age.

Young women who have close relatives diagnosed with breast cancer before age 45, have changes in certain breast cancer genes, were treated with radiation therapy to the breast or the chest as a child or a young adult, or possess certain other risk factors may be at higher risk for getting breast cancer at a young age.

The EARLY Act was first signed into law in 2010 to improve young women's breast health awareness and assist young women diagnosed with breast cancer. The act has supported public health research on breast cancer in young women, communication and education initiatives, and support services to young breast cancer survivors and their families.

Mr. Speaker, today's legislation reauthorizes the EARLY Act at currently appropriated funding levels and requires a study to identify any activities under the act that are duplicative of other Federal breast cancer education efforts.

I want to acknowledge Representatives WASSERMAN SCHULTZ and ELLMERS for their work on this issue and also thank leaders and staff on the Energy and Commerce Committee for helping to bring H.R. 5185 to the floor today.

I urge colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation. Breast cancer is an issue that has touched almost every family I know, and this is one way Congress can react to it.

Mr. Speaker, we are ready to close, and we have no other speakers.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. ELLMERS. Mr. Speaker, we are ready to close.

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

I just want to say again thank you to my good friend for allowing me to be a part of this. I know how important it is to her and, again, thousands and thousands like her; and, again, to my friend Fonnie Godwin back home, Fonnie has touched so many lives. She is a teacher, she is a wife and a mother, and she is involved in her church and her community.

On Christmas Eve, she will be at First Presbyterian Church in Dunn playing the bells in the choir. I always see a smile on Fonnie's face, and today, I want to make that smile even bigger.

Again, Mr. Speaker, thank you so much for allowing this to move forward today, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FLEISCHMANN). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. ELLMERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5185, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## PROPANE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2014

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5705) to modify certain provisions relating to the Propane Education and Research Council.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5705

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

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the ''Propane Education and Research Enhancement Act of 2014''.

**SEC. 2. PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE PROPANE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH COUNCIL.**

(a) FUNCTIONS OF PROPANE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH COUNCIL.—Section 5(f) of the Propane Education and Research Act of 1996 (15 U.S.C. 6404(f)) is amended in the first sentence by inserting ''to train propane distributors and consumers in strategies to mitigate negative effects of future propane price spikes,'' after ''to enhance consumer and employee safety and training,''.

(b) MARKET SURVEY AND CONSUMER PROTECTION PRICE ANALYSIS.—Section 9(a) of the Propane Education and Research Act of 1996 (15 U.S.C. 6408(a)) is amended in the first sentence by striking ''only data provided by the Energy Information Administration'' and inserting ''the refiner price to end users of consumer grade propane, as published by the Energy Information Administration''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GENE GREEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous materials in the RECORD on the bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5705, the Propane Education and Research Enhancement Act of 2014, which I introduced along with Congressman WALZ. This important, bipartisan legislation directs the U.S. Department of Commerce to more accurately calculate consumer propane costs. It also enables the propane industry to use its resources to mitigate price spikes.

Last winter in my home State of Ohio, as well as across 26 other States across the country, the lives and livelihoods of many Americans were threatened due to the propane shortages that were being experienced. Access to heat is a requirement for survival and employment, and we want to make sure that Americans do not face the same hardships again this winter or in future winters.

This bill would take the necessary steps to allow the propane industry to adequately address propane supply in pricing issues so consumers are not negatively impacted this coming winter.

□ 1415

In 1996, Congress enacted the Propane Education and Research Act, PERA, authorizing the propane to collect and use its own resources for safety, training, research and development, and education for the benefit of propane consumers and the public. The law also established the Propane Education and Research Council, PERC, to accomplish these goals.

To prevent this program from creating a disproportionate demand for propane, the Department of Commerce is required to annually calculate the price for consumer grade propane and compare it with an index of prices of specified competing fuels. If the price of propane exceeds a certain threshold, PERC is restricted from conducting its educational outreach activities.

In 2009, due to a misinterpretation of the law by the Department of Commerce, the restriction was triggered and all educational outreach by PERC ceased. While the Department of Commerce believes Congress intended PERA to focus only on residential-only propane, the text of the law does not limit it to the residential market.

To correct this discrepancy, the Propane Education and Research Enhancement Act of 2014 would clarify the language in the law to require the Department of Commerce to use the proper data and bring the application of the law back in line with Congress' intent. It would also amend the existing functions of PERC to include training distributors and consumers in strategies to mitigate the negative effects of propane price spikes.

Over the past year, I have been working on this legislation with stakeholders and with Congressman WALZ to help mitigate having another propane shortage. This legislation is an important step in helping to achieve this, and I urge full support by my colleagues for H.R. 5705.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. WALZ), the sponsor of this bill.

Mr. WALZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas, and a special thank you to my friend, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA).

This is a commonsense piece of legislation, but I think it is important to note, for many of us, and my colleague mentioned, last year when the propane shortage came, folks can prepare—and we understand out in Ohio and Minnesota with our harsh winters that you prepare for these things—but the situation with propane came so quickly and so fast that the imposition that it made in some cases could have become life threatening, where propane tanks were running empty and families were counting on it to heat their homes. We have a lot of agricultural uses in drying our row crops where it is critically important, and I think it is important to note that at that time the gentleman from Ohio stood up and became a national leader on this issue and I think helped not only alleviate at the time but start doing things like this looking to the future.

This is what we should be doing. This is smart, making sure that our markets work correctly and making sure that the intent of Congress is followed and making sure that our consumers are well served. I thank you for that. I think this is exactly what our constituents expect. I know there are a lot of folks in southern Minnesota who have benefited from this.

This is a fairly simple fix. It comes from a misinterpretation. But I think the point that the gentleman has brought up that is critically important, markets are starting to function. We are seeing this, but this is an education piece. I think when we educate the public right on this, and you heard some of the implications of that, by not doing that, when they stopped all education on this, the propane shortage of last winter came quickly. It

came fast, and it had immediate repercussions.

I would say once we correct this deficiency, amend it, it will make a difference. It will enable the propane industry to use its resources to mitigate price spikes, and it will more accurately let consumers know what the price of propane is.

So I think this is a fairly simple fix. But nothing is simple in Congress, as we know, and nothing is simple when you are dealing with a complex commodity such as propane. But I do think that as we move into this winter, knocking on wood is one thing, but leadership like the gentleman from Ohio has shown is also helping us.

I encourage my colleagues to support this commonsense piece of legislation and move this forward. Again, this is what we are sent here to do, to try to make things a little bit better and make sure our markets function correctly and make sure our constituents are being educated correctly.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I have no other speakers on the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I support H.R. 5705, the Propane Education and Research Act.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support H.R. 5705, the Propane Education and Research Enhancement Act.

Today, tens of millions of Americans rely on propane and heating oil.

Propane and propane accessories are used in everyday life from cooking to commercial agricultural uses are vital to farmers in the Midwest that use propane to dry corn and feed the world.

Heating oil is used throughout the Northeast to heat homes and water during the long New England winter.

Personally, in years past, I've relied on propane when I didn't have access to the vast network of pipelines that supply natural gas.

Unfortunately, like many important commodities, unless you've run out of propane or heating oil, most people probably don't know or understand the vast importance of this product.

In the early 2000s, the Energy and Commerce Committee passed legislation that authorized the Propane Education and Research Council and the National Oilheat Research Alliance.

These two national entities implement consumer education, research and development, and safety and training programs related to the use of propane and heating oil.

While PERC and NORA are federally-authorized, these two organizations cost the federal government absolutely nothing.

But they play an important role in the communities they serve.

H.R. 5705 amends the Propane Education and Research Act of 1996, the original legislation, and expands the ability of PERC to educate distributors and consumers in strategies to deal with future propane price spikes.

Last winter, the United States faced a propane emergency.

The industry has stepped up to ensure that we don't face another crisis like that.

But we always need to be prepared and armed with knowledge of how to better deal with any situation.

With preparation legislation like H.R. 5705, we can assist Americans, all over the country, by sharing the best information possible.

I lend my support to H.R. 5705 and I am pleased my colleagues do the same.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Again, as the gentleman from Minnesota pointed out, we had a great shortage last winter that affected small family farms and large farms across the country. We had situations where businesses were being affected and having to shut down. So this is a very important bill that will help folks make sure that hopefully we don't have that situation occur again.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 5705.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5705.

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.

## GREAT LAKES RESTORATION INITIATIVE ACT OF 2014

Mr. GIBBS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5764) to authorize the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5764

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

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the ''Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Act of 2014''.

**SEC. 2. GREAT LAKES RESTORATION INITIATIVE.**

Section 118(c) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1268(c)) is amended by striking paragraph (7) and inserting the following:

''(7) GREAT LAKES RESTORATION INITIATIVE.—

''(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the Agency a Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (referred to in this paragraph as the 'Initiative') to carry out programs and projects for Great Lakes protection and restoration.

''(B) FOCUS AREAS.—The Initiative shall prioritize programs and projects carried out in coordination with non-Federal partners and programs and projects that address priority areas each fiscal year, including—

''(i) the remediation of toxic substances and areas of concern;

''(ii) the prevention and control of invasive species and the impacts of invasive species;

''(iii) the protection and restoration of nearshore health and the prevention and mitigation of nonpoint source pollution;

''(iv) habitat and wildlife protection and restoration, including wetlands restoration and preservation; and

''(v) accountability, monitoring, evaluation, communication, and partnership activities.

''(C) PROJECTS.—Under the Initiative, the Agency shall collaborate with Federal partners, including the Great Lakes Interagency Task Force, to select the best combination of programs and projects for Great Lakes protection and restoration using appropriate principles and criteria, including whether a program or project provides—

''(i) the ability to achieve strategic and measurable environmental outcomes that implement the Great Lakes Action Plan and the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement;

''(ii) the feasibility of—

''(I) prompt implementation;

''(II) timely achievement of results; and

''(III) resource leveraging; and

''(iii) the opportunity to improve interagency and inter-organizational coordination and collaboration to reduce duplication and streamline efforts.

''(D) IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECTS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Funds made available to carry out the Initiative shall be used to strategically implement—

''(I) Federal projects; and

''(II) projects carried out in coordination with States, Indian tribes, municipalities, institutions of higher education, and other organizations.

''(ii) TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—With amounts made available for the Initiative each fiscal year, the Administrator may—

''(I) transfer not more than $300,000,000 to the head of any Federal department or agency, with the concurrence of the department or agency head, to carry out activities to support the Initiative and the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement; and

''(II) enter into an interagency agreement with the head of any Federal department or agency to carry out activities described in subclause (I).

''(E) SCOPE.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Projects shall be carried out under the Initiative on multiple levels, including—

''(I) Great Lakes-wide; and

''(II) Great Lakes basin-wide.

''(ii) LIMITATION.—No funds made available to carry out the Initiative may be used for any water infrastructure activity (other than a green infrastructure project that improves habitat and other ecosystem functions in the Great Lakes) for which amounts are made available from—

''(I) a State water pollution control revolving fund established under title VI; or

''(II) a State drinking water revolving loan fund established under section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300j–12).

''(F) ACTIVITIES BY OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.—Each relevant Federal department or agency shall, to the maximum extent practicable—

''(i) maintain the base level of funding for the Great Lakes activities of that department or agency without regard to funding under the Initiative; and

''(ii) identify new activities and projects to support the environmental goals of the Initiative.

''(G) FUNDING.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out the Initiative $300,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2015 through 2019.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. GIBBS) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GIBBS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 5764.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5764, the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Act of 2014.

The Great Lakes are an important resource for the United States. More than 30 million people live in the Great Lakes region, and the lakes help support over $200 billion a year in economic activity.

To help ensure coordination between Federal, State, and private parties in protecting and restoring the Great Lakes, a Great Lakes Interagency Task Force of Federal agencies was created in 2004. In 2010, the task force released an action plan as part of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative to accelerate efforts to protect and restore the Great Lakes.

In September of this year, the Federal agencies released an updated Action Plan II, which summarized the actions that the Federal agencies planned to implement during fiscal years 2015 through 2019 using Great Lakes funding. The action plan aims to strategically target the biggest threats to the Great Lakes ecosystem and to accelerate progress toward long-term goals.

Congressman JOYCE introduced H.R. 5764 to amend the Great Lakes program provisions under section 118 of the Clean Water Act to formally authorize the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative for 5 years and to carry out projects and activities for Great Lakes protection and restoration.

Under the initiative, the Environmental Protection Agency is to collaborate with other Federal partners, including the Great Lakes Interagency Task Force, to select the best combination of projects and activities for Great Lakes protection and restoration. Specified principles and criteria are to be used in selecting projects and activities, including whether they, one, improve the interagency and interorganizational coordination and collaboration to reduce duplication and streamline efforts; two, provide the ability to timely achieve strategic and measurable environmental outcomes and leverage resources with other Federal and non-Federal partners.

The bill authorizes the initiative for fiscal year 2015 through 2019. I encourage all Members to support H.R. 5764.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5764, the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Act of 2014.

Let me start by recognizing the hard work of the bipartisan cosponsors of this legislation, including the retiring dean of the House, Mr. DINGELL, and commend their efforts to move this legislation.

H.R. 5764 would authorize Federal appropriations for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, a program initiated by this administration to coordinate the Federal restoration efforts of the Great Lakes.

For the decades leading up to the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, many Federal agencies were involved in the cleanup and protection of the Great Lakes. However, their efforts were far from coordinated, resulting in inefficient cleanup activities that made little progress in the overall health of the Great Lakes.

In 2010, this administration launched the initiative to accelerate efforts to protect and restore the largest fresh surface water system in the world, the Great Lakes. Under the leadership of the former EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson, this initiative prioritized five focus areas: cleaning up toxics and the Great Lakes areas of concern; combating invasive species; promoting the near-shore health by protecting watersheds from polluted runoff; restoring wetlands and other habitats; and tracking the progress made, as well as educating and working with strategic partners.

As of August 2013, the initiative has funded more than 1,500 projects and programs of the highest priority to meet immediate cleanup and restoration and protection needs. As a result of these efforts, there is tangible proof that the health of the Great Lakes is improving—from the delisting of two additional U.S. Great Lakes Areas of Concern to a list of over 30 success stories recently documented by the Healing Our Waters Coalition. Yet additional progress is needed, and the authorization of appropriations contained in H.R. 5764 is a good step forward to continuing this effort.

However, I would note that most of the successes of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative can all be traced back to one factor that I have highlighted over and over again in this Congress: the critical need for robust Federal funding.

As I noted during floor consideration of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2013, as well as during numerous other authorization and appropriation bills this Congress, to see real progress in the programs we establish, we need also to provide the critical funding to our Federal agencies that implement these programs.

Too often these days we seem driven to cut Federal spending for programs that provide a real benefit to our Nation without an awareness of the consequences of these actions. This Chamber will recognize that there are places where the Federal Government can help and should be making increased investments, such as to repair our crumbling infrastructure or to protect our fragile natural environment. Yet later this week, I fear that we will again be asked to vote on an appropriations package for the Federal Government that woefully underfunds critical investments in our Nation's future, from building the transportation infrastructure that will keep our country competitive into the next century, to investing in the water-related infrastructure that protects communities, families, and businesses, to making targeted improvements to our natural environment to ensure the protection of human, economic, and environmental health for generations to come.

We need to do better. We need to recognize that the expenditure of Federal money to invest in our Nation is not inherently a bad thing. We need to understand that the Federal Government needs to be an active partner in addressing many of the complex challenges facing our States, our communities, and our everyday lives. And we need to support the missions of those Federal agencies we have charged with ensuring the long-term economic and environmental health of this Nation. These are only some of the ongoing challenges that face this Nation, and we need a Congress that is serious about taking on the hard questions and making the right investments, not only for our own lives and livelihoods, but for those generations of Americans to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the bipartisan sponsors of this legislation for ensuring that the new authorization shows some willingness to provide robust funding for these restoration efforts rather than simply and mindlessly cutting these programs. I urge support of H.R. 5764.

I reserve the balance of my time.

DECEMBER 8, 2014.

DEAR MEMBERS OF THE GREAT LAKES HOUSE DELEGATION: We are writing to convey our support for H.R. 5764, the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Act of 2014, bipartisan legislation recently introduced by Representatives David Joyce, Louise Slaughter, Sander Levin, and John Dingell. We understand the bill may be considered this week under suspension of the rules and urge you to support it. This is a top regional priority for the Great Lakes states, local communities, tribes, conservation organizations, and business and industry.

This legislation provides formal authorization for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI), an ambitious regional restoration program for the Great Lakes that is cleaning up degraded ''toxic hotspots,'' halting Asian carp and other invasive species, and preventing polluted runoff that closes beaches and causes harmful algal blooms. It provides a solid legislative platform to ensure our region continues to work together successfully to implement a science-based and outcomes-focused plan of action for restoring and protecting the Great Lakes.

The bill directs U.S. EPA to collaborate with the Great Lakes Interagency Task Force and state and local partners to select the best combination of projects to protect and restore the Great Lakes. It focuses on restoration projects that can be implemented quickly, will achieve environmental outcomes outlined in the new Great Lakes

Action Plan and Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, and that leverage other funding.

Passing this legislation now will clarify the focus and accountability of our restoration efforts and ensure the program continues to achieve effective results. We recently worked with federal agencies to rewrite the GL RI Action Plan, which lays out our region's restoration goals and objectives, and revises how we measure progress. The new plan addresses the Government Accountability Office's review, which found no major deficiencies in the GLRI program.

Restoring the Great Lakes creates jobs, stimulates economic development, and protects fresh drinking water for 30 million people. The lakes currently generate over 1.5 million jobs and $60 billion in wages annually, and provide the foundation for a $30 billion tourism economy. Clearly, the Great Lakes are an invaluable resource worth restoring and protecting, and this legislation is critical to our collective efforts toward this end. We urge you to support this bill.

Sincerely,

TIM EDER,
*Executive Director, Great Lakes Commission.*

TODD AMBS,
*Director, Healing Our Waters—Great Lakes Coalition.*

WILLIAM TAYLOR,
*Chair, U.S. Section, Great Lakes Fishery Commission.*

DAVID A. ULLRICH,
*Executive Director, Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative.*

JANE A. TENEYCK,
*Executive Director, Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority.*

KATHRYN A. BUCKNER,
*President, Council of Great Lakes Industries.*

ED WOLKING, JR.,
*Executive Director, Great Lakes Metro Chambers Coalition.*

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HEALING OUR WATERS—
GREAT LAKES COALITION,
*December 8, 2014.*

*House of Representatives,*
*Washington, DC.*

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: On behalf of the Healing Our Waters—Great Lakes Coalition, we write today to ask you to vote for H.R. 5764, the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Act of 2014. The legislation is vital in the ongoing effort to restore the Great Lakes, which supplies drinking water to more than 30 million people.

The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Act helps achieve our region's restoration goals by formally authorizing the popular Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI). The GLRI is a successful, bipartisan response to protecting and restoring one-fifth of the world's surface fresh water. Our region's recent restoration efforts started when President George W. Bush asked for a restoration blueprint, which the 1,500 stakeholders that were a part of the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration produced in 2005. President Barack Obama continued this effort when he recommended funding in his fiscal year 2010 budget for the implementation of this strategy through Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. The GLRI is an innovative, action-oriented approach targeting the region's biggest environmental problems like invasive species, legacy contaminants, habitat loss, and polluted runoff from farms and cities. It allows the Environmental Protection Agency to enter into interagency agreements with other federal agencies to utilize their existing competitive grant programs allowing the region to quickly and effectively undertake restoration work throughout the Great Lakes basin.

Because of this coordinated effort between federal agencies and non-federal stakeholders, we are seeing tremendous results. Since 2010, three U.S. Areas of Concern (Presque Isle Bay, PA; Deer Lake, MI; White Lake, MI) have been cleaned up and taken off the list of contaminated sites. Before the GLRI, only one site had been delisted since 1987 (Oswego River, NY). The management actions necessary for delisting the Sheboygan River (WI), Waukegan Harbor (IL), and Ashtabula River (OH) AOCs have also been completed. The GLRI has accelerated the cleanup of regional toxic sites. Between 2010 through 2013, the GLRI removed 42 impairments—from drinking water restrictions to swimming advisories—from 17 contaminated sites. The number of so-called ''beneficial use impairments'' that have been removed across the region has quadrupled under the GLRI. In fact, more impairments have been removed since the GLRI began in 2010 than in the preceding 22 years.

In addition, from 2004 to 2009, the Great Lakes region was the only area in the country to show a gain in wetland acreage. Now the GLRI is building on that foundation with a goal to restore one million acres in the basin. So far, the Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (among others) restored, protected, or enhanced over 115,000 acres of wetlands and other habitat. More than 1,900 river miles were cleared of over 250 barriers resulting in fish swimming into stretches of river where they had been absent for decades. Based on U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service monitoring, GLRI-sponsored actions are increasing self-sustaining populations of native species important to the Great Lakes, like lake sturgeon—as well as supporting the region's multi-billion dollar outdoor recreation economy. For example, efforts in the Saginaw River watershed have contributed to the now self-sustaining walleye population in Saginaw Bay, MI.

However, there is still much work that needs to be done. Aging sewers, invasive species, and toxic pollutants are just a few of the pervasive threats that impact the region, endangering human and wildlife health, lowering property values, and hurting the region's economy. Without support restoration efforts will slow allowing problems to get worse and more expensive to solve. Ultimately, reducing investment in the Great Lakes won't save money—it will cost the nation more. As the source of drinking water for 30 million people, the nation cannot afford to stop protecting and restoring the Great Lakes.

We hope you will vote for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Act of 2014. This bill is important to ensure accountability, transparency, and results. It sets a permanent programmatic stage from which the GLRI can continue to succeed.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to have your staff contact Chad Lord, our coalition's policy director.

Sincerely,

LYNN MCCLURE,
*Co-chair.*

KRISTY MEYER,
*Co-chair.*

NICOLE BARKER,
*Co-chair.*

Mr. GIBBS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JOYCE), the sponsor of the bill.

Mr. JOYCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my full support for H.R. 5764, the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Act of 2014. The reason is simple, Mr. Speaker: the Great Lakes are a national and economic treasure in the U.S., which contains one-fifth of the world's freshwater supply.

The GLRI is the most important, significant, and productive effort to date to protect these five lakes that provide drinking water and jobs for millions of people. It is crucial that the GLRI be formally authorized at $300 million for the next 5 years to ensure that the great work already done is not lost.

□ 1430

This does not add any new spending and will continue to make sure necessary resources are available.

GLRI is an action-oriented, results-driven initiative targeting the most significant problems within the basin, including invasive species like Asian carp, toxins and contaminated sediment, nonpoint source pollution, and habitat and wildlife protection and restoration.

The programs are working, and the GLRI will ensure we have healthy Great Lakes, while boosting the economies in this vast region.

The Great Lakes are one of the jewels of the United States. When I talk about the Great Lakes to people who are not from the region, I make sure to point out their benefits are twofold: economic and environmental.

Let me give you a couple of statistics that will illustrate how important it is that we make this critical investment.

Six quadrillion. We are not talking about a little freshwater here. There are six quadrillion gallons of water in the Great Lakes basin. Let's let that number soak in.

$62 billion. The Great Lakes basin supports a diverse range of industries and small businesses, and that is how much is generated by wages in the industry in the Great Lakes region.

Thirty million. That is the number of people who live within the Great Lakes basin and rely on them for safe drinking water, transportation, and recreation.

$14 million. That is how much money in GLRI funds that was spent to clean up the Ashtabula River, in the heart of my district. Because these programs are working, I was able to see the Ashtabula River taken off the EPA's designated list of places that are ''areas of concern'' a couple of months ago. That is a really big deal for northeast Ohio.

1.5 million. That is how many jobs are directly related to the Great Lakes.

3,500. That is how many diverse species of plant and wildlife call the Great Lakes home.

Finally, the last and most telling statistic for you today is the number three. Three is the number of days that residents of Toledo in my home State of Ohio were unable to drink the water in their homes because of the harmful algal blooms in Lake Erie. The water

in Lake Erie was literally green. That is unacceptable.

This is a clear reason why we need to pass this bill and authorize GLRI—with bipartisan support—because no American should ever be afraid to drink the tap water in their own home.

Supporting this bill will lock in the programs that work to ensure our Nation's largest bodies of freshwater are protected and will continue to be protected in the future.

Before I close, I want to thank Chairman SHUSTER, as well as my colleague and dear friend from Ohio, Representative GIBBS, and the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee for their help on this bill. We have spent a lot of time working on this issue, and I am very grateful for their assistance.

I would also like to thank Majority Leader MCCARTHY for scheduling this important bill for floor consideration.

I am very excited the GLRI enjoys so much bipartisan support from Great Lakes Members here in Congress. When we make these investments in our Great Lakes, results are produced for our constituents, the environment, and businesses throughout the vast region.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. GIBBS. Mr. Speaker, I yield the gentleman an additional 1 minute.

Mr. JOYCE. It is critical we formally authorize GLRI so that people who live in Toledo or Mentor or Conneaut in my district don't have to worry about days ahead without fresh drinking water.

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR), who is a cosponsor of the bill.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member Mr. BISHOP for yielding and thank the chairman Mr. GIBBS, and, obviously, my colleague Mr. JOYCE, who just spoke.

I rise in support strong support of H.R. 5764.

Since the creation of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, our Nation has made great strides in reviving and protecting our Nation's greatest freshwater treasure, our Great Lakes.

Still, despite progress, this past summer presented a stark reminder of the unfinished challenge, as a toxic algal bloom shut off the fresh drinking water to over half a million people and businesses in Ohio and Michigan for 3 days across Lake Erie's western basin, the largest watershed in the entire Great Lakes.

The public, though shocked, was orderly and beneficent. We didn't have riots or civil disorder.

During that 3-day crisis, astoundingly, we learned communities along the lake were not equipped locally to test the water so vital to their own survival. Two precious days were wasted sending and resending vials and samples 5 hours away to EPA labs, and then back and then back again. This simply is unacceptable. Proper testing equipment on Lake Erie is fundamental, fundamental to a response time commensurate with the challenge that remains before us.

The Lake Erie community needs its own water testing equipment and certified lab. Already local universities and health departments have been assembling key components of necessary equipment for a certified lab. It is incumbent upon the GLRI to help us find a way to provide the remaining $147,000—not million—$147,000 we have to deliver.

To date, the lack of response from our Federal agencies is astounding. Lake Erie's water quality is an emergency due to the toxic algal blooms.

When we see Federal agencies diverting hundreds of millions of dollars abroad to dams in Afghanistan to deliver freshwater, yet somehow our own EPA can't identify funds to protect the American people who live along Lake Erie and Lake Michigan and draw their life source from it, I stand aghast.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield the gentlewoman another 1½ minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. When our water crisis occurred, the U.S. EPA didn't even show up or have personnel on the ground. I asked, ''Where is Homeland Security funding to help during the crisis and after?'' No show. As far as I am concerned, they are asleep at the wheel. Wake up.

As we prepare for a new spring thaw and the increasing rains that will come, feeding the algal blooms, the GLRI presents the hope that I still have that a solution can be found to counter the agency dithering that our region has experienced throughout this harrowing environmental crisis.

Surely, America can do better. I really think the chairman Mr. GIBBS, from the State of Ohio, and my dear colleague Mr. JOYCE, from the State of Ohio, they live at the other end of the lake, but they get the problem. God bless you. And I thank the ranking member, Mr. BISHOP from the east coast, who understands how important freshwater is to sustain life in this country. It shouldn't be this hard.

Thank you so very much for this bill. I rise in strong support.

Mr. GIBBS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLY).

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentleman from Ohio, but I would also like to thank a lady and a Member, whom I have begun to call our ''lady of our lakes.'' Ms. KAPTUR, thank you so much for speaking out the way you do about the Great Lakes, and also Mr. JOYCE, a very good colleague and a friend, because we all understand what it is that makes the Great Lakes great. I think that is the whole point of what we are talking about. This is a gift from God.

Now, you have heard Mr. JOYCE talk about some of the statistics. But when you think about it, if you just close your eyes for 1 minute and visualize in your mind's eye the continental United States, the land mass. The volume of freshwater contained in our Great Lakes would cover that land mass by 9½ to 10 feet. It is an incredible amount of water. But, more importantly, it is an incredible gift from God. We have to protect this area. Why would we not?

The statistics that we talk about are overwhelming. We thank a lot of people for being involved in this. But do you know who I want to thank more than anybody else? The hardworking American taxpayers. By our Constitution, we are granted the authority to tax them, but we are also given the responsibility to spend their money the right way. Why would we have a situation where we can't imagine that we would fund the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative? It just doesn't make sense.

One-fifth of the world's freshwater, not one-fifth of Pennsylvania, not one-fifth of the United States, not one-fifth of North America, but one-fifth of the world's freshwater resides in our Great Lakes. I would suggest to people that talk about energy, you can go a lot longer without oil than you can without drinking water. We have an opportunity to do something that just makes sense to each and every one of us. We can get this done.

If I may, just for a minute, to paraphrase Luke 12:48:

> To whom much is given, much is required.

Mr. Speaker, I would suggest that this is not an option, this is a moral obligation on behalf of the people of this great country to look at one of the assets that we have, a gift from God, and make sure that we preserve it for future generations.

I thank both gentlemen from Ohio, the lady from Ohio, and everybody else who was involved in this. I especially want to do a shout-out to a young man who works in the Northeast-Midwest Coalition, a guy by the name of Sam Breene, who lives and breathes the lake's initiatives. I want to thank him for his hard work, and I want to thank everybody involved in getting this taken care of.

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. NOLAN), who is a member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and a cosponsor of the bill.

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

Mr. NOLAN. Mr. Speaker, Members of the House, my district includes Duluth, Minnesota, the headwaters of the Great Lakes, and, of course, the magnificent North Shore. I encourage you all to come and visit the first chance you get.

I, too, rise in strong support of this important bipartisan Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, and I, too, would be remiss if I didn't compliment our chairman, Mr. GIBBS, and our ranking

member, Mr. BISHOP, for bringing this legislation forward, and, of course, our chief sponsor of the legislation, DAVID JOYCE, our good Republican friend. Thank you for your leadership in convincing the Office of the President and our budget operatives around here that in this particular case we need a little bit more than what they wanted or recommended.

I would also remind my colleagues that this is not just about preservation; this is about taking responsibility for some of the neglect out of past. As I can tell you, back in Duluth, there was a time when we had to haul drinking water in for the citizens of Duluth because the water out of Lake Superior wasn't drinkable. I remember a time when the Great Lakes were so polluted they were catching on fire in some places because of neglect. So in many respects we are stepping up and we are assuming responsibility for neglect in the past.

I don't mind telling you how important it has been to us up in the Lake Superior area. We have had over 100 projects funded over the years accomplishing so many things: combating invasive species, mitigating pollution of the past, identifying toxins that represent a threat to the basin and our public health and our public safety, protecting wild rice—I am an old wild rice picker; you can't have enough good native wild rice—and protecting wildlife in general. What a difference these projects have made.

Last, but not least, I would be remiss if I didn't thank our Appropriations Committee members—MARCY KAPTUR and BETTY MCCOLLUM, in particular—for your stepping up in your leadership in this.

But there is still so much more to be done. That is why I stand here today and strongly urge my colleagues to give their full support to this important legislation.

Mr. GIBBS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER).

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, certainly, protecting and preserving the Great Lakes has always been a principal advocacy of mine through my entire tenure in public office and even before I came into public office. I actually grew up on the Great Lakes. My family was in the marina business. So the lakes were more than just a source of recreation for us. They put food on the table in our family. Like so many from the region, the Great Lakes are a proud part of our identity. We have heard from so many of the various States in the Great Lakes basin today the passion that we all have for these magnificent, magnificent Great Lakes.

As has been said, they generate billions of dollars each and every year through fishing, through the shipping industry, and recreational activities as well. They are 20 percent of the freshwater drinking supply on the entire planet, quite frankly.

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, we have not been the best stewards of these magnificent lakes, and we do owe it to future generations to help assure that they are protected and that they are preserved. One great way to do this for the Great Lakes is through this continued funding and support of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative that we are debating here on the floor today.

Over the years, Mr. Speaker, I have seen firsthand the impact the GLRI is having on our lakes. From dredging to beach and shoreline restoration to fighting against invasive species, these projects are critical to protecting and restoring the Great Lakes ecosystems.

□ 1445

Actually, in October, I was at a place called Harsens Island in my district where I saw an effort underway to control phragmites, which is sort of an odd name. It is a huge, invasive plant that has been actually choking wetlands throughout the Great Lakes Basin, but funding through this program is eradicating them and letting Mother Nature breathe again.

Along the shoreline of the St. Clair River, GLRI funded the restoration of natural habitats, improved stormwater drainage, and improved water quality, but there is so much more to do. For example, the Clinton River, which flows through a very major metropolitan area in southeast Michigan, is in need of similar restoration projects.

We also need to look at ways that can better detect toxins in our waterways with real-time water quality monitoring systems, some of which we have in my area as it comes through Lake Huron, the St. Clair River, into Lake St. Clair, and down the Detroit River. It is not happening in Lake Erie, and it has to be part of the notification protocol there as well. We also are having some of these green-blue algae blooms in our area.

As was mentioned, these are a gift from God. God gave us these magnificent lakes that have provided us with so much, but we do need to be better stewards of them, and quite frankly, we have a lot of making up to do to Mother Nature.

Mr. Speaker, we can start that certainly today by strongly supporting H.R. 5764, the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Act. I certainly rise in strong support of this bill from the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JOYCE), and I urge all of my colleagues to support it as well.

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of this legislation. I think it is good, solid bipartisan legislation that is necessary, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize today that we lose some institutional knowledge at the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, specifically the Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee. Today is the last hurrah on the floor as we lose our longtime staff director, John Anderson, to the outside world.

John is originally from Charlotte, North Carolina. He joined the Memphis District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in early 1970 as a biologist. Later, he moved on to the Savannah District and finally to the Army Corps of Engineers headquarters here in Washington, D.C.

John joined the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure in 1999 on detail from the Corps, and he never left. In 2005, he was promoted to staff director of the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.

In John's more than 40 years of service to the Nation, he has in some fashion, either at the Corps level or here in Congress, been part of every single WRDA law since 1990. He is widely respected in the world of transportation and infrastructure policy and is a renowned expert in the Nation's water resources policy.

We wish John the best in his departure from Congress. He and his wife, Guiomar, are the proud parents of three boys: John Alexander, Patrick, and Richard Anderson. They are also the proud grandparents of three Anderson grandchildren.

It has been a privilege to work with John Anderson in my last 4 years as the chairman of the subcommittee. I wish him well and thank him. Good luck.

I also urge support of the bill.

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. GIBBS. I yield to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. BISHOP of New York. I, too, want to add a word of both thanks and congratulations to John Anderson for his service in the Congress over a great many years. I came to see firsthand his skill and dedication when we were working so cooperatively together on passing the Water Resources Development Act of 2013. His involvement was essential.

That bill stands as one of the few substantive pieces of bipartisan legislation that this Congress has passed, and we were able to get it in done in part because of John's efforts.

I thank you, and I wish you a well-earned retirement.

Mr. GIBBS. Reclaiming my time, I would also be remiss not to say a few words about my good friend, Mr. BISHOP from Long Island, New York. It has been a privilege having you serve as my ranking member on the subcommittee for the last 4 years. I wish you well in your endeavors in the future.

Mr. BISHOP of New York. I appreciate that very much.

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

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Act, and I urge all my colleagues to join me in voting for this needed legislation.

In Michigan, we're blessed to be surrounded by the Great Lakes. In so many ways, the Lakes define our state, and our region, as well. For many years, though, we did not treat them as if they were very great. For the better part of a century, the Lakes and their tributaries were polluted to the point that they were dying.

A century of environmental harm cannot be undone overnight, but we've made considerable progress. That's where the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative comes in. Through the GLRI, we are finally addressing longstanding problems, such as toxic hotspots, invasive species like the Asian carp, habitat restoration, and runoff pollution.

The GLRI was created by the Obama Administration and, since 2010, Congress has wisely funded it. Now it is time for Congress to take the next step and formally authorize this vital program. Congress must remain a full partner in the restoration effort in the Great Lakes, and authorizing GLRI is the best way to do that.

I wish to acknowledge the efforts of my colleagues who have worked so hard to support GLRI over the last five years, especially Representative JOYCE, LOUISE SLAUGHTER, and my good friend JOHN DINGELL. I would also like to underscore the longstanding efforts of Senator CARL LEVIN and his staff in the area of Great Lakes restoration.

As we continue to make meaningful progress on restoration of the Great Lakes, this will be a hopeful sign that other difficult environmental redemptions are also achievable. Let us move forward together today by passing the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Act.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, as a co-Chair of the House Great Lakes Task Force, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5764, The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Act.

This bipartisan legislation authorizes the popular Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. This program is critical to restoring and protecting the Great Lakes, which hold over 20 percent of the world's surface freshwater and are the source of drinking water, jobs, and recreation for millions of Americans.

I have represented districts that span the southern coast of Lake Ontario all the way to the City of Buffalo on Lake Erie and I know first hand the special bond the people of the Great Lakes basin share with these lakes. These magnificent bodies of water are truly unique and we must do all that we can to protect these national treasures for future generations. I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. GIBBS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5764.

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.

## RELEASE OF RESTRICTIONS, CONDITIONS, AND LIMITATIONS ON THE USE, ENCUMBRANCE, CONVEYANCE, AND CLOSURE OF THE ST. CLAIR REGIONAL AIRPORT

Mr. GIBBS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 2759) to release the City of St. Clair, Missouri, from all restrictions, conditions, and limitations on the use, encumbrance, conveyance, and closure of the St. Clair Regional Airport.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 2759

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

**SECTION 1. RELEASE OF RESTRICTIONS, CONDITIONS, AND LIMITATIONS ON THE USE, ENCUMBRANCE, CONVEYANCE, AND CLOSURE OF THE ST. CLAIR REGIONAL AIRPORT.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The United States, acting through the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, shall release the City of St. Clair, Missouri, from all restrictions, conditions, and limitations on the use, encumbrance, conveyance, and closure of the St. Clair Regional Airport, as described in the most recent airport layout plan approved by the Federal Aviation Administration, to the extent such restrictions, conditions, and limitations are enforceable by the Administrator.

(b) LIMITATION.—The release under subsection (a) shall not be executed before the City of St. Clair, or its designee, transfers to the Department of Transportation of the State of Missouri—

(1) the amounts described in subsection (c), to be used for capital improvements within the meaning of airport development (as defined in section 47102(3) of title 49, United States Code) and consistent with the obligations of the Department of Transportation of the State of Missouri under the State block grant program of the Federal Aviation Administration; and

(2) for no consideration, all airport and aviation-related equipment of the St. Clair Regional Airport owned by the City of St. Clair and determined by the Department of Transportation of the State of Missouri to be salvageable for use.

(c) AMOUNTS DESCRIBED.—The amounts described in this subsection are the following:

(1) An amount equal to the fair market value for the highest and best use of the St. Clair Regional Airport property determined in good faith by an independent and qualified real estate appraiser on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) An amount equal to the unamortized portion of any Federal development grants other than land paid to the City of St. Clair for use at the St. Clair Regional Airport, which may be paid with, and shall be an allowable use of, airport revenue notwithstanding section 47107 or 47133 of title 49, United States Code.

(3) An amount equal to the airport revenues remaining in the airport account for the St. Clair Regional Airport as of the date of the enactment of this Act and otherwise due to or received by the City of St. Clair after such date of enactment pursuant to sections 47107(b) and 47133 of title 49, United States Code.

(d) REQUIREMENT TO REMOVE RUNWAY LIGHTING SYSTEM.—The Federal Aviation Administration shall remove the runway end indicator lighting system at St. Clair Regional Airport.

(e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the applicability of—

(1) the requirements and processes under section 46319 of title 49, United States Code;

(2) the requirements under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.);

(3) the requirements and processes under part 157 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations; or

(4) the public notice requirements under section 47107(h)(2) of title 49, United States Code.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. GIBBS) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GIBBS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 2759.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, S. 2759 releases the city of St. Clair, Missouri, from all restrictions, conditions, and limitations on the use, encumbrance, conveyance, and closure of the St. Clair Regional Airport.

The bill will require the city to pay fair market value for the airport property to the Missouri Department of Transportation, repay the unamortized value of Federal grants to the Missouri Department of Transportation, and transfer any remaining revenue to the Missouri Department of Transportation.

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

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I wish my Republican colleagues were not rushing to consider this bill without more deliberation. The other body just passed this bill last week. We have had no hearings on the bill, no committee meetings, no markups.

I understand that several general aviation groups have expressed concerns about the bill, and I would have liked the opportunity to hear from them and study their specific reservations.

Each of the Nation's federally-assisted airports is part of a system—a national system—that is greater than the sum of its parts. The Federal Government invests $3.35 billion a year in airport improvements because each airport in the system not only drives economic growth, but also is a safe harbor for a pilot in distress.

For those reasons, the general rule is that we invest in airports, not close them; nevertheless, I understand that the airport in St. Clair, Missouri, which this bill would allow to close, presents some unique circumstances.

Although the Federal Government has invested almost $1.1 million in the

airport since 1963, the airport has not received a Federal grant since 2006 when it received $300,000. There are now only about eight aircraft movements at the airport a day. Community leaders believe that there are simply higher and better uses for the airport land.

Based on these extraordinary circumstances, this bill would allow the city of St. Clair to close the airport and would release the city from its obligations as a recipient of Federal airport improvement funds, provided the city transfers remaining grant funds and the market value of the land to the Missouri Department of Transportation.

While I have serious reservations about the precedent that this bill could set, I recognize the unique situation in this particular case. Going forward, I urge my colleagues to think long and hard about what it means for our national system of airports when we start permitting airports to shut down without working through the Federal Aviation Administration's administrative process.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GIBBS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. LUETKEMEYER).

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 2759. This bill, introduced by Senators MCCASKILL and BLUNT from Missouri, authorizes the closure of the St. Clair Regional Airport in St. Clair, Missouri, once all obligations to Federal taxpayers have been repaid. St. Clair is a small town of 4,700 in my district, about 50 miles southwest of St. Louis.

The city has operated an airport since the sixties, but in the past decade, a consensus within the community has been reached that the airport should be closed and the land utilized as part of a larger economic development plan for the region. This effort has broad support in the city of St. Clair from the mayor, the city council, the school board, the fire district, and the local chamber of commerce.

The only thing holding up this plan is the continued reluctance of Federal regulators to give the go-ahead. The city approached the Missouri Department of Transportation in 2008 and the FAA in 2012, seeking closure of the airport, but the FAA keeps moving the goalposts, giving itself multiple extensions and leaving this small town confused and frustrated, with no end in sight.

As a small business owner myself from a town even smaller than St. Clair, I can tell you that red tape from Federal regulators is one of the biggest obstacles to economic growth in small communities. This legislation provides a simple fix to what has become an unnecessarily complicated issue in this community's attempt to provide growth opportunities in its area.

I should note that there are three other general aviation airports within a 30-mile radius of St. Clair, and the Missouri Department of Transportation has indicated the closure of the airport will not have an adverse effect on aviation in Missouri.

Under the bill, in order for the city to qualify for the release from the FAA, it must transfer amounts previously used for the airport's capital improvements toward the improvement of other general aviation facilities in the area. Under S. 2759, taxpayers will be made whole, and the city will be permitted to move forward with new economic development plans.

S. 2759 is bipartisan and has passed the Senate unanimously. Mr. Chairman, I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation so we can take a step forward in cutting through this red tape for the people of St. Clair, Missouri.

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

Mr. GIBBS. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important piece of legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. GIBBS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 2759.

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.

## JAMES M. CARTER AND JUDITH N. KEEP UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

Mr. GIBBS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1378) to designate the United States courthouse located at 333 West Broadway in San Diego, California, as the ''James M. Carter and Judith N. Keep United States Courthouse'', as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1378

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

**SECTION 1. JUDICIAL CENTER DESIGNATION.**

The United States Federal Judicial Center located at 333 West Broadway in San Diego, California, shall be known and designated as the ''John Rhoades Federal Judicial Center''. The Judicial Center includes the Federal property located at 221 West Broadway, 333 West Broadway, 880 Front Street, 325 West F Street, 808 Union Street, and the adjoining plaza.

**SEC. 2. COURTHOUSE BUILDING DESIGNATION.**

The United States courthouse located at 333 West Broadway in San Diego, California, shall be known and designated as the ''James M. Carter and Judith N. Keep United States Courthouse''.

**SEC. 3. REFERENCES.**

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the United States Federal Judicial Center referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''John Rhoades Federal Judicial Center''. Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the United States courthouse referred to in section 2 shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''James M. Carter and Judith N. Keep United States Courthouse''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. GIBBS) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GIBBS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1378, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1378 designates the United States Federal Judicial Center located at 333 West Broadway in San Diego, California, as the John Rhoades Federal Judicial Center. The bill also designates the United States Courthouse in San Diego, California, as the James M. Carter and Judith N. Keep United States Courthouse.

John S. Rhoades, Sr., was a United States Federal judge on the United States District Court for the Southern District of California for 22 years. Before Judge Rhoades began practicing law, he served in the United States Navy during World War II. Early in his career, he practiced law for the city of San Diego, California, as a prosecuting attorney and as deputy city attorney.

Judge Rhoades was nominated by President Ronald Reagan in 1985 to serve as a Federal judge on the United States District Court for the Southern District of California, where he served until his death in 2007.

Judith N. Keep was nominated as a judge to the United States District Court for the Southern District of California in 1980 by President Jimmy Carter and served for 24 years. She was the first female Federal judge in her district. She later became its first female chief judge, serving in that capacity from 1991 to 1998. She continued to serve until her death in 2004.

James M. Carter was nominated by President Harry S. Truman as a judge on the United States District Court for the Southern District of California and served for 17 years, including 2 years as chief judge. In 1967, President Lyndon B. Johnson nominated Carter to a seat on the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, where he served until his death in 1979.

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All three of these judges demonstrated their dedication to the Nation and the law. It is fitting to honor

their work by naming the judicial center and courthouse after them.

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

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill, and I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. PETERS) who is the author of this bill.

Mr. PETERS of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I rise today to support my legislation, H.R. 1378, to designate the Federal Courthouse on West Broadway in downtown San Diego as the James M. Carter and Judith N. Keep United States Courthouse, and to designate the Federal Judicial Center in San Diego as the John Rhoades Federal Judicial Center.

In San Diego's collaborative spirit, in order to find a name for the new building, the San Diego legal community reached out to find ideas, and through this process some prominent jurists clearly emerged.

These jurists were enthusiastically touted by a bipartisan coalition, including the San Diego County Bar Association, our district's Federal judges, and both Republican and Democratic community leaders across San Diego.

Judge Carter was the moving force behind the creation of the Southern District of California. After its creation, he became the first Chief Judge of the District Court, serving in that position until he was appointed to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Judge Keep was instrumental in opening up the San Diego legal field to women. She graduated from the University of San Diego School of Law as its valedictorian and went on to become the first female judge for the District Court of the Southern District of California, and later the District Court's first female Chief Judge.

This bill also honors Judge John Rhoades, who served as a Federal judge in San Diego for 22 years and was widely respected and beloved throughout the region's legal community.

Judges Carter, Keep, and Rhoades all served the public with distinction and reflected the San Diego legal community's shared values of excellence and integrity. I am proud to honor their legacy with this legislation.

I want to thank two of my colleagues in particular, Congresswoman SUSAN DAVIS, who represented this area before I did and led this effort for the past several years, and Congressman DARRELL ISSA for his support and great amendments to the bill. It is better because of his work.

I am proud to have worked with them both in this Congress to move it forward.

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

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, we have no further speakers, so I urge adoption of this bill and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GIBBS. Mr. Speaker, I too urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WEBER of Texas). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. GIBBS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1378, as amended.

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

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: ''A bill to designate the United States Federal Judicial Center located at 333 West Broadway in San Diego, California, as the 'John Rhoades Federal Judicial Center' and to designate the United States courthouse located at 333 West Broadway in San Diego, California, as the 'James M. Carter and Judith N. Keep United States Courthouse'.''

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## CLAY HUNT SUICIDE PREVENTION FOR AMERICAN VETERANS ACT

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5059) to direct the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide for the conduct of annual evaluations of mental health care and suicide prevention programs of the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs, to review the terms or characterization of the discharge or separation of certain individuals from the Armed Forces, to require a pilot program on loan repayment for psychiatrists who agree to serve in the Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5059

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

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the ''Clay Hunt Suicide Prevention for American Veterans Act'' or the ''Clay Hunt SAV Act''.

**SEC. 2. EVALUATIONS OF MENTAL HEALTH CARE AND SUICIDE PREVENTION PROGRAMS OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

(a) EVALUATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not less frequently than once each year, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall provide for the conduct of an evaluation of the mental health care and suicide prevention programs carried out under the laws administered by the Secretary.

(2) ELEMENTS.—Each evaluation conducted under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) use metrics that are common among and useful for practitioners in the field of mental health care and suicide prevention;

(B) identify the most effective mental health care and suicide prevention programs conducted by the Secretary, including such programs conducted at a Center of Excellence;

(C) identify the cost-effectiveness of each program identified under subparagraph (B);

(D) measure the satisfaction of patients with respect to the care provided under each such program; and

(E) propose best practices for caring for individuals who suffer from mental health disorders or are at risk of suicide, including such practices conducted or suggested by other departments or agencies of the Federal Government, including the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration of the Department of Health and Human Services.

(3) THIRD PARTY.—Each evaluation conducted under paragraph (1) shall be conducted by an independent third party unaffiliated with the Department of Veterans Affairs. Such third party shall submit to the Secretary each such evaluation.

(b) ANNUAL SUBMISSION.—Not later than December 1 of each year, beginning in 2015, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives a report that contains the following:

(1) The most recent evaluations submitted to the Secretary under subsection (a)(3) that the Secretary has not previously submitted to such Committees.

(2) Any recommendations the Secretary considers appropriate.

**SEC. 3. PUBLICATION OF INTERNET WEBSITE TO PROVIDE INFORMATION REGARDING MENTAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Using funds made available to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to publish the Internet websites of the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Secretary shall survey the existing Internet websites and information resources of the Department to publish an Internet website that serves as a centralized source to provide veterans with information regarding all of the mental health care services provided by the Secretary.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The Internet website published under subsection (a) shall provide to veterans information regarding all of the mental health care services available in the Veteran Integrated Service Network that the veteran is seeking such services, including, with respect to each medical center, Vet Center (as defined in section 1712A of title 38, United States Code), and community-based outpatient center in the Veterans Integrated Service Network—

(1) the name and contact information of each social work office;

(2) the name and contact information of each mental health clinic;

(3) a list of appropriate staff; and

(4) any other information the Secretary determines appropriate.

(c) UPDATED INFORMATION.—The Secretary shall ensure that the information described in subsection (b) that is published on the Internet website under subsection (a) is updated not less than once every 90 days.

(d) OUTREACH.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall ensure that the outreach conducted under section 1720F(i) of title 38, United States Code, includes information regarding the Internet website published under subsection (a).

**SEC. 4. PILOT PROGRAM FOR REPAYMENT OF EDUCATIONAL LOANS FOR CERTAIN PSYCHIATRISTS OF VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION.**

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall carry out a pilot program to repay loans of individuals described in subsection (b) that—

(1) were used by such individuals to finance education relating to psychiatric medicine, including education leading to—

(A) a degree of doctor of medicine; or

(B) a degree of doctor of osteopathy; and

(2) were obtained from any of the following:

(A) A governmental entity.

(B) A private financial institution.

(C) A school.

(D) Any other authorized entity as determined by the Secretary.

(b) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), an individual eligible for participation in the pilot program is an individual who—

(A) either—

(i) is licensed or eligible for licensure to practice psychiatric medicine in the Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs; or

(ii) is enrolled in the final year of a residency program leading to a specialty qualification in psychiatric medicine that is approved by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education; and

(B) demonstrates a commitment to a long-term career as a psychiatrist in the Veterans Health Administration, as determined by the Secretary.

(2) PROHIBITION ON SIMULTANEOUS ELIGIBILITY.—An individual who is participating in any other program of the Federal Government that repays the educational loans of the individual is not eligible to participate in the pilot program.

(c) SELECTION.—The Secretary shall select not less than 10 individuals described in subsection (b) to participate in the pilot program for each year in which the Secretary carries out the pilot program.

(d) PERIOD OF OBLIGATED SERVICE.—The Secretary shall enter into an agreement with each individual selected under subsection (c) in which such individual agrees to serve a period of two or more years of obligated service for the Veterans Health Administration in the field of psychiatric medicine, as determined by the Secretary.

(e) LOAN REPAYMENTS.—

(1) AMOUNTS.—Subject to paragraph (2), a loan repayment under this section may consist of payment of the principal, interest, and related expenses of a loan obtained by an individual who is participating in the pilot program for all educational expenses (including tuition, fees, books, and laboratory expenses) of such individual relating to education described in subsection (a)(1).

(2) LIMIT.—For each year of obligated service that an individual who is participating in the pilot program agrees to serve under subsection (d), the Secretary may pay not more than $30,000 in loan repayment on behalf of such individual.

(f) BREACH.—

(1) LIABILITY.—An individual who participates in the pilot program and fails to satisfy the period of obligated service under subsection (d) shall be liable to the United States, in lieu of such obligated service, for the amount that has been paid or is payable to or on behalf of the individual under the pilot program, reduced by the proportion that the number of days served for completion of the period of obligated service bears to the total number of days in the period of obligated service of such individual.

(2) REPAYMENT PERIOD.—Any amount of damages that the United States is entitled to recover under this subsection shall be paid to the United States not later than one year after the date of the breach of the agreement.

(g) REPORT.—

(1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than two years after the date on which the pilot program under subsection (a) commences, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives a report on the pilot program.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The report required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) The number of individuals who participated in the pilot program, including the number of new hires.

(B) The locations in which such individuals were employed by the Department, including how many such locations were rural or urban locations.

(C) An assessment of the quality of the work performed by such individuals in the course of such employment, including the performance reviews of such individuals.

(D) The number of psychiatrists the Secretary determines is needed by the Department in the future.

(3) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 90 days before the date on which the pilot program terminates under subsection (i), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives an update to the report submitted under paragraph (1) and any recommendations that the Secretary considers appropriate.

(h) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe regulations to carry out this section, including standards for qualified loans and authorized payees and other terms and conditions for the making of loan repayments.

(i) TERMINATION.—The authority to carry out the pilot program shall expire on the date that is three years after the date on which the Secretary commences the pilot program.

**SEC. 5. PILOT PROGRAM ON COMMUNITY OUTREACH.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall establish a pilot program to assist veterans transitioning from serving on active duty and to improve the access of veterans to mental health services.

(b) LOCATIONS.—The Secretary shall carry out the pilot program under subsection (a) at not less than five Veterans Integrated Service Networks that have a large population of veterans who—

(1) served in the reserve components of the Armed Forces; or

(2) are transitioning into communities with an established population of veterans after having recently separated from the Armed Forces.

(c) FUNCTIONS.—The pilot program at each Veterans Integrated Service Network described in subsection (b) shall include the following:

(1) A community oriented veteran peer support network, carried out in partnership with an appropriate entity with experience in peer support programs, that—

(A) establishes peer support training guidelines;

(B) develops a network of veteran peer support counselors to meet the demands of the communities in the Veterans Integrated Service Network;

(C) conducts training of veteran peer support counselors;

(D) with respect to one medical center selected by the Secretary in each such Veterans Integrated Service Network, has—

(i) a designated peer support specialist who acts as a liaison to the community oriented veteran peer network; and

(ii) a certified mental health professional designated as the community oriented veteran peer network mentor; and

(E) is readily available to veterans, including pursuant to the Veterans Integrated Service Network cooperating and working with State and local governments and appropriate entities.

(2) A community outreach team for each medical center selected by the Secretary pursuant to paragraph (1)(D) that—

(A) assists veterans transitioning into communities;

(B) establishes a veteran transition advisory group to facilitate outreach activities;

(C) includes the participation of appropriate community organizations, State and local governments, colleges and universities, chambers of commerce and other local business organizations, and organizations that provide legal aid or advice; and

(D) coordinates with the Veterans Integrated Service Network regarding the Veterans Integrated Service Network carrying out an annual mental health summit to assess the status of veteran mental health care in the community and to develop new or innovative means to provide mental health services to veterans.

(d) REPORTS.—

(1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date on which the pilot program under subsection (a) commences, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives a report on the pilot program. With respect to each Veterans Integrated Service Network described in subsection (b), the report shall include—

(A) a full description of the peer support model implemented under the pilot program, participation data, and data pertaining to past and current mental health related hospitalizations and fatalities;

(B) recommendations on implementing peer support networks throughout the Department;

(C) whether the mental health resources made available under the pilot program for members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces is effective; and

(D) a full description of the activities and effectiveness of community outreach coordinating teams under the pilot program, including partnerships that have been established with appropriate entities.

(2) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 90 days before the date on which the pilot program terminates under subsection (e), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives an update to the report submitted under paragraph (1).

(e) CONSTRUCTION.—This section may not be construed to authorize the Secretary to hire additional employees of the Department to carry out the pilot program under subsection (a).

(f) TERMINATION.—The authority of the Secretary to carry out the pilot program under subsection (a) shall terminate on the date that is three years after the date on which the pilot program commences.

**SEC. 6. COLLABORATION ON SUICIDE PREVENTION EFFORTS BETWEEN DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND NON-PROFIT MENTAL HEALTH ORGANIZATIONS.**

(a) COLLABORATION.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may collaborate with non-profit mental health organizations to prevent suicide among veterans as follows:

(1) To improve the efficiency and effectiveness of suicide prevention efforts carried out by the Secretary and non-profit mental health organizations.

(2) To assist non-profit mental health organizations with the suicide prevention efforts of such organizations through the use of the expertise of employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

(3) To jointly carry out suicide prevention efforts.

(b) EXCHANGE OF RESOURCES.—In carrying out any collaboration under subsection (a), the Secretary and any non-profit mental health organization with which the Secretary is collaborating under such subsection shall exchange training sessions and best practices to help with the suicide prevention efforts of the Department and such organization.

(c) DIRECTOR OF SUICIDE PREVENTION COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall select

within the Department a Director of Suicide Prevention Coordination to undertake any collaboration with non-profit mental health organizations under this section or any other provision of law.

**SEC. 7. ADDITIONAL PERIOD OF ELIGIBILITY FOR HEALTH CARE FOR CERTAIN VETERANS OF COMBAT SERVICE DURING CERTAIN PERIODS OF HOSTILITIES AND WAR.**

Paragraph (3) of section 1710(e) of title 38, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''(3) In the case of care for a veteran described in paragraph (1)(D), hospital care, medical services, and nursing home care may be provided under or by virtue of subsection (a)(2)(F) only during the following periods:

''(A) Except as provided by subparagraph (B), with respect to a veteran described in paragraph (1)(D) who is discharged or released from the active military, naval, or air service after January 27, 2003, the five-year period beginning on the date of such discharge or release.

''(B) With respect to a veteran described in paragraph (1)(D) who is discharged or released from the active military, naval, or air service after January 1, 2009, and before January 1, 2011, but did not enroll to receive such hospital care, medical services, or nursing home care pursuant to such paragraph during the five-year period described in subparagraph (A), the one-year period beginning on January 1, 2015.

''(C) With respect to a veteran described in paragraph (1)(D) who is discharged or released from the active military, naval, or air service on or before January 27, 2003, and did not enroll in the patient enrollment system under section 1705 of this title on or before such date, the three-year period beginning on January 27, 2008.''.

**SEC. 8. PROHIBITION ON NEW APPROPRIATIONS.**

No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act and the amendments made by this Act, and this Act and such amendments shall be carried out using amounts otherwise made available for such purposes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER) and the gentleman from Maine (Mr. MICHAUD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 5059, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in proud support of H.R. 5059, as amended, the Clay Hunt Suicide Prevention for American Veterans Act.

In July, amidst the largest scandal—an accountability scandal—the Department of Veterans Affairs has ever faced, the committee heard testimony from three mothers whose sons had lost their lives to suicide following their service in our military.

One of those mothers was Susan Selke, the mother of Clay Hunt. Clay was a Marine Corps combat veteran who served honorably in both Afghanistan and Iraq, where he was wounded in battle.

Despite suffering from post-traumatic stress upon his separation, Clay devoted himself to humanitarian work and advocated on behalf of his fellow veterans.

Nevertheless, in March of 2011, Clay took his own life at the age of 28. Tragically, Clay was far from alone in his struggle, and his family and friends are far from alone in their heartbreak.

On average, 22 of our Nation's heroes commit suicide each day, in spite of significant increases in VA's mental health and suicide prevention budget, staff, and programs over the last several years.

What is more, for some groups of veterans, including female veterans and veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan, suicide rates are actually getting worse.

Mr. Speaker, we must do more to help these veterans. With the passage of H.R. 5059, as amended, which is named in Clay's memory, I think we will. The Clay Hunt SAV Act will help struggling veterans access the supportive services and mental health care they need to, hopefully, save their lives.

To improve the efficiency and effectiveness of VA programs and increase awareness of available services, the bill would require an annual third-party evaluation of VA's mental health care and suicide prevention programs, and it would require that VA publish an interactive Web site to serve as the central source of information regarding VA mental health services.

To increase VA's capacity to meet the mental health care needs of our veterans, it would establish a pilot program to repay education loans for individuals who have received a degree in psychiatric medicine and who agree to work at VA for at least 2 years.

To create a seamless transition from Active Duty to veteran status and increase community support for those in need, it would establish a pilot program to assist veterans during transition and require VA to collaborate with nonprofit mental health organizations in their communities.

Importantly, the bill would also extend an additional 1 year of eligibility for VA health care services for certain combat veterans who have not yet enrolled and whose 5-year combat eligibility period recently expired.

Congressman WALZ from Minnesota introduced the bill, along with me and Congresswoman DUCKWORTH from Illinois. I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to both of them for their service to our Nation in their uniform and in this Congress.

I am proud to say that this bill has the support of numerous groups of veteran service organizations, including Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, the American Legion, the Disabled American Veterans, the Military Officers Association of America, and the Wounded Warrior Project.

The Clay Hunt SAV Act will not singlehandedly halt the scourge of suicide. The problems the VA health care system faces, and the mental health wounds of war that our veterans face, are far too deep for any single solution to resolve. But it is an important first step, and it is a step that we owe Clay and those like him who returned home from honorable service troubled in mind and in need of help.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 5059, as amended, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5059, the Clay Hunt SAV Act, which was introduced in July of this year. It has 134 cosponsors, including myself, Chairman MILLER, and the chairman and ranking member of the Health Care Subcommittee. Congressman WALZ is the primary sponsor of this very important piece of legislation.

Over the years, the Veterans Affairs' Committee has taken steps to address the rise of suicide among veterans. In the 110th Congress we enacted the Joshua Omvig Suicide Prevention Act.

Earlier in this Congress we reported H.R. 4971, which included a measure sponsored by our colleague, Representative SINEMA, that would protect veterans who have worked in classified environments by ensuring that appropriate mental health care treatment options exist for them.

Today, we are acting again, by considering H.R. 5059, the Clay Hunt SAV Act. There are no easy answers or quick fixes to addressing veterans suicide. It will take a concerted effort for all of us in Congress, the White House, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and the Department of Defense to work together to find real solutions. Veterans support groups, community employers, and families are part of the solution too.

H.R. 5059 takes a number of steps toward that goal. It will improve the safety net for at-risk veterans, while introducing some accountability into the Department of Veterans Affairs mental health care and suicide prevention programs, using a third-party evaluation.

It will provide veterans with a Web site that will serve as a centralized source of information on mental health services.

H.R. 5059 initiates a program to help address some of the glaring mental health personnel shortages at the Department of Veterans Affairs. While the incentives in this bill are limited to the psychiatric field, I would like to see this effort expanded in the future to all mental health professional shortfalls.

H.R. 5059 also takes steps to temporarily expand peer support networks,

which we have heard are quite effective. I believe the reports required by this bill will confirm additional resources that should permanently be dedicated to fully utilizing peer support.

H.R. 5059 also provides an additional window of eligibility for combat veterans who may have missed the window of opportunity to sign up for VA health care. This extra time will help to ensure that veterans receive the health care, including mental health care, that they need. I would encourage my colleagues to support this piece of legislation.

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

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from the First District of Michigan (Mr. BENISHEK), who is the chairman of the Subcommittee on Health.

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman, the ranking member, and Mr. WALZ, thank you so much for introducing this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to support the Clay Hunt SAV Act. I am honored to be an original cosponsor of this important legislation.

As the father of a veteran, and a doctor who worked at the VA hospital in northern Michigan, I know that the challenges of military life do not end once our servicemembers return from active duty.

The mental wounds of war may be invisible, but no less real to the young men and women suffering from them. Facing high unemployment rates, the stigma of post-traumatic stress disorder, and the loss of military fellowship, returning veterans often face a crisis of confidence at the very moment they should feel nothing but relief and rest.

That is why our bill will help the VA to put the very best mental health professionals to work for our veterans and will create peer support networks to help catch those transitioning servicemembers who might otherwise fall through the cracks.

The time to act to address the epidemic of veterans suicide is now. With this bill, and with continued focus on the health of our veterans, and their mental health as well, we can make a real impact.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation and pass the Clay Hunt SAV Act.

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. WALZ). I want to thank Mr. WALZ for his continued effort to make sure that our veterans are taken care of in this great Nation of ours.

Mr. WALZ. Mr. Speaker, I want to extend my thanks to Chairman MILLER and Ranking Member MICHAUD. I think an American public which, many times, thinks all politics is is bickering and fighting and pettiness needs to see the two examples that these leaders show, consistently putting the needs of our veterans first and foremost, finding areas to improve, and holding people accountable, but this piece of legislation, most importantly, finding solutions to make life better for our veterans. And for that, I am forever grateful to them for the work and for the staff that worked on this.

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Ms. DUCKWORTH is not able to be with us today. I said a lot of times that people talk about patriotism and service and heroics. In TAMMY DUCKWORTH's case, you just state her name, and her life is a living testament to that, and she works every day. We are just happy she is with her little one now, but she had a big part in this.

There are very few things that unite this country in the security of our Nation and in the care of our warriors, as I think many of us know, as do the millions who have fought the conflicts and who have fought extremism across the globe—people like Clay Hunt, a young marine, who went and did his duty. He was wounded in Iraq.

That was not enough for Clay, so he went to Afghanistan, where he experienced some of the most horrific conditions you could imagine. That was not enough for Clay. He came home after he did his service in the Marine Corps, and he continued to serve. He went to Haiti, taking his skills that he had learned in the military to help after the hurricane.

Then he came and sat in many of our offices and had many conversations—everything from the GI Bill to the transitioning back of our warriors who are dealing with PTS and making sure that we address their mental health issues.

I know, for many of us, Clay was the epitome of American patriotism, of strength, of everything that is right, and it comes as such a shock. I know it sounds like a cliche, but how could someone so strong and who had done so much be dealing with these demons? We know he was, and we know this Nation didn't do enough. We know he didn't receive the adequate care that he deserved and had earned. To be quite honest with you, it is in our Nation's best interest, both morally and security-wise and everything else, to give them that.

Again, he didn't stop there, and his parents didn't stop there. His parents—his mother and father—are here in this Chamber, as are his friends, to make sure this never happens to another family. Our friends at the veterans service organizations, like the IAVA and Paul Rykoff and his folks and the VFW, have asked us to do better.

The result of this piece of legislation is the folks like Chairman MILLER, Ranking Member MICHAUD, TAMMY DUCKWORTH, Mr. BENISHEK, and others who have come down here to speak. Our differences are small compared to our commonalities, and our care for our warriors has to be there. You heard the specifics of this bill, some of the things that it will do.

There is not one of us who is kidding oneself that this is going to be the silver bullet, but it puts it on the forefront. It brings some solutions that came from our warriors, that came from best practices, that came from both sides of the aisle, and brought it forward to find real solutions.

The thing that most encourages me about this is that it is asking us, if things are not working, evaluate them and get rid of them, and bring the things forward that are going to work. Don't get buried in studies for 10 years. We don't have 10 years. We don't have 10 days for people. It is now.

That is, I think, the beauty of this piece of legislation. It starts to move those things forward. It starts to bring the communities back into this. It starts to understand a holistic approach to dealing with the issues of veterans' suicides, because this Nation cannot allow this to happen. We morally cannot. It attacks our soul when we do this. To be very honest, we can't afford to lose people like Clay Hunt.

Clay Hunt is our leader. He is our future leader. He is our business leader. He would at some point have been in this Chamber or wherever he would have chosen to have gone. That was his destiny, and this is happening over 22 times every day.

I encourage my colleagues to support this piece of legislation but, more importantly, to support the spirit that is behind it—bringing us together to get it right: to care for our warriors with the best possible use for our resources and an accountability to those resources to make sure that the outcome is most important.

That outcome is honoring our commitment to the reintegration of these warriors. Once they have done their service to this country, bring them home; make them whole; make sure that they are able to continue to serve this Nation as they wish.

For that, I am grateful. I am especially grateful for the leadership of Clay's family and of his mother, Susan, who absolutely said this can be done; this must be done; and it will be done. Thanks to these two gentlemen's leadership, it will.

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I now yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from the Second District of Indiana (Mrs. WALORSKI), who is a stalwart supporter of veterans in her district and who has a great future ahead in veteran issues.

Mrs. WALORSKI. I thank the distinguished gentleman from Florida, the chairman.

Mr. Speaker, every day, 22 veterans take their own lives. Many of us in this Chamber have experienced this in our own districts. This has been a tragedy in my district as well. Sadly, on March 31, nearly 3 years ago, Clay Hunt was one of those 22 veterans who took his own life at the age of 28.

An Afghanistan and Iraq war veteran and suicide prevention advocate, Clay

Hunt epitomized what it meant to have a life of service both in and out of uniform. Today, we honor Clay and his family with H.R. 5059, the Clay Hunt SAV Act. Clay's story was one of bravery and dedication to our country.

He enlisted in the Marine Corps and served on several missions to Iraq and Afghanistan. After his final deployment to Afghanistan, his unit returned in October of 2008, and he was honorably discharged from the Marines.

Here is the key: Clay relied on the VA for medical care and received a 30 percent disability rating from the VA for PTSD. After realizing his PTSD is what prohibited him from keeping a steady job, he appealed the 30 percent rating and encountered a bureaucratic nightmare, including the VA's losing his files.

Clay had to wait months to get in to see a psychiatrist at a VA medical center. When he finally did, he told his mother he would never go back. Two weeks later, Clay took his own life. Five weeks after his death and 18 months after filing an appeal with the VA for his PTSD rating, Clay's appeal went through. His PTSD rating was 100 percent.

Too little, too late.

Clay's story details the urgency our Nation's heroes deserve in care. If we are going to lower this incredibly alarming rate of suicides, we have to improve the access and effectiveness of mental health care available to our returning heroes, and this step is a step in the right direction. The Clay Hunt SAV Act will increase access to mental health care and improve the quality of care that troops and veterans receive.

Together, we can change this system so no other veteran or spouse or parent will ever have to do what thousands of veterans have endured, including Clay. We owe it today to do what we can do and to continue the fight for our veterans, for what they have endured, and give them nothing but the best.

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. BROWN), the incoming ranking member for the Veterans' Affairs Committee, who has been a strong advocate for our veterans for the number of years she has been on the committee.

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Thank you, Ranking Member MICHAUD.

First of all, let me just thank you for your service—your 12 years of service to this Congress—for what you have done for veterans throughout this country and also for working with you on transportation. I want to salute you for all that you have done. Thank you very much.

Mr. Speaker, earlier today, I visited the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, where part of the facility is named the Murtha Cancer Center. Jack Murtha was a friend of mine, and he was the biggest advocate in Congress for men and women who serve in our military. I am especially proud of the visitors' center at the Normandy American Cemetery in France.

I had the opportunity to visit this center not long after it opened in 2007. The visitors' center truly pays tribute to the soldiers who stormed the beaches. It gives visitors a true sense of what the men and their loved ones had gone through on that D-day. I am pleased to have worked with John Murtha, and I am pleased that his memory will live on in the Murtha Cancer Center at Walter Reed.

I rise in support of this legislation, introduced by Mr. WALZ, to help bring attention to the horrible problems that are affecting our Nation's veterans.

I am pleased that my colleague introduced this legislation, which will require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Defense to arrange for an outside evaluation of their mental health care and suicide prevention programs. I am also requiring any servicemember who is discharged for posttraumatic stress disorder or brain injury or military sexual trauma to get treatment. Twenty-two veterans' suicides per day is too many. One suicide is too many.

Again, I want to thank Mr. WALZ for introducing this legislation.

Last night at the White House Christmas ball there were cards available for Members of Congress to sign that would be sent to servicemembers this holiday season. I have placed these cards in the Democratic cloakroom and in the Republican cloakroom, and I am asking for Members who would to sign these cards and send notes to our veterans throughout the world.

Mr. MILLER of Florida. I now yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from the great State of Florida (Mr. JOLLY), a colleague of mine and a fine member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee.

Mr. JOLLY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5059, legislation to improve mental health and suicide prevention services for our Nation's veterans.

Across the country today, there are families grieving, remembering loved ones who, in a moment of tragedy, took their own lives. These families also have in common another memory—the day their loved ones put on the uniform of the Armed Forces for the first time, who raised their right hands and took an oath to defend the Nation, to defend and protect each of us.

In many ways, we as a nation have failed to defend and protect them. We have failed to ensure sufficient access to mental health care and suicide prevention services.

We have remarkable caregivers and mental health counselors in our VA and DOD health systems who are on the front lines of mental health services every day, who do remarkable work; but, administratively, we must do more. We must empower veterans to seek immediate care for mental health and suicide prevention services. We must incentivize mental health professionals to join the VA workforce and deliver health care to our veterans, and we must improve the coordination between the VA and the DOD to deliver these services. This legislation does exactly that, and it is why it deserves our full support.

Mr. Speaker, this is a matter of national importance, but it is also a matter of personal conviction for many families, including for a mother in my district who, on Memorial Day of this year, at the C.W. Bill Young VA Medical Center at Bay Pines, approached me to share a story about the loss of her son who took his own life while awaiting enrollment in the VA, while awaiting mental health treatment from the VA. His mental health needs were left untreated, and he took his own life.

There are very few things more important for this body than to give voice to the voiceless. We are doing that today by speaking out about the tragic experiences of those who are no longer with us and by improving a health care system that provides remarkable care every day to our veterans but who need this Congress and this administration to enact much-needed changes. Mr. Speaker, this is critically important legislation, and I urge my colleagues to join me in its passage.

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, how many more speakers has the gentleman from Florida?

Mr. MILLER of Florida. We have one more speaker before I close.

Mr. MICHAUD. We have one more speaker, and I believe she is on her way.

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

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from the Sixth District of Illinois (Mr. ROSKAM), a gentleman who does not serve on the committee with us but who has a very keen interest in veterans affairs issues.

Mr. ROSKAM. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Speaker, in listening to the debate and this discussion today, this is really a bill about real contrasts. The contrast, as the gentleman from Minnesota described a couple of minutes ago, is starting at a very high point, which is a sense of calling, a sense of patriotism, a sense of going forward and meeting a duty and joining the Armed Forces of the United States. That is one end of the spectrum. At the other end of the spectrum was the description that Mrs. WALORSKI had, and that was of Clay Hunt's experience.

From one end of the spectrum to the other.

As I was sitting and listening, Mr. Speaker, I was looking above your head. There is a clock over your head. If you look at these numbers, you have 22 people every day who are going to kill themselves, and we know that. If you think about that and if you look at that clock, you think, in a little bit more than an hour, there is going to be a terrible thing that is going to happen. The good news is that TAMMY

DUCKWORTH from Illinois and TIM WALZ from Minnesota and JEFF MILLER from Florida decided to do something about it.

The power of this is when you have that broad of a political spectrum that says we are not going to tolerate this, that we are going to make sure that this issue is not lost in the shuffle, that this is not a statistic, that this is not 22. Rather, these are people who are going to be named; these are people who are going to be discussed; and these are people who are going to be defended.

□ 1530

So I am happy today to join with those who are asking for favorable passage of the Clay Hunt SAV Act.

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

Providing sufficient and effective mental health care to our veterans is an issue that I believe we must focus on. It is an issue that I hope will bring comprehensive policies in the next Congress. Finding real solutions will require all of us working together and will require sufficient resources and dedication.

I know my colleague, the gentleman from Minnesota, will be at the forefront of this fight, joined by Chairman MILLER, Ranking Member-elect Ms. BROWN, and all of the Republicans and Democrats on the Veterans' Affairs Committee. But I will not be in the House of Representatives next session to join that fight.

In my years in Congress, I have worked hard toward solutions that provide modern and effective care and benefits for our veterans. I have fought against inadequate budgets and for resources necessary to do the job. I have worked hard to improve the care and benefits of our newest veterans, while never forgetting our veterans from previous conflicts.

I have been encouraged by what we have all been able to accomplish together. But there is more that we have to do, and I know my colleagues will not give up the fight until we have won that battle.

But I do want to thank Chairman MILLER for his leadership, his support, and his friendship over the years. It has been an honor to work with Chairman MILLER, and it has been a pleasure to serve with him as well.

I also want to thank the members of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, both past and present. They have been true colleagues, mentors, and friends.

I want to wish the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. BROWN), our ranking member-elect, the best of luck, and I hope that she will enjoy her time as ranking member as much as I have enjoyed my time as ranking member.

And for the staff, both the majority and minority staff, they are the ones that make Members look good. They work very hard day and night to make sure that the policies that the members of the committee want are put into legislation.

I can say truly that the majority and minority staff in this Congress has worked very well together. They have put aside the partisanship that other committees have not. So I thank them for their hard work and dedication to making sure that we do what we are here to do, and that is to serve our veterans.

There is no more noble calling than serving those who have served this great Nation of ours.

And to my colleagues here in Congress who are veterans and to America's veterans, I will simply say, thank you. Thank you for your service to this great Nation of ours. It is because of you that we are the country that we are today. You never turned your back. You never faltered. And some of you have made the ultimate sacrifice and have given your life for this country. So thank you for your service.

Mr. Speaker, I would urge my colleagues to support this bill and move it to the Senate.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would be remiss if I did not say thank you to the gentleman from Maine, MIKE MICHAUD. As the ranking member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, we, as a team, along with the members and the staff, have accomplished much this year, but it has all been done in a bipartisan way. We were able to move large pieces of legislation that will impact, in a positive way, veterans for years to come.

We uncovered probably the largest scandal that has ever been uncovered at the Department of Veterans Affairs, and we are now turning that agency in a direction to where it serves the veterans and not itself.

This wouldn't have happened without the steady hand of the gentleman from Maine, MIKE MICHAUD, as the ranking member. Again, he is a fine man. He has been a great Representative, and he is a friend that will be missed. I look forward to going to Maine one day and hunting moose with MIKE, whom I have pestered for 12 years to get a chance to go up and visit. But we will miss him, and we wish him well.

And with that, I want to take a moment to express my condolences and my appreciation to Clay's family, whom I understand are in the Capitol with us today, as well as to all the families of veterans who have lost their lives to suicide. My thoughts and my prayers are with each of them.

Once again, I encourage all the Members to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I was proud to help introduce H.R. 5059, the Clay Hunt Suicide Prevention for American Veterans Act with Chairman JEFF MILLER and Representative TIM WALZ.

This bipartisan bill, named after 28-year-old Marine Veteran Clay Hunt, who tragically took his own life in March 2011, will reduce the barriers that prevent our Veterans from receiving quality mental health care.

It is a heartbreaking reality that twenty-two Veterans take their own lives each day. These are all casualties of war. As a nation, we are failing these brave men and women.

This legislation will task an independent, third party to annually review mental health care and suicide prevention programs and make recommendations on how to improve care. The bill also requires the VA to create a centralized source of information for all mental health services for Veterans. It will also address the shortage of mental health care professionals in order to ensure access to care as demand increases. Finally, through a pilot program, Veterans will receive reintegration assistance directly from the communities in which they live, fostering a smoother and more inclusive transition to life after the uniform.

Just as these Veterans remained faithful to our country on the battlefield, it is our turn as their Representatives to remain faithful to them. When our service men and women make the brave decision to seek help, we must ensure that they can get the quality assistance and treatment they deserve in a timely manner.

I urge all of the Members to support this legislation so that we can begin to turn the tide against suicide.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SALMON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5059, as amended.

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

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: ''A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide for the conduct of annual evaluations of mental health care and suicide prevention programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to require a pilot program on loan repayment for psychiatrists who agree to serve in the Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.''.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN RALPH HALL

### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BARTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the subject of this 1 hour Special Order for RALPH HALL.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BARTON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. BARTON. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the Speaker for granting us this Special Order to honor Congressman RALPH HALL of the Fourth Congressional District and for granting me this time today.

Although Congressman HALL has been sidelined by a recent accident, he is blessed to be on the mend, and he hopes to express his thanks in person sometime next year. Hopefully he is watching on C–SPAN television right now from Rockwall, Texas. I cannot tell him how many Members wish him the speediest of recoveries and wish that he was with us now.

RALPH has asked me to put in the RECORD the following statement from himself:

''I want to express my heartfelt appreciation to those in the Fourth Congressional District who gave me their vote of confidence time and again, who gave me the benefit of their wisdom and good ideas, and who inspired me to do my best to represent their views and their vision in Washington. You will always be dear to my heart.''

With that, I yield to the distinguished Congressman from Collin County, Texas, Congressman SAM JOHNSON.

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to honor my fellow Texan and dear friend RALPH HALL.

It has been said, ''A hero is someone who has given his or her life to something bigger than oneself.'' RALPH embodies these very words. He is a man of honor and integrity, a fierce protector of freedom, and a great conservative. He is a shining example of all that is great about America and the great State of Texas.

RALPH and I have known each other a very long time. I won't say how long. We are blessed to represent neighboring districts. There is no greater friend and ally in Congress than RALPH. We have worked together on a number of issues. Recently, I was pleased to help RALPH with a zebra mussel water bill. That is an important law that helped provide clean water to north Texas.

Now, RALPH is known both around the Hill and back at home for his sense of humor. You might say that is why he has never met a stranger. Every person he meets is not just a friend, but a close friend.

On a more serious note, RALPH is also known for his faithful love of his late wife, Mary Ellen. If you ever visit with RALPH, he will tell you she was the person who encouraged him to enter public service, and since then, she was with him every step of the way.

When RALPH had his chairman portrait painted 2 years ago, he made sure Mary Ellen was a part of that portrait. That love and commitment speaks so highly of RALPH's character.

RALPH, as your colleague, I thank you for your service to your constituents, our great State of Texas, and our great Nation.

As your friend, I thank you for your sense of humor; but, more importantly, I thank you for your loyal friendship. D.C. won't be the same without you. God bless you. I salute you, RALPH.

Mr. BARTON. Thank you, Congressman JOHNSON.

Before I yield to Congresswoman GRANGER, I want to say that most of RALPH's Washington, D.C., staff is watching this.

Janet Poppleton, Christopher Roper Schell, Leslie Coppler, Jessica Carter, Mitzyn De La Rosa, and Van Carver: RALPH wanted me to thank you-all for your service to himself and to the people of the Fourth District of Texas.

And with that, Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlelady from the 12th District of Texas, the Honorable KAY GRANGER.

Ms. GRANGER. Thank you. It is such an honor to speak about our good friend RALPH HALL.

His background and what he has done is really amazing. He joined the Navy in 1942. He went to war. He came back and got an LLB from Southern Methodist University. He was admitted to the Texas Bar and became a county judge, the president of the State Judges and Commissioners Association. He was elected to the State senate and was president pro tem. Then in 1980, he came to the House of Representatives, where he still serves.

The most important thing in RALPH's life, something that JOE BARTON talked about—he said: ''If you are going to talk about how important my life is, you are going to talk about my wife, Mary Ellen,'' the love of his life. They married in 1944 and were married until she passed in 2008.

But we are really not talking about what RALPH HALL did but who RALPH HALL is. Anyone who met him one time, the first thing you think about is that great smile. He was always smiling. He always had a twinkle in his eye and a joke on his lips. There is no one who tells jokes better than RALPH HALL. He has always got a story, and he has always got a joke.

I had to go to The Dallas Morning News for an endorsement at the editorial board one time, and, unfortunately, RALPH was interviewed right before I was. I walked in and they were still laughing at his jokes. No one could even think of a question for me for a while. But he was just that kind of a person. Never said a mean thing about anyone but told a lot of jokes on a lot of people.

So I wish RALPH were here sitting in this Chamber with us tonight, but because of his accident, he is not. But I know he is watching it.

I will say to RALPH, we miss you, and we wish you the very best. It has been wonderful. We are all better for having known you. Thank you.

Mr. BARTON. Mr. Speaker, before I introduce Congressman NEUGEBAUER, I have already put one statement in the RECORD that RALPH wanted me to read, but by electronic device, he has sent a second statement.

So this is another direct quote from Congressman HALL:

''Although sidelined by a recent accident, I am blessed to be on the mend and hope to express my thanks in person some time next year. It has been a great honor and privilege to represent the good people of the Fourth Congressional District for the past 33 years. I thank them for their vote of confidence over the years, for their wisdom and good ideas, and for inspiring me to represent their views and their vision to the best of my ability.''

With that, I yield to the Congressman representing Lubbock, Texas, where the Ennis Lions will play a high school football game this Friday night, the Honorable RANDY NEUGEBAUER.

□ 1545

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of my friend and colleague, Congressman RALPH HALL. You look at RALPH's life, and it is a record of service to his country. It began in 1942 as a young lieutenant flying an aircraft off of an aircraft carrier. After the war, RALPH came back to this country and started work in the private sector, creating jobs and expanding the economy in Texas.

Later, RALPH would be the county judge for Rockwall, Texas, and then later would be elected as a Texas State senator. In 1980, he was elected to the United States Congress to represent the Fourth District of Texas, where he has represented that district with distinction.

If you ever traveled in RALPH's district and you stop at the 7–Eleven and you stop to get a little gas and you mentioned RALPH HALL, people's faces light up because I bet everybody in RALPH's district has met RALPH because one of the things that he was very diligent about doing was making sure that the people in his district felt represented.

Since his election, he has worked tirelessly here in Congress on a number of issues, and I had the honor and privilege to serve on the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee with RALPH. One of the things I appreciated most about RALPH and I think most of us appreciated is RALPH's sense of humor. Now, that didn't stop him from really asking very direct and grilling questions of witnesses that would come before our committee, and sometimes, it would be a tense moment, but RALPH always had something funny or a story to tell that kind of broke the ice.

You see a number of members of the Texas delegation are here today, particularly the Republican delegation. Every Thursday, we have lunch together and talk about what is good for Texas. The thing that we always looked forward to was we couldn't wait until RALPH got there so RALPH could share a funny story. One of the things that I will miss most about RALPH is

those times when he would be on the floor or he would be at lunch sharing those stories.

Now, one of the things about RALPH is that, as he got older, he got wiser. In fact, he got so wise in 2004 that he realized that he needed to be a part of the Republican Party, so he switched from the Democratic Party to the Republican Party, and we were so glad to welcome him to that.

As I said, it has been an honor and a privilege, RALPH, to be part of your team on the Science, Space, and Technology Committee, and it has been a great honor to be one of your colleagues. More importantly, RALPH, we want to thank you for your friendship, your kinship, and, most importantly, your service to this great Nation and to the State of Texas.

With that, we say, RALPH, job well done, God bless you, and we look forward to seeing you soon.

Mr. BARTON. I want to thank the gentleman from Lubbock.

Mr. Speaker, I now yield to the Congressman from the 25th Congressional District of Texas, Mr. ROGER WILLIAMS. Under the newest configuration, he is the only Congressman to ever represent that district, so they must love him.

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand here today with my Texas colleagues and say a few words about our most treasured friend, mentor, leader, and hero, RALPH HALL. RALPH's lifetime of service to his country and fellow man are full of victories, as we already heard, and highlights too numerous to count.

As a young lieutenant in the U.S. Navy, RALPH served his country and flew planes in World War II. Once the next Congress convenes, we will sorely miss the only two remaining World War II veterans currently in Congress, also including Congressman DINGELL.

RALPH HALL has an appreciation for America that very few of us can understand. He understands sacrifice, he understands service, and he understands putting one's self aside for the greater good.

My friend has always been an accomplished businessman, having successfully served in a number of executive roles in the private sector. He brought his business savvy and military experience to Congress, which undoubtedly contributed to his reputation for being one of the most respected and well-liked Members we have ever had.

His ability to bring humor into every situation was not just to get a laugh; it was his unique way of bringing different viewpoints together to find common ground.

Mr. Speaker, Congressman RALPH HALL has served north Texas well and deserves recognition for his many legislative accomplishments. I am grateful to have served with my friend and a patriot whose leadership, spirit, and statesmanship will always be greatly missed.

I wish him all the best as he continues to serve Texas, America, and his community back home. I will always pray for RALPH and his family.

Mr. BARTON. I want to thank you, Congressman.

Mr. Speaker, I now yield to the Congressman from the First Congressional District, deep east Texas, the soft-spoken Congressman LOUIE GOHMERT.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to be here honoring RALPH HALL. He has been my Congressman for many years; and, in fact, after being on the bench for about 10 years, I had a feeling that perhaps I ought to legislate, and I wouldn't do it from the bench. But my Democratic Congressman RALPH HALL, from conversations, he talked like I did—I hope that is not disrespectful to RALPH—but I told him, as long as he is my Congressman, I didn't have any need to run because he would represent me well.

Then we had redistricting in 2003, and it opened up a different district. But I felt that way then, if he had stayed my Congressman, I never had a need to run, so some wish we didn't have redistricting.

As I hear people talk about his age, I think about RALPH saying that when he turned 90, somebody on his staff said: ''Congressman HALL, would you rather we didn't mention to people that you are 90?'' He said: ''No, I am fine with that. I would a lot rather you say he is 90 than, 'Doesn't he look natural?' ''

Having been with RALPH yesterday there in Rockwall as he is going through rehab, actually, he doesn't look natural at all, he looks great, and we just look forward to the days when he is fully out of the wheelchair and that rod in his leg is not bothering him as much as it is now. We miss him very much.

He did also provide me a quote that struck him having been chairman of the Science Committee. This is a quote RALPH sent:

> We are reminded of the responsibility given to us by the scripture engraved on the hearing room wall of the Science Committee from Proverbs 29:18, ''Where there is no vision, the people perish.''

Well, RALPH's eyesight was 20/20. He could see where we have been, and he could see where we were going. It was an honor, a pleasure, and a real privilege to serve with my friend, RALPH HALL.

Mr. BARTON. I thank Congressman GOHMERT.

I now yield to the gentlewoman that represents part of Dallas County in Dallas, Texas, the Honorable EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON, who comes from the same hometown as I do: Waco, Texas.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. I am delighted to join you in saying some words about RALPH HALL, my friend.

Mr. Speaker, it has been my honor and privilege to serve with my colleague and friend. We had some laughs just recently when I visited him about our history and working together in elective office.

Our relationship goes back to when I was in the Texas house—and I left the Texas house in the seventies—talking about things that we remembered. I really regret that he is not here today, but he wanted to be, and he planned to be, but he is not going to make it today.

As all of you have had the pleasure of serving with RALPH, we are missing out on several jokes and stories. Some of them were really funny, and some can't be said in some places, so I won't try to match him in storytelling.

I am going to tell you a little story that happened when RALPH switched parties. I called him and called him and called him and called him, and I couldn't get through, nor did he return my calls until I finally said, ''Well, just tell him I still love him, and I don't care what party he is in.''

Thirty seconds later, he returned my call, and he said, ''I just couldn't take another bawling out from a woman.'' He said, ''I have gotten it from my sister. I got it from my wife.''

I said, ''But do you know what? Probably nobody understands more than I do because I have been watching your numbers.'' So it never interfered with our relationship.

When he was chair of the Science, Space, and Technology Committee, two of the years that he was chair, I was the ranking member. He never hesitated to reach across the aisle to try to reach consensus. Really, that is the kind of spirit we need now. I will miss him for that. I will miss him because of the history we both shared.

Our districts used to come right next to each other. Now, there are a couple of people that come in between us, but it won't divide our friendship, and I look forward to our continued friendship for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I have learned so much from him. I remember when I first came, he was the person who taught me how to make arrangements to go home every week with the airline that we use and also taught me how to find rooms and shortcuts of how to get where you need to go on this Hill, which is rather complicated when you first get here. He will be greatly missed.

He has meant a lot, and he has done a lot. The space exploration program will be forever grateful to him. The Science, Space, and Technology Committee research and all it stands for will always have RALPH HALL as a part of its history.

I appreciate the opportunity to have had a chance to work with him, to know him and his family, and to wish him well.

Mr. BARTON. I want to thank you, Congressman JOHNSON.

Mr. Speaker, I now yield to the Congressman from Fort Bend County, Sugar Land, Texas, a Navy pilot himself, as RALPH HALL was in World War II, the Honorable PETE OLSON.

□ 1600

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Texas for that kind introduction.

May 3, 1923, RALPH HALL was born in Fate, Texas. There could not be in the whole world a better name to describe a man's life than being born in Fate, Texas.

Fate touched RALPH in many ways. RALPH is a young man in Rockwall, Texas, pumping gas as a teenager. Guess who drove up and bought gas from my friend RALPH HALL? Bonnie and Clyde, the gangsters.

Mr. BARTON. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. OLSON. Yes, sir, I will yield to my friend.

Mr. BARTON. There is no proof of that. I know the Congressman actually states it as a fact, but I have repeatedly asked him to prove it, and he has absolutely failed. So that is an urban myth of the Fourth Congressional District.

Mr. OLSON. Reclaiming my time, my friend said, when he saw them, he didn't know who they were, but he got a quarter, a maximum amount of money for a tip. He walked in so proud to show his boss what had happened; he had gotten a huge tip. The paper was there right beside the floor. He saw this man and this woman. He pumped gas for those two felons.

Now, when he told his boss who they were, he called the local sheriff. The sheriff said: Thank you so much for calling. I have gotten a call about two stray dogs. Once I catch those dogs, I will go after Bonnie and Clyde.

Fate and RALPH HALL, but fate didn't stop there.

As was mentioned, RALPH was a naval aviator, a pilot in World War II. He did his flight training in Pensacola, Florida. He was there with a marine, a guy named Ted Williams, The Splendid Splinter, batted .403 in 1941.

Mr. BARTON. Will the gentleman yield on that point?

Mr. OLSON. I yield to my friend for a minute, yes, sir.

Mr. BARTON. Well, while the Bonnie and Clyde story is more fiction than fact—RALPH would have been pumping gas at the ripe old age of 8 or 9 years old for that to be true—the Ted Williams story is fact and is true.

Mr. OLSON. I thank my friend.

The story is RALPH knows Ted is there. He is in the Marines, part of the Navy. RALPH has an idea—baseball game against Army. I will take all their paychecks. I have got Ted Williams. The day of the game comes, knocks on Ted's door, he had some fishing gear: HALL, let's go fishing.

RALPH tried to stop him.

Ted, Ted, I have told my wife Mary Ellen I am coming home with a big paycheck. I bet my whole paycheck on this game. RALPH held the fence up so Ted Williams could go AWOL. Navy lost the game and RALPH had it rough at home with Mary Ellen.

Fate touched RALPH HALL one more time. As the chairman of the NASA committee here in Congress, RALPH HALL is friends with great Americans. This picture shows the greatest, that man right there named Neil Armstrong, the first American to walk on the Moon. Next to him, Colonel Tom Stafford, another Apollo astronaut; and right by the microphone there, Captain Gene Cernan, the only man to go to the Moon twice, on Apollo 10 and Apollo 17.

Fate touched RALPH HALL's life. Fate touched our lives by giving RALPH HALL to us. He is America's best. He is Texas' best.

RALPH, we love you. God bless you. Bravo Zulu. May you have fair winds and following seas.

Mr. BARTON. I thank the gentleman from Sugar Land. I now yield to Congressman GENE GREEN, who represents the Houston ship channel and the battleship Texas and other such notable Texas landmarks.

Mr. GREEN.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am not so sure about a noted Texas landmark, but I want to thank you for scheduling a Special Order for our good friend, RALPH HALL.

I rise to pay tribute to a great American who has dedicated his life to protecting and serving our Nation and the great State of Texas, Representative RALPH HALL, a true gentleman.

RALPH began his commitment to service seven decades ago when he joined the United States Navy and served as an aircraft carrier pilot during World War II. Returning to Texas after the war, RALPH began private law practice in Rockwall, Texas, where he served as county judge in the 1950s and represented that area in the Texas State Senate from 1962 to 1972.

That is when I first met RALPH HALL, because in 1972 he ran for Lieutenant Governor in Texas in the Democratic primary. There were a few other folks in that race, so RALPH didn't make it into the runoff. But RALPH was elected to Congress in 1980 as a conservative Democrat, where he served our State honorably on the Energy and Commerce Committee and the Science Committee, where he was chairman from 2011 to 2013.

In 2003, RALPH became a Republican. His votes were always conservative, though. My job in the 1990s as a deputy whip on the Democratic side was to whip Texas Members. So I would go to RALPH, and he was the distinguished gentleman. And that is just not a title; he really was. He would tell me, he said: Well, GENE, what do you want me to do?

I said: Well, RALPH, I want you to vote thisaway.

He said: You know, GENE, I can't really do that.

I said: Well, RALPH, can you vote late?

RALPH was always a conservative, no matter what Republican or Democratic label he had. I had the honor of serving with RALPH in Congress since 1993 and on the Energy and Commerce Committee since 1997, and RALPH has always been, like I said, a true gentleman to me and to all I have ever seen him work with.

I will best remember RALPH as a true hero of Texas who was a committed public servant, either in uniform or elected official, and always stayed true to his beliefs and did everything he could for his constituents.

Mr. Speaker, Congressman HALL will be sorely missed by all of us, and I want to thank him for both his hard work and dedication for years, but more importantly for his friendship to a lot of Members—not just Texans, but a lot of Members in Congress. RALPH will be very fondly remembered.

Mr. BARTON. Now I yield to the distinguished Congressman from, I believe, Flower Mound, Texas, in Denton County, the Honorable MICHAEL BURGESS.

Mr. BURGESS. Well, thank you, chairman, and thank you for calling this hour together.

Of course, the ranks of those who are able to capably deliver a narrative in this House suddenly have gotten a little thinner, but I did have the opportunity to sit down and visit with Mr. HALL just a few days before Thanksgiving, and I know how intense was his desire to be here and be able to talk on the floor today on his own behalf.

RALPH, sadly, that didn't come to pass. I hope you are able to watch today. I hope you are able to hear the accolades of all of your colleagues. We miss you, RALPH. We wish you nothing but the best going forward.

Again, the ranks of the capable narrative deliverer here in the House of Representatives has gotten a little thinner at the end of this term.

Mr. BARTON. I now yield to Mr. BLAKE FARENTHOLD, the Congressman from Corpus Christi, Texas.

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Thank you, Chairman BARTON.

It is great to be here to talk a moment or two about my good friend RALPH HALL. When I was first elected to Congress a few years back, RALPH was one of the first people that I met, being a Texan, and I tell you, he has the kindest heart and always has a smile on his face and a good joke ready at hand.

You know, people ask me: What do you see as your career as a Congressman? Who do you look up to? Where do you see your career in Congress going?

I might want to grow up to be RALPH HALL.

Then some of his adversaries said he was getting too old to be in Congress, and RALPH jumped out of a perfectly good airplane. I had to rethink, ''I want to grow up to be RALPH HALL,'' after he jumped out of a perfectly good airplane.

But I tell you, it is a reflection of the courage and dedication that a man like RALPH HALL has. RALPH was committed to serving Texas and the folks that he represented, and he would go to any length, including jumping out of a

perfectly good airplane, to continue to serve.

It was an honor and a privilege to have spent 4 years of my life as a colleague of RALPH's, and it has been the greatest 4 years of my life. It is an honor and privilege to have served with him, and he truly will be missed.

I appreciate the opportunity, Chairman BARTON, to be on the floor today to acknowledge my friend and, quite frankly, one of my strongest mentors here in Congress, RALPH HALL.

God bless you, RALPH. We are going to miss you.

Mr. BARTON. I now yield to the gentleman from the 14th District of Illinois, Congressman HULTGREN.

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, it is such a privilege to be able to say a few words for my good friend and my chairman, chairman of the Science Committee when I first was elected to Congress 4 years ago. I had the privilege of serving under Chairman HALL on the Science Committee. A couple memories that I have of so many committees that I went to where the committee would stop because we were laughing so hard with a statement or comment or joke, perfectly timed joke that Chairman HALL would put in, and so I enjoyed that time so much.

My wife and I had an incredible privilege this summer. We have, among ourselves here in Congress, some wonderful people we get to serve with. A few of them truly are heroes, and one of those heroes is RALPH HALL. We had the privilege of going to the 70th anniversary of D-day to recognize those World War II veterans, and RALPH HALL was with us on that trip. We all loved being there, but everybody wanted to be with RALPH HALL—again, a true hero. To be in that place with RALPH HALL was a great, great honor for my wife and me.

My greatest memory since I have been here over the 4 years was with Chairman HALL, and that was in the Science Committee and having the privilege of sitting about 10 feet away from Neil Armstrong and Captain Gene Cernan—the first man to walk on the Moon and the last man to walk on the Moon, people who changed the trajectory of this Nation and this world—and having the opportunity to talk with them and get to know them and to hear their amazing story, but also the humility that they had, that same humility that Chairman HALL has. Just a privilege to serve.

RALPH, we love you. I wish so much that you could be here today to be able to express your own heart for the privilege I know that you felt serving in this incredible place, serving the wonderful constituents you have in Texas. But I want you to know that we love you, we miss you, we are praying for you, and we are excited to see, hopefully soon, a full recovery for you. We are looking forward to having you back here and hearing those great jokes once again.

So, RALPH, I want to let you know that we are pulling for you and excited again for all that you have done and all that you are going to do.

Mr. BARTON. I would now like to yield to Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON LEE, the gentlelady from Houston, Texas.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding, and I thank him for holding this Special Order for a very dear friend to all of us, RALPH HALL.

I guess my opening remarks would be that, if you took the greater percentage of all of us Members of the House of Representatives, everyone would rise up and say ''my good friend RALPH HALL'' and really mean it, for he was a good friend and is a good friend to all of us on both sides of the aisle.

When I came to the United States Congress, I went to the Science Committee, and there was RALPH HALL, fighting for the issues that were not only impacting the Nation, but were impacting our great State. No one could doubt that RALPH HALL was a champion for Texas, a champion for the space exploration program.

I used to love getting with him on the floor of the House and strategizing how we could continue to make sure that our human space exploration, our astronauts, and the great research that is done by NASA carries on.

Certainly, as a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, he was astutely concerned about the issues of energy, but also health care and many others.

He loved his family, and he forever reminded me of a time when he came to Houston and he had to see his grandson, who is now grown, and I am sure one of RALPH's favorite grandsons, if you will—he loves his family—when he had to get a ride to the hospital where his grandson was, and of course we are so grateful that he recovered. He always tells everyone that I went 30 miles out of my way to take him to that hospital, and I can say to you I did it with joy.

He was always grateful and thankful for friendship and kindness, and he was kind. And I must say that, if he didn't have a career in the United States Congress, he could be a stand-up comic because his timing was everything; his jokes were unique. I don't think they were written anywhere, and of course he was always saying them.

Let me also say, since he has had such a long history, he reminded me of his friendship with the Honorable Barbara Jordan and his friendship with Mickey Leland, two of the predecessors of my particular district.

And then I would offer to say the same remarks that were mentioned just earlier about how excited he was to be in Normandy for the 70th commemoration and have our own special iconic hero, RALPH HALL, who was honored by the French and honored by many. He was a regular hero and a dynamic hero as we went about the town.

My hat is off to RALPH. I know that he will be well. I know that he knows that we love him. But, more importantly, let me salute him as a great American who has served his Nation with dignity and honor and respect and integrity, and who walks the pathway of a congressional person that respects the dignity and integrity of this House and, as well, the friendship of Democrats and Republicans because he calls everyone an American.

Mr. BARTON. I now yield to RANDY WEBER, the Congressman from the 14th District from Friendswood, Texas.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, you may have heard about the revered Halls of Congress, but let me say that there is no more revered HALL of Congress than that of RALPH HALL. Let me tell you why that is.

□ 1615

RALPH HALL was a true Texan and a great American. He is a great example to us all.

As a true Texas gentleman, time and time again, I have seen him demonstrate the art of tact. He once described that art of tact as making someone feel at home when you wish they were.

As a true Texas gentleman, he could do that. As a true Texas gentleman, I saw him time and time again use the art of diplomacy. He explained to me: ''Randy, you know, diplomacy is being able to tell someone to go to Hades and make them happy to be on their way.'' RALPH had that gift.

Let me tell you, RALPH HALL—and I am going to list some descriptions of him alphabetically. He was American through and through. He was charming. He could turn that charm on. You have heard many of our speakers talk about that. He was committed. He was serious about what he did. Elegant. He was a picture of elegance. You could just see it in the way he moved and the way he worked. Funny. Gosh, he was so funny. The fact is I think he was cut out to be a comedian, but he was probably sewn together wrong. Gosh, he was funny at times. Gracious. A true Texas gentleman. A mentor to us, he could be stern when necessary. Strong. Did I mention Texas through and through? Witty. In short, RALPH was a great example.

Mr. Speaker, I end with this acronym. When I think of RALPH—R-A-L-P-H—I think of R, he was real, he was Republican. I think of A, he was American. I think of L, he was a leader. And then I think of P, RALPH was principled. And then I think of H, and he is a hero.

I will end with this—his last name HALL. H stands for hero, A stands for American, and both the Ls stand for the lasting legacy he is going to leave here in the Halls of Congress. When it comes to the Halls of Congress, there is none better than RALPH HALL.

RALPH, we love you, we bid you a great American and a great Texan farewell, but only temporarily. Don't be a stranger.

Mr. BARTON. I thank the gentleman.

I now want to yield to the Honorable DANA ROHRABACHER from California's 48th District in Orange County.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. I have served in the House of Representatives now for 26 years, and I have met good people and bad people, and I have met people I agree with and whom I like and people I disagree with and I like. We are reflective of the American people.

People ask me, ''What do you think about the United States Congress?'' And I always say, ''It reflects what the American people are all about.''

This is the House of Representatives where we represent all of these parts of our country. Well, RALPH HALL was one of those Representatives who represented the goodness in America and the greatness in America. RALPH HALL was first and foremost, I believe, a patriot who put that above every other one of his considerations.

I was proud to know RALPH. RALPH is still with us, so we shouldn't think of RALPH as being gone from the Earth. For Pete's sake, RALPH is still here, and I hope he is listening right now because we wish him all the best. RALPH HALL is a great American still, but he has left his legacy here behind.

I worked with RALPH on the Science and Space Committee, as they called it, at least they did then—Science, Space, and Technology. RALPH has made enormous contributions to the well-being of our country in two areas in particular.

Number one, he did much to help direct America's space program and keep it a viable effort on the part of the United States to utilize space for the benefit of humankind and, of course, for the purpose of the United States to become a dominant power in the next frontier. His leadership was indispensable to creating the potential that we have today of accomplishing great things in space. And to the things that we have already accomplished, RALPH was right in the middle of it, making sure that job got done.

He also very involved with energy development. I know that there is a little bit of confusion that just because someone is from Texas that they are going to be backing up the oil companies and things such as that. RALPH was a guy who, yeah, he believed in the oil industry, and he was grateful to the oil industry for the good things that it has provided us, the fact that energy and the production of energy is so important to our national well-being. But he was also a man who understood that science was going to develop new methods of energy and was always pushing our committee and the Science Committee to be on the cutting edge of research and development.

When you get people here running for Congress, they run for Congress because they have strong ideas and ideals, often which don't agree with one another. You can imagine trying to get legislation through committees and on the floor of the House, et cetera, when you have people who are having to interact but have different points of view. Well, tensions at that moment can be a blockage to making things better.

RALPH, if anything else, was the guy who was able to eliminate the tension in the air that was getting in the way of getting something done because he had the best sense of humor of any other Member I have ever, ever come across. RALPH, by doing that, kept this body a productive body, and we weren't at each other's throats.

One last note. My father was a pilot during World War II and he flew in the Pacific. I have a very special place in my heart for RALPH HALL and all those guys because RALPH HALL, too, was a pilot in World War II in the Pacific. He is the godfather to us all.

RALPH, we respect you, we honor you, we love you, we are grateful to you for what you meant to our lives and what you have done to help make our country better off. Thank you. God bless.

Mr. BARTON. I want to thank you, Congressman.

I now want to yield to the gentleman from the Fifth District in Dallas, Texas, the chairman of the Financial Services Committee, the Honorable JEB HENSARLING.

Mr. HENSARLING. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I rise to honor my dear friend and this great patriot from Texas, next door to me in Dallas, RALPH HALL. I tell you, Mr. Speaker, I feel most inadequate to the task.

There are a number of Members who come to the House floor and some provide humor. Few have provided more humor than RALPH HALL at times when this body critically needs it.

Some Members come to this body and they become well respected. Certainly that is RALPH HALL.

Some are well liked. That is also RALPH HALL.

Some distinguish themselves for their accomplishments. RALPH HALL will take second place to no one on what he has been able to accomplish in his House career.

Then there is a handful, Mr. Speaker, of true American heroes. RALPH HALL served our Nation with courage and distinction in World War II.

My point, Mr. Speaker, is that I am not sure I know any Member who combines them all: respectability, likability, humor, effectiveness, and being a true American hero.

We will miss RALPH HALL. We will miss his wit. But, do you know, Mr. Speaker, even more so I think I will miss his wisdom because there are many times that we have debated various issues either among, perhaps, the Texas delegation or the House as a whole, and occasionally the voices may get a little loud, perhaps the debate gets a little bit confused, and then almost out of nowhere RALPH HALL comes in and imparts his wisdom, and it is like a ray of sunshine piercing the darkness, and I will say, ''Yes, that makes sense,'' and we come together as Members of Congress for the good of America.

I heard the previous speaker speak about it. There is so much we could say about RALPH and his accomplishments. But how ironic in some respects that the oldest Member of the House was so much on the cutting edge of science and technology and has helped this institution lead America into this century. When RALPH HALL has spoken, when he has led, so many have followed.

There are many reasons that it is a privilege to serve in the United States House of Representatives. But one of the great privileges is the people that you meet. There have been none nicer, none wiser, and more accomplished than RALPH HALL.

Mr. Speaker, I will miss, Texas will miss, America will miss RALPH HALL when he leaves this body.

Mr. BARTON. I thank the gentleman.

I now yield to the gentleman from Round Rock, Texas, the distinguished JOHN CARTER.

Mr. CARTER. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about my friend RALPH HALL. An amazing man. He has done just about anything adventuresome you can think of in your life.

This is the man that tells us that he was a little boy when Bonnie and Clyde went through, and I think he is telling us the truth.

He tells me that he was a fight promoter, and I know he was a fight promoter—I heard it from other people—who turned down a young man from Kentucky named Cassius Clay because he thought he had a glass jaw.

He is a man that served in the wild and wily Texas Legislature and Texas Senate. He once ran for attorney general, and he said he looked in the mirror and thought he saw the attorney general, and it turned out there was another guy that he was seeing in the mirror.

He served in this House both as a Democrat and a Republican and is loved by both parties and respected by both parties.

He had an amazing talent for carrying humor around as a tool of friendship. I just want to share one small thing that livened up a crowd like I have never seen before.

We were at the laying of the keel of the aircraft carrier *George Herbert Walker Bush*. There were about 50 or so people sitting down in chairs in the hot sun. They put a bottle of water under each chair. I was sitting next to RALPH on the front row. He looked down there underneath his chair and he saw that bottle of water. All these people were sweltering behind us waiting for the thing to start. He reached down, he picked up the bottle of water, he got up, and he turned around to the crowd behind him and he said: ''Somebody nice put a bottle of water underneath my chair. Who's got the scotch?'' The crowd just started laughing, everybody relaxed, and the ceremony began.

RALPH made friends like nobody else. He is my friend. I think every Member of this House considers him a friend.

He is a great American, a great Texan, and I am going to miss him dearly.

Mr. BARTON. I thank the gentleman.

May I inquire how much time I have remaining, Mr. Speaker?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas has 8 minutes remaining.

Mr. BARTON. Mr. Speaker, we have had a number of Congressmen come on the House floor and tell anecdotes about RALPH, about how funny he was and how smart he was, and they are all—at least the ones about how smart he was—very true.

We have heard the urban myth about waiting on Bonnie and Clyde, which I do not believe is true. We have heard about Ted Williams and RALPH and Ted playing on the same baseball team in World War II, and that is true. We have heard about the offer to serve as a fight promoter for Cassius Clay, who later became Muhammad Ali, and that is true.

A few more that you may not know: He was good friends with the Hunt brothers in Dallas and Clint Murchison, who was the original owner of the Dallas Cowboys. At one time, he was asked to be general counsel for what we today call the NFL, which he turned down.

□ 1630

I got to know RALPH when I got elected in 1984. He and I served districts that touch each other. We both live in our districts in Texas, and so we became good buddies because we were always on the first flight to Texas after the last vote at the end of the week and on the last flight before the first vote to Washington at the beginning of the week.

Once we built up enough frequent flyer miles, when there was a complimentary upgrade—we never spent taxpayer dollars to fly in first class—we would fight over who got seat 4F. Because RALPH sweet-talked the special service people at American Airlines, he always won. The only time I have ever gotten seat 4F on American Airlines was when RALPH was not on the plane.

You have heard about the fact that he used to be a Democrat. He was until 2003 or 2004 when he switched parties. One of the first times that I realized how important RALPH HALL was is when the first President Bush won the election to be President of the United States. They called a special meeting over at the Capitol Hill Club on behalf of the National Republican Campaign Committee so that the Republicans in the Congress, who were in the minority, could have a meeting with the incoming President. We thought that was pretty special.

There was a stir in the crowd. We thought it was the President coming in, and it was. The President walked into the room of the Eisenhower Lounge, which the Republicans will know is on the first floor at the Capitol Hill Club.

Before the President began to speak, there was another stir. Through another door that I have never seen used who do you think came into the Capitol Hill Club but RALPH HALL.

Now, what is surprising about that is that at the time, RALPH HALL was a Democrat. RALPH HALL had endorsed George H.W. Bush for President when he was a Democrat, and so he got special recognition at that Capitol Hill meeting.

There have been many great Members from Texas that served in the House since our creation as a State in 1845, Mr. Speaker. Some of the ones that I have enjoyed working with in my tenure are people like Bill Archer of Houston, Jake Pickle, Steve Bartlett, and Sam Hall, but none has been more beloved and none has been more effective than RALPH HALL of Rockwall, Texas.

I have some other things to say, but I see that others are here, so I yield to Mr. WAXMAN, the chairman emeritus and current ranking member of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to pay tribute to RALPH HALL, particularly for his earlier years in the House of Representatives when he was a Democrat. He came on the Energy and Commerce Committee early.

We sometimes think about Democrats and Republicans. He became a Republican. He had been a conservative Democrat. Everybody on both sides of the aisle held him in the highest respect because he was a man of integrity and honesty. When he gave you his word, you could count on it.

RALPH and I became friends. I hope that friendship will continue into the future. I want to express to him, his constituents, and his family and friends my admiration for him as a person and my respect for him as a legislator.

I know it is common to say that even though we didn't agree on all things, it didn't make any difference. He always tried to do what he thought was right. As a result, he earned my respect and that of everyone else.

Mr. BARTON. I yield to Mr. SMITH, the chairman of the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. I thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BARTON), my colleague, for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, today, we honor the distinguished service of our friend and colleague, RALPH HALL of Texas. If there were a congressional hall of fame, Representative HALL would be a first-ballot inductee. His many years of service were highlighted at the end of 2012 when he became the most senior Member of Congress to ever cast a vote in the House. His career has spanned 34 years.

Since he was 19 years old, he has made his contributions to our country. As a lieutenant in the Navy during World War II, he served as a pilot. Since then, he has never hesitated to accomplish a mission. That mentality has made him a distinguished Member of Congress and a very effective chairman of the Science, Space, and Technology Committee.

Throughout his time in Congress, RALPH HALL has served this institution with style and humor. RALPH always said, ''I'd rather be respected at home than liked in Washington.'' RALPH has actually achieved that rare combination of both. We thank him for his service to Congress, to the great State of Texas, and to our country.

RALPH has asked me to pass along his comment, ''I am especially partial to my friends from the Texas delegation who represent their district so well and whose integrity and hard work have benefited not only our State, but also our Nation. I thank you for your friendship and countless acts of Congress.''

Mr. BARTON. I now yield to the gentleman from Houston, Texas (Mr. CULBERSON).

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Speaker, time is short this evening, but it is such a privilege to be here to honor RALPH HALL.

Proverbs tell us that our good name is worth more than all the gold and silver on Earth, and that is certainly true of RALPH HALL, someone who I immediately bonded with when I came to Congress in 2001.

RALPH has been a mentor, teacher, and a dear, good friend. I could always—as we all could—count on RALPH to do the right things for the right reasons and be a man of his word. His first priority throughout his time here was to do right by the State of Texas.

As LAMAR said so ably, RALPH always believed it is better to be respected at home and make sure the folks there knew what a good job he was doing for them. It was a real privilege for me to be able to serve with that good man. We will surely miss him.

What a privilege to be here tonight to honor him on this special evening.

Mr. BARTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee, Mr. UPTON.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I would just say that RALPH HALL is an amazing man. I served with him on the Energy and Commerce Committee a lot of years. I had the luxury of sitting next to him. We have a lot of great stories, that is for sure.

I can remember when he came back to the Science Committee, and we said that we had yet another Texan. He said, ''When I'm done, you'll wish that you had another 10 or 12.''

Mr. BARTON. RALPH, we love you. We will miss you. You are a great guy. We will see you soon.

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

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deepest gratitude for the privilege to represent the good people of the Fourth Congressional District of Texas for the past 33 years. Other than my faith and my family, this has been the greatest blessing of my life and one for which I will always be grateful.

My service spans 5 Presidents and 7 Speakers of the House, and at the age of 91½, I am the oldest Congressman in the history of the House of Representatives—a record that was set at the slightly younger age of 89½. I have had the privilege of serving alongside some of the most dedicated and influential leaders in America's history—men and women on both sides of the aisle whose integrity and hard work have served our Nation well.

To all of you—former and current Members of the House—I thank you for your leadership and for your friendship. It has been an honor to work with you, and we have had our share of agreements and disagreements on many issues. I respect each of you and the people you represent back home—and I am proud to call so many of you my good friends.

I have been fortunate to serve on two great Committees—the Energy and Commerce Committee and the Science, Space, and Technology Committee—throughout these 33 years, with the exception of a two-year leave of absence from Energy and Commerce.

When I first came to Congress after the 1980 election, future Speaker Jim Wright asked me what committees I would like to serve on. I asked for Energy because Texas is an energy state, and I asked for Science and Space because of the importance of the space program to our Nation and the role of the Johnson Space Center in Houston. I was fortunate to have the opportunity to serve on both of these.

The Science, Space, and Technology Committee has helped define the vision and establish the course for our space program, the International Space Station, and scientific research and development. The Energy and Commerce Committee has spurred energy development and innovation, telecommunications breakthroughs, and healthcare reforms, just to name a few. To the members and Chairmen of these Committees, I express my gratitude for your leadership, hard work, and collaboration.

A special thanks goes to Speaker BOEHNER and our Leadership for their confidence in naming me as the Ranking Member of the Science Committee for four years and as Chairman of the Committee in the past Congress, for allowing me to return to Energy and Commerce after the leave of absence, and for granting a waiver to serve on the Science Committee again in this Congress. I also want to express my gratitude to my good friend and Texas colleague LAMAR SMITH, Chairman of the Science Committee, for naming me Chairman Emeritus for the 113th Congress.

I am of course partial to the Texas Delegation—to this great group of men and women who not only represent Texas so well but who also have such a strong commitment to our Nation's prosperity and security. We are like family, and I thank you for your friendship and countless acts of kindness.

As Members of Congress, we could not perform our duties without the aid of dedicated and loyal staff. To my wonderful staff who have guided my office operations and supported me with their hard work, advice, and friendship, I will always be indebted. A special thanks also goes to the talented and dedicated staff of the Science, Space, and Technology Committee who supported me so ably as Ranking Member and as Chairman.

And once again, I want to express my heartfelt appreciation to those in the Fourth Congressional District who gave me their vote of confidence time and again, who gave me the benefit of their wisdom and good ideas, and who inspired me to do my best to represent their views and their vision in Washington. You will always be dear to my heart.

As I bid farewell to this great body, I do so with an abiding faith in this institution and in the commitment of those who work here. We are reminded of the responsibility given to us in a scripture that is engraved on the hearing room wall of the Science, Space, and Technology Committee—Proverbs 29:18, ''Where there is no vision, the people perish.''

Throughout my more than 50 years of public service, in the State of Texas and here in Washington, America has faced many challenges, and there are many still facing our Nation today. At 91 years of age, I am looking forward—not back—and I am confident that my colleagues will continue to strive to achieve a vision that is worthy of this great Nation, our people, and our children and grandchildren. May God bless your efforts, and may God continue to bless America.

Mr. STOCKMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to a dear friend and colleague, the Dean of the Texas Congressional Delegation: Congressman RALPH HALL of the Fourth District of Texas. RALPH has served the Fourth District with unqualified distinction since his first election in 1980. Throughout his service to the Fourth District and the United States Congress, he always focused on his constituents and at the end of the day, what is best for America and her future.

Twenty years ago when I arrived as a young Congressman, RALPH, being a kind and generous man, reached out and helped me. While he may have forgotten, I remember his kindness to this day. Many are asking him to write a book, and I hope he does. Readers would enjoy his great sense of humor and deep understanding of Texas history.

Mr. Speaker, December 7, 2014 marked the forty-third anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. I want to recognize two departing members who were veterans of World War Two (WW II). First, RALPH HALL joined the United States Navy in December 1942 and served as an aircraft carrier pilot from 1942 to 1945 rising to the rank of Lieutenant (Senior Grade). Secondly, JOHN DINGELL, joined the United States Army in 1944, rose to the rank of Second Lieutenant. And, Mr. Speaker, I should point out that JOHN is the not only the Dean of the Michigan Delegation but also, the Dean of the House of Representatives.

Unfortunately, RALPH and JOHN are departing at the end of this session of Congress. With their departures, when the 114th Congress convenes in January 2015 and for the first time since the 113th Congress convened last year, Congress will be without a member of Congress who served in WW II.

Throughout RALPH's congressional career, he would seek compromise and reach across the aisle to ensure legislation was passed in a bi-partisan manner. RALPH represents what is best about Congress when members work together towards a common good and not for a sound bite.

RALPH was a distinguished member of the House Science, Space and Technology Committee. In, 2013, he was named Chairman Emeritus of the committee for his focus on promoting science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education. Further, RALPH was instrumental in: Ensuring sound science precedes any regulations imposed by the Administration, advancing research and development (R&D) for new technologies to keep America Competitive, expanding production of America's abundant energy resources and seeking alternative sources to reduce costs and increase national security, and maintaining America's preeminence in space.

RALPH will be sorely missed by the Texas Delegation, Members of Congress and their staffs of the United States House of Representatives. RALPH, I wish you fair winds and following seas. Godspeed, my Friend.

Mr. Speaker, there is no one like Texas Congressmen RALPH HALL.

Congressman RALPH HALL is the oldest serving member of Congress, the oldest person to ever serve in the House of Representatives, the oldest person ever elected to a House term and the oldest House member ever to a cast a vote. Mr. HALL is also the last remaining Congressman who served our nation during World War II.

And for all of these accomplishments, I would like to thank and congratulate RALPH one more time for his service to the country and his leadership in the Texas Congressional Delegation.

Born in Fate, Texas on May 3, 1923, HALL did not know of his successful future which was ahead of him. At the age of 19, HALL enrolled into the U.S. Navy where he served as a lieutenant and combat aircraft carrier pilot from 1942 to 1945 during World War II.

After serving for three years, HALL then went on to finish college and received his LL.B. from Southern Methodist University in 1951. He was admitted to the Texas Bar, and practiced law in Rockwall. Mr. HALL also participated in the business side of Rockwall where he took part in serving as President/CEO of Texas Aluminum Corp., General Counsel of Texas Extrusion Co., Chairman of Lakeside News, Inc., and was a founding member of Lakeside National Bank in Rockwall where he currently serves as Chairman of the Board. RALPH had the calling to serve Texas in the political arena in Texas politics, a combat sport. So he began his public service from 1950 to 1962 when he served as County Judge of Rockwall County, Texas.

Mr. HALL also served as President of the State Judges and Commissioners Association in 1958–1959. From 1962 to 1972, Mr. HALL was elected and served as a Texas State Senator where he served as President Pro Tempore in 1968–1969.

Congressman RALPH HALL was first elected to serve the 4th District of Texas in the U.S. House of Representatives in 1980 and has been re-elected to each succeeding Congress.

On November 27, 2012, Congressman HALL became the oldest member in the U.S. House of Representatives to ever cast a vote. The following month, on December 25, 2012, he became the oldest-serving Member of the U.S. House of Representatives in recorded history.

Congressman HALL always ensured to serve his people and made sure their voice was heard on different issues throughout Congress. A noteworthy quote Mr. HALL often said was ''I'd rather be respected at home than liked in Washington.''

RALPH is a hardcore Texan with the unique knowledge of understanding all people from the rich and famous to the infamous and downtrodden. He was a proud conservative

democrat and personally knew the likes of LBJ, Speaker Sam Rayburn, Muhammad Ali, baseball great Mickey Mantle, war veteran Audie Murphy, Senator John F. Kennedy, Ted Williams, President Ronald Reagan, Texas Governor John Connally, Texas Governor William ''Bill'' P. Clements, Jr., Texas Governor Ann Richards, Texas Governor Rick Perry, Curtis Cokes, General Tommy Franks, Lieutenant General Tom Stafford, astronauts Gene Cernan, Buzz Aldrin, Neal Armstrong, U.S. Representative Ray Roberts, U.S. Senator Phil Gramm, famous aviator Claire Chennault, President George H.W. Bush, President George W. Bush, U.S. Senator JOHN CORNYN, U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison, U.S. Senator Lloyd Bentsen, T. Boone Pickens, H. Ross Perot, Red Adair, Bo Derek; Chuck Norris, Ted Williams, Tom Hanks and The Ink Spots. He works well with both Republicans and Democrats, but he ''got religion,'' in 2004, and became a Republican. Never forgetting his Democrat roots, he commented, ''Being a Democrat was more fun.''

RALPH HALL always has a story and a new, but often used joke. He runs 2 miles a day and certainly symbolizes the best of the Greatest Generation. RALPH HALL's service and leadership has shaped him into an important role model that members of the Texas Delegation in Congress, on both sides of the aisle admire. His dedication and love for his public service illustrates how success is attainable when mixed with hard work and determination, along with a love of America and of course, Texas.

And that's just the way it is.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, one word that will always be synonymous with RALPH HALL is 'gentleman.'

I met Congressman HALL when I was first elected to Congress in 1993 and was appointed to the Science, Space and Technology Committee where he served as Chairman at the time when he was a Democrat. As Chairman of the Committee, his bipartisan work there was marked by promotion of science, technology, engineering and math education; advancing American competitiveness through research and development of new technologies; and maintaining our country's preeminence in space.

I've never known Congressman HALL as a person who rests. His work as a policymaker will endure, and he is a natural politician with a knack for coalescing conflicting viewpoints.

Congressman HALL is also one of the kindest Members in Congress. His geniality helps make this institution a better place for the American people. And no matter who you are—astronaut, president, or next door neighbor—Congressman HALL is always one to put a generous hand forward.

I wish Congressman HALL every blessing together with his three sons and five beautiful grandchildren. I'm grateful to know him, to have served with him, and to call him my friend.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today we honor the distinguished service of our friend and colleague, RALPH HALL of Texas.

If there were a congressional ''Hall of Fame,'' Representative HALL would be a first ballot inductee. His many years of service were highlighted at the end of 2012 when he became the most senior member of Congress to ever cast a vote in the House of Representatives.

RALPH's career in the House of Representatives and his commitment to his constituents in the 4th District of Texas spans 34 years. But his contributions to our country began before that.

Since he was 19 years old, RALPH has led a life of service. As a lieutenant in the Navy during World War Two, he served as a pilot, and since then has never hesitated to accomplish a mission.

That mentality has made him a distinguished member of Congress, and a very effective Chairman of the Science, Space, and Technology Committee.

Throughout his tenure, RALPH has been a consistent advocate for scientific research and development.

As Science Committee Chairman he worked to ensure that business owners are not burdened by excessive EPA regulations.

RALPH has fostered programs to better understand extreme weather and to ensure that citizens are prepared for natural disasters.

He has worked to advance science education and programs that promote technological breakthroughs to benefit future generations.

And throughout his time in Congress, RALPH HALL has served this institution with style and humor.

RALPH HALL has always said, ''I'd rather be respected at home than liked in Washington.'' RALPH—you actually have achieved that rare combination of both. Thank you for your service to Congress, to the great state of Texas and to our country.

RALPH has asked me to pass along his comment, ''I am especially partial to my friends in the Texas Delegation who represent their districts so well and whose integrity and hard work have benefited not only our State but also our Nation. I thank you for your friendship and countless acts of kindness.''

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to thank our colleague, and my friend, RALPH HALL for his years of service in the House of Representatives. I have had the pleasure of working with Mr. HALL for many years in the Science Committee, and I have always appreciated the way he has gone about his job. Mr. HALL has always been a public servant in the truest sense of the word. His lifetime of service began with his service in the navy as an aircraft carrier pilot during World War II. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to Mr. HALL and other members of the greatest generation for fighting to preserve the freedoms that we all hold dear. Once he left the armed services, Mr. HALL's service continued in the Texas state legislature before moving on to DC to begin his distinguished service in the House beginning in 1981.

As Science Committee Ranking Member and Chairman, Mr. HALL did a great deal to keep up the proud history we have in this country of support for science and space exploration. During Mr. HALL's tenure, the Committee passed the original America COMPETES Act in 2007 as well as its reauthorization in 2010. These landmark bills helped increase funding for science and education to help the US keep pace in an increasingly competitive world. Though we have not always agreed on every issue, I know that Mr. HALL cares greatly about the US scientific enterprise and the economic benefits it has provided our nation over the years. Those of us that know Mr. HALL know him best for his stories and the personable nature that he did business with. He will most certainly be missed in Congress.

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, RALPH HALL has been a fervent and steadfast presence in Congress for almost thirty-five years.

Before coming to Washington, he served as a county judge and as a member of the Texas State Senate.

Before that he flew Hellcat fighters for the Navy during World War II; married the love of his life, Mary Ellen; and tells the story of working at his local pharmacy as a kid and selling a carton of cigarettes and a couple of bottles of Coke to the outlaws Bonnie and Clyde.

Congressman HALL has led an extraordinary and dynamic life, and he readily brought that energy to his work in Congress.

Serving with him on the Science Committee, and especially on the Space Subcommittee, has been a true honor. Congressman HALL has a deep respect for the basic science work done by NASA, especially that done aboard the International Space Station.

He has also been a firm champion of America's space exploration program—and it was in fact he who added the word ''Space'' back into the name of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology during the 112th Congress. As he has said many times, human space exploration is one of the best methods we have for engaging and inspiring the next generation.

I join my colleagues today in honoring RALPH HALL—who has inspired us all with his dedication to public service and to our nation.

## HONORING CONGRESSMAN JOHN DINGELL ON HIS RETIREMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RUSH) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of our Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, 21 years ago, January of 1993, I was sworn into the 103rd Congress as the 28th Representative of the historic First Congressional District of Illinois.

One of the first Members of Congress to welcome me with the most heartwarming words and smile was none other than my friend from the great State of Michigan, Congressman JOHN DAVID DINGELL, JR.

JOHN DINGELL has trained me, worked with me, and inspired me far more than most other Members of this House. I can't think of any other Member in Congress who has spent the kind of time and energy teaching me the ropes than JOHN DINGELL.

JOHN DINGELL, Mr. Speaker, will go down in U.S. history as being one of the most powerful House committee chairmen of all times. That is why, Mr.

Speaker, around Washington, D.C., throughout the Nation, and throughout this Congress, he was and will continue to be respectfully known as the ''lion of the House.''

While some may ascribe that honor to his forceful personality, Mr. Speaker, in my experience with JOHN and watching him operate as chairman, he used a scalpel more than a sledgehammer to score his legislative wins and to gather up and earn the respect of all the Members not only of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, but the Members of this House on both sides of the aisle.

Many will say that the secret to JOHN's success has been his unrivaled mastery of parliamentary procedures and institutional memory. I would agree that he has superb parliamentary knowledge of the parliamentary procedures, and there is a remarkable aspect to his institutional memory.

But what made JOHN DINGELL successful and a genuine American treasure—he was just last week awarded the highest civilian award that this Nation bestows upon an individual, the Presidential Medal of Freedom—is that he knows how to deal with people. He knows how to work with people.

JOHN doesn't go around talking about all his great exploits. I recall a few years back, Mr. Speaker, I was traveling to Michigan to campaign for JOHN. He was in a primary challenge. Little did I know that the man who I was championing had at one time been scorned in his own district because he voted for the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

I didn't know that about JOHN DINGELL. I didn't know that, but my respect for him mushroomed to the top even more than it had been before because he was a man who when he believed in something has the commitment and courage to stand behind his beliefs.

Mr. Speaker, JOHN means what he says, and he says what he means. Nobody can say anything different about JOHN DAVID DINGELL.

JOHN DINGELL, Chairman DINGELL, my friend, I wish you continued health. I wish you continued strength and prosperity as you leave this House of Representatives, this House of the people, and return to your family and friends and constituents in Michigan.

May God bless you and keep you. I will forever hold you dear. I will forever look toward your example in terms of committee work and work on this floor. I want to thank you, JOHN DINGELL, for all that you have contributed to this Nation, to your constituents, to this House, and certainly to the Committee of Energy and Commerce.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to my friend from Texas, the ranking member of the Science, Space, and Technology Committee, EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON.

□ 1645

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Thank you very much, Mr. RUSH. I appreciate the fact that you are holding this hour.

Mr. Speaker, I rise for the honor of the work of Mr. JOHN DINGELL who will retire this year as the longest-serving Member, with 59 years as a Michigan Representative. Since 1955, Congressman DINGELL has represented the southeastern Michigan area and served on the Committee on Energy and Commerce and twice as chairman.

When I learned that Mr. DINGELL would retire at the end of this term, I was saddened to know that we would lose such a fine leader and advocate for social democracy; however, we must continue Mr. DINGELL's fight for all Americans.

He is well-known for his battles on behalf of civil rights, clean water, Medicare, and workers' rights. He is also the author of many pieces of legislation that enhance the protection of public health such as the Affordable Care Act.

While he expanded public health and advocated for environmental conservationism, Mr. DINGELL also combated corruption and waste via his chairmanship of the Committee on Energy and Commerce. He exerted strong, unwavering oversight of the executive branch through his committee, and his successes in Congress earned him the 2014 Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Through his career in Congress, he was willing and able to work across the aisle to accomplish tasks that made Americans' lives better. A true advocate for the people, Mr. DINGELL dedicated his life to ensuring that public health safety of the American people was always in the forefront. Whether authoring the Clean Air Act or the Patients' Bill of Rights, Mr. DINGELL was unwavering in his questions to protect Americans.

I urge my colleagues to recognize the accomplishments of Congressman JOHN DINGELL and join me in congratulating him on an outstanding career in public service.

Mr. RUSH. I thank the gentlelady.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS), the ranking member on the Judiciary Committee, the one who will ascend to the dean of the House, the legendary civil rights icon.

Mr. CONYERS. I thank my colleague for yielding.

Mr. Speaker and members of the committee, I rise today to honor a true statesman in every sense of the word, the dean of the House, chairman emeritus of the Energy and Commerce Committee, and a champion of the people of Metropolitan Detroit, the Honorable Congressman JOHN DINGELL.

Now, I have had the distinct honor of working with Congressman DINGELL for the last six decades, first as a member of his congressional staff and then as his colleague in the Michigan delegation. Over these six decades, we have fought together successfully for Medicare, for clean air and water, for workers' rights, and most importantly, for civil rights.

Over these decades, he has succeeded at truly Herculean tasks, including passing the Endangered Species Act, the 1990 Clean Air Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Affordable Care Act, the Patients' Bill of Rights, and the Children's Health Insurance Program, among many others.

Congressman DINGELL is a masterful legislator but, most importantly, a man of conscience. As he passes the torch on to another extraordinary leader, Congresswoman-elect Debbie Dingell, I am so proud to salute his legacy of compassion and service.

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I yield to my friend from Texas (Mr. BARTON), the former chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee,

Mr. BARTON. I want to thank the Congressman from Chicago, the Reverend BOBBY RUSH, for recognizing me.

Mr. Speaker, we always in Texas refer to the former Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn who served for 48 years as ''Man of the House.'' In fact, there have been books written about Rayburn with that title, ''The Man of the House.'' I am a six-generation native Texan, so I certainly would be considered to be somewhat Texas-centric.

In all honesty, I would have to say that the ultimate and true man of the House is the Honorable JOHN DINGELL of Michigan. His father served before him, elected, I believe, while President Roosevelt was President of the United States, and JOHN DINGELL literally grew up in the House of Representatives.

When the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, President Roosevelt, I believe, the very next day, December 8, addressed a joint session of Congress in his famous Day of Infamy speech. JOHN DINGELL was on the floor to hear that speech in person, not as a Congressman, but as the son of a Congressman.

He got elected to replace his father when his father passed away in 1955 and, as has been mentioned, has served longer than any other Member of Congress in the history of this Nation. If you count not only his service in Congress, but the time he spent as a child when his father was in Congress, he has literally been in the House for almost a third of its existence as an institution.

I am not sure how many Members he has served with, but it is in the neighborhood of 2,500 Members that he has personally served with.

When I got elected to Congress in 1984, I did not get on the Energy and Commerce Committee in my freshman year, but I did my sophomore year in 1986. JOHN DINGELL was then chairman and was chairman until the Republicans took the majority in the election in 1994, so I served with Chairman Dingell for my first 10 years in the Congress.

He was a chairman in every sense of the word. The legislation that he helped craft during his chairmanship is some of the most important in the history of this Congress. Certainly, things

that he would be most proud of would be the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, some of the health care legislation, and some of the telecommunications legislation.

Those are laws that were passed under his chairmanship and are still the basic law in their field in this country.

When I became chairman in 2003, he was the ranking Democrat on the committee. He helped me, sometimes in public, sometimes behind the scenes. Even when he didn't agree with the legislation that the Republican majority was pushing, he was always thoughtful and giving me tips on procedure and process and sometimes policy.

When we passed a bill to move television from analog to digital, I wanted to put a date certain very quickly. With his counsel, he convinced me that we should draw that out, and he also said: ''The final date of the transition shouldn't be until after the Super Bowl; just in case there is a problem, people will get to watch the Super Bowl and won't be cussing you and the Congress for moving from analog to digital.'' He was absolutely right on that.

With Chairman UPTON's leadership, who is on the floor this evening—several years ago, I went to Chairman UPTON and suggested that we ask the Speaker to name the Energy and Commerce main committee room on the first floor of the Rayburn Building, 2123, the JOHN DINGELL Room. Chairman UPTON thought that was a great idea. He recommended it to the Speaker, and that now is the John Dingell Room.

I could go on and on, Mr. Speaker, but I do want to say that we are truly losing one of the giants of the Congress when JOHN DINGELL retires at the end of this session.

He is still going to be here. His wife, Debbie, has been elected to succeed him, so hopefully, we will still see him in the Congress, but I really have difficulty imagining a Congress that JOHN DINGELL is not a member of. He will be missed. We honor him, and I consider it a personal privilege that he calls me a friend.

I thank the gentleman from Chicago for yielding me some time.

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON), chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee, and I want to just remind people that we have a growing list of speakers.

Mr. UPTON. Thank you, Mr. RUSH. I will try to be brief.

I do want to put a statement in the RECORD from Mr. CAMP who was here a little while ago and wanted to speak.

I just want to say, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. Chairman is what we still call him. I have known him since 1977 when I came here as a staffer, and I have got to say that he treated me just as well as a staffer, which was great, as he has as a colleague and now, for me, as chairman of the committee.

We are the best of friends. We really are. There have been a lot of different issues that we have worked on, and he took me under his wing a lot of years ago, and we discovered too that, for me, it is better to have DINGELL on our side than to be on a different side, but when he is on the other side, he is certainly a powerful adversary.

Our delegation in Michigan is pretty close. We are involved in so many different issues, jobs and the economy, particularly the auto sector is one of the things where JOHN DINGELL has really led and cared about.

As we know, he is the longest-serving Member of Congress ever in the history of this institution. He is cared about so well.

I can remember bringing over CONGRESSIONAL RECORDS from years past and, as JOE BARTON said, he served with some 2,500 Members here, actually going through the vote Journal on some of the big issues of the day, the Voting Rights Act and others, and actually talking about some of the Members and what they said on that particular day.

He was a fair chairman, always went by the rules, had a command of the issues, a brilliant staff, and their loyalty still exists today. Of course, the light of his life, the lovely Deborah, a great person who we know is going to be taking his place, serving those 700,000 people from southeast Michigan in the next Congress.

If you look back at his life, he has served his country from the first day through today, a World War II vet, something that he has always been so, so proud of, chairman of the most powerful committee here in the House.

In addition to all that, he has been a friend, a father, a husband, and a colleague whose word has always been his bond and who has defined the very utmost of what we would like this place to be. He is a great American.

Thank you, JOHN DINGELL.

Mr. RUSH. I want to thank the chairman.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from the great State of Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. I thank the distinguished gentleman, Mr. RUSH, and I thank Mr. PALLONE for convening this Special Order and all of the members of this committee and Members of this House of Representatives that have come on the floor today with joy.

It is often said, ''It is not how long you serve, but how you serve.'' For JOHN DINGELL, that is not mutually exclusive. He served six decades, and he served it greatly and grandly and with distinction.

I am reminded of a description of him as a 6-foot-3-inch distinguished gentleman, towering over witnesses, but having the biggest of hearts, coming from the best of legacies in his father that served 22 years, reminded of his commitment to the Clean Air Act, safe drinking water, the endangered species.

JOHN has always reminded us new ones, relatively speaking, that his greatest love was to provide affordable health care to every American.

□ 1700

Decades after his father introduced such a bill, he never gave up.

So I stand here today to thank you, JOHN DINGELL, for the Affordable Care Act. They call it many things—''ObamaCare''—but I am getting ready to call it ''DingellCare'' because you worked without ceasing. Thank you for your service to this Nation, where you stood in the shadows of World War II and stood as an American, willing to serve.

I am grateful for the service that he has given and for his long years of service as the chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

Let me conclude by saying that there is much more that all of us can say, but you can see so many Members have come to the floor. On a personal note, there are two items that I want to acknowledge:

Thank you, JOHN DINGELL, for recognizing my voting rights—my opportunity to vote as an African American—and those of the thousands of millions that you helped in 1965. I will never forget your willingness to sacrifice personal political stature to do what is right. I also want to thank you so very much for being the kind of person on the floor of the House who asked about every Member. For every Member who came to your attention, you asked them how they were doing.

I conclude with these remarks, his final words about the Civil Rights Act. He said that he was glad to vote for a bill that solved a problem that was eating at the soul and heart and liver of the country.

Only JOHN DINGELL.

JOHN DINGELL, I salute you as a great and a grand American.

Thank you, Debbie Dingell. I will continue to look forward to your service.

JOHN, we are going to look forward to your service and, of course, to your long life here in this great country and in your great State of Michigan. Again, JOHN, thank you so very much.

Serving nearly six decades in the House of Representatives, JOHN DINGELL has earned the distinction of being both the longest-serving Member of Congress in U.S. history and one of the most influential legislators of all time.

After serving his country in the Army during World War II, JOHN was first elected to Congress in 1955—representing the people of southeastern Michigan in a seat previously held by his father.

In Washington, JOHN risked his seat to support the Civil Rights Act of 1964, fought to pass Medicare in 1965, and penned legislation like the Clean Air Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, and the Endangered Species Act that have kept millions of Americans healthy and preserved our natural beauty for future generations.

But of all JOHN's accomplishments, perhaps the most remarkable has been his tireless fight to guarantee quality, affordable health care for every American.

Decades after his father first introduced a bill for comprehensive health care reform, JOHN continued to introduce health care legislation at the beginning of every session.

And as an original author of the Affordable Care Act, he helped give millions of families the peace of mind of knowing they won't lose everything if they get sick.

One of the proudest moments in my career in the House was watching the distinguished gentleman from Michigan preside over debate on the rule for the Affordable Care Act.

Today, the people of Michigan—and the American people—are better off because of JOHN DINGELL's service to this country.

Ending a career that is among the most singular in congressional history, U.S. Rep. JOHN DINGELL—who helped pass, if not author, many of the most iconic legislative achievements of the last 60 years is, concluding a term of service to metro Detroit, Michigan and the nation unprecedented in its length and remarkable in its scope.

JOHN DINGELL's length of service stretches back to before Alaska and Hawaii were states and his father, John Sr., sat in the seat for 22 years before him.

Last June, he became the longest-serving member of Congress.

JOHN DAVID DINGELL, Jr., was 29 years old when the Detroit native was elected in a 1955 special election to serve out the remainder of his late father's term.

Since then, he has cast tens of thousands of votes and played a role in everything from the Civil Rights Act and Medicare to the Clean Water Act, the Clean Air Act, the Endangered Species Act and, in 2010, the Affordable Care Act.

Known throughout Washington as Big JOHN—at 6-foot-3, he literally towered over many witnesses before his House Energy and Commerce Committee—JOHN DINGELL cut a distinctive figure in the Capitol.

A progressive when it came to workers' rights, he is also a staunch defender of Michigan industries, including its automakers, and at times ran afoul of environmentalists.

He counts as among his most important accomplishments the creation of the Detroit International Wildlife Refuge and the River Raisin Battlefield.

In 1964, he voted for the Civil Rights Act. He called that vote the most important one he ever took—one that "solved a problem that was eating at the soul and heart and liver of this country."

JOHN DINGELL vastly expanded the scope of the House Energy and Commerce Committee's purview during his first stint as chairman—which lasted 1981–95—to the point where it was said it handled four out of every 10 bills in the House.

By example, he had a photo of the Earth from space behind his desk and when anyone asked him to define the committee's jurisdiction, he would point to it.

House Speaker Tip O'Neill used to say "All politics is local", but in JOHN DINGELL's case, all politics has always been personal. It is only when you have a personal relationship with someone that you establish trust, even when you're on opposite sides of an issue.

Through 60 years of public service, JOHN fought for what he believed in, and got things done through relationships and his deep respect for others.

And there was no one he respected more than his constituents. He respected their hopes, their dreams, and their values. He has been relentless in his efforts to secure for them the right to live a decent middle-class life.

He has always been a staunch advocate for health care for every American, and he has been a player on every significant piece of legislation that has helped make America a more just, fair, and free country for over half a century.

It has been a privilege to walk the Halls of Congress with JOHN DINGELL.

I have never known a person who has been a better champion of the American worker, and he deserves a great deal of credit for the resurgence of the iconic American automobile industry.

The House and the American people are losing a great public servant.

But JOHN is gaining a well-deserved retirement, and I wish him many happy years with his family.

JOHN DINGELL has always been more than Mr. Chairman to me.

He has been Dean, the longest serving Member of Congress and one of the most effective in our history.

There has never been a colleague I have admired more.

Happy retirement, JOHN, and thank you for your service.

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I yield to my colleague, the gentleman from the great State of Illinois, Mr. JOHN SHIMKUS.

Mr. SHIMKUS. I thank my colleague.

Mr. Speaker, I know there are a lot of Members, so I will be quick, but you have to really come down to the floor to recognize a man who has served honorably for so many years—58 years to be exact.

I would like to highlight the fact that, at 18, he joined the United States Army and rose to the rank of second lieutenant and was prepared to be part of the invasion of Japan until the bomb was dropped and the war ended. JOHN won a special election to follow his father, and he has been here ever since. He was the leading congressional supporter of organized labor, of social welfare measures, and of traditional progressive policies. He was also known as a big hunter and fisher, which we heard many, many times.

I also want to highlight that he was well-known for Dingell-grams, which were missives sent to the administration, regardless of party, that held them to account for public policies and the excesses of the executive branch. He is well-known for that.

I know he will be followed ably by his wife, Debbie, and I look forward to working with her.

May God bless you, JOHN DINGELL, and may God bless the United States of America.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, it's an honor to rise tonight and speak on behalf of my friend and colleague—the Dean of the House of Representatives—JOHN DINGELL. A proud son of Michigan, JOHN DINGELL has dedicated his life to helping those on society's margins and improving quality of life for all Americans. While he is the longest serving member of the House, he is also one of the most accomplished members in its history.

It would be impossible to list all of JOHN DINGELL's accomplishments in the time we're allotted tonight. But make no mistake—JOHN DINGELL has played a role in every major legislative victory over the last sixty years. Throughout his time in Congress, he has been a champion for the American worker, for a clean environment, for health care, for civil rights, for consumers.

When I arrived in the House, I received a seat on the Public Works and Transportation Committee as my freshman assignment. However, I soon realized that my interests and principles were outside the scope of that particular committee. One day, I passed 2123 Rayburn and sat down to watch a hearing of the Energy and Commerce Committee

For the first time, I saw firsthand our Committee at work. And, for the first time, I saw JOHN DINGELL in action. He filled the whole room. You couldn't miss him. That day changed everything. What I quickly realized was that the Energy and Commerce Committee had the ability to make improvements in the lives of everyday Americans. And JOHN DINGELL was leading the way.

I have had the privilege to learn so much from JOHN ever since I started on the Energy and Commerce Committee. A quarter century later, I am still humbled by the work that we do in 2123—now known fondly, and rightly so, as the JOHN DINGELL Room. And I can only hope to one day live up to the example set by a titan like JOHN DINGELL.

A few weeks ago, our new colleague, Debbie Dingell, said that she could never fill the shoes of JOHN DINGELL—and I feel the same way. When people think of the Energy and Commerce Committee, they cannot help but think of JOHN DINGELL. It is my own hope, that as I step into the committee's leadership I will be able to accomplish a small fraction of what JOHN had achieved. His commitment, charisma and charm were the hallmarks of his leadership when he sat at the committee's helm.

More importantly, he will be remembered for all he accomplished on behalf of the American people. Though the 114th Congress will be difficult for so many of us, who have served by your side, we are all so thrilled that your wife Debbie will take up the mantle. For those of us who have known her we know that there is no one more able and ready to carry on your legacy—the people of Michigan's 12th will continue to be well served. While you may be retiring, we know that you aren't going away. I know that for so many of us who have called you a mentor and a friend we will still be able to call on your sage advice and wisdom.

Congratulations on your many accomplishments and service in this great body. It has been the honor of a lifetime to serve alongside you.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, JOHN DINGELL is a legend in the Congress and a national treasure.

As the Dean of the House of Representatives, Congressman DINGELL will be retiring at the end of the 113th Congress, and his body of legislative achievements will continue to be experienced by every American for generations to come.

From protecting the environment, to promoting civil and worker rights, Congressman

DINGELL's legislative hand shaped it. He famously introduced health care reform legislation in 1955 and in every Congress since then to provide affordable, accessible care for every American. The Civil Rights Act of 1964, the 1965 Medicare Act, the Endangered Species Act of 1973, the 1990 Clean Air Act amendments, the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, and the 2011 FDA Food Safety Modernization Act were all championed by Congressman DINGELL.

His meritorious contributions to society span his time serving in Congress and in the U.S. Army, where at the age of 18 he had orders to take part in the first wave of the planned invasion of Japan in 1945. Congressman DINGELL is the longest serving Member of the House, and he is one of two World War II veterans still serving in Congress. President Obama recently awarded him the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian award in the United States.

I recall so well the first time I walked into the Energy and Commerce Committee hearing room. It was 1995 and my eyes immediately went to an enormous picture of the Earth hanging on the wall. I asked Chairman DINGELL about the picture and his response has inspired and guided my legislative work because he said the painting represented the jurisdictions of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

The Committee has the broadest jurisdictions which reach into the daily lives of millions of Americans. Those jurisdictions include health care, commerce, trade, manufacturing, energy and the environment, technology, communications and consumer protection. It is a reminder for members of the Committee to serve our constituents by fighting for meaningful and lasting opportunity. And it is a reminder that our job at the Committee has the most potential to create lasting impact.

Congressman DINGELL's service and legislation is unmatched in the history of our country and it has been a great honor to serve with him. I wish him and Debbie my full wishes for every blessing.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the incredible service of the Dean of the House of Representatives, JOHN DINGELL.

In his 59 years in the House, JOHN DINGELL has experienced dizzying twists in national politics and turns in world events. And through it all, he succeeded in building a consistent record of achievements true to his core principle of social justice.

If you rely on Medicare—or plan to in your retirement—you can thank JOHN DINGELL. After fighting for its creation, he was the one presiding over the House for its historic passage in 1965.

If you've benefited from the Affordable Care Act, you can thank JOHN DINGELL for his pivotal role in passing this landmark legislation, and for continuing his father's fight to make affordable health care available to all Americans.

If you've benefitted from a safe workplace or fair pay, you can thank JOHN DINGELL for being a champion of the American worker and a tireless advocate for policies to help our businesses create jobs and our middle class get ahead.

And if you simply enjoy outdoor recreation and the ability to breathe clean air and drink clean water, you can thank JOHN DINGELL for his vision. He brought Republicans and Democrats together to pass legislation that protects our environment.

On a personal note, I want to thank JOHN DINGELL for his wisdom and good counsel over the years. His guidance and effort were essential to passing the DISCLOSE Act in the House in 2010. That bill would have required groups spending millions of dollars on political campaign ads to disclose to voters who is bankrolling them. Unfortunately, the bill failed by one vote in a filibuster in the Senate. If JOHN DINGELL had been in the Senate, he would have gotten it passed.

Thank you JOHN DINGELL for all that you've done for our country.

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, the life and career of the Dean of the House, JOHN DINGELL has been remarkable and historic.

John has been a friend . . . colleague . . . and a true leader in Congress.

During his nearly 60 years serving in the House . . . JOHN has served with passion and integrity. His commitment to public service and deep understanding of this institution has been unmatched.

JOHN has shaped policies that have improved the lives of countless Americans. From backing landmark Civil Rights legislation, to ensuring our environment is protected by authoring the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act and Endangered Species Act.

Most significantly, JOHN has never given up on the fight for affordable, quality health care for all Americans. Early in his career, he helped to pass Medicare, and achieved what he set out to accomplish with passage of the Affordable Care Act in 2010.

There is no question that his work here will have a lasting impact on Congress . . . and this country . . . for generations to come.

It has been an honor to serve with JOHN on the Energy & Commerce Committee . . . where I have had the privilege to work with him on a number of issues, including helping to spur clean energy manufacturing jobs in this country; and helping American small businesses export their clean energy products and services abroad.

I thank him for his service and his friendship. JOHN, I wish you nothing but the best in your next adventure. You will be truly missed in this body.

I also look forward to working with your wife, Congresswoman Elect Debbie Dingell, in the coming years on important issues facing our country.

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the greatest legislators of recent decades, JOHN DINGELL, who will retire at the end of the 113th Congress.

JOHN DINGELL has diligently served the people of Michigan's 12th district and our nation for nearly 60 years.

JOHN is recognized as the Dean of the House and the longest-serving Member of Congress in our nation's history, but it's not his longevity that has made him so special—it's the impact that his legislative accomplishments have had on our society.

Through his service in Congress, he has crafted a legislative legacy that I believe to be unparalleled in its scope and its importance.

JOHN developed his reputation as a legislative giant with years of hard work, persistence, and shrewd coalition-building.

Throughout his tenure, he has been at the forefront of passing groundbreaking, commonsense legislation.

Most notably, JOHN has been a strong, tireless leader in Congress in enacting important civil rights laws.

Not only does this includes his work on the Civil Rights Act, but also his work to renew the Voting Rights Act and pass the Employment Nondiscrimination Act.

This type of diligent persistence and strong leadership is something every one of us can learn from going forward.

1JOHN served for many years as Chairman and Ranking Member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, where he drafted landmark legislation and conducted painstaking oversight of the federal agencies within the Committee's jurisdiction.

This includes championing environmental protection—from the groundbreaking legislation of the 1970s to the revolutionary Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 to fighting in recent years against efforts to roll back the progress that we've made.

His passion for the environment and the outdoors is unmatched, and his accomplishments reflect his deep determination to make America a better place.

Impressively, along with the issues I've already mentioned, he has had a tremendous impact on policies as varied as consumer protection and health care.

Few Members of Congress have done as much to improve Americans' lives as JOHN DINGELL, and we can't thank him enough for his service.

JOHN's record of public service will be hard to match.

As a youth, JOHN served as a Congressional page.

After serving our country in the Army in World War II, JOHN served as a county assistant prosecutor before succeeding his father in Congress in 1955.

Since then, he has served 29 remarkably productive terms in the U.S. House of Representatives.

I am proud to call JOHN DINGELL a good friend and respected colleague.

It has been an honor working with him on the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

He has been a great mentor, a gifted leader, a skilled policy-maker, and a dedicated public servant.

I wish JOHN, his wife Debbie, and the entire Dingell family all of the best.

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the congressional career of our colleague, the Dean of the House, JOHN DINGELL. As the longest-serving member of Congress ever, it is hard to imagine our nation, this Congress, and the Energy and Commerce Committee without him as he retires at the end of the 113th Congress. I am happy that he is leaving on his own terms and I wish him every happiness as he moves onto the next phase of his life as a congressional spouse.

I am just so honored to be here to celebrate and honor somebody I call a friend—JOHN DINGELL.

Over my time in the House of Representatives, I have noticed that everyone who talks about JOHN DINGELL says my friend, my chairman, my colleague, my mentor, someone I look up to, and someone I respect. I would just like to say that I can't really change those words because they echo my own sentiments.

I was not yet born when JOHN DINGELL was first sworn into the House on December 13, 1955. It was about two and a half years before I entered the world. When he took that courageous vote in support of the Voting Rights Act (VRA) and civil rights, I was six-years-old. I recall at the time living here in the Washington metropolitan area that my father and mother used to bring us to this Capitol almost every Sunday after church. They would bring us and we would run up and down the east front of the Capitol. We would picnic on the west front of the Capitol.

I am thinking today how wonderful it is to know there was someone who was in this chamber who so valued this institution and who, even when I was a six-year old, JOHN DINGELL was working to protect my rights. When I think about that, I think of the need to create a formula for the VRA that the Supreme Court can support that institutes the way that we protect our voting rights in section 5 of the Voting Rights Act. Almost none of us, including JOHN LEWIS, would be here had JOHN DINGELL not had the courage to take that vote in 1964.

So, it's such an honor to serve with him and to know that while that may have been the battle in 1964, he remains fully prepared to engage in the battle here in 2014. It is also an honor that we all have the great privilege of being able to serve with JOHN DINGELL.

I believe there is hardly anything that impacts our modern day laws that we can't attribute to the great hard work and public service of JOHN DINGELL. The fact that I got up this morning and turned on a faucet and ran a glass of water and was able to drink it and know that it was clean, was about JOHN DINGELL. That I walked outside today and knew that I could breathe air that was okay—we still have work to do—but to know that that clean air, and the cleaner we make our air, is attributed to JOHN DINGELL.

I think back to my grandmother who came to live with us at a point when she was aging—and it was actually just prior to the enactment of Medicare—and how different families' lives are now because of the protections that they have for health care as they age and are disabled. Those things are attributable to the great work, the legislative legacy, and the service of JOHN DINGELL.

When I first came into Congress, I won a primary election against an incumbent member. One day JOHN DINGELL pulled me aside in the cloak room and he said, ''Come sit down, I want to talk to you, I want to get to know you.'' And I was, frankly, afraid of him. I knew his history, I had watched him Chair several Energy and Commerce hearings, and I knew that he was a great friend of my predecessor in this chamber.

I sat down and I talked to him, and what I gained from JOHN DINGELL was the kind of honor and dedication that he has, and reverence that he has, for this institution. It is unlike any that we see, and we learn from that. So we talked, and we became friends.

Then a funny thing happened. Barack Obama was elected President of the United States, and his inauguration was about to occur. It is another reminder that JOHN DINGELL's almost 59 years of service—that anniversary will occur this Saturday—are about this amazing legislative work, but it is also about the children, women, men, and families of his district.

The Marching Chiefs of Wyandotte Roosevelt High School in Mr. Dingell's congressional district were invited to play in the 2009 inaugural parade for President Obama. Somehow or another, they booked a hotel in Hershey, Pennsylvania, that was approximately 130 miles and a couple of hours away from Washington, DC. Those students and their chaperones would have had to get up at 2:00 or 3:00 in the morning to get to the inaugural staging area on time. I have the honor of representing a congressional district just outside of Washington, DC, in Maryland. JOHN DINGELL reached out to me and he told me this story, and I said, Well, maybe we can figure out something.

We found a willing partner in Wise Junior High School in Prince George's County, Maryland, where they could stay in the gym. The parent-teacher organization, the staff, and the students welcomed those students from Michigan that they didn't know at all into their high school. They fed them and provided sleeping bags, blankets, and even an ironing board. So, the Marching Chiefs were able to actually get to the inaugural parade much easier and on time.

Those students were so grateful to JOHN DINGELL. What I saw in this great legislator is that the people of his district really did come first and he looked out for them, and they knew that he looked out for them. I thought that that is the kind of Member of Congress that I want to be.

JOHN DINGELL and I have been locked at the hand and the hip ever since. In 2011, I was scheduled to speak at a Washtenaw County, Michigan, Democratic Club dinner. I flew into the Detroit Metropolitan Airport and as I walked through the terminal, the Wyandotte Roosevelt High School Marching Band started to play. Unbeknownst to me, JOHN DINGELL had coordinated with the school as a surprise thank you.

I think there are so many of us who serve in this institution who really do value the message that JOHN DINGELL has given us about the need to work together and to preserve and protect our democracy by working in a way that gives value and service to all of our communities and to this great nation. So for that, I want to thank JOHN DINGELL for being such an important part of this institution and important part of the way I have learned to become a Member of Congress.

Finally, I want to say a word about JOHN DINGELL's efforts on health care. As many of my colleagues know, JOHN DINGELL, like his father before him, has introduced a universal health care bill at the beginning of each new Congress. Before I came to the Congress, I had an experience of not having had health care and getting very sick, which required a trip to the emergency room. I ended up having a lot of bills that I couldn't pay because I didn't have health insurance. When we began to consider what is today known as the Affordable Care Act (ACA), it was JOHN DINGELL sitting as speaker pro tempore who gaveled in the House with the gavel that he used for the passage of Medicare.

Then during the course of the debate on the ACA, I had the honor of presiding as speaker pro tempore and there was one moment that JOHN DINGELL was speaking on the floor about his father's experience and about his experience working on health care. I will never forget that moment because for me it was what we do as legislators, but it also felt very personal. It felt so wonderful to know that in JOHN DINGELL' s service, he has never stopped for a single day of those 59 years to make sure that millions of Americans like me could have health care that was quality, affordable, and accessible. So I thank him very much for his service, and I am so honored to have had the opportunity over these past seven years to serve with him and to learn from him.

JOHN DINGELL's retirement will leave a void in this House that cannot be filled. I wish him, his wife Debbie, his children Chris, Jennifer, John, and Jeanne, and his grandchildren continued success, happiness, and hopefully some well-earned rest. I know they have been of tremendous support to him in his service to this House and our nation. He leaves behind a legacy of service that others can and should aspire to.

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues to pay tribute to the distinguished member of the Michigan Delegation: the Honorable JOHN DINGELL, as we mark the end of his long and dedicated service to this body and, more importantly, to the constituents of Michigan's 16th, 15th, and 12th Congressional Districts.

However, Mr. DINGELL'S service to this country dates back well before he began his Congressional career in 1955. At the age of 18, he enlisted as an infantryman for the U.S. Army during World War II. He entered the military as a Private and was discharged as a Second Lieutenant while serving in the Panama Canal Zone. For his service defending our country, he received a medal presented by Oscar winning actor Tom Hanks as part of the ''Salute to the Citizen Soldier'' in 2004.

After serving in the Army, Mr. DINGELL was elected to fill the seat and the shoes of his father, who passed away while still in office. Together, he and his father have served the citizens of Southeast Michigan for well over 80 years. Blazing his own path, Mr. DINGELL has personally impacted every major piece of legislation for over half a century. Even though we come from different political parties, we can and do agree on many issues that concern the people of Michigan. As Chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee, or its Ranking Member, he has always pushed for solutions to the problems Americans face. Impressive in both stature and tenacity, Mr. DINGELL has lent his life to public service. It has truly been an honor to serve alongside such an outspoken advocate for not only his constituents, but the state and country as well. And I must add that the dignity and respect he has shown his colleagues—and including this colleague—even as a brand new Member of Congress—is a testament to the respect he has for his fellow Members and this institution.

Mr. Speaker, the good citizens of Michigan's 12th district and colleagues on both sides of the aisle are all better for Mr. DINGELL'S long and steady tenure in the House of Representatives. I congratulate him again on his remarkable career and join my colleagues today in paying tribute to the gentleman from Trenton, the Honorable JOHN DINGELL.

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues today to honor a great legislator, a consummate public servant, and a man whose legacy will leave an indelible mark on this institution and every American he served during his 59 years in the House of Representatives. As the Dean of the House, JOHN DINGELL holds the distinction of being the longest serving member in the history of Congress. However, it's not the length of his tenure that will earn him a place in the history books, but his many accomplishments that have improved the health of our entire nation and its citizens.

JOHN DINGELL presided over this chamber during passage of Medicare in 1965, just one of the laws he shaped over the course of his distinguished career. He helped write the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Air Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act. He has fought diligently to protect Social Security, a program his father helped create, and he was a champion of the Affordable Care Act following years of advocacy on his own part to create an accessible and affordable system of universal health care.

Those of us who have been lucky enough to serve with Representative DINGELL will remember him as a man of unparalleled fortitude and passion, tempered with a sense of respect for his fellow colleagues and the legislative process, who raised the overall tenor of discourse and debate in the House of Representatives. Although we are extremely sad to see his service in this chamber come to an end, his contributions will continue to impact our country for years to come, and the DINGELL name will continue to grace the halls of Congress through his wife, Debbie, who will carry the mantle of public service on behalf of Michigan's 15th District.

Representative DINGELL, on behalf of a grateful country, I thank you for your service to this Congress and to our nation.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, others on the floor are recounting Representative JOHN DINGELL, JR.'S historic legislative record, his breathtaking parliamentary skills, and his powerful advocacy. I won't repeat all of that here.

But I would like to say something about my good friend, JOHN DINGELL, JR., and recount an event that shows a great man in the making. On December 8, 1941, soon after President Franklin Delano Roosevelt delivered his speech saying that December 7th is a day that will live in infamy, the House briefly recessed and then reconvened to debate and declare war on Japan.

As I understand it, it was the job of a 15 year-old page, JOHN DINGELL, JR., to go up to the press gallery to tell Fulton Lewis of the Mutual Broadcasting System to turn off the microphones now that the House was going back into session because back then there was no audio recording of Congressional activities.

Instead JOHN told the famous newscaster to leave the microphone on and the tape running. The world now has the recording of that House debate and declaration of war. Here we see JOHN DINGELL, JR. already with a sense of history and an understanding of the importance of Congressional action.

JOHN, who knew that my father was serving in Congress at the same time as his father, befriended me early when I arrived in this Chamber, has shown me the warmest friendship and wisest counsel. For that I am most grateful and full of admiration.

## HONORING CONGRESSMAN JOHN DINGELL ON HIS RETIREMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SMITH of Missouri). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for the remainder of the hour as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN), the ranking member of the Energy and Commerce Committee. I don't know if he knows, but we are going to be honoring him tomorrow night.

Mr. WAXMAN. Thank you very much, Congressman PALLONE, for recognizing me and for acknowledging the fact that I am the ranking member at the present time, but, of course, you will now take on that job very ably, I am sure, and both of us will follow in the tradition of JOHN DINGELL.

Mr. Speaker, it is so appropriate that the room where the Energy and Commerce Committee meets is now known as the ''JOHN DINGELL Room.'' JOHN DINGELL has been the leader of that committee and a leader in the Congress longer than anybody else has served in either the Senate or in the House; yet, what I want to say is from my own personal perspective.

I have served on that committee for 40 years, and I have learned more from JOHN DINGELL than I have from anybody else I have served with as a colleague. There were times when we had disagreements, and we argued them out and then resolved them and compromised on them; but most of the time, he was a stalwart defender of the interests of the working people of this country, a protector of the environment, a person who led the efforts for civil rights, a man who cared about people and understood that government had a very important role to play in people's lives.

From his father, who was active in the New Deal, under President Franklin Roosevelt, who led this Nation to use the government in a positive way—to help people who had nowhere else to turn—JOHN DINGELL carried on that tradition. It is the Liberal-Progressive tradition, and I associate myself with it.

I learned everything I knew as a member of the committee—and I learned everything I knew as a potential chairman and as a short-term chairman—from JOHN DINGELL. He is a Member's Member, and he is going to go down in the history books as one of the outstanding Members of Congress and leaders and chairmen of the oldest committee in the House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, I know we don't have a lot of time, so I just want to say to JOHN DINGELL:

I wish you all the best, and I know you will whisper to Debbie, if she has any questions, the right course to take. Of course, she has been with you long enough that she probably, by this time, will know what to do on her own. God bless you, JOHN DINGELL.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I now yield to the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL), who himself has been the ranking member of two committees.

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, one of my distinct pleasures in serving for 38 years in this body has been to work with the dean of the House, Mr. JOHN DINGELL. Throughout our almost four decades of serving the people of our respective districts and those of our Nation, my respect and sincere appreciation for this son of Michigan has only grown each and every day.

Few, if any, who have served here in the people's House over the last nearly 60 years would have a different view of the worth and of the value of JOHN DINGELL's contributions to the day-to-day work of this distinguished body. In fact, Representative DINGELL's vast legacy will assuredly be the legions of Members and staff who have learned so many lasting lessons of leadership under JOHN'S tutelage. Basic, fundamental, timeless lessons on how to get the people's business done were always at the ready for any Member to partake in and adopt for their own future use. All of us can remember times when Big John felt it appropriate, timely, and beneficial to just gently impose one of his lessons on Members, even on this body as a whole, if he felt it would move our country forward.

First and foremost, JOHN DINGELL has always valued good, old-fashioned trust. He sees a person's word as his bond—a bond that never shifts even in the strongest political winds. In JOHN'S playbook, loyalty, particularly loyalty to principles, is a powerful force that can move the entire country forward. He insists on one other useful attribute for success—time-tested hard work. One must put in the time to do the hard work, the homework, with great attention to the details, ensuring that every T is crossed and that every I is dotted.

These virtues exercised by my friend, whether by his hand's wielding the gavel or in his sizable arm's embracing your future in the back of the House Chamber, he has served our Nation productively. Upon this virtuous foundation, many compromises have been struck to forge stable vehicles to serve the people, their environment, their health, and their livelihoods. A champion of the American worker, of the autoworker, and of our Nation's coal miner, JOHN DINGELL fully appreciates the role that our government can and should play in supporting the breadwinners in every American family.

From the moment JOHN DINGELL came here to the moment he leaves and well beyond, these tenets are the legacy that will always burn brightly in my mind as well as warm my heart. Had I but served a single term with JOHN DINGELL, I would have counted many blessings because of it. Multiplied 29 times, suffice it to say, the entire Nation can itself count many

blessings thanks to the good work of our dear friend, JOHN DINGELL, the dean of the House of Representatives.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO).

Mr. TONKO. ''Thank you'' to the gentleman from New Jersey for the recognition and for leading us in this Special Order that pays tribute to Representative JOHN DINGELL.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to stand on the House floor this afternoon to say ''thank you'' to JOHN DINGELL.

Thank you for your service to country. Thank you for your service to the State of Michigan. Thank you for your service to your congressional districts through the years, and, certainly, thank you for your interaction and networking with your colleagues, which has crossed over party lines and has shown, in exemplary fashion, how to get business done in the House. In your tribute this evening, it is important to make mention over and over again of your service to the military by serving us in the Army and by serving us during World War II.

Also, the Great Lakes State, Michigan, has produced a leader of greatness in JOHN DINGELL.

JOHN, it is an honor to say here, during this special tribute, that you were, indeed, everyone's coach. I know the person of humility that you are. You shed that praise when it comes your way, but make no mistake about it that it has been your coaching, your reinforcement, your encouragement to each and every one of us. Certainly, to those of us who entered as freshmen, you were right there to shadow us and to guide us and to remind us that there is a nobleness—with a small ''n''—of service through the House that can influence policy and speak to the needs of those most marginalized in our society.

To that end, I want to thank you for identifying so very strongly with struggle. You saw a struggle, and you moved to address it. Whether that be through health care, through human services, through education, and certainly through all sorts of efforts that speak to public safety, our environment, and our energy policy, you saw a struggle, and you met it head-on, and you made certain that the challenges were responded to. You showed us how to work across party lines, and you showed us how to be factual and to see your word as your honor.

With all of that, I salute you, JOHN DINGELL, as being an awesome leader who taught by example how to conduct yourself in this public arena. You are proud of your heritage. We have talked about that many times over. Those roots have fed you so very well and have enabled you to be this person of greatness coming from the Great Lakes State. So thank you so much for your service to country and to all of us here in the Chamber.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY).

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am testifying before the Rules Committee right now, but I will submit my statement for the RECORD.

To know him is to love JOHN DINGELL. He taught me that dedication to the legislative process and getting it done comes first.

It is a great privilege to speak about the career and accomplishments of my good friend, JOHN DINGELL.

JOHN has been one of the giants in this body a man with countless friends, but few peers.

His impact on this Institution and this country cannot be overstated.

Over the course of six decades, John has led some of the most important fights in the history of our country—fights for health care, civil rights, social justice, consumer protections, and so much more.

In 1964, he helped push the Civil Rights Bill through Congress.

In 1965, JOHN DINGELL presided over the House as it considered and then passed Medicare.

JOHN wrote the Endangered Species Act.

He wrote the 1990 Clean Air Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, and legislation to build North America's first international wildlife refuge.

He authored Affordable Care Act and then fought tirelessly for its passage.

Thanks to JOHN, millions of Americans are getting the benefits today of the Patient's Bill of Rights, the Children's Health Insurance Program, the Mammography Quality Standards Act, the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act, and the Prescription Drug User Fee Act.

JOHN DINGELL's towering list of accomplishments are the best representations of what Members of Congress can do when the long-term needs of the people—the country—are elevated beyond the fleeting politics of the moment.

Whenever the history of this country is told—The Civil Rights Act, Medicare, the Affordable Case Act, Environmental Protection, Workers Rights will stand out as the hallmarks of the Democratic Party—our core principles.

They are the legislative actions that delivered on the promise of the American dream—and helped to put it within reach for millions.

These pillars of social justice all bear JOHN DINGELL's name writ large.

JOHN DINGELL is also a strong advocate for women, a long-time champion for the Equal Rights Amendment, and a leader in the fight for Equal Pay for Equal work.

JOHN was here in 1963 when the Equal Pay Act was signed into law

In the 108th Congress, he and I requested a report from the GAO on the Glass Ceiling.

That report analyzed 18 years of data on over 9,300 Americans and found that women working fulltime were being paid an average of 80 cents for every dollar that men are paid.

He has been fighting to realize the goal of the Equal Pay act for decades and it is a fight that JOHN'S wife Debbie is sure to continue in the next Congress.

For more than 80 years, there has been a Mr. DINGELL from Michigan representing Democratic Values and the people of Michigan.

I know I speak for all members of the House when I say that I look forward to working alongside the first Mrs. Dingell from Michigan!

JOHN'S impact on Congress and on this country will be felt for generations to come.

His unyielding commitment to do what is right—for his country and his Michigan constituents has been an inspiration to us all.

I fear we may never see his like again in this Congress—but I shall hope that each and every day—every Member of Congress will strive to live up to the example that was once set by the great JOHN DINGELL, Dean of the House of Representatives.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I now yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GENE GREEN).

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. I thank my colleague and our new ranking member of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the great lawmakers of our era, who has dedicated his life to fighting for civil rights, to strengthening our Nation's safety net for the vulnerable and elderly, and in pushing for workers' rights and protecting American jobs.

I am honored to call this man a mentor and a friend—the dean of the House, Congressman JOHN DINGELL.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my full statement be placed in the RECORD.

JOHN's illustrious career speaks for itself: the longest-serving Member in the history of the House of Representatives; the author of dozens of Federal laws, including the Endangered Species Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, and the Affordable Care Act; the chairman or ranking member of the Energy and Commerce Committee for 28 years; a veteran of the Second World War.

What the history books will never be able to fully share is the respect and kindness JOHN has given to all who have been fortunate enough to work with him.

JOHN has always been generous with his time and with sharing his unparalleled institutional knowledge of the people's House. In 2005, JOHN was a vital voice, and he supported efforts to pass the Energy Policy Act, which became one of the key Federal supports for the current energy renaissance that is providing jobs and lower energy prices for the American people today. Outside of Washington, I was fortunate to spend time with JOHN on hunting trips, where I had the opportunity to get to know him better as a man, as a father, as a husband, and as an avid sportsman.

Mr. Speaker, before I conclude, I would like to personally thank JOHN for his decades of public service in fighting for America's working families. Our Chamber will not be the same without him. God bless JOHN DINGELL and the United States of America.

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What the history books will never be able to fully share is the respect and kindness JOHN gave to all who have been fortunate enough to work with him.

JOHN has always been generous with his time and sharing his unparalleled institutional knowledge of the People's House. In 2003, during the DeLay redistricting fiasco in Texas, which gerrymandered out many longtime House Members, JOHN advised me on what avenues were available to Members to voice disapproval.

In 2005, JOHN was a vital voice and supported efforts to pass the Energy Policy Act, which has become one of the key federal supports for the current energy renaissance that's providing jobs and lower energy prices for the American people today.

Outside of Washington, I have been fortunate to spend time with JOHN on hunting trips, where I had the opportunity of getting to know him better as a man, a father and husband, and as an avid outdoorsman.

Mr. Speaker, before I conclude, I would like to personal thank JOHN for his decades of public service in fighting for America's working families. Our chamber will not be the same without him.

God Bless JOHN DINGELL and the United States of America.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. DEGETTE).

Ms. DEGETTE. Thank you so much.

Mr. Speaker, in 1997, when I was a 39-year-old freshman, JOHN DINGELL took a risk on me. He put me on the Energy and Commerce Committee as a freshman. Since that day, I have learned at his knee every single day. He has become a friend; he has become a mentor—and like so many of us on both sides of the aisle, our experience here in Congress would not be the same without him.

□ 1715

A lot of us know about the long arm of JOHN DINGELL. Over the years, when Chairman DINGELL would put his long arm around your shoulders, and he would say, ''Diana, I have a little chore for you,'' you knew that that little chore was anything but little. It was a part of something much, much bigger. Whether he was just moving a minor amendment to a bill or a large bill itself, and no matter what the issue was, it was always an honor to work together with JOHN DINGELL to get something done for the American people.

As the now-ranking member on JOHN DINGELL's subcommittee, the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee of Energy and Commerce, I feel a special responsibility to his legacy. JOHN DINGELL, over the years, held powerful people from all around the country, from every part of industry, accountable to the American public. And today, it is up to all of us, as members of his distinguished committee, to take up the great mantle of that legacy and to make the powerful tell the truth to the American public.

I commit myself today, along with all of us, to carry on his legacy, to do just that, to make this committee a committee that JOHN DINGELL will be proud of.

I am going to miss my dear friend, my wise mentor, and my trusted colleague. All of us will. We all recognize the great contributions he made to this institution and, most importantly, to this country.

Few retirements are as well deserved, with such distinguished service as Mr. DINGELL's. And so I want to say, JOHN, job well done. Godspeed.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN), the ranking member of the Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. LEVIN. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

If a test of a career is whether you made a difference, Big JOHN's career has been a big success. In so many ways, JOHN was tall in stature physically and in every other way.

There has been much note about his particular accomplishments. I would like to spend just a few minutes today talking not about those accomplishments that are so vivid and so clear, but to talk about JOHN DINGELL and his character.

He remembered his roots, never forgot them. There was always, I think, a sense of the underdog. I think his family came to this country and felt, in a sense, like the underdog, but were thankful that they had an opportunity in this country to rise. And it is so clear that JOHN succeeded.

You might sum it up this way: JOHN DINGELL was a legislator's legislator. He combined courage and civility, dedication and decency, strong views with strong friendships.

I don't remember exactly when it was that, down the hall here, when JOHN was being honored, he decided to talk about this institution and what he had seen happen to it. And it was a very frank talk. And he really bemoaned recent events here, where it was much more difficult to have strong views but to have strong camaraderie, to have strong views but have the ability to compromise on them, to have strong views but find a way to seek and find common ground. That was so convincing, so persuasive for someone who has been in this institution longer than anyone else in the history of this country.

So I think our best salute to JOHN, maybe the best way to remember his contributions—in addition to all of the particular legislation that came to be and meant so much to millions of people in this country—is to try to pick up the mantle that surrounded him all of his career here, to really see if we can seek and find some way in this institution to operate the way JOHN DINGELL saw so much of his career, and why he felt it was such a loss when it dwindled.

So I would like to just join everybody else with some emotion. Our two families have been so close for so many decades. Our two families, the Levins and the Dingells, the Dingells and the Levins, have had their lives so interwoven, so interwoven, coming from somewhat different backgrounds. But those weren't an obstacle. Those were really opportunities.

So I join so many others in saying to JOHN and to Debbie, who has been his partner, more than a job well done—a path that all of us should seek to follow.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield now to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. CAPPS).

Mrs. CAPPS. I thank my colleague for yielding.

It is such an honor, in paying my tribute, to follow one of Mr. DINGELL's best friends, SANDY LEVIN, his colleague from Michigan.

Mr. Speaker, I rise with great pride as well as deep humility to honor the longest-serving Member of Congress, the dean of the United States House of Representatives, the Congressman for the 12th District of Michigan and my personal friend, Mr. JOHN DINGELL.

JOHN has served his country with such honor and such distinction, first as a second lieutenant in the United States Army during World War II and, for the past 59 years, right here in Congress over the terms of 11—that is 11—United States Presidents.

But it is not just his longevity that has made JOHN such a force in the United States Congress. Yes, we are losing this man's incredible institutional memory, but hopefully neither he nor we will ever lose our love for this institution.

JOHN DINGELL's hand has helped construct nearly every major advancement in social policy that this country has known over the past six decades, policies that support working families, that strengthen our middle class, and support the United States economy.

Many of us here speak of significant events in United States history, but JOHN DINGELL can speak of these historic events because he was often right there, standing by the President's side. JOHN knows this institution inside and out. And it is that knowledge, coupled with his belief that Congress does have a vital role in making this country better for all of us, that has made him so influential over the years.

But for all he has done for the Nation, JOHN has been and continues to be such a great friend to each of us, no matter which side of the aisle we sit on.

When I first came to Congress, JOHN DINGELL took me under his wing and helped me to earn a seat on the Energy and Commerce Committee, his beloved committee. He told me that we did

need nurses at the table, and he always has been a passionate advocate for quality health care. He is such a good friend to my own colleagues in the nursing profession.

The good people of Michigan are losing a great advocate for their State in Congress. This country is losing a passionate and brilliant Representative, and what I am told is the best Twitter feed on the Hill. And I am losing a personal friend on the floor of the House and a real mentor on the dais at the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

But we won't be sad for long. Next year, we will have another Dingell who will be here as one of us, and that is JOHN's very own lovely wife, Deborah. I look forward to working with Deborah and have no doubt that she will continue the legacy of service that JOHN and his father before him have established.

So with that, I do not say good-bye, dear friend, but I do say best wishes. And know that we are all so full of gratitude and in great debt to you for your service, as you have for so long been of enormous service to each of us.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield now to our Democratic whip, Mr. HOYER.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I thank him for taking this Special Order.

Mr. Speaker, when this new House convenes on January 6, it will be the first in 59 years not to include the distinguished dean of this House, Mr. JOHN DINGELL of Michigan.

We will still have a Dingell from Michigan. It will be his wife, Debbie, whom so many of us in this House have come to know and admire. I have worked with Debbie every year that I have been in the Congress. She won the election to succeed JOHN, and surely we will continue to have him in our midst as a congressional spouse. But he will be very, very sorely missed among the Members of this body, all of whom he welcomed to the House over the course of his service as the longest-serving Member in the history of the Congress.

A lot of people like to point to JOHN's tenure in the House and note that when he came to Congress, Americans had Dwight Eisenhower as President, Brooklyn had a champion Dodgers baseball team, and Elvis Presley had his first gold record.

But what I will point out is what Americans did not have. They did not have Medicare. Seniors were unprotected from the rising costs of health care in their golden years until JOHN DINGELL became their champion and introduced legislation that was the precursor to Medicare. And he presided over this House when it passed Medicare in 1965.

Americans did not have the Civil Rights Act or the Voting Rights Act. When JOHN DINGELL took his first oath of office as a Member of this House, millions of African Americans across the South could not vote for Representatives in this House. Just 4 months after taking office, he bravely challenged the Eisenhower administration's leadership on civil rights.

He rose in this Chamber with great audacity to demand that the President protect those who were being denied their most fundamental rights as Americans. It almost cost him his seat. But all of us who know JOHN understand why he was willing to risk everything for a cause that was just.

Americans did not have the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, or the Safe Drinking Water Act, nor did they have the Endangered Species Act or the National Environmental Policy Act. JOHN realized before many of his contemporaries that if Congress did not act to protect our environment, future generations would inherit a Nation spoiled by pollution and neglect, so he became a crusader for conservation.

And the American people did not have SCHIP or the Affordable Care Act—SCHIP being children's health insurance. JOHN DINGELL fought his entire life in public office to make affordable quality health care accessible to all who need it.

In between his work to pass Medicare in 1965 and the enactment of health care reform in 2010, JOHN DINGELL successfully pushed for incremental progress that made the Affordable Care Act possible. And when Leader PELOSI struck the gavel to signify the passage of that law, it was the same gavel that was used by JOHN when he announced the passage of the Medicare Act nearly 50 years before.

□ 1730

I was proud to nominate JOHN for the Presidential Medal of Freedom, our Nation's highest civilian honor, and to be on hand last month as President Obama presented that Medal of Freedom to him at the White House.

Let no one mistake JOHN's legacy as one of simply longevity. Had he served nine terms and not 29, we would surely be here on this floor to praise him as a man of vision, of principle, of courage and achievement, and of a deep love for this country, its people, and for this institution.

I have had the privilege of serving with JOHN in this House for 33 years. Throughout that time, he has been a dear friend from whom I have learned much and with whom I shared many memorable experiences on and off this floor.

JOHN DINGELL, my colleagues, has been and is a man of conviction, he has embodied civility, and he has worked in a bipartisan fashion. His example is one that if we follow, it would benefit the country and the House.

As chairman of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, JOHN was instrumental in supporting a strong auto industry and jobs for America and measures to promote manufacturing here in this country.

Americans remember with gratitude his determined effort as chairman to root out waste, fraud, and abuse across the government and save the taxpayers while improving how the government works.

Seventy-three years ago this week, a young JOHN DINGELL, Jr., then a House page, sat in this Chamber, in which his father, John, Sr., served, while President Roosevelt delivered his famous speech asking for a declaration of war as a result of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on that Day of Infamy.

Four years later, while serving in the United States Army, Second Lieutenant JOHN DINGELL was preparing to invade Japan when the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki brought the war to an end and quite possibly saving his life. We are all grateful for that, that Providence spared him, so he could come to the people's House and do the people's work for 59 years.

We will miss him dearly. I will miss him. I take comfort in knowing that he will still be here among us as a private citizen, as the husband of the new Member from Michigan's 12th District, and as an elder statesman for our country who I hope will always be ready to share the wisdom of his experience with those who will continue his work in this House.

JOHN DINGELL has been a great American, a citizen who loved his country and served it well. God bless you, JOHN DINGELL, and thank you.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I now yield to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR).

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, it is an understatement to say dean and Chairman JOHN DINGELL is a gentleman of this House and a respected man of the law. He has served our Republic his entire life, beginning as a page for this House at the age of 12, followed by his enlistment in the United States Army and his service during World War II. He is a bona fide representative of the Greatest Generation's dedication and enduring legacy.

He is a Member's Member, always available for counsel and always with an encouraging word. How many of us have benefited from his astute advice? This Chamber says thank you to a man who knows how to negotiate, who knows how to legislate, and knows how to foster great change. He is a master of the art of compromise.

His service has been honorable for over half a century. He has been indefatigable. JOHN has walked forthrightly in the shoes of his beloved father before him, and he served our Nation nobly in this House and the people of Michigan who reelected him 30 times. His service has established a historical record 59 years long of consistent dedication to liberty and to the people of our country.

Historically, he has assumed his place as one of the House's strongest timbers, truly a foundational Member, a master of the rules and decorum that should attend to our privileged service here. He is a champion of the dignity of the House.

Generations to come would be well-advised to emulate his service. He understands and treasures this House, its centrality in steering progress for our democratic Republic.

He is a champion of civil rights, of living wage jobs in America and labor rights here and abroad, of American manufacturing and the auto industry, of energy independence for America, of Medicare and Social Security as his father was before him, of our natural environment and the legal basis for respecting it—our Great Lakes, the fish, fauna, and creatures that form the wild kingdom, the park systems and wildlife refuges, the river and ocean ecosystems that maintain and sustain the stunning beauty and bounty of our land and frankly sustain us. He is the heartbeat of Motown.

I personally will always treasure the moments we spent working on legislation to refinance the U.S. auto industry and our tours of the auto giants' manufacturing platforms, of the times we spent together creating the first international wildlife refuge in our country in the Great Lakes region spanning our shared Michigan-Ohio border with Canada, the clean water and clean air achievements, the tours of the La-Z-Boy company and that firm's stellar involvement in environmental stewardship of our Ohio-Michigan region.

Mr. Speaker, I shall always treasure our encounters, countless as they are, along the Ohio-Michigan border that we shared, the hundreds of plane rides together, often with Deborah along, with dear colleagues like JOHN CONYERS, Billy Ford, as well as our car ride back to Michigan together after 9/11.

We have shared the priceless opportunity to guard liberty and extend her welcoming arms to the people of Poland, our shared ancestral heritage, as Poland cast off the shackles of Communist oppression. Though each of us dreamed of the day when that incredible moment might transpire, its achievement remains one of world history's most glorious moments.

So the patriotic gentleman from Michigan, House seniority rank number one, our dean, you have not only earned your title as ''Man of the House,'' you have inspired millions of people and ably met the call of DANIEL WEBSTER in your time and generation to perform something worthy to be remembered. You have met that test.

My colleague, may God bless you and Deborah and hold you and your loved ones dearly. America thanks you, and so do I, as dean of Ohio's delegation. Godspeed.

Mr. PALLONE. I thank the gentlewoman.

Mr. Speaker, I yield now to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI), our Democratic leader.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I appreciate his friendship with the distinguished leader of the entire Congress, the dean number one, as Congresswoman KAPTUR said.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to be brief and put some of my statement in the RECORD and hopefully return to the floor in the couple of days ahead to say more about Mr. DINGELL because so many Members are waiting, and I hope more time will be afforded for us to sing the praises of this great man.

Every now and then, you hear the expression ''somebody is a living legend.'' That doesn't even begin to describe JOHN DINGELL. He is a living legend. He has had a hand in nearly every major legislative accomplishment over the past six decades from protecting civil rights and workers' rights—and I am so glad to see JOHN LEWIS here—to ensuring food safety, to enacting essential consumer protections, and to creating jobs in Michigan's Twelfth District and throughout our country.

Among his countless achievements, none holds greater significance than his contribution to the good health of the American people. Each congressional term since 1955, he introduced legislation to secure affordable health care for all Americans.

In 1965, he held the gavel in his hand as Medicare became law of the land, and in 2010, more than half a century later, it was my privilege to hold that same gavel in my hand as we passed the Affordable Care Act, realizing the dream of the Dingell family.

To work alongside JOHN DINGELL is to be inspired by his strength, by the history of our institution, and by the seriousness of his work, not only the length of his service for sure, but the quality of his leadership. He is our distinguished chairman, our distinguished dean, a cherished colleague and friend, a living legend as I said, but that only begins to tell the tale.

His experience, his leadership, his partnership, and his passion will be sorely missed by all of us who had the honor to serve alongside him. We wish him and his beloved wife, our soon-to-be colleague, Debbie, and the entire Dingell family the very best.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join in the tributes to a public servant of unmatched leadership and quality.

The distinguished gentleman from New Jersey has followed the many footsteps of Mr. DINGELL on the Energy and Commerce Committee.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

## AMERICA: LAND OF LIBERTY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Mrs. BACHMANN) for 30 minutes.

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE).

### HONORING CONGRESSMAN JOHN DINGELL ON HIS RETIREMENT

Mr. PALLONE. I want to thank the gentlewoman and remind my colleagues that we have a lot of speakers, so if you can limit your remarks, we would appreciate it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield now to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE).

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman.

Mr. Speaker, as a freshman, I have learned to be brief, and I will be brief. Coming from Michigan and growing up in a political family and actually succeeding my own uncle, Dale Kildee, in this seat, one would think that Dale is the first Congressman that I really knew, but if you are from Michigan and you were born any time after the middle of the 1950s, JOHN DINGELL is the first Congressman that we knew.

He was a strong voice for our State, and he was really the picture of a Member of Congress for so many years. His longevity is obviously remarkable, but it is what JOHN did and stood for that is most remarkable over his long tenure.

He first was a witness to history in this place when 73 years ago this past Monday, his father was here and he was a page, he sat and watched Franklin Roosevelt give that famous speech on December 7.

He made history in this body. I remember just a few months ago watching on C–SPAN, as I do occasionally, and watching the signing of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and watching JOHN DINGELL stand there and receive a pen from President Johnson as that act was signed into law. I sat with him the next day and discussed that time in our history and realized what an amazing privilege I have been given to serve in the same body with JOHN DINGELL.

He is a witness to history, and he made history, but more importantly, for 59 years, JOHN DINGELL was on the right side of history. Look at his record. Look at what he has stood for. He has always been ahead of the rest of the country.

The one thing I do hope is that we can take a lesson from his service and realize that there has been a time in this body when you can be a strong and passionate voice, when you can hold to principle, but still find ways to work across the partisan divide and find compromise and get things done. That is the lesson of his legacy, and it is one that I think we all have an obligation to try to live up to.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I now yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BISHOP).

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, you have heard that Representative JOHN DINGELL from Michigan is the longest-serving Member of the House of Representatives in the history of this institution. You have heard that he has been a Member since 1955 and has held a seat in this body since President Eisenhower sat in the White House.

You heard that exactly 1 day and 73 years ago, a young JOHN DINGELL, then a page in the House, was standing in this very room when President Roosevelt gave his declaration-of-war speech against Japan. He was a page.

Needless to say, it has been a long road of public service for our friend and colleague, JOHN DINGELL. A great defender of civil liberties, JOHN DINGELL stood beside President Johnson as he signed the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Over his illustrious career, he fought for civil rights, for clean water, for Medicare, for American workers' rights.

On a more personal note, he has always been helpful to me even when I was just a wet-behind-the-ears freshman, and he shared his overflowing reservoir of knowledge and wisdom about the history and customs of this body and the workings of Congress. He will be missed.

Mr. Speaker, I will always remember and appreciate his character, his integrity, and his courage in the fight for a better quality of life for the American people.

A poet wrote:

The tree that never had to fight
For sun and sky and air and light,
But stood out in the open plain
And always got its share of rain,
Never became a forest king
But lived and died a scrubby thing.
The man who never had to toil
by hand or mind in life's turmoil,
Who never had to earn his share
Of sun and sky and light and air,
Never became a manly man
But lived and died as he began.
Good timber does not grow in ease:
The stronger winds, the stronger trees;
The further sky, the greater length;
The rougher the storm, the greater strength.
By wind or rain, by sun and snow,
In trees and men good timbers grow.

JOHN DINGELL is good timber. Sir, you will be sorely missed. Thank you for your service.

□ 1745

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY).

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I am so proud to join with many of my colleagues in celebrating JOHN DINGELL and recognizing the many, many things that he has achieved for our country. It is not just that JOHN DINGELL has been the longest serving Member in history; it is what he did in his 30 terms in the House. Many today will honor him for his support of civil rights and voting rights, his lifelong support for working men and women and their unions, for the environment and much, much more. But for me, it is his passionate advocacy for national health care.

I came to Congress with the number one priority of winning affordable, quality, and comprehensive health care for all Americans. I worked to join the Energy and Commerce Committee so that I could learn from JOHN DINGELL, who has been called a legend in the fight for universal coverage. Following in the footsteps of his father, a key player in the passage of Social Security in 1935 and himself a strong fighter for national health care, Chairman DINGELL introduced the U.S. National Health Insurance Act in his very first term, and he has been fighting to make health care a right ever since.

JOHN DINGELL sat in that chair when we passed Medicare and Medicaid and gaveled it into law. He pushed for the Patients' Bill of Rights. He led the way as we created the Children's Health Insurance Program, and he was a key reason we were able to pass the Affordable Care Act in 2010.

Because of JOHN DINGELL, today more than 120 million Americans have access to health insurance in large part because of his leadership and vision. I am so grateful to have had the privilege of serving with and learning from JOHN DINGELL. I hope that we will follow his strong legacy and continue to make improvements in health care so that we can improve the lives and well-being of all Americans.

Thank you, JOHN DINGELL, for your unparalleled service to this country.

Mr. PALLONE. I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS).

Mr. LEWIS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues tonight to honor my friend, my brother, the longest serving Member of Congress, the Honorable JOHN DINGELL.

I had heard of Congressman DINGELL long before I came to the House. I knew he had followed in his father's footsteps on his path to public service, that he was one of the youngest Members of Congress at the time. But most important, I heard that he would stand up, speak out, and fight for the issues of civil rights and social justice.

JOHN DINGELL is one of the most able and respected Members of this body. Yes, he is the dean of the House of Representatives. He had the capacity and the ability to say we have a right to know what is in the food we eat, what is in the air we breathe, and what is in the water that we drink.

He battled on the front lines for Medicare and Medicaid. He is the only Member of Congress still serving today who voted for the Civil Rights Act of 1964. He also helped win passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I just want to say that JOHN DINGELL is the embodiment of a time when legislators did not hesitate to use the power of the Federal Government to do good for all.

JOHN, my friend, my brother, my colleague, thank you for your service. Thank you for all of the good that you have done to make our country and to make our world a better place.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI).

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman.

As a new insurance commissioner in California in 1991, I had lots of problems with pensions, a lot of problems with insurance companies going broke. I was summoned to Washington to appear before the Commerce Committee to explain. I had great fear in my mind. The very famous JOHN DINGELL was chairing that committee. But I very quickly realized his goal and mine were the same, that is, to find ways to protect people. A deep friendship then ensued for many years.

My mentor is leaving this session. I will miss him. I know that everybody in this House will miss him in many ways. He is a good man. His heart is as big as this Nation which he has worked so hard for.

JOHN DINGELL, a great, great Member of Congress.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I just want to thank the gentlewoman from Minnesota for yielding us extra time.

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, it was a privilege to yield to the gentleman from New Jersey on behalf of our colleague who set a historical record of serving this Chamber and the people of his district so well for 60 years.

And it is a privilege for me now also, Mr. Speaker, to be in this well to deliver what is my last speech on this floor.

It has been the privilege and the honor of a lifetime for me to serve as a Member of the United States Congress, serving as the first woman ever elected from the State of Minnesota in the capacity of being a Republican. It is an honor, and it is the ride of a lifetime. As I stand here in the well of this House, I am so filled with joy and so much happiness in understanding that the privilege I have is one of being really a link on a chain that has gone on for hundreds of years.

I stand right here on the soil, in the square feet that are the freest square feet in the world because you see, Mr. Speaker, it is here where any voice that holds an election certificate can speak forth the words, words that maybe a President of the United States would vehemently agree with, disagree with, words that maybe colleagues from one's own party and the opposing party may vehemently disagree with, words that in some sense might incent people to anger or to even riot in some cases, but words, nonetheless, that are free—free, free—because a price was paid so that speech could be given. It is an honor. Where else could we find this level of freedom anywhere in the world?

That is why at the very top of this Capitol on the rotunda dome standing a full 20 feet tall is a statute called ''Freedom.'' It is a woman, and her name is Freedom. She stands as the uppermost point in this part of our Nation's Capital. She faces east because she faces toward the sunrise so that every day Freedom's face looks into the morning sun, and, happily, we begin yet one more day of liberty in this country.

You see, I am so proud to be a part of this Nation. I am so proud to be an American citizen because I recognize the costs of my freedom, the price that was paid for it by those who have gone before. I am so thrilled to have this opportunity.

Just behind me, Mr. Speaker, above where you are standing, is our Nation's motto. It says, ''In God We Trust.'' What a fabulous motto. Could any better motto be written for any nation to

declare full voiced that it is in God that we as a nation put our trust? What other more trustworthy venue could there be? What other trustworthy vehicle could there be than a holy God?

You see, it is not just today that we mouth these words. These words were mouthed by the Founders of our country, those who decided to leave the comforts of their home to come here to what was essentially an untested, untapped world where there were people, the Native Americans who populated this land, but where a brand-new culture was about to be born, one that would be again the fulcrum to bless the entire world, where people would know that they could come from any portion of the world and find freedom as individuals, but also as a nation.

We have so much to be thankful for, so much to be grateful for. For many people who have never had the privilege of being in this House Chamber before, this is the room where the laws of our Nation are formulated. Our Founders meant that the House of Representatives would be the most powerful form of government. Why? Because it would be these 435 Members that we eventually became would hold the power of the purse. We would hold the Nation's credit card. It would be up to us to decide what we spent money on and what we didn't. We would formulate policy for what is now some 300 million-plus American people.

We are the lawgivers because the people of this country have given us the privilege of the election certificate to make the laws. We must never forget that it is by the consent of the governed that we rule and that we decide our laws.

As I look about this Chamber, we are ringed with the silhouettes of lawgivers throughout history—Hammurabi, various lawgivers throughout all of time, lawgivers for whom veneration is required. And yet only one lawgiver has the distinction of not having a silhouette but having the full face be revealed by the artist. That lawgiver is Moses. Moses is directly above the double doors that lead into the centermost part of this Chamber. In the face of Moses, his eyes look straight upon not only our Nation's motto, ''In God We Trust,'' but Moses' face looks full on into the face of the Speaker of the House.

Daily the Speaker of the House, as he stands up in his authority and in his podium, recognizes that he, too, is a man under authority, just as Moses was a man under authority. Because you see, Mr. Speaker, Moses is given for the full honor as the greatest lawgiver in this Chamber because he was chosen by the God that we trust to be entrusted with the basis of all law. The basis of all law, as was written by Blackstone, the famous English jurist, was the Ten Commandments that were given by none other than the God we trust on Mount Sinai. We know those laws. Those laws are the fundamental laws of mankind. And here in the United States, the Ten Commandments that God gave to Moses are the very foundation of the law that has given the happiness and the rise of the greatest prosperity that any nation has known before.

Mr. Speaker, it could be no coincidence that this Nation, knowing and enjoying the heights of such great happiness and such great prosperity, could be built upon that foundation of the Ten Commandments and of the law given by the God in whom we trust. What a privilege we have been given. What an unparalleled foundation. We have so much to be grateful for and thankful for.

Before I continue my remarks, I want to also say thank you to people in their individual capacity who have done so much to help me in my service in the House of Representatives. I want to thank, first of all and most importantly, the people of the Sixth Congressional District of Minnesota who thought enough of my campaign to give me the election certificate that I have been privileged to hold for these four terms that I have served in office for 8 years. Had the people of the Sixth Congressional District not elected me to service, I would have never known what a privilege it would be to serve them here in this Chamber. I thank the great people of the Sixth District. It is known as Lake Wobegon country, the greatest people in this country as far as I am concerned—people where all of the men are good looking and the children are above average. It is a State unlike any other, and I am privileged to have served.

I also want to thank the many numerous volunteers who worked on my campaigns to send me here. Without their tireless work stuffing envelopes and serving on the campaigns and making phone calls, it never would have happened.

□ 1800

I was a homemaker at home with our family. I had been a Federal tax litigation attorney. I had had the privilege of starting a charter school. My husband and I started our own company, but I was essentially nobody from nowhere, and because people believed in me, they elected me, and they brought me here. I want to thank again the people of the Sixth District and the volunteers who sent me here.

I also want to thank the donors who very generously gave their money also so that I could be here. I had very hard-fought campaigns. I was often the top nemesis for the opposite political party in election after election, and millions of dollars were spent to make sure that I would not have the privilege of standing in the well of this House.

I want to thank those who gave me the money to be able to come and who sacrificed so that I could be here. Over the years my races were so expensive that at one point mine was the most expensive race in the country. That was done on an average donation of $41 per donation. Millions and millions of dollars with an average donation of $41.

I am so proud of that because real people across the United States saw in me an authentic, credible voice who was here to speak for them. I had people all across the country who said to me, MICHELE, thank you, you speak for me, and I am so thankful that you have fought for me here in Washington.

They knew that I wasn't here to speak for special interests. They knew that I wasn't bought and paid for. They knew that I was speaking for them. I want to say for those that did donate money to my campaigns, I am the same person today as I was when I came here 8 years ago, and I fought for you and for the values that you sent me here to fight for.

I also want to say thank you to the God who saved me. I am so grateful to the Holy God who created us, the Creator God, the God that Jefferson pointed to in the Declaration of Independence. It is because of Him and because He created me in His image and likeness, as He has each one of us, that I even have the possibility of coming here to be able to serve.

I also thank my parents, my father, who has passed away. I thank my mother, Jean LaFave, and my stepfather, Ray LaFave, for their love and their support over the years as well. I am thankful to my brothers, David and Gary and Paul, and my stepbrothers and my stepsisters.

I am thankful to my husband of 36 years, Marcus; to our five wonderful children, Lucas, and his wife, Christine; Harrison, Elisa, Caroline, and Sophia; and also to our wonderful 23 foster children whom we were privileged to raise over the years. As I often joke, yes, I am the old woman in the shoe. I have raised 28 children, and I am so grateful for each one of them.

I am thankful for my very dear friends over the years who prayed for me and stood by me and helped me to get to this position, to my supporters from the great State of Minnesota, and most particularly to the prayer warriors. The very first committee that we formed every time I ran for political office was our prayer committee, and I thank you to the intercessors who prayed routinely for me. Those prayers I believe were answered.

I also say thank you to the men and women who serve today in our Armed Forces. It was the privilege of a lifetime for me to go and travel across the world to Iraq, to Afghanistan, to Germany, and various places around the world where I was able to meet you in your service, and I thank you for allowing me to meet you there.

I say thank you to our veterans who have gone before. You know how near and dear you are to my heart. I am the daughter of a veteran, stepdaughter of a veteran, sister of a veteran, and I am so grateful because I recognize we would not be here today if it wasn't for our veterans, and I thank you for your

service to our country because you answered the call.

I want to also say thank you to my staff:

My longest-serving staff member, Kim Rubin, who came with me on day one and who has served me every single day so superbly as my scheduler. There is no one quite like her, and I have absolutely no idea how I will order my life once I leave here without Kim Rubin.

I say thank you to my chief of staff, Robert Boland, who has stepped in and done a wonderful job with our well organized machine in our office. He makes it a joy for everyone in our office to serve.

I say thank you to my press communications director, Dan Kotman, who has done such a wonderful job every day challenging me to make sure that I can be as good as I can and to keep me from making the mistakes that I am all too prone to make;

For Mikayla Hall, who keeps me on the current edge in absolutely everything that she does, with a brilliant career in front of her;

For Renee Doyle, my dear longtime friend and legislative director, who has a heart of gold and who has served tirelessly in every form of her capacity;

For Jason Frye, Sergeant Frye, who has served our Nation as a veteran but who now will be a legislative director for my successor, and he will do a wonderful job serving.

For Kevin Wysocki, who has served me so well. I thank him, Mr. Speaker, for the brilliant, high-quality man of integrity that he is;

For Jessica Cahill, who has always been there to serve me in every possible capacity that she was asked to do;

For our intern Julie; for our district director Deb Steiskal, who has been so faithful to me during my time in service; for Barbara Harper, who has been with me through thick and thin through 16 years of activism and political life; for Nicole Severson Pelzer, who serves our veterans; for Karen Miller, who will continue to serve our district.

I am so grateful for the Capitol Police, for all that they have done to secure my safety; for the Sergeant at Arms; for our chaplains; our Bible study leaders; for the Clerk's Office.

I want to give a special shout-out to James, who runs the railroad car in the basement of the Rayburn Building. James has become a wonderful friend, a man of God, and we literally have tears in our eyes when we are saying goodbye to each other in these last days. He has brought joy to my heart, and I thank him as well as I thank Maria, who stands right out here outside the door. She has to fetch me all the time because I am usually the last one in the Chamber, trying to get more business done, and Maria says it is time to go, Congresswoman, and I thank God for Maria and what a darling that she has been.

I am grateful for the committee staff from the Financial Services Committee, on which I have been privileged to serve for 8 years, for the committee staff on the Intel Committee. No one knows how hard they work and what a vital service they play to our Nation.

I am grateful for Bonnie, the elevator lady, who is always so happy.

I am grateful for the two ladies at our lunch counter back in the cloakroom, to Ms. Pat and Ms. Doris. You are such good cooks, you make wonderful sandwiches, and I always knew that if I was short $2, you would see me through to the next day. So thank you for believing in my creditworthiness.

More than anything, I want to say thank you to the Founders of this Nation, who gave us the most incredible ride by believing in us and in our future, by recognizing that these truths are self-evident, that all men and all women are created equal, that we are endowed by our Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among those rights are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

What that means to me is this: no government gave me rights that only God can give, and no government can take away the rights that only God can give. The only reason that we even have a government and the only reason it was instituted among men is to secure for me and for you the rights that God gave us: life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Beyond that, we rule by the consent of the governed.

This is a pretty simple gig to figure out here. There are things that government can't touch. Would that we would learn that. But there are things that we do, and those things that we do should be for the happiness of mankind. You see, it is our job not to think only of ourselves, but to think of the generations that are yet to come.

My favorite Americans are people who didn't know they were Americans. They were the Pilgrims. They came here before our Nation was founded. I love the story that was written by Governor Bradford. He wrote in his journal, which I have read in the King's English multiple times. The Pilgrims are one of my favorite groups of people.

Governor Bradford wrote that with the sorrow and the sacrifice that the Pilgrims made—you know, the very first year when they came over, fully half of them died in that first starving winter. Governor Bradford wrote that it was worth it all because the Pilgrims saw themselves, in his words, as stepping stones. He said they willingly laid down their lives and sacrificed themselves because they looked into the future, Mr. Speaker, and they saw you, and they saw me, and they saw all of the American generations that would come after them, and they saw what a marvelous land filled with natural resources, the ability to have freedom, a completely new covenant, a completely new promise that we could make with the future and with the God that we trust.

We could have here a brand new, ordered experiment in liberty, and we did. The generations benefited, and our generation has benefited like nothing before. And that is what we too must do.

As I wind down my remarks, I say thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you that I could have that privilege of also being a stepping stone to look to the future so that the next generation would live better than we do today. Thank you for the privilege.

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

## REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF S. 2244, TERRORISM RISK INSURANCE PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2014; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS TO SUSPEND THE RULES; AND PROVIDING FOR PROCEEDINGS DURING THE PERIOD FROM DECEMBER 12, 2014, THROUGH JANUARY 3, 2015

Ms. FOXX from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 113–654) on the resolution (H. Res. 775) providing for consideration of the bill (S. 2244) to extend the termination date of the Terrorism Insurance Program established under the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules; and providing for proceedings during the period from December 12, 2014, through January 3, 2015, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

## HONORING CONGRESSMAN JOHN DINGELL ON HIS RETIREMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SPEIER) for 30 minutes.

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, one of the great privileges of serving in this body is that occasionally we walk among giants. Most of us 435 Members are ordinary, but among us are a few extraordinary citizens who become Members of Congress and serve this great country.

We are saying good-bye this week to one of those giants. JOHN DINGELL, after serving some 59 years in this Chamber, is leaving us, and leaving us with a legacy of legislation that is truly astonishing: the Endangered Species Act, the 1990 Clean Air Act amendments, the Safe Drinking Water Act, legislation to create the first international wildlife refuge in North America, not to mention the Civil Rights Act or the Affordable Care Act or any number of other giant pieces of legislation.

He has often said when asked about the jurisdiction that he was in charge of as chair of the Energy and Commerce Committee that he would point to a map of the Earth when asked about his jurisdiction and would say,

''If it moves, it is energy, and if it doesn't, it is commerce.'' That is the way he would define the jurisdiction under his leadership.

We are thrilled that his wife now continues that extraordinary legacy by joining us as a Member of the next Congress, and I look forward to working with her on so many very important issues.

So to JOHN DINGELL I say, I walked among many here in this Chamber, none as giant as you, and forevermore I will remember your great leadership to this body and to this country.

MEDICAID PRIMARY CARE PAY BUMP AND WOMEN'S HEALTH

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I now would like to shift gears, Mr. Speaker, and speak about an issue that, frankly, JOHN DINGELL would be very concerned about as well, and that has to do with Medicaid primary care pay bump.

At the end of this year there will be up to 7 million more women who are eligible for Medicaid through the Medicaid expansion program who will not be able to get health care because they can't find a doctor.

□ 1815

Medicaid pays less than Medicare and private insurance for primary care. That is not surprising. In 2012, the average Medicaid rates were only 59 percent of Medicare rates for primary care services.

Now, you may be scratching your head and saying: Well, why would we somehow cheat the poor out of health care? That is precisely what we are doing. By reducing the amount of money available to physicians who provide care to the poor in this country, we are basically saying: ''Find it if you can.''

In my home State of California, the Medi-Cal reimbursement rates are on average only 43 percent of Medicare rates for primary care services. This map shows what the situation is. The very light color are those States which were at 33 to 57 percent, the medium blue is at 59 to 82, and the dark blue is at 85 to 98 percent of Medicare rates. As you see, most States are in that 59 to 82 percent range, but many large States, like California and Florida, are between 33 and 57 percent.

The Affordable Care Act addressed this issue by creating a 2-year Medicaid pay bump for certain primary care services for millions of low-income individuals newly eligible for Medicaid-covered care. Without congressional action by the end of this year, that pay bump expires and, with it, health care for millions of Americans.

I come to the floor today to demand that we extend the Medicaid pay bump past 2014 and protect health care for our low-income constituents.

Additionally, the way the current pay bump is structured disadvantages women, many of whom prefer to see their trusted OB/GYNs to access primary and preventive care services. As we know, primary care and preventive care are crucial to the general health of our citizens, as well as to the reduction of health care costs, but the pay bump doesn't cover these crucial primary care providers.

When I was in the State legislature in California, I, like many of us here, tended to find legislation that related to something that I knew. I realized that I never went to the doctor. The only time I went to the doctor was to visit my OB/GYN once a year.

When primary care providers were being identified, I thought: Why shouldn't OB/GYNs be allowed to be primary care providers as well? So I introduced legislation in California which became law that specified that indeed OB/GYNs could be primary care providers.

What we do know is almost 6 in 10 women report seeing their OB/GYN on a regular basis. It is the one thing that women do at least once a year. One-third of women view their OB/GYN providers as their main source of care, so Federal recognition of the primary care role that OB/GYNs play for women in the ACA's Medicaid pay bump lags behind this general recognition in many other sectors of our health care infrastructure.

Thirty-five States and the District of Columbia classify OB/GYNs as primary care providers for their Medicaid programs. In TRICARE, the Federal health care program for our military servicemembers, OB/GYNs are recognized as primary care case managers.

OB/GYNs are included under the primary care provider definition in community health teams, a grant program that supports primary care practices and patient-centered medical homes. In the primary care residency program called the Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education program, which aims to increase the number of primary care residents and dentists trained in geographically isolated, economically, or medically vulnerable communities, OB/GYNs are included as one of the primary care disciplines.

Let's be clear. Lack of recognition of OB/GYNs as primary care providers under the ACA pay bump puts women who receive their health care from Medicaid at a disadvantage. Twenty-three percent of women Medicaid beneficiaries report a problem finding a new doctor who will accept their insurance, compared to 7 percent of Medicare beneficiaries and 13 percent of women with private insurance, due very simply to the very low payment plans and rates that exist for Medicaid.

I urge my colleagues to extend the Medicaid pay bump past 2014 and expand it to include a protection for women's health by officially including OB/GYNs as primary care providers.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Minnesota, Congressman RICK NOLAN, my very good friend and someone who I admire greatly as well.

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

Mr. NOLAN. Mr. Speaker and Members of the House, I want to join my colleagues in paying tribute to a great Member of Congress serving with us today but who is planning to retire, the Honorable JOHN DINGELL. I would like to do so by telling a little story.

Some 40 years ago, I was elected to the Congress of the United States for the first time. Before I had even been sworn in, I faced my first big challenge. The Congressman that I preceded had passed some legislation called the Big Stone Wildlife Management Area. The editor of our biggest newspaper had applauded him for that. I supported it in my campaign. I said: ''I'll do everything I can do see that it's fully implemented and fully funded.''

Well, I had just been elected, and the President of the United States announced that the project was not going to go forward, it was not going to be implemented, and it was not going to be funded. Here I am, I have just been elected, at least it appears as though I am already doing harm and damage to the district, and I haven't even been sworn in yet.

We came out here for a little orientation session, and I decided I would check with the chairman of the Interior Subcommittee that is responsible for this kind of legislation, to see if he had any advice for me on how I could effectively deal with this.

He said: ''Come see me tomorrow.'' So I went to see him the next day and he said: ''Put out a press release. The project is going to be fully staffed, it's going to be fully funded, it's going to be fully implemented.''

I said to him, questioningly: ''Gee, Mr. Chairman, the President of the United States of America says it's not going to be fully funded, it's not going to be fully implemented.''

He put his arm around me and he said: ''Son, let me tell you something. Presidents come and go around this town with quite regularity. Old dogs like me have been here forever, and I'm going to be here forever. The bureaucracy will listen to an old dog like me before they'll listen to some darn fool President of the United States.''

Well, needless to say, apprehensively, I put out the press release saying the project was going to be fully funded, fully implemented, and indeed, it was. In the process, I learned an incredibly valuable lesson from Mr. DINGELL, and that is there are many ways to effect public policy beyond the legislative actions—which of course are perhaps most important—that we make here in this Chamber.

By getting a hold of these bureaucracies and talking to them and telling them what you would like to see happen and, when appropriate, being supportive of their mission and their goals, they are inclined to be supportive of you as well.

That little story happened 40 years ago. Well, then I went on a 32-year hiatus. I spent the next 32 years of my life in the private sector, in business, community service, and raising my family.

I came back here 40 years later and who is still here proving his point but JOHN DINGELL.

As I said, 11 Presidents have come and gone, but he is still here. I believe he has served longer than any other Member of the Congress in the history of the country; perhaps, most importantly, he is maybe the greatest Member to ever serve in the Congress.

There are so many good things that have happened in this country over the better part of a half a century that we can attribute to the good work of the honorable Representative, the great Representative JOHN DINGELL.

JOHN, we are all so grateful for your incredible service. I am thrilled and honored to be able to be here to join my many other colleagues in saluting you for your great service to the people that you have represented so ably from your own district, but your larger vision as well of what has been so important for the progress of the people here in America.

Thank you for your wisdom. Thank you for sharing that with so many of us who benefited from having sought your wisdom. Thank you for your effectiveness and all the great things you have done for this country. We salute you, Mr. DINGELL.

We love you, and we will miss you, but we will be forever grateful. This country will always be a better place for you having served in this Chamber.

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

## A PRIVILEGE TO SERVE IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GERLACH) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I now have the opportunity to offer remarks concerning my six terms of service in the House of Representatives. What a distinct honor and privilege it has been to serve 700,000 fellow citizens from southeastern Pennsylvania in these hallowed halls.

From the moment I stepped foot in this building during freshman orientation back in 2002, I knew I was joining an institution that has been at the epicenter of landmark legislative decisions during the course of our Republic's history, and I knew that I would put up scores of historically important votes on behalf of my constituents.

From sitting in Statuary Hall during our freshman orientation dinner, where the likes of Abraham Lincoln and John Quincy Adams served, to sitting in this Hall during my first State of the Union address, to meeting with the President in the White House or on Air Force One, I have had more than my fair share of ''pinch me'' moments in this job.

However, the essence of the service that we all provide to our constituents is not the number of special moments interacting with a President or sitting through a historic speech. It is the honor and the privilege to serve every single day and in working to meet the needs, aspirations, and expectations of one's constituents.

We introduce legislation, we vote on bills that come before us, and we undertake day-to-day constituent services that hopefully improve the quality of life of our fellow citizens and move our great Nation forward.

The majority of this work is done outside of the political limelight and is rarely reported on by the media, but the real, important work that all House Members do every day boils down to being the strong and passionate voice for the 700,000 citizens we serve, both in this legislative Hall, as well through the constituent services we provide.

I have had the great fortune of having some bills passed in both the House and Senate and then signed into law. Those experiences were very heartwarming and satisfying, but I also assisted in having constituents get veterans benefits or Social Security checks sent to them or their son or daughter receiving an appointment to one of our fine military academies.

Each and every one of those legislative and constituent experiences has added to the richness and fulfillment I have received from my experience here, and so I must express my gratitude and my appreciation to the numerous people who have assisted in supporting me along the way.

I have been blessed with wonderful supporters back home who have helped me through some very tough and competitive campaigns. They were always there to lend their energy and commitment, and I especially thank them for the faith they placed in me.

I have had a terrific staff, both in my D.C. and district offices, who have tirelessly worked on behalf of my constituents and supported me in my efforts. I would particularly like to recognize the various chiefs of staffs I had over the years: Linda Pedigo, Guy Ciarrocchi, Bill Tighe, Annie Fultz Dutton, and Lauryn Schothorst. They have been incredibly helpful and responsible for allowing us to accomplish all that we have.

On a more personal note, I would also like to thank my mother for the unbelievable inspiration and example she was for me over the years through her work ethic, her honesty and integrity, and her passion for civic responsibility.

I also want to thank my two sisters, Hedy and Eve, for always supporting me in my decisions to run for public office and in helping me any way they could.

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A special thank you to my children—Katie, Jimmy, and Robby—and my stepchildren—Joel, Jay, and Katelyn—for their unwavering support for my public life.

Finally, I want to thank my great partner in life, my wife, Karen, who has unfailingly helped me and supported me in whatever public service decisions I have made.

As we close out the 113th Congress, amid cantankerous partisan relations both here in Congress as well as in our country generally, I would be remiss if I did not call on all of my colleagues here to renew their commitment to work together across ideological and partisan lines to find the best public policy that will move our country forward.

We share a common purpose as Members: to represent and advocate on behalf of our respective districts and reflect the will of the voters who have sent us here.

But the American people want something more. They have a burning hope that Members, regardless of party affiliation, will work through their political differences and find the common ground that is the bedrock of our country. So now, more than ever, public service must be infused with the commitment to achieve and not just to argue.

I wish all of those being sworn into office at the start of the 114th Congress in a few weeks the best of success as they work towards historic achievements in the next 2 years.

Leaving Congress gives one time to pause and think and ask a simple question: Why did I come here in the first place?

Well, the answer to that question is pretty clear to me and pretty simple: to provide my constituents with a strong and passionate voice in the legislative process, to provide a level of constituent service that is second to none, and to serve with honesty and integrity in all actions.

As I look back, I hope and believe I have accomplished these goals, and I am most appreciative of all the great friends that I have met in my time here. But above all, I thank all of those who voted me into public office over the past six terms for their confidence and for their trust. It has been an incredible honor and a privilege to serve.

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

## ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills and a Joint Resolution of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 78. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4110 Almeda Road in Houston, Texas, as the ''George Thomas 'Mickey' Leland Post Office Building''.

H.R. 1707. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 302 East Green Street in Champaign, Illinois, as the ''James R. Burgess Jr. Post Office Building''.

H.R. 2112. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 787 State Route 17M in Monroe, New York, as the ''National Clandestine Service of the

Central Intelligence Agency NCS Officer Gregg David Wenzel Memorial Post Office''.

H.R. 2223. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 220 Elm Avenue in Munising, Michigan, as the ''Elizabeth L. Kinnunen Post Office Building''.

H.R. 2366. An act to require the Secretary of Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of World War I.

H.R. 2678. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 10360 Southwest 186th Street in Miami, Florida, as the ''Larcenia J. Bullard Post Office Building''.

H.R. 3534. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 113 West Michigan Avenue in Jackson, Michigan, as the ''Officer James Bonneau Memorial Post Office''.

H.R. 4939. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2551 Galena Avenue in Simi Valley, California, as the ''Neil Havens Post Office''.

H.R. 5030. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13500 SW 250 Street in Princeton, Florida, as the ''Corporal Christian A. Guzman Rivera Post Office Building''.

H.R. 5462. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to provide for limitations on the fees charged to passengers of air carriers.

H.R. 5739. An act to amend the Social Security Act to provide for the termination of social security benefits for individuals who participated in Nazi persecution, and for other purposes.

H.J. Res. 105. Joint resolution conferring honorary citizenship of the United States on Bernardo de Gálvez y Madrid, Viscount of Galveston and Count of Gálvez.

## SENATE ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The Speaker announced his signature to enrolled bills of the Senate of the following titles:

S. 229. An act to designate the medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs located a 3900 Woodland Avenue in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as the ''Corporal Michael J. Crescenz Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center.''

S. 1434. An act to designate the Junction City Community-Based Outpatient Clinic located at 715 Southwind Drive, Junction City, Kansas, as the Lieutenant General Richard J. Seitz Community-Based Outpatient Clinic.

S. 2673. An act to enhance the strategic partnership between the United States and Israel.

S. 2917. An act to expand the program of priority review and encourage treatments for tropical diseases.

S. 2921. An act to designate the community based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs located at 310 Home Boulevard in Galesburg, Illinois, as the ''Lane A. Evans VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic.''

## BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported that on December 8, 2014, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills:

H.R. 43. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14 Red River Avenue North in Cold Spring, Minnesota, as the ''Officer Tommy Decker Memorial Post Office.''

H.R. 451. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 North Brevard Avenue in Cocoa Beach, Florida, as the ''Richard K. Salick Post Office.''

H.R. 1391. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 South Oak Street in London, Ohio, as the ''London Fallen Veterans Memorial Post Office.''

H.R. 3085. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3349 West 111th Street in Chicago, Illinois, as the ''Captain Herbert Johnson Memorial Post Office Building.''

H.R. 3375. To designate the community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs to be constructed at 3141 Centennial Boulevard, Colorado Springs, Colorado, as the ''PFC Floyd K. Lindstrom Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic.''

H.R. 3682. To designate the community based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs located at 1961 Premier Drive in Mankato, Minnesota, as the ''Lyle C. Pearson Community Based Outpatient Clinic.''

H.R. 3957. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 218–10 Merrick Boulevard in Springfield Gardens, New York, as the ''Cynthia Jenkins Post Office Building.''

H.R. 4189. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4000 Leap Road in Hilliard, Ohio, as the ''Master Sergeant Shawn T. Harmon, Master Sergeant Jeffrey J. Rieck and Veterans Memorial Post Office Building.''

H.R. 4443. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 90 Vermilyea Avenue, in New York, New York, as the ''Corporal Juan Mariel Alcantara Post Office Building.''

H.R. 4919. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 715 Shawan Falls Drive in Dublin, Ohio, as the ''Lance Corporal Wesley G. Davids and Captain Nicholas J. Rozanski Memorial Post Office.''

H.R. 5106. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Admiral Callaghan Lane in Vallejo, California, as the ''Philmore Graham Post Office Building.''

H.R. 669. To improve the health of children and help better understand and enhance awareness about unexpected sudden death in early life.

H.R. 5681. To provide for the approval of the Amendment to the Agreement Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for Cooperation on the Uses of Atomic Energy for Mutual Defense Purposes.

H.R. 4924. To direct the Secretary of the Interior to enter into the Big Sandy River-Planet Ranch Water Rights Settlement Agreement and the Hualapai Tribe Bill Williams River Water Rights Settlement Agreement, to provide for the lease of certain land located within Planet Ranch on the Bill Williams River in the State of Arizona to benefit the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program, and to provide for the settlement of specific water rights claims in the Bill Williams River watershed in the State of Arizona.

H.R. 5069. To amend the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Act to increase in the price of Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamps to find the acquisition of conservation easements for migratory birds, and for other purposes.

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, also reported that on December 9, 2014, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills:

H.R. 4812. To amend title 49, United States Code, to require the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration to establish a process for providing expedited and dignified passenger screening services for veterans traveling to visit war memorials built and dedicated to honor their service, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5108. To establish the Law School Clinic Certification Program of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5462. To amend title 49, United States Code, to provide for limitations on the fees charged to passengers of air carriers.

## ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 6 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, December 10, 2014, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

## EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the third and fourth quarters of 2014, pursuant to Public Law 95–384, are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, JAMES BRANDELL, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 5 AND OCT. 8, 2014

| 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] |
| James Brandell | 10/5 | 10/7 | Belgium | | 918.00 | | | | | | 918.00 |
| | 10/7 | 10/8 | England | | 521.00 | | | | | | 521.00 |
| | 10/4 | 10/8 | | | | | 1,644.70 | | | | 1,644.70 |

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, JAMES BRANDELL, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 5 AND OCT. 8, 2014—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 | | | | | 1,439.00 | | 1,644.70 | | | | 3,083.70 |

[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.

JAMES BRANDELL, Nov. 18, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, REBECCA TALLENT, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 23 AND OCT. 31, 2014

| 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] |
| Rebecca Tallent | 10/23 | 10/25 | Greece | | 336.00 | | 13,145.00 | | | | 13,481.00 |
| | 10/25 | 10/28 | Turkey | | 1,293.00 | | | | | | 1,293.00 |
| | 10/28 | 10/31 | Italy | | 1,311.00 | | | | | | 1,311.00 |
| Committee total | | | | | 2,940.00 | | 13,145.00 | | | | 16,085.00 |

[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.

REBECCA TALLENT, Nov. 21, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2014

| 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. Mark Meadows | 8/9 | 8/12 | United Kingdom | | 1,210.49 | | | | 214.95 | | 1,425.44 |
| | 8/12 | 8/12 | Belgium | | | | 87.39 | | | | 87.39 |
| | 8/12 | 8/15 | Hungary | | 744.90 | | | | 287.17 | | 1,032.07 |
| | 8/14 | 8/14 | Croatia | | | | 44.91 | | | | 44.91 |
| | 8/15 | 8/16 | France | | 516.00 | | | | 203.18 | | 719.18 |
| Hon. John J. Duncan | 8/9 | 8/12 | United Kingdom | | 1,210.49 | | | | 214.95 | | 1,425.44 |
| | 8/12 | 8/12 | Belgium | | | | 87.39 | | | | 87.39 |
| | 8/12 | 8/15 | Hungary | | 744.90 | | | | 287.17 | | 1,032.07 |
| | 8/14 | 8/14 | Croatia | | | | 44.91 | | | | 44.91 |
| | 8/15 | 8/16 | France | | 516.00 | | | | 203.18 | | 719.18 |
| Hon. Michele Bachmann | 8/13 | 8/18 | China | | 1,338.54 | | 361.70 | | 375.70 | | 2,075.94 |
| | 8/18 | 8/19 | Hong Kong | | 451.26 | | 146.06 | | 137.63 | | 734.95 |
| | 8/19 | 8/20 | Korea | | 329.10 | | 100.75 | | 157.77 | | 587.62 |
| Eric Burgeson | 8/13 | 8/18 | China | | 1,338.54 | | 361.70 | | 375.70 | | 2,075.94 |
| | 8/18 | 8/19 | Hong Kong | | 451.26 | | 146.06 | | 137.63 | | 734.95 |
| | 8/19 | 8/20 | Korea | | 329.10 | | 100.75 | | 157.77 | | 587.62 |
| Hon. Larry Bucshon | 8/13 | 8/18 | China | | 1,338.54 | | 361.70 | | 375.70 | | 2,075.94 |
| | 8/18 | 8/19 | Hong Kong | | 451.26 | | 146.06 | | 137.63 | | 734.95 |
| | 8/19 | 8/20 | Korea | | 329.10 | | 100.75 | | 157.77 | | 587.62 |
| Hon. Jeff Denham | 8/13 | 8/18 | China | | 1,338.54 | | 361.70 | | 375.70 | | 2,075.94 |
| | 8/18 | 8/19 | Hong Kong | | 451.26 | | 146.06 | | 137.63 | | 734.95 |
| | 8/19 | 8/20 | Korea | | 329.10 | | 100.75 | | 157.77 | | 587.62 |
| Janet Erickson | 8/13 | 8/18 | China | | 1,338.54 | | 361.70 | | 375.70 | | 2,075.94 |
| | 8/18 | 8/19 | Hong Kong | | 451.26 | | 146.06 | | 137.63 | | 734.95 |
| | 8/19 | 8/20 | Korea | | 329.10 | | 100.75 | | 157.77 | | 587.62 |
| Hon. Blake Farenthold | 8/13 | 8/18 | China | | 1,338.54 | | 361.70 | | 375.70 | | 2,075.94 |
| | 8/18 | 8/19 | Hong Kong | | 451.26 | | 146.06 | | 137.63 | | 734.95 |
| | 8/19 | 8/20 | Korea | | 329.10 | | 100.75 | | 157.77 | | 587.62 |
| Hon. Bob Gibbs | 8/13 | 8/18 | China | | 1,338.54 | | 361.70 | | 375.70 | | 2,075.94 |
| | 8/18 | 8/19 | Hong Kong | | 451.26 | | 146.06 | | 137.63 | | 734.95 |
| | 8/19 | 8/20 | Korea | | 329.10 | | 100.75 | | 157.77 | | 587.62 |
| Hon. Duncan Hunter | 8/13 | 8/18 | China | | 1,338.54 | | 361.70 | | 375.70 | | 2,075.94 |
| | 8/18 | 8/19 | Hong Kong | | 451.26 | | 146.06 | | 137.63 | | 734.95 |
| | 8/19 | 8/20 | Korea | | 329.10 | | 100.75 | | 157.77 | | 587.62 |
| Fleming M. Legg | 8/13 | 8/18 | China | | 1,338.54 | | 361.70 | | 375.70 | | 2,075.94 |
| | 8/18 | 8/19 | Hong Kong | | 451.26 | | 146.06 | | 137.63 | | 734.95 |
| | 8/19 | 8/20 | Korea | | 329.10 | | 100.75 | | 157.77 | | 587.62 |
| Stephen Martinko | 8/13 | 8/18 | China | | 1,338.54 | | 361.70 | | 375.70 | | 2,075.94 |
| | 8/18 | 8/19 | Hong Kong | | 451.26 | | 146.06 | | 137.63 | | 734.95 |
| | 8/19 | 8/20 | Korea | | 329.10 | | 100.75 | | 157.77 | | 587.62 |
| Hon. Markwayne Mullin | 8/13 | 8/18 | China | | 1,338.54 | | 361.70 | | 375.70 | | 2,075.94 |
| | 8/18 | 8/19 | Hong Kong | | 451.26 | | 146.06 | | 137.63 | | 734.95 |
| | 8/19 | 8/20 | Korea | | 329.10 | | 100.75 | | 157.77 | | 587.62 |
| Hon. Thomas Rice | 8/13 | 8/18 | China | | 1,338.54 | | 361.70 | | 375.70 | | 2,075.94 |
| | 8/18 | 8/19 | Hong Kong | | 451.26 | | 146.06 | | 137.63 | | 734.95 |
| | 8/19 | 8/20 | Korea | | 329.10 | | 100.75 | | 157.77 | | 587.62 |
| Hon. Mark Sanford | 8/13 | 8/18 | China | | 1,338.54 | | 361.70 | | 375.70 | | 2,075.94 |
| | 8/18 | 8/19 | Hong Kong | | 451.26 | | 146.06 | | 137.63 | | 734.95 |
| | 8/19 | 8/20 | Korea | | 329.10 | | 100.75 | | 157.77 | | 587.62 |
| Hon. Bill Shuster | 8/13 | 8/18 | China | | 1,338.54 | | 361.70 | | 375.70 | | 2,075.94 |
| | 8/18 | 8/19 | Hong Kong | | 451.26 | | 146.06 | | 137.63 | | 734.95 |
| | 8/19 | 8/20 | Korea | | 329.10 | | 100.75 | | 157.77 | | 587.62 |
| Dennis Wirtz | 8/13 | 8/18 | China | | 1,338.54 | | 361.70 | | 375.70 | | 2,075.94 |
| | 8/18 | 8/19 | Hong Kong | | 451.26 | | 146.06 | | 137.63 | | 734.95 |
| | 8/19 | 8/20 | Korea | | 329.10 | | 100.75 | | 157.77 | | 587.62 |
| Committee total | | | | | 36,726.28 | | 9,392.25 | | 11,477.10 | | 57,595.63 |

[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.

HON. BILL SHUSTER, Chairman, Nov. 18, 2014.

## EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

8183. A letter from the Senior Procurement Executive, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Technical Amendments [FAC 2005-78; Item V; Docket No.: 2014-0053; Sequence 4] received December 1, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

8184. A letter from the Senior Procurement Executive, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Higher-Level Contract Quality Requirements [FAC 2005-78; FAR Case 2012-032; Item IV; Docket No.: 2012-0032, Sequence 1] (RIN: 9000-AM65) received December 1, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

8185. A letter from the Senior Procurement Executive, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Year Format [FAC 2005-78; FAR Case 2014-006; Item III; Docket: 2011-0023, Sequence 1] (RIN: 9000-AM53) received December 1, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

8186. A letter from the Senior Procurement Executive, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Streamlining Claims Processing [FAC 2005-78; FAR Case 2014-011; Item II; Docket No.: 2014-0011, Sequence No. 1] (RIN: 9000-AM83) received December 1, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

8187. A letter from the Senior Procurement Executive, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Incorporating Section K in Contracts [FAC 2005-78; FAR Case 2014-001; Item I; Docket No.: 2014-0001, Sequence No. 1] (RIN: 9000-AM78) received December 1, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

8188. A letter from the Senior Procurement Executive, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2005-78; Small Entity Compliance Guide [Docket No.: FAR 2014-0052; Sequence No. 6] received December 1, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

8189. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Energy, transmitting a report entitled ''American Energy Manufacturing Technical Corrections Act of 2012 — Section 8 Best Practices for Advanced Metering''; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8190. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedures for Commercial Clothes Washers [Docket No.: EERE-2013-BT-TP-0002] (RIN: 1904-AC93) received December 3, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8191. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Diversion Control, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's interim final rule — Exemption From Registration for Persons Authorized Under U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission or Agreement State Medical Use Licenses or Permits and Administering the Drug Product DaTscan [Docket No.: DEA-394] (RIN: 1117-AB38) received December 1, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8192. A letter from the Chief, Policy and Rules Division, OET, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of the Commission's Rules to Provide Spectrum for the Operation of Medical Body Area Networks [ET Docket No.: 08-59] received December 1, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8193. A letter from the Chief, Policy and Rules Division, OET, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Expanding the Economic and Innovation Opportunities of Spectrum Through Incentive Auctions; Office of Engineering and Technology Releases and Seeks Comment on Updated OET-69 Software; Office of Engineering and Technology Seeks to Supplement the Incentive Auction Proceeding Record Regarding Potential Interference Between Broadcast Television and Wireless Services [GN Docket No.: 12-268] [ET Docket No.: 13-26] [ET Docket No.: 14-14] received December 1, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8194. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the 2014 Annual Report on the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program, pursuant to Section 304 of the International Academic Opportunity Act of 2000 (Title III, P.L. 106-309); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8195. A letter from the Chief Executive Officer, Corporation for National and Community Service, transmitting the Inspector General's semiannual report to Congress and the Corporation for National and Community Service's Response and Report on Final Action for the reporting period April 1, 2014, through September 30, 2014; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8196. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's response to alleged violations of the Antideficiency Act; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8197. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's Fiscal Year 2014 Agency Financial Report; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8198. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8199. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting the Commission's Performance and Accountability Report for FY 2014; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8200. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting the Commission's annual report for Fiscal Year 2014, prepared in accordance with Title II, Section 203 of the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Public Law 107-174; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8201. A letter from the Director, Office of Administration, transmitting the personnel report as required by 3 U.S.C. 113 (2014), for personnel employed in the White House Office, the Executive Residence at the White House, the Office of the Vice President, the Office of Policy Development, and the Office of Administration for FY 2014; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8202. A letter from the Acting Auditor, Office of the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting a report entitled ''ANC 1A Did Not Fully Comply with All Legal Requirements''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

## 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:

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 5086. A bill to amend the National Trails System Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Chief Standing Bear National Historic Trail, and for purposes (Rept. 113–651). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 5699. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire approximately 44 acres of land in Martinez, California, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 113–652). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. KLINE: Committee on Education and the Workforce. H.R. 4320. A bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act with respect to the timing of elections and pre-election hearings and the identification of pre-election issues; with an amendment (Rept. 113–653). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SESSIONS: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 775. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (S. 2244) to extend the termination date of the Terrorism Insurance Program established under the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules; and providing for proceedings during the period from December 12, 2014, through January 3, 2015 (Rept. 113–654). Referred to the House Calendar.

## PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. MCKINLEY (for himself and Mr. LOEBSACK):

H.R. 5811. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a charitable deduction for the service of volunteer firefighters and emergency medical and rescue personnel; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself and Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois):

H.R. 5812. A bill to support innovation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, Energy and Commerce, and 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. GRIMM (for himself and Mr. NUNNELEE):

H.R. 5813. A bill to allow for a contract for operation of Melville Hall at the United States Merchant Marine Academy, after receipt of a gift from the United States Merchant Marine Academy Alumni Association

and Foundation, Inc., for renovation of such hall and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BARTON (for himself and Mr. BRIDENSTINE):

H.R. 5814. A bill to adapt to changing crude oil market conditions; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, 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. COLLINS of Georgia (for himself and Mr. LOEBSACK):

H.R. 5815. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for pharmacy benefits manager standards under the Medicare prescription drug program to further transparency of payment methodologies to pharmacies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Armed Services, and 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. ROYCE:

H.R. 5816. A bill to extend the authorization for the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH:

H.R. 5817. A bill to amend section 701 of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 to clarify the period of eligibility during which certain spouses are entitled to assistance under the Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. FLEMING:

H.R. 5818. A bill to relinquish all Federal interests in certain lands in the State of Louisiana to correct errors resulting from possible omission of lands from previous surveys, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. HARRIS:

H.R. 5819. A bill to amend title IV of the Public Health Service Act to ensure that scientists are being funded at the age when they are most likely to make breakthroughs; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HARRIS:

H.R. 5820. A bill to amend title IV of the Public Health Service Act to allocate additional funding through the Common Fund for research by emerging scientists; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. KINGSTON:

H.R. 5821. A bill to expand the boundary of Fort Frederica National Monument in the State of Georgia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. LIPINSKI:

H.R. 5822. A bill to establish a Hazardous Materials Information Advisory Committee to develop standards for the use of electronic shipping papers for the transportation of hazardous materials, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. MATHESON:

H.R. 5823. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to create incentives for healthcare providers to promote quality healthcare outcomes, and for other purposes; 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. NADLER (for himself, Mr. CONYERS, and Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York):

H.R. 5824. A bill to modify certain provisions of law relating to torture; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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.

## CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. McKINLEY:

H.R. 5811.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

According to Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution, ''The Congress shall have power to enact this legislation to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with Indian tribes.''

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:

H.R. 5812.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 2: The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes;

By Mr. GRIMM:

H.R. 5813.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Sec. 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. BARTON:

H.R. 5814.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Sec 8, clause 3. To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes

By Mr. COLLINS of Georgia:

H.R. 5815.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Constitutional authority in which this bill rests is the power of Congress to regulate Commerce as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 3, as applied to healthcare.

By Mr. ROYCE:

H.R. 5816.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH:

H.R. 5817.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. FLEMING:

H.R. 5818.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article 4, Section 3, Clause 2 of the U.S. Constitution, which states ''The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.''

By Mr. HARRIS:

H.R. 5819.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

By Mr. HARRIS:

H.R. 5820.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

By Mr. KINGSTON:

H.R. 5821.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The Congress shall have Power to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. LIPINSKI:

H.R. 5822.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically Clause 3 (related to regulation of Commerce among the several States).

By Mr. MATHESON:

H.R. 5823.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. NADLER:

H.R. 5824.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clauses 11 and 18.

## ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 139: Mr. SMITH of Washington and Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.

H.R. 140: Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee.

H.R. 1318: Mr. TAKANO.

H.R. 1354: Mr. PASCRELL.

H.R. 2376: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.

H.R. 2482: Mr. CICILLINE.

H.R. 2856: Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, and Mr. CARNEY.

H.R. 3424: Mr. SESSIONS.

H.R. 3708: Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 3750: Mr. FOSTER and Mr. CONNOLLY.

H.R. 4169: Mr. CAPUANO.

H.R. 4240: Mr. TAKANO.

H.R. 4324: Mr. RUSH.

H.R. 4351: Mr. MCNERNEY.

H.R. 4510: Ms. FUDGE, Mr. HUFFMAN, and Mr. COSTA.

H.R. 4772: Mr. SCHIFF.

H.R. 4790: Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 4865: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.

H.R. 4920: Mr. JORDAN.

H.R. 4930: Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Mr. GRAYSON, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. GARDNER, and Mr. LEWIS.

H.R. 4960: Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. ROSS, Mr. CHABOT, and Mr. PETERSON.

H.R. 5059: Mr. FOSTER, Ms. GABBARD, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. REED, and Mr. LOWENTHAL.

H.R. 5130: Mr. VAN HOLLEN.

H.R. 5182: Mr. RANGEL.

H.R. 5267: Mr. CROWLEY and Mr. RYAN of Ohio.

H.R. 5320: Mr. COLE.

H.R. 5407: Mr. COHEN, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H.R. 5474: Mr. PERLMUTTER.

H.R. 5481: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania and Mr. MEEHAN.

H.R. 5484: Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Mr. LOWENTHAL.

H.R. 5589: Ms. MOORE, Mr. HONDA, and Mr. ROONEY.

H.R. 5655: Mr. REED.

H.R. 5656: Mr. NOLAN, Mr. PAULSEN, and Mr. ROONEY.

H.R. 5686: Mr. HENSARLING.

H.R. 5709: Mr. GARRETT.

H.R. 5742: Mr. SHERMAN.

H.R. 5747: Mrs. BLACKBURN.

H.R. 5764: Mr. LIPINSKI and Mrs. WALORSKI.

H.R. 5780: Mr. TIBERI and Ms. JENKINS.

H.R. 5782: Ms. FRANKEL of Florida and Mr. RANGEL.

H.R. 5783: Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 5792: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 5803: Mr. PIERLUISI, Ms. BORDALLO, and Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA.

H.R. 5806: Mr. GERLACH, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. REED, and Mr. SCHOCK.

H.R. 5807: Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. POLIS, and Ms. WILSON of Florida.

H. Res. 190: Mr. CARTWRIGHT and Ms. DELAURO.

H. Res. 688: Mr. BERA of California, Ms. WATERS, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Mr. TAKANO.

H. Res. 762: Mr. FORBES.

United States of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 113th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 160 WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2014 No. 149

# Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

## PRAYER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Today's opening prayer will be offered by our guest Chaplain, Rev. Claude Pomerleau, with the congregation of Holy Cross Priests, Portland, OR, and also a Vermonter.

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Father whose presence is so immediate and mysterious, whose personal care brings this planet and the entire universe into existence by Your creative Word, may we not lose our capacity for wonder, to listen and care for Your creation. It is wisdom and contemplation that allow us to read the signs of the times. You put these signs in our hearts through music and dance, poetry and prose, arts and sciences. We thank You as day begins, and the energies of Your daughters and sons are focused on the day's business. Inspire these here assembled with the gifts of peace and justice, as Your Word inspires them with courage and compassion for all.

Amen.

**NOTICE**

If the 113th Congress, 2nd Session, adjourns sine die on or before December 24, 2014, a final issue of the *Congressional Record* for the 113th Congress, 2nd Session, will be published on Wednesday, December 31, 2014, to permit Members to insert statements.

All material for insertion must be signed by the Member and delivered to the respective offices of the Official Reporters of Debates (Room HT–59 or S–123 of the Capitol), Monday through Friday, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. through Tuesday, December 30. The final issue will be dated Wednesday, December 31, 2014, and will be delivered on Monday, January 5, 2015.

None of the material printed in the final issue of the *Congressional Record* may contain subject matter, or relate to any event, that occurred after the sine die date.

Senators' statements should also be formatted according to the instructions at http://webster/secretary/cong__record.pdf, and submitted electronically, either on a disk to accompany the signed statement, or by e-mail to the Official Reporters of Debates at "Record@Sec.Senate.gov".

Members of the House of Representatives' statements may also be submitted electronically by e-mail, to accompany the signed statement, and formatted according to the instructions for the Extensions of Remarks template at https://housenet.house.gov/legislative/research-and-reference/transcripts-and-records/electronic-congressional-record-inserts. The Official Reporters will transmit to GPO the template formatted electronic file only after receipt of, and authentication with, the hard copy, and signed manuscript. Deliver statements to the Official Reporters in Room HT–59.

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By order of the Joint Committee on Printing.

CHARLES E. SCHUMER, *Chairman.*

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore 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.

## RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

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



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## THE GUEST CHAPLAIN

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we note you open the Senate every day, but today you had a little extra something in your step and a gleam in your eye because of the guest Chaplain, who is your lovely wife Marcelle's brother, so I am glad you have had the chance to have a small visit with him again.

## SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Following my remarks and those of the Republican leader, the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 10:30 a.m. this morning.

At 10:30 a.m., the Senate will proceed to two rollcall votes on the Lodge and Walter nominations. If cloture is invoked on either nomination, a confirmation vote will occur at 6 p.m. this evening.

The Senate will recess from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus luncheons.

## MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—H.R. 5759 AND H.R. 5771

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I am told there are two bills at the desk due for a second reading.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The leader is correct.

The clerk will report the bills by title for the second time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5759) to establish a rule of construction clarifying the limitations on executive authority to provide certain forms of immigration relief.

A bill (H.R. 5771) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiration provisions and make technical corrections, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of ABLE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I object to any further proceedings with respect to both of these bills.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard.

The bills will be placed on the calendar.

## AVIATION SECURITY STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION ACT OF 2014

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the commerce committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1204 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1204) to amend title 49, United States Code, to direct the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security (Transportation Security Administration) to establish an Aviation Security Advisory Committee, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Rockefeller-Tester substitute amendment, which is at the desk, be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, and there be no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 3977) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the ''Aviation Security Stakeholder Participation Act of 2014''.

**SEC. 2. AVIATION SECURITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 449 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

**''§ 44946. Aviation Security Advisory Committee**

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Assistant Secretary shall establish within the Transportation Security Administration an aviation security advisory committee.

''(b) DUTIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Assistant Secretary shall consult the Advisory Committee, as appropriate, on aviation security matters, including on the development, refinement, and implementation of policies, programs, rulemaking, and security directives pertaining to aviation security, while adhering to sensitive security guidelines.

''(2) RECOMMENDATIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Advisory Committee shall develop, at the request of the Assistant Secretary, recommendations for improvements to aviation security.

''(B) RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUBCOMMITTEES.—Recommendations agreed upon by the subcommittees established under this section shall be approved by the Advisory Committee before transmission to the Assistant Secretary.

''(3) PERIODIC REPORTS.—The Advisory Committee shall periodically submit to the Assistant Secretary—

''(A) reports on matters identified by the Assistant Secretary; and

''(B) reports on other matters identified by a majority of the members of the Advisory Committee.

''(4) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Advisory Committee shall submit to the Assistant Secretary an annual report providing information on the activities, findings, and recommendations of the Advisory Committee, including its subcommittees, for the preceding year. Not later than 6 months after the date that the Secretary receives the annual report, the Secretary shall publish a public version describing the Advisory Committee's activities and such related matters as would be informative to the public consistent with the policy of section 552(b) of title 5.

''(5) FEEDBACK.—Not later than 90 days after receiving recommendations transmitted by the Advisory Committee under paragraph (4), the Assistant Secretary shall respond in writing to the Advisory Committee with feedback on each of the recommendations, an action plan to implement any of the recommendations with which the Assistant Secretary concurs, and a justification for why any of the recommendations have been rejected.

''(6) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—Not later than 30 days after providing written feedback to the Advisory Committee under paragraph (5), the Assistant Secretary shall notify the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives on such feedback, and provide a briefing upon request.

''(7) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Prior to briefing the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives under paragraph (6), the Assistant Secretary shall submit to such committees a report containing information relating to the recommendations transmitted by the Advisory Committee in accordance with paragraph (4).

''(c) MEMBERSHIP.—

''(1) APPOINTMENT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Aviation Security Stakeholder Participation Act of 2014, the Assistant Secretary shall appoint the members of the Advisory Committee.

''(B) COMPOSITION.—The membership of the Advisory Committee shall consist of individuals representing not more than 34 member organizations. Each organization shall be represented by 1 individual (or the individual's designee).

''(C) REPRESENTATION.—The membership of the Advisory Committee shall include representatives of air carriers, all-cargo air transportation, indirect air carriers, labor organizations representing air carrier employees, labor organizations representing transportation security officers, aircraft manufacturers, airport operators, airport construction and maintenance contractors, labor organizations representing employees of airport construction and maintenance contractors, general aviation, privacy organizations, the travel industry, airport-based businesses (including minority-owned small businesses), businesses that conduct security screening operations at airports, aeronautical repair stations, passenger advocacy groups, the aviation security technology industry (including screening technology and biometrics), victims of terrorist acts against aviation, and law enforcement and security experts.

''(2) TERM OF OFFICE.—

''(A) TERMS.—The term of each member of the Advisory Committee shall be 2 years. A member of the Advisory Committee may be reappointed.

''(B) REMOVAL.—The Assistant Secretary may review the participation of a member of the Advisory Committee and remove such member for cause at any time.

''(3) PROHIBITION ON COMPENSATION.—The members of the Advisory Committee shall not receive pay, allowances, or benefits from the Government by reason of their service on the Advisory Committee.

''(4) MEETINGS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Assistant Secretary shall require the Advisory Committee to meet at least semiannually and may convene additional meetings as necessary.

''(B) PUBLIC MEETINGS.—At least 1 of the meetings described in subparagraph (A) shall be open to the public.

''(C) ATTENDANCE.—The Advisory Committee shall maintain a record of the persons present at each meeting.

''(5) MEMBER ACCESS TO SENSITIVE SECURITY INFORMATION.—Not later than 60 days after the date of a member's appointment, the Assistant Secretary shall determine if there is cause for the member to be restricted from possessing sensitive security information. Without such cause, and upon the member voluntarily signing a non-disclosure agreement, the member may be granted access to sensitive security information that is relevant to the member's advisory duties. The

member shall protect the sensitive security information in accordance with part 1520 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations.

''(6) CHAIRPERSON.—A stakeholder representative on the Advisory Committee who is elected by the appointed membership of the Advisory Committee shall chair the Advisory Committee.

''(d) SUBCOMMITTEES.—

''(1) MEMBERSHIP.—The Advisory Committee chairperson, in coordination with the Assistant Secretary, may establish within the Advisory Committee any subcommittee that the Assistant Secretary and Advisory Committee determine to be necessary. The Assistant Secretary and the Advisory Committee shall create subcommittees to address aviation security issues, including the following:

''(A) AIR CARGO SECURITY.—The implementation of the air cargo security programs established by the Transportation Security Administration to screen air cargo on passenger aircraft and all-cargo aircraft in accordance with established cargo screening mandates.

''(B) GENERAL AVIATION.—General aviation facilities, general aviation aircraft, and helicopter operations at general aviation and commercial service airports.

''(C) PERIMETER AND ACCESS CONTROL.—Recommendations on airport perimeter security, exit lane security and technology at commercial service airports, and access control issues.

''(D) SECURITY TECHNOLOGY.—Security technology standards and requirements, including their harmonization internationally, technology to screen passengers, passenger baggage, carry-on baggage, and cargo, and biometric technology.

''(2) RISK-BASED SECURITY.—All subcommittees established by the Advisory Committee chairperson in coordination with the Assistant Secretary shall consider risk-based security approaches in the performance of their functions that weigh the optimum balance of costs and benefits in transportation security, including for passenger screening, baggage screening, air cargo security policies, and general aviation security matters.

''(3) MEETINGS AND REPORTING.—Each subcommittee shall meet at least quarterly and submit to the Advisory Committee for inclusion in the annual report required under subsection (b)(4) information, including recommendations, regarding issues within the subcommittee.

''(4) SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRS.—Each subcommittee shall be co-chaired by a Government official and an industry official.

''(e) SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTS.—Each subcommittee under this section shall include subject matter experts with relevant expertise who are appointed by the respective subcommittee chairpersons.

''(f) NONAPPLICABILITY OF FACA.—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the Advisory Committee and its subcommittees.

''(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—The term 'Advisory Committee' means the aviation security advisory committee established under subsection (a).

''(2) ASSISTANT SECRETARY.—The term 'Assistant Secretary' means the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security (Transportation Security Administration).

''(3) PERIMETER SECURITY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'perimeter security' means procedures or systems to monitor, secure, and prevent unauthorized access to an airport, including its airfield and terminal.

''(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term 'perimeter security' includes the fence area surrounding an airport, access gates, and access controls.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for subchapter II of chapter 449 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''44946. Aviation Security Advisory Committee.''.

The amendment was ordered to be engrossed, and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time.

The bill (H.R. 1204), as amended, was passed.

## TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ACQUISITION REFORM ACT

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2719 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2719) to require the Transportation Security Administration to implement best practices and improve transparency with regard to technology acquisition programs, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Ayotte amendment, which is a substitute amendment, be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 3978) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under ''Text of Amendments.'')

The amendment was ordered to be engrossed, and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time.

The bill (H.R. 2719), as amended, was passed.

## TRIBUTES TO DEPARTING SENATORS

### TIM JOHNSON

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if the words Hemingway said so clearly—''man is not made for defeat''—applied to anyone in the world, they certainly apply to TIM JOHNSON. He is a testament to this sentiment because he never ever acknowledged defeat. He refuses to be defeated.

TIM never lost an election. He served in the House of Representatives from 1987 to 1997—for 10 years. He served in the State legislature. They weren't all easy votes and weren't all easy elections. He won his election in 2002 by 524 votes. Hundreds of thousands of votes were cast, but he won by 524 votes.

Senator TIM JOHNSON refused to succumb to defeat because he knew he was fighting for the people of South Dakota. He fought for South Dakota jobs when he fought to keep Ellsworth Air Force Base open and running. It was based near Rapid City, and he saved it from closing. He worked to this end, saving thousands of jobs, preserving a thriving economy based on that Ellsworth Air Force Base.

During his tenure in the House and Senate he fought for water, which is so important. People from so many other States don't realize how important water is to States such as South Dakota and many Western States. Water is something you always have to keep your eye on. He secured funding for the Mni Wiconi Rural Water Project and the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System. Combined, those two projects provided clean drinking water to some 400,000 people. That is half the population of the State of South Dakota.

Without question though, TIM's biggest fight took place in 2006. I can still remember that so clearly. I got a call from his chief of staff saying: You need to go to the hospital. TIM has been taken by ambulance to George Washington. So I went there because TIM had suffered a very bad bleed on the brain. He was born with this situation—no one knew of course—but it suddenly hit him. Lots of people have this condition, but most people don't have a bleed on their brain, but TIM did. I was there in the hospital with him. Barbara was there, his daughter Kelsey, and his two boys, Brendan and Brooks, came in as soon as they could. One was serving in the military after having seen combat duty as a member of the U.S. Army. The other boy is a lawyer and is now a U.S. attorney in South Dakota.

It was a very difficult time for his family and a difficult time for him especially. He was in surgery on more than one occasion. His life was threatened. Many people don't survive this difficult situation he was hit with. But he is a huge man. I, frankly, never realized how physically big and strong he was until I saw him lying there in the hospital. But TIM met these physical challenges, and they were very difficult. Ten months later he was back working in the Senate. He was here on the floor.

After this incident, his physical body would never be the same, but his mental capacity is better than ever. With the support of his wife Barbara, since 1969, and their three children, whose names I have already mentioned, he made this remarkable recovery. It was all very difficult. He had to learn to talk again, he had to learn to walk again, and much of his life now is physically different than it was before. He is now, a lot of times, in a wheelchair, but he has never asked for any sympathy. He has pushed forward as he always has his whole life.

Regardless of these changes to his body, his honorable, indomitable spirit is the same. One newspaper recently said, in speaking of TIM's return to the Senate:

Loss of integrity is a greater handicap to any politician and, once lost, cannot be regained with confidence. Johnson's integrity has never been in question.

TIM JOHNSON has his integrity. He has his unbreakable determination to fight for the people of South Dakota and just fight to do the things he needs to do.

TIM is retiring after 18 years in the Senate and 10 years in the House. To say he will be missed by the people of South Dakota is a gross understatement. He worked here with my predecessor, the Democratic leader Tom Daschle, and they got so many good things done for the State of South Dakota. Senator Daschle is missed as TIM will be missed, but their friendship is something I have long admired.

To show the type of person he is, the person he beat by 524 votes came back the next election and endorsed him—a Republican and long-time Member of the House and Senate, Larry Pressler. He endorsed TIM JOHNSON in his reelection. That is the kind of integrity TIM JOHNSON has. People admire him very much.

TIM JOHNSON leaves the Senate as he entered it, undefeated. I will miss him very much. My wife will miss Barbara. They are members of a book club, and I have seen their exchange of emails back and forth as to what books they should read, what they thought of the book, and where they are going to meet. So the Reids will miss the Johnsons. South Dakota will miss the Johnsons. But TIM will still proceed forward and be a great blessing to the State of South Dakota, as he has always been, and to his family.

TOM HARKIN

Mr. President, Abraham Lincoln once said:

I want it said of me by those who knew me best, that I always plucked a thistle and planted a flower where I thought a flower would grow.

Today I stand for just a few minutes to honor a man by the name of TOM HARKIN. Throughout his time in the Senate he has planted many flowers—so many we can't count them all. TOM HARKIN's legacy of fighting for all Americans, particularly those who are disadvantaged, will never be forgotten. In fact, no one in the history of this institution has done more for people who have a physical disadvantage, an emotional disadvantage, a mental disadvantage, and disadvantages generally, than TOM HARKIN.

TOM's life wasn't easy. His father was a miner. His mother, a Slovenian immigrant, died when TOM was 10 years old. He and his family pushed forward, living in a house without hot water or a furnace.

Not one to use his difficult upbringing as an excuse, TOM HARKIN pushed himself very hard. He attended Iowa State University. He came there on a Navy ROTC scholarship. Upon graduation, he enlisted in the Navy and became an Active-Duty pilot—a naval pilot.

I have such admiration for naval pilots, for all pilots, really, but thinking of landing on an aircraft carrier out in the middle of the ocean, that postage stamp size you have to try to find and land out there is something Navy pilots do, and TOM HARKIN did this.

In 1974 he was elected to represent Iowa's Fifth Congressional District, a seat he held for 10 years. When he came to the Senate in 1984, TOM, similar to President Lincoln before him, encountered many thistles.

He was especially motivated to help millions of Americans with disabilities, as I have already said. Here is what TOM HARKIN said once:

I heard stories from individuals who had to crawl on their hands and knees to go up a flight of stairs, who couldn't ride a bus because there wasn't a lift or couldn't cross a street in a wheelchair because there were no curb cuts. Millions of Americans were denied access to their own communities and to the American dream.

TOM did a lot to make sure people did have the ability to dream. What did he do? He encountered the injustice faced by millions of disabled Americans and responded by authoring the Americans with Disabilities Act.

People don't realize now what those disabled people had to go through. There was a big dispute here in the Senate and in the House as to whether Members of Congress should vote for this. It created a lot of issues for businesses. A former Member of the House of Representatives, James Bilbray of Nevada, was getting a lot of pressure not to vote for this, but he voted for this, and here is why he voted for it:

Just like TOM HARKIN saw this long before many of us did, James Bilbray had a friend whose daughter was confined to a wheelchair. This man wanted to visit Congressman Bilbray and his family here in Washington, DC. What an ordeal it was. They couldn't find a place with a hotel room. They had trouble getting airline reservations. It was extremely difficult. So Jimmy Bilbray said: That is enough for me. I am voting for this.

This landmark legislation that was pushed and pushed by TOM HARKIN has helped to move areas of employment, public services, transportation, and telecommunications for people with disabilities. TOM HARKIN's work to protect the disadvantaged hasn't been just reactive, it has been preventative.

TOM has lost four siblings to cancer. In response to that heartbreak, what has he done? Senator HARKIN fought to double the funding for groundbreaking medical research at the National Institutes of Health. He had a partner in this for many years, Arlen Specter from Pennsylvania. They worked on that subcommittee, Labor-HHS, and Appropriations. Some will remember that this was an unbelievable thing he did to force us to spend more money on medical research. But in hindsight, what a blessing this was for America and for Members of the Senate who voted for this. It was good for us, and it was good for the country. It was good for our constituents. With the extra money NIH got, they have engaged in a landmark effort to cure cancer, heart disease, and a myriad of other diseases.

We have a long way to go. Funding hasn't been adequate the last 6 years. The only boost we got in NIH funding was in the stimulus, the first few months of the Obama administration where we got additional money. That was done as a result of the work by TOM HARKIN and Arlen Specter, and that money now is not there. We need to do more for the National Institutes of Health.

TOM HARKIN has been tireless. He worked to triple the funding for the Centers for Disease Control. In fact, in ObamaCare he is the one who was responsible for the prevention title in that bill.

He has spent his career coming to the defense of the defenseless. A longtime defender of human rights, TOM has worked to fight child labor, both domestically and abroad. His tireless efforts gave him the U.S. Labor Department's Award for the Elimination of Child Labor.

I have spent much of my Senate life on the Senate floor. I can remember when I would look and see one of his staff come to the floor, and I thought: Oh, no. I knew we were in for some trouble. His name was Richard Bender. I really have such admiration for Senator HARKIN's staff, but it was epitomized when Richard Bender walked in this door because I knew HARKIN was going to do something we had not planned. Sometimes it took a lot longer to get things done because of Bender and HARKIN, but in the end it was always better for our country.

So after a lifetime of service, TOM will finally be able to spend his post-Senate time in another direction, still involved in a form of public service. I have such great admiration for Ruth, whom I know extremely well. I don't know Amy and Jenny, his daughters, but I do know they are going to be able to spend a little more time with their dad and her husband.

On a side note, TOM HARKIN is one of the few Senators who has been to my home in Searchlight. I was there one day, and I got a call. He said: ''Are you going to be home?''

''Yes.''

''Do you mind if we drop by?''

''No, I don't mind if you drop by.''

So within an hour he was at my home in Searchlight.

So as TOM HARKIN closes a chapter of service to the American people, I salute TOM HARKIN on a job very well done. He has become the longest-serving Democratic Senator in Iowa's history, and he will be greatly missed.

## RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOKER). The Republican leader is recognized.

## HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

### PRIVATE FIRST CLASS BRANDON T. PICKERING

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to a fallen soldier from Kentucky who was lost in battle. PFC Brandon T. Pickering of Fort Thomas, KY, died on April 10, 2011, in Germany from wounds sustained on April 8 in Wardak Province, Afghanistan, when enemy combatants attacked his unit with small arms fire and a rocket-propelled grenade. He was 21 years old.

For his service in uniform, Private First Class Pickering received several awards, medals, and decorations, including the Bronze Star Medal, the Purple Heart Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Overseas Service Ribbon, the Army Good Conduct Medal, the NATO Medal, and the Combat Infantryman Badge.

Says Tammy Moore, Brandon's mother:

> To know Brandon was to know love and laughter.
>
> When Brandon was boarding the plane to go back to Afghanistan, he turned and looked at me and I thought, ''My God, my son's a man.'' It was the first time I looked at him and didn't see him as my little boy.

Brandon grew up in Fort Thomas, in northern Kentucky and attended Woodfill Elementary, Highlands Middle School, and Highlands High School. As a kid growing up he loved to fish and played baseball and football. Brandon also practiced tae kwon do as a kid, and he earned his black belt by age 10.

Brandon's high school classmates and teachers remember him as an unassuming student with a big heart, a good sense of humor, and a dedication to helping others.

Says Highlands High School principal Brian Roberts:

> As a school, we join the Fort Thomas community and the family in mourning his loss.

Says former high school classmate Stephanie Orleck:

> Even on bad days, I was always able to turn to Brandon to bring out a smile on my face.

Brandon also had a mischievous side. His mother recalls:

> Brandon loved a good prank. In high school he decided it would be funny to place a mouse trap in another student's locker. When the principal called him, he admitted it right away.

That was the worst trouble Brandon ever gave his parents.

As a teenager, Brandon also enjoyed the freedom that came with his driver's license.

> While teaching Brandon how to drive, he told me, ''Mom, I know you don't want to hear this, but this is the happiest I've ever been.''
>
> I told him, ''Brandon, I know you don't want to hear this, but this is the most scared I've ever been!''

After graduating high school in 2008, Brandon attended Cincinnati State.

Tammy recalls:

> After two semesters, he told me he was thinking of joining the Army. I asked him to give school another semester and if he still felt the same, I would support his decision. The third semester came and went, and Brandon was firm on his decision.

He enlisted and in September 2009 he left for basic training at Fort Benning, GA. After basic training he was stationed at Fort Polk, LA.

Tammy said:

> There was a small town outside of Fort Polk named Pickering; Brandon thought that was neat and so did I.
>
> Brandon was an only child, but when he got to Fort Polk he found brothers.

Assigned to Fort Polk in April of 2010, Brandon was assigned to the 1st Platoon, Company C, 2nd Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division. He was soon deployed to Afghanistan for Operation Enduring Freedom in October of 2010. Part of a two-man machinegun team, Brandon was 6 months into his first combat tour when he was fatally wounded.

Brandon was flown to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany before he died. Because of this, his family was able to be with him before he passed away.

Brandon made one final gift by volunteering to be an organ donor. His final sacrifice was an offering of life for four Germans, including a 6-year-old girl.

Tammy said:

> Even in his death, Brandon saved the lives of four people.
>
> I often wondered how I could have raised such a wonderful human being and then I think, only by the grace of God.

The Fort Thomas, KY, road where Brandon grew up was fittingly renamed in his honor as a permanent reminder of his life and his deeds. The portion of River Road in Fort Thomas that runs from State Route 8 along the Ohio River to South Fort Thomas Avenue next to the Cincinnati VA Medical Center is now named the Private First Class Brandon T. Pickering Memorial Highway.

We are thinking of Brandon's family as I recount his story for my Senate colleagues, including his mother Tammy Moore, his father David Pickering, his grandfather Thomas Pickering, and many other beloved family members and friends.

Brandon was laid to rest with full military honors at the Alexandria Cemetery in Alexandria, KY. His tombstone bears the words, ''Live a life worthy of my sacrifice.''

Tammy had some final thoughts on the words that mark her son's grave.

> People should think about that—not just for my son, but for all the sons and daughters, and the ones in the past.
>
> What people have sacrificed to keep this country free—freedom isn't free, and it's not cheap. It comes at a high cost, and we all have a responsibility to each other and to this nation.

I couldn't agree more with Tammy Moore's thoughts, and I want her to know that this Senate certainly does recognize the responsibility we have as a nation to honor and always remember the sacrifices of brave heroes like her son, PFC Brandon T. Pickering. We are in awe of his life of service, and we are humbled by his final sacrifice. From Germany to Afghanistan to Fort Thomas, we can see the lives he touched and the people he left better off for having known him.

## RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

## MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business, for debate only, until 10:30 a.m., with the time equally divided in the usual form.

The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I am looking at the clock, and I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be able to continue in morning business for up to 5 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## WELCOMING THE GUEST CHAPLAIN

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD will show the introduction of and prayer by our visiting Chaplain today, Father Claude Pomerleau of Portland, OR, a member of the Holy Cross priests. That is as much of a thumbnail as saying any one of us is a U.S. Senator, period. There is a lot more to it.

Claude Pomerleau has been nearly 50 years a priest. I know because he is my brother-in-law, and my wife Marcelle and I, as well as his wonderful parents, Phil and Cecile Pomerleau, joined him in Rome nearly 50 years ago when he was ordained a priest. My family—my parents, my brothers and sisters, and also our children—has always had such a wonderful relationship with Father Pomerleau. It is great now to see the young grandchildren come in and give him a hug and say: Hi, Uncle Claude.

I also look at his distinguished career. He is not just a brother and brother-in-law, an uncle and friend, he is a man who has taught, speaks many languages, and who has a Ph.D. from the University of Denver. He teaches now at the University of Portland even in semiretirement and also in Santiago, where he is a well-respected visiting professor, and where I am told his Spanish is like that of a native.

He was born in Vermont. His parents are French Canadians, two people who strongly practiced their religion, believed in it, and brought up their children speaking French at home. They instilled in him the values that really make our country great and make a human being even greater.

He has been a mentor. He has been a moral anchor for our family for decades. I think of him being on the altar as a young altar boy at the time Marcelle and I were married 52 years ago, and he has been part of our lives and our marriage ever since. He is the man we turn to when we want guidance. He is a man both of us love greatly. And I would like to say, as the longest serving Member of the Senate, what an honor it was to have him open with the prayer.

Mr. President, I thank my colleagues for allowing this.

I yield the floor.

## CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

### CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will be 2 minutes of debate prior to a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the Lodge nomination.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent all time be yielded back.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, all time is yielded back.

Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Virginia Tyler Lodge, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Patty Murray, Tom Udall, Brian Schatz, Charles E. Schumer, Barbara Boxer, Benjamin L. Cardin, Richard Blumenthal, Jeff Merkley, Al Franken, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Martin Heinrich, Elizabeth Warren, Richard J. Durbin, Christopher Murphy, Bernard Sanders.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Virginia Tyler Lodge, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL), and the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 63, nays 32, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 318 Ex.]

YEAS—63

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Alexander | Flake | Murkowski |
| Ayotte | Franken | Murphy |
| Baldwin | Gillibrand | Murray |
| Begich | Graham | Nelson |
| Bennet | Hagan | Pryor |
| Blumenthal | Harkin | Reed |
| Booker | Heinrich | Reid |
| Boxer | Heitkamp | Sanders |
| Brown | Hirono | Schatz |
| Cantwell | Johnson (SD) | Sessions |
| Cardin | Kaine | Shaheen |
| Carper | King | Shelby |
| Casey | Klobuchar | Stabenow |
| Coats | Leahy | Tester |
| Collins | Levin | Udall (NM) |
| Coons | Manchin | Vitter |
| Corker | Markey | Walsh |
| Cornyn | McCaskill | Warner |
| Donnelly | Menendez | Warren |
| Durbin | Merkley | Whitehouse |
| Feinstein | Mikulski | Wyden |

NAYS—32

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Barrasso | Hatch | Moran |
| Blunt | Heller | Paul |
| Boozman | Hoeven | Portman |
| Burr | Inhofe | Risch |
| Chambliss | Isakson | Roberts |
| Coburn | Johanns | Rubio |
| Cochran | Johnson (WI) | Scott |
| Crapo | Kirk | Thune |
| Enzi | Lee | Toomey |
| Fischer | McCain | Wicker |
| Grassley | McConnell | |

NOT VOTING—5

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Cruz | Rockefeller | Udall (CO) |
| Landrieu | Schumer | |

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 63, the nays are 32.

The motion is agreed to.

## NOMINATION OF VIRGINIA TYLER LODGE TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Virginia Tyler Lodge, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

### CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will be 2 minutes of debate prior to a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the Walter nomination.

Who yields time?

Mr. LEAHY. I ask unanimous consent all time be yielded back.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, all time is yielded back.

Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Ronald Anderson Walter, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Patty Murray, Tom Udall, Brian Schatz, Charles E. Schumer, Barbara Boxer, Benjamin L. Cardin, Richard Blumenthal, Jeff Merkley, Al Franken, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Martin Heinrich, Elizabeth Warren, Richard J. Durbin, Christopher Murphy, Bernard Sanders.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Ronald Anderson Walter, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) and the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 65, nays 31, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 319 Ex.]

YEAS—65

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Alexander | Franken | Murray |
| Ayotte | Gillibrand | Nelson |
| Baldwin | Graham | Pryor |
| Begich | Hagan | Reed |
| Bennet | Harkin | Reid |
| Blumenthal | Heinrich | Rockefeller |
| Booker | Heitkamp | Sanders |
| Boxer | Hirono | Schatz |
| Brown | Johnson (SD) | Schumer |
| Cantwell | Kaine | Sessions |
| Cardin | King | Shaheen |
| Carper | Klobuchar | Shelby |
| Casey | Leahy | Stabenow |
| Coats | Levin | Tester |
| Collins | Manchin | Udall (NM) |
| Coons | Markey | Vitter |
| Corker | McCaskill | Walsh |
| Cornyn | Menendez | Warner |
| Donnelly | Merkley | Warren |
| Durbin | Mikulski | Whitehouse |
| Feinstein | Murkowski | Wyden |
| Flake | Murphy | |

NAYS—31

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Barrasso | Heller | Paul |
| Blunt | Hoeven | Portman |
| Boozman | Inhofe | Risch |
| Burr | Isakson | Roberts |
| Coburn | Johanns | Rubio |
| Cochran | Johnson (WI) | Scott |
| Crapo | Kirk | Thune |
| Enzi | Lee | Toomey |
| Fischer | McCain | Wicker |
| Grassley | McConnell | |
| Hatch | Moran | |

NOT VOTING—4

| | |
|---|---|
| Chambliss | Landrieu |
| Cruz | Udall (CO) |

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 65, the nays are 31.

The motion is agreed to.

NOMINATION OF RONALD ANDERSON WALTER TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The assistant bill clerk reported the nomination of Ronald Anderson Walter, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business for debate only until 6 p.m., with the time equally divided in the usual form.

The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, what is the matter before the Senate?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate is currently in a period of morning business for debate only.

The majority leader.

CIA OVERSIGHT REPORT

Mr. REID. Mr. President, today for the first time the American people are going to learn the full truth about torture that took place under the CIA during the Bush administration. I have served for 22 years with the chairman of the Intelligence Committee, DIANNE FEINSTEIN. She is dignified. She is very thorough in whatever she does. She is intelligent and she cares a great deal. She has proven herself to be the one of the most thoughtful and hard-working Members of this body. The people of California are, as well they should be, very proud of this good woman.

I am appreciative of the work the Senate Intelligence Committee has done under her direction. We are here today because of her efforts. She has persevered, overcome obstacles that have been significant, to make this study available to the American people.

I am gratified for the work done by Democrats on the Intelligence Committee. We are here today, again I repeat, because of their efforts. We do not often mention, as certainly we should, the work of our staffs. I want to throw a big bouquet to the intelligence staff. They have worked so hard. Under the direction of Senator FEINSTEIN, they have worked for 7 years—7 years—working on this vitally important matter. It is a report that was not easy, but they did it.

Here is what they did: Committee members and staff combed through more than 6 million pages—6 million pages—of documents to formulate the report. The full committee report is 6,700 pages long—7 years, I repeat, in the making.

The unclassified executive summary, which is going to be released today, is more than 500 pages. I want everyone to understand, the Select Committee on Intelligence, along with the House Committee on Intelligence, is the only group of people who provide oversight over our intelligence community. They actually have the ability to investigate what happened. No one else. Not the press, not Senators, nor the public, or outside organizations have the ability to investigate the CIA. But we did it. The implications of this report are profound. Not only is torture wrong, but it does not work. For people today, we hear them coming from different places saying, It was great. It was terrific what we did. It has got us so much.

It has got us nothing, except a bad name. Without this report, the American people would not know what actually took place under the CIA's torture program. This critical report highlights the importance of Senate oversight and the role Congress must play in overseeing the executive branch of government. The only way our country can put this episode in the past is to come to terms with what happened and commit to ensuring it will never happen again. This is how we as Americans make our Nation stronger. When we realize there is a problem, we seek the evidence; we study it; we learn from it. Then we set about to enact change. Americans must learn from our mistakes. We learned about the Pentagon papers. They were helpful to us as a country. The Iran contra affair. I was here when it went on. It was hard on us, but it was important that we did this. More recently, what happened in that prison in Iraq, Abu-Ghraib.

We have three separate branches of government, the judicial, the executive, and the legislative branches of government. To me, this work done by the Intelligence Committee, of which the Presiding Officer is a member, cries out for our Constitution, three separate, equal branches of government.

We are here today to talk about the work done by the legislative branch of government. We can protect our national security as a country without resorting to methods like torture. They are contrary to the fundamental values of America. So I call upon the administration, the Intelligence Committee, and my colleagues in Congress to join me in that commitment, that what took place, the torture program, is not in keeping with our country.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE STUDY OF THE CIA'S DETENTION AND INTERROGATION PROGRAM

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I want to thank the leader for his words and for his support. They are extraordinarily welcome and appreciated.

Today, a 500-page executive summary of the Senate Intelligence Committee's 5½ year review of the CIA's detention and interrogation program, which was conducted between 2002 and 2009, is being released publicly. The executive summary, which is going out today, is backed by a 6,700-page classified and unredacted report with 38,000 footnotes which can be released, if necessary, at a later time.

The report released today examines the CIA's secret overseas detention of at least 119 individuals and the use of coercive interrogation techniques, in some cases amounting to torture.

Over the past couple of weeks, I have gone through a great deal of introspection about whether to delay the release of this report to a later time. This clearly is a period of turmoil and instability in many parts of the world. Unfortunately, that is going to continue for the foreseeable future whether or not this report is released.

There are those who will seize upon the report and say ''See what the Americans did,'' and they will try to use it to justify evil actions or incite more violence. We can't prevent that, but history will judge us by our commitment to a just society governed by law and the willingness to face an ugly truth and say ''never again.''

There may never be the right time to release this report. The instability we see today will not be resolved in months or years. But this report is too important to shelve indefinitely.

My determination to release it has also increased due to a campaign of mistaken statements and press articles launched against the report before anyone has had the chance to read it. As a matter of fact, the report is just now, as I speak, being released. This is what it looks like.

Senator CHAMBLISS asked me if we could have the minority report bound with the majority report. For this draft that is not possible. In the filed draft it will be bound together. But this is what the summary of the 6,000 pages looks like.

My words give me no pleasure. I am releasing this report because I know there are thousands of employees at the CIA who do not condone what I will speak about this morning and who work day and night, long hours, within the law, for America's security in what is certainly a difficult world. My colleagues on the Intelligence Committee and I are proud of them, just as everyone in this Chamber is, and we will always support them.

In reviewing the study in the past few days, with the decision looming over the public release, I was struck by a quote found on page 126 of the executive summary. It cites a former CIA inspector general, John Helgerson, who in 2005 wrote the following to the then-Director of the CIA, which clearly states the situation with respect to this report years later as well:

> We have found that the Agency over the decades has continued to get itself in messes related to interrogation programs for one overriding reason: we do not document and learn from our experience—each generation of officers is left to improvise anew, with problematic results for our officers as individuals and for our Agency.

I believe that to be true. I agree with Mr. Helgerson. His comments are true today. But this must change.

On March 11, 2009, the committee voted 14 to 1 to begin a review of the CIA's detention and interrogation program. Over the past 5 years a small team of committee investigators pored over the more than 6.3 million pages of CIA records the leader spoke about to complete this report or what we call the study. It shows that the CIA's actions a decade ago are a stain on our values and on our history. The release of this 500-page summary cannot remove that stain, but it can and does say to our people and the world that America is big enough to admit when it is wrong and confident enough to learn from its mistakes. Releasing this report is an important step to restore our values and show the world that we are, in fact, a just and lawful society.

Over the next hour I wish to lay out for Senators and the American public the report's key findings and conclusions. I ask that when I complete this, Senator MCCAIN be recognized. Before I get to the substance of the report, I wish to make a few comments about why it is so important that we make this study public.

All of us have vivid memories of that Tuesday morning when terrorists struck New York, Washington, DC, and Pennsylvania. Make no mistake—on September 11, 2001, war was declared on the United States. Terrorists struck our financial center, they struck our military center, and they tried to strike our political center and would have had brave and courageous passengers not brought down the plane. We still vividly remember the mix of outrage, deep despair, and sadness as we watched from Washington—smoke rising from the Pentagon, the passenger plane lying in a Pennsylvania field, and the sound of bodies striking canopies at ground level as innocents jumped to the ground below from the World Trade Center. Mass terror that we often see abroad had struck us directly in our front yard, killing 3,000 innocent men, women, and children.

What happened? We came together as a nation with one singular mission: Bring those who committed these acts to justice. But it is at this point where the values of America come into play, where the rule of law and the fundamental principles of right and wrong become important.

In 1990 the Senate ratified the Convention against Torture. The convention makes clear that this ban against torture is absolute. It states:

> No exceptional circumstances whatsoever—

Including what I just read—

> whether a state of war or a threat or war, internal political instability or any other public emergency, may be invoked as a justification of torture.

Nonetheless, it was argued that the need for information on possible additional terrorist plots after 9/11 made extraordinary interrogation techniques necessary.

Even if one were to set aside all of the moral arguments, our review was a meticulous and detailed examination of records. It finds that coercive interrogation techniques did not produce the vital, otherwise unavailable intelligence the CIA has claimed.

I will go into further detail on this issue in a moment, but let me make clear that these comments are not a condemnation of the CIA as a whole. The CIA plays an incredibly important part in our Nation's security and has thousands of dedicated and talented employees.

What we have found is that a surprisingly few people were responsible for designing, carrying out, and managing this program. Two contractors developed and led the interrogations. There was little effective oversight. Analysts, on occasion, gave operational orders about interrogations, and CIA management of the program was weak and diffused.

Our final report was approved by a bipartisan vote of 9 to 6 in December of 2012 and exposes brutality in stark contrast to our values as a nation.

This effort was focused on the actions of the CIA from late 2001 to January of 2009. The report does include considerable detail on the CIA's interactions with the White House, the Departments of Justice, State, and Defense, and the Senate Intelligence Committee.

The review is based on contemporaneous records and documents during the time the program was in place and active. These documents are important because they aren't based on recollection, they aren't based on revision, and they aren't a rationalization a decade later. It is these documents, referenced repeatedly in thousands of footnotes, that provide the factual basis for the study's conclusions. The committee's majority staff reviewed more than 6.3 million pages of these documents provided by the CIA, as well as records from other departments and agencies. These records include finished intelligence assessments, CIA operational and intelligence cables, memoranda, emails, real-time chat sessions, inspector general reports, testimony before Congress, pictures, and other internal records.

It is true that we didn't conduct our own interviews, and I wish to state why that was the case. In 2009 there was an ongoing review by the Department of Justice Special Prosecutor, John Durham. On August 24, Attorney General Holder expanded that review. This occurred 6 months after our study had begun. Durham's original investigation of the CIA's destruction of interrogation videotapes was broadened to include possible criminal actions of CIA employees in the course of CIA detention and interrogation activities.

At the time, the committee's vice chairman, Kit Bond, withdrew the minority's participation in the study, citing the Attorney General's expanded investigation as the reason.

The Department of Justice refused to coordinate its investigation with the Intelligence Committee's review. As a result, possible interviewees could be subject to additional liability if they were interviewed, and the CIA, citing the Attorney General's investigation, would not instruct its employees to participate in interviews.

Notwithstanding, I am very confident of the factual accuracy and comprehensive nature of this report for three reasons:

No. 1, it is 6.3 million pages of documents reviewed, and they reveal records of actions as those actions took place, not through recollections more than a decade later.

No. 2, the CIA and CIA senior officers have taken the opportunity to explain their views on CIA detention and interrogation operations. They have done this in on-the-record statements in classified committee hearings, written testimony and answers to questions, and through the formal response to the committee in June 2013 after reading this study.

No. 3, the committee had access to and utilized an extensive set of reports of interviews conducted by the CIA inspector general and the CIA's oral history program.

So while we could not conduct new interviews of individuals, we did utilize transcripts or summaries of interviews of those directly engaged in detention and interrogation operations. These interviews occurred at the time the program was operational and covered the exact topics we would have asked about had we conducted interviews ourselves.

These interview reports and transcripts included but were not limited to the following: George Tenet, Director of the CIA when the Agency took custody and interrogated the majority of detainees; Jose Rodriguez, Director of the CIA's Counterterrorism Center, a key player in the program; CIA General Counsel Scott Mueller; CIA Deputy Director of Operations James Pavitt; CIA Acting General Counsel John Rizzo; CIA Deputy Director John McLaughlin; and a variety of interrogators, lawyers, medical personnel, senior counterterrorism analysts, and managers of the detention and interrogation program.

The best place to start on how we got into this situation—and I am delighted that the previous Chairman Senator ROCKEFELLER is on the floor—is a little more than 8 years ago, on September 6, 2006, when the committee met to be briefed by then-Director Michael Hayden.

At that 2006 meeting the full committee learned for the first time—the first time—of the use of so-called enhanced interrogation techniques or EITs.

It was a short meeting, in part because President Bush was making a public speech later that day disclosing officially for the first time the existence of CIA black sites and announcing

the transfer of 14 detainees from CIA custody to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. It was the first time the interrogation program was explained to the full committee, as details had previously been limited to the chairman and vice chairman.

Then, on December 7, 2007, The New York Times reported that CIA personnel in 2005 had destroyed videotapes of the interrogation of two CIA detainees—the CIA's first detainee Abu Zubaydah, as well as Abd al-Rahim al-Nashiri. The committee had not been informed of the destruction of the tapes.

Days later, on December 11, 2007, the committee held a hearing on the destruction of the videotapes. Director Hayden, the primary witness, testified the CIA had concluded the destruction of videotapes was acceptable, in part because Congress had not yet requested to see them. My source is our committee's transcript of the hearing on December 11, 2007. Director Hayden stated that if the committee had asked for the videotapes, they would have been provided. But of course the committee had not known the videotapes existed.

We now know from CIA emails and records that the videotapes were destroyed shortly after CIA attorneys raised concerns that Congress might find out about the tapes.

In any case, at that same December 11 committee hearing, Director Hayden told the committee that CIA cables related to the interrogation sessions depicted in the videotapes were '' . . . a more than adequate representation of the tapes and therefore, if you want them, we will give you access to them.'' That is a quote from our transcript of the December 11, 2007, hearing.

Senator ROCKEFELLER, then-chairman of the committee, designated two members of the committee staff to review the cables describing the interrogation sessions of Abu Zubaydah and al-Nashiri. Senator Bond, then-vice chairman, similarly directed two of his staffers to review the cables. The designated staff members completed their review and compiled a summary of the content of the CIA cables by early 2009, by which time I had become chairman.

The description in the cables of CIA's interrogations and the treatment of detainees presented a starkly different picture from Director Hayden's testimony before the committee. They described brutal, around-the-clock interrogations, especially of Abu Zubaydah, in which multiple coercive techniques were used in combination and with substantial repetition. It was an ugly, visceral description.

The summary also indicated that Abu Zubaydah and al-Nashiri did not, as a result of the use of these so-called EITs, provide the kind of intelligence that led the CIA to stop terrorist plots or arrest additional suspects. As a result, I think it is fair to say the entire committee was concerned and it approved the scope of an investigation by a vote of 14 to 1, and the work began.

In my March 11, 2014, floor speech about the study, I described how in 2009 the committee came to an agreement with the new CIA Director, Leon Panetta, for access to documents and other records about the CIA's detention and interrogation program. I will not repeat that here. From 2009 to 2012, our staff conducted a massive and unprecedented review of CIA records. Draft sections of the report were produced by late 2011 and shared with the full committee. The final report was completed in December 2012 and approved by the committee by a bipartisan vote of 9 to 6.

After that vote, I sent the full report to the President and asked the administration to provide comments on it before it was released. Six months later, in June of 2013, the CIA responded. I directed then that if the CIA pointed out any error in our report, we would fix it, and we did fix one bullet point that did not impact our findings and conclusions. If the CIA came to a different conclusion than the report did, we would note that in the report and explain our reasons for disagreeing, if we disagreed. You will see some of that documented in the footnotes of that executive summary as well as in the 6,000 pages.

In April 2014, the committee prepared an updated version of the full study and voted 12 to 3 to declassify and release the executive summary, findings and conclusions and minority and additional views.

On August 1, we received a declassified version from the executive branch. It was immediately apparent the redactions to our report prevented a clear and understandable reading of the study and prevented us from substantiating the findings and conclusions, so we obviously objected.

For the past 4 months, the committee and the CIA, the Director of National Intelligence, and the White House have engaged in a lengthy negotiation over the redactions to the report. We have been able to include some more information in the report today without sacrificing sources and methods or our national security.

I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD following my remarks a letter from the White House, dated yesterday, transmitting the unclassified parts of report, and it also points out that the executive summary is 93 percent complete and that the redactions amount to 7 percent.

Mr. President, this has been a long process. The work began 7 years ago when Senator ROCKEFELLER directed committee staff to review the CIA cables describing the interrogation sessions of Abu Zubaydah and al-Nashiri. It has been very difficult, but I believe documentation and the findings and conclusions will make clear how this program was morally, legally, and administratively misguided and that this Nation should never again engage in these tactics.

Let me now turn to the contents of the study. As I noted, we have 20 findings and conclusions which fall into four general categories: First, the CIA's enhanced interrogation techniques were not an effective way to gather intelligence information; second, the CIA provided extensive amounts of inaccurate information about the operation of the program and its effectiveness to the White House, the Department of Justice, Congress, the CIA inspector general, the media, and the American public; third, the CIA's management of the program was inadequate and deeply flawed; and fourth, the CIA program was far more brutal than people were led to believe.

Let me describe each category in more detail. The first set of findings and conclusions concern the effectiveness or lack thereof of the CIA interrogation program. The committee found that the CIA's coercive interrogation techniques were not an effective means of acquiring accurate intelligence or gaining detainee cooperation.

The CIA and other defenders of the program have repeatedly claimed the use of so-called interrogation techniques was necessary to get detainees to provide critical information and to bring detainees to a ''state of compliance,'' in which they would cooperate and provide information. The study concludes both claims are inaccurate.

The report is very specific in how it evaluates the CIA's claims on the effectiveness and necessity of its enhanced interrogation techniques. Specifically, we used the CIA's own definition of effectiveness as ratified and approved by the Department of Justice's Office of Legal Counsel. The CIA claimed that the EITs were necessary to obtain ''otherwise unavailable'' information that could not be obtained from any other source to stop terrorist attacks and save American lives, that is a claim we conclude is inaccurate.

We took 20 examples that the CIA itself claimed to show the success of these interrogations. These include cases of terrorist plots stopped or terrorists captured. The CIA used these examples in presentations to the White House, in testimony to Congress, in submissions to the Department of Justice, and ultimately to the American people.

Some of the claims are well known: the capture of Khalid Shaikh Mohammed, the prevention of attacks against the Library Tower in Los Angeles, and the takedown of Osama bin Laden. Other claims were made only in classified settings to the White House, Congress, and Department of Justice.

In each case, the CIA claimed that critical and unique information came from one or more detainees in its custody after they were subjected to the CIA's coercive techniques, and that information led to a specific counterterrorism success. Our staff reviewed every one of the 20 cases and not a single case holds up.

In every single one of these cases, at least one of the following was true: One, the intelligence community had

information separate from the use of EITs that led to the terrorist disruption or capture; two, information from a detainee subjected to EITs played no role in the claimed disruption or capture; and three, the purported terrorist plot either did not exist or posed no real threat to Americans or U.S. interests.

Some critics have suggested the study concludes that no intelligence was ever provided from any detainee the CIA held. That is false and the study makes no such claim. What is true is that actionable intelligence that was ''otherwise unavailable'' was not obtained using these coercive interrogation techniques.

The report also chronicles where the use of interrogation techniques that do not involve physical force were effective. Specifically, the report provides examples where interrogators had sufficient information to confront detainees with facts, know when they were lying and when they applied rapport-building techniques that were developed and honed by the U.S. military, the FBI, and more recently the interagency High-Value Detainee Interrogation Group, called the HIG, that these techniques produced good intelligence.

Let me make a couple of additional comments on the claimed effectiveness of CIA interrogations. At no time did the CIA's coercive interrogation techniques lead to the collection of intelligence on an imminent threat that many believe was the justification for the use of these techniques. The committee never found an example of this hypothetical ticking timebomb scenario.

The use of coercive technique methods regularly resulted in fabricated information. Sometimes the CIA actually knew detainees were lying. Other times the CIA acted on false information, diverting resources and leading officers or contractors to falsely believe they were acquiring unique or actionable intelligence and that its interrogations were working when they were not.

Internally, CIA officers often called into question the effectiveness of the CIA's interrogation techniques, noting how the techniques failed to elicit detainee cooperation or produce accurate information.

The report includes numerous examples of CIA officers questioning the agency's claims, but these contradictions were marginalized and not presented externally.

The second set of findings and conclusions is that the CIA provided extensive inaccurate information about the program and its effectiveness to the White House, the Department of Justice, Congress, the CIA inspector general, the media, and the American public.

This conclusion is somewhat personal for me. I remember clearly when Director Hayden briefed the Intelligence Committee for the first time on the so-called EITs at that September 2006 committee meeting. He referred specifically to a ''tummy slap,'' among other techniques, and presented the entire set of techniques as minimally harmful and applied in a highly clinical and professional manner. They were not.

The committee's report demonstrates that these techniques were physically very harmful, and that the constraints that existed on paper in Washington did not match the way techniques were used at CIA sites around the world.

Of particular note was the treatment of Abu Zubaydah over a span of 17 days in August 2002. This involved nonstop interrogation and abuse, 24/7, from August 4 to August 21, and included multiple forms of deprivation and physical assault. The description of this period, first written up by our staff in early 2009 while Senator ROCKEFELLER was chairman, was what prompted this full review.

But the inaccurate and incomplete descriptions go far beyond that. The CIA provided inaccurate memoranda and explanations to the Department of Justice while its Office of Legal Counsel was considering the legality of the coercive techniques.

In those communications to the Department of Justice, the CIA claimed the following: The coercive techniques would not be used with excessive repetition; detainees would always have an opportunity to provide information prior to the use of the techniques; the techniques were to be used in progression, starting with the least aggressive and proceeding only if needed; medical personnel would make sure that interrogations wouldn't cause serious harm, and they could intervene at any time to stop interrogations; interrogators were carefully vetted and highly trained, and each technique was to be used in a specific way without deviation, and only with specific approval for the interrogator and detainee involved.

None of these assurances, which the Department of Justice relied on to form its legal opinions, were consistently or even routinely carried out.

In many cases, important information was withheld from policymakers. For example, foreign intelligence committee chairman Bob Graham asked a number of questions after he was first briefed in September of 2002, but the CIA refused to answer him, effectively stonewalling him until he left the committee at the end of the year.

In another example, the CIA, in coordination with White House officials and staff, initially withheld information of the CIA's interrogation techniques from Secretary of State Colin Powell and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld. There are CIA records stating that Colin Powell wasn't told about the program at first because there were concerns that ''Powell would blow his stack if he were briefed.'' Source: Email from John Rizzo dated July 31, 2003.

CIA records clearly indicate, and definitively, that after he was briefed on the CIA's first detainee, Abu Zubaydah, the CIA didn't tell President Bush about the full nature of the EITs until April 2006. That is what the records indicate.

The CIA similarly withheld information or provided false information to the CIA inspector general during his conduct of a special review by the IG in 2004.

Incomplete and inaccurate information from the CIA was used in documents provided to the Department of Justice and as a basis for President Bush's speech on September 6, 2006, in which he publicly acknowledged the CIA program for the first time.

In all of these cases, other CIA officers acknowledged internally that information the CIA had provided was wrong.

The CIA also misled other CIA and White House officials. When Vice President Cheney's counsel David Addington asked CIA General Counsel Scott Muller in 2003 about the CIA's videotaping the waterboarding of detainees, Muller deliberately told him that videotapes ''were not being made,'' but did not disclose that videotapes of previous waterboarding sessions had been made and still existed. Source: E-mail from Scott Muller dated June 7, 2003.

There are many more examples in the committee's report. All are documented.

The third set of findings and conclusions notes the various ways in which CIA management of the Detention and Interrogation Program—from its inception to its formal termination in January of 2009—was inadequate and deeply flawed.

There is no doubt that the Detention and Interrogation Program was, by any measure, a major CIA undertaking. It raised significant legal and policy issues and involved significant resources and funding. It was not, however, managed as a significant CIA program. Instead, it had limited oversight and lacked formal direction and management.

For example, in the 6 months between being granted detention authority and taking custody of its first detainee, Abu Zubaydah, the CIA had not identified and prepared a suitable detention site. It had not researched effective interrogation techniques or developed a legal basis for the use of interrogation techniques outside of the rapport-building techniques that were official CIA policy until that time.

In fact, there is no indication the CIA reviewed its own history—that is just what Helgerson was saying in 2005—with coercive interrogation tactics. As the executive summary notes, the CIA had engaged in rough interrogations in the past.

In fact, the CIA had previously sent a letter to the Intelligence Committee in 1989—and here is the quote—that ''inhumane physical or psychological techniques are counterproductive because they do not produce intelligence and will probably result in false answers.''

That was a letter from John Helgerson, CIA Director of Congressional Affairs, dated January 8, 1989.

However, in late 2001 and early 2002, rather than research interrogation practices and coordinate with other parts of the government with extensive expertise in detention and interrogation of terrorist suspects, the CIA engaged two contract psychologists who had never conducted interrogations themselves or ever operated detention facilities.

As the CIA captured or received custody of detainees through 2002, it maintained separate lines of management at headquarters for different detention facilities.

No individual or office was in charge of the Detention and Interrogation Program until January of 2003, by which point more than one-third of CIA detainees identified in our review had been detained and interrogated.

One clear example of flawed CIA management was the poorly managed detention facility referred to in our report by the code name COBALT to hide the actual name of the facility. It began operations in September of 2002. The facility kept few formal records of the detainees housed there, and untrained CIA officers conducted frequent unauthorized and unsupervised interrogations using techniques that were not, and never became, part of the CIA's formal enhanced interrogation program.

The CIA placed a junior officer with no relevant experience in charge of the site. In November 2002, an otherwise healthy detainee—who was being held mostly nude and chained to a concrete floor—died at the facility from what is believed to have been hypothermia.

In interviews conducted in 2003 by the CIA Office of the Inspector General, CIA's leadership acknowledged that they had little or no awareness of operations at this specific CIA detention site, and some CIA senior officials believed, erroneously, that enhanced interrogation techniques were not used there.

The CIA, in its June 2013 response to the committee's report, agreed that there were management failures in the program, but asserted that they were corrected by early 2003. While the study found that management failures improved somewhat, we found they persisted until the end of the program.

Among the numerous management shortcomings identified in the report are the following: The CIA used poorly trained and nonvetted personnel.

Individuals were deployed—in particular, interrogators—without relevant training or experience. Due to the CIA's redactions to the report, there are limits to what I can say in this regard, but it is a clear fact that the CIA deployed officers who had histories of personnel, ethical, and professional problems of a serious nature. These included histories of violence and abusive treatment of others that should have called into question their employment with the U.S. Government, let alone their suitability to participate in a sensitive CIA covert action program.

The two contractors that CIA allowed to develop, operate, and assess its interrogation operations conducted numerous ''inherently governmental functions'' that never should have been outsourced to contractors. These contractors, referred to in the report in special pseudonyms, SWIGERT and DUNBAR, developed the list of so-called enhanced interrogation techniques that the CIA employed.

They developed a list of so-called enhanced interrogation techniques that the CIA employed. They personally conducted interrogations of some of the CIA's most significant detainees, using the techniques including the waterboarding of Abu Zubaydah, Khalid Shaikh Mohammed, and al-Nashiri.

The contractors provided the official evaluations of whether detainees' psychological states allowed for the continued use of the enhanced techniques, even for some detainees they themselves were interrogating or had interrogated. Evaluating the psychological state of the very detainees they were interrogating is a clear conflict of interest and a violation of professional guidelines.

The CIA relied on these two contractors to evaluate the interrogation program they had devised and in which they had obvious financial interests. Again, it is a clear conflict of interest and an avoidance of responsibility by the CIA.

In 2005, the two contractors formed a company specifically for the purpose of expanding their work with the CIA. From 2005 to 2008, the CIA outsourced almost all aspects of its detention and interrogation program to this company as part of a contract valued at more than $180 million. Ultimately, not all contract options were exercised. However, the CIA has paid these two contractors and their company more than $80 million.

Of the 119 individuals found to have been detained by the CIA during the life of the program, the committee found that at least 26 were wrongfully held. These are cases where the CIA itself determined that it had not met the standard for detention set out in the 2001 Memorandum of Notification which governed the covert action. Detainees often remained in custody for months after the CIA determined they should have been released. CIA records provide insufficient information to justify the detention of many other detainees.

Due to poor recordkeeping, a full accounting of how many specific detainees were held and how they were specifically treated while in custody may never be known. Similarly, in specific instances we found that enhanced interrogation techniques were used without authorization in a manner far different and more brutal than had been authorized by the Office of Legal Counsel and conducted by personnel not approved to use them on detainees.

Decisions about how and when to apply interrogation techniques were ad hoc and not proposed, evaluated, and approved in a manner described by the CIA in written descriptions and testimony about the program. Detainees were often subjected to harsh and brutal interrogation and treatment because CIA analysts believed, often in error, that they knew more information than what they had provided.

Sometimes CIA managers and interrogators in the field were uncomfortable with what they were being asked to do and recommended ending the abuse of a detainee. Repeatedly in such cases they were overruled by people at CIA headquarters who thought they knew better, such as by analysts with no line authority. This shows again how a relatively small number of CIA personnel—perhaps 40 to 50—were making decisions on detention and interrogation despite the better judgments of other CIA officers.

The fourth and final set of findings and conclusions concerns how the interrogations of CIA detainees were absolutely brutal, far worse than the CIA represented them to policymakers and others.

Beginning with the first detainee, Abu Zubaydah, and continuing with others, the CIA applied its so-called enhanced interrogation techniques in combination and in near nonstop fashion for days and even weeks at a time on one detainee. In contrast to the CIA representations, the detainees were subjected to the most aggressive techniques immediately—stripped naked, diapered, physically struck, and put in various painful stress positions for long periods of time. They were deprived of sleep for days—in one case up to 180 hours; that is 7½ days, over a week, with no sleep—usually in standing or in stress positions, at times with their hands tied together over their heads, chained to the ceiling.

In the COBALT facility I previously mentioned, interrogators and guards used what they called rough takedowns in which a detainee was grabbed from his cell, clothes cut off, hooded, and dragged up and down a dirt hallway while being slapped and punched.

The CIA led several detainees to believe they would never be allowed to leave CIA custody alive, suggesting to Abu Zubaydah that he would only leave in a coffin-shaped box. That is from a CIA cable on August 12, 2002.

According to another CIA cable, CIA officers also planned to cremate Zubaydah should he not survive his interrogation. Source: CIA cable, July 15, 2002.

After the news and photographs emerged from the U.S. military detention of Iraqis at Abu Ghraib, the Intelligence Committee held a hearing on the matter on May 12, 2004. Without disclosing any details of its own interrogation program, CIA Director John

McLaughlin testified that CIA interrogations were nothing like what was depicted at Abu Ghraib, the U.S. prison in Iraq where detainees were abused by American personnel. This, of course, was false.

CIA detainees at one facility, described as a dungeon, were kept in complete darkness, constantly shackled in isolated cells with loud noise or music and only a bucket to use for human waste.

The U.S. Bureau of Prisons personnel went to that location in November 2002 and, according to a contemporaneous internal CIA email, told CIA officers they had never ''been in a facility where individuals are so sensory deprived.'' Source: CIA email, sender and recipient redacted, December 5, 2002.

Throughout the program, multiple CIA detainees subjected to interrogations exhibited psychological and behavioral issues including hallucinations, paranoia, insomnia, and attempts at self-harm and self-mutilation. Multiple CIA psychologists identified the lack of human contact experienced by the detainees as a cause of psychiatric problems.

The executive summary includes far more detail than I am going to provide here about things that were in these interrogation sessions, and the summary itself includes only a subset of the treatment of the 119 known CIA detainees. There is far more detail—all documented—in the full 6,700-page study. This briefly summarizes the committee's findings and conclusions.

Before I wrap up, I wish to thank the people who made this undertaking possible. First, I thank Senator JAY ROCKEFELLER. He started this project by directing his staff to review the operational cables that described the first recorded interrogations after we learned that the videotapes of those sessions had been destroyed. That report was what led to this multiyear investigation, and without it we wouldn't have had any sense of what happened.

I thank other Members of the Senate Intelligence Committee, one of whom is on the floor today, from the great State of New Mexico. Others have been on the floor who voted to conduct this investigation and to approve its result and make the report public.

Most importantly, I want to thank the Intelligence Committee staff who performed this work. They are dedicated and committed public officials who sacrificed a significant portion of their lives to see this report through to its publication. They have worked days, nights, and weekends for years in some of the most difficult circumstances. It is no secret to anyone that the CIA does not want this report coming out, and I believe the Nation owes them a debt of gratitude. They are Dan Jones, who has led this review since 2007, and more than anyone else, today's report is a result of his effort. Evan Gottesman and Chad Tanner, the two other members of the study staff, each wrote thousands of pages of the full report and have dedicated themselves and much of their lives to this project. Alissa Starzak, who began this review as co-lead, contributed extensively until her departure from the committee in 2011.

Other key contributors to the drafting, editing, and review of the report were Jennifer Barrett, Nick Basciano, Mike Buchwald, Jim Catella, Eric Chapman, John Dickas, Lorenzo Goco, Andrew Grotto, Tressa Guenov, Clete Johnson, Michael Noblet, Michael Pevzner, Tommy Ross, Caroline Tess, and James Wolfe; and finally, David Grannis, who has been a never-faltering staff director throughout this review.

This study is bigger than the actions of the CIA. It is really about American values and morals. It is about the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, our rule of law. These values exist regardless of the circumstances in which we find ourselves. They exist in peacetime and in wartime, and if we cast aside these values when convenient, we have failed to live by the very precepts that make our Nation a great one.

There is a reason why we carry the banner of a great and just nation. So we submit this study on behalf of the committee to the public in the belief that it will stand the test of time, and with it the report will carry the message: ''Never again.''

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

THE WHITE HOUSE,
*Washington, December 8, 2014.*

Hon. DIANNE FEINSTEIN,
*Chairman, Select Committee on Intelligence, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN FEINSTEIN: I write in response to your letters to the President transmitting versions of the executive summary, findings, and conclusions of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence's report regarding the Central Intelligence Agency's (CIA) former detention and interrogation program.

The President believes that the Agency's former detention and interrogation program was inconsistent with our values as a Nation. To reflect our values, one of his first acts in office was to sign an Executive Order that brought an end to the program.

Since the Committee first delivered a version of its executive summary, findings, and conclusions of the report (report) in April, the Administration has worked in good faith with the Committee on the declassification effort. On August 1, the Administration provided a version of the report, as well as minority and additional views that would declassify 85 percent of the text. Since then, at the request of the Committee, the Administration has continually sought to reduce further the redactions in the report in a manner that also protects U.S. national security. We have appreciated the constructive dialogue with the Committee over the last few months, which allowed us to work through more than 400 of the Committee's requests for declassification.

Today, we are delivering to the Committee a version of the Committee report, as well as minority and additional views, that are over 93 percent declassified. The minimal redactions are the result of a considerable effort by the Director of National Intelligence, working with the CIA, Department of Defense, Department of State, and other agencies, to review and declassify hundreds of pages of information related to the historical CIA program.

As we have shared with you in prior letters and conversations, the President supports making public the declassified version of the Committee's important report as he believes that public scrutiny and debate will help to inform the public's understanding of the program and to ensure that such a program will never be repeated. As we have also shared with you, in advance of release of the Committee report, the Administration has planned to take a series of security steps to prepare our personnel and facilities overseas. We have already initiated those security precautions and will continue to implement them consistent with prior conversations about the timing of the Committee's expected release of its report.

The Committee report reflects a significant five year effort, and we commend the Committee and its staff on its completion. The report also reflects extraordinary cooperation by the Executive Branch to ensure access to the information necessary to review the CIA's former program, including more than six million pages of records. We must now, however, begin to look forward to the future. The men and women in the Intelligence Community are fundamental to America's national security. They perform an important service to our country in very trying circumstances. They make extraordinary sacrifices to keep the American people safe, often without any expectation of credit or acknowledgment. As they carry on the nation's critical work, they have the President's support and appreciation, as I know they have yours.

Sincerely,

W. NEIL EGGLESTON,
*Counsel to the President.*

I very much appreciate your attention, and I yield to Senator MCCAIN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HEITKAMP). The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. MCCAIN. Madam President, I wish to begin by expressing my appreciation and admiration to the personnel who serve in our intelligence agencies, including the CIA, who are out there every day defending our Nation.

I have read the executive summary and I also have been briefed on the entirety of this report. I rise in support of the release—the long-delayed release—of the Senate Intelligence Committee's summarized unclassified review of the so-called enhanced interrogation techniques that were employed by the previous administration to extract information from captured terrorists. It is a thorough and thoughtful study of practices that I believe not only failed their purpose to secure actionable intelligence to prevent further attacks on the United States and our allies, but actually damaged our security interests as well as our reputation as a force for good in the world.

I believe the American people have a right—indeed a responsibility—to know what was done in their name, how these practices did or did not serve our interests, and how they comported with our most important values.

I commend Chairwoman FEINSTEIN and her staff for their diligence in seeking a truthful accounting of policies I hope we will never resort to

again. I thank them for persevering against persistent opposition from many members of the intelligence community, from officials in two administrations, and from some of our colleagues.

The truth is sometimes a hard pill to swallow. It sometimes causes us difficulties at home and abroad. It is sometimes used by our enemies in attempts to hurt us. But the American people are entitled to it nonetheless. They must know when the values that define our Nation are intentionally disregarded by our security policies, even those policies that are conducted in secret. They must be able to make informed judgments about whether those policies and the personnel who supported them were justified in compromising our values, whether they served a greater good, or whether, as I believe, they stained our national honor, did much harm, and little practical good.

What were the policies? What was their purpose? Did they achieve it? Did they make us safer, less safe, or did they make no difference? What did they gain us? What did they cost us? What did they gain us? What did they cost us? The American people need the answers to these questions. Yes, some things must be kept from public disclosure to protect clandestine operations, sources, and methods, but not the answers to these questions. By providing them, the committee has empowered the American people to come to their own decisions about whether we should have employed such practices in the past and whether we should consider permitting them in the future.

This report strengthens self-government and ultimately, I believe, American security and stature in the world. I thank the committee for that valuable public service.

I have long believed some of these practices amounted to torture as a reasonable person would define it, especially but not only the practice of waterboarding, which is a mock execution and an exquisite form of torture. Its use was shameful and unnecessary, and, contrary to assertions made by some of its defenders and as the committee's report makes clear, it produced little useful intelligence to help us track down the perpetrators of 9/11 or prevent new attacks and atrocities.

I know from personal experience that the abuse of prisoners will produce more bad than good intelligence. I know victims of torture will offer intentionally misleading information if they think their captors will believe it. I know they will say whatever they think their torturers want them to say if they believe it will stop their suffering. Most of all, I know the use of torture compromises that which most distinguishes us from our enemies—our belief that all people, even captured enemies, possess basic human rights which are protected by international conventions the United States not only joined but for the most part authored.

I know too that bad things happen in war. I know that in war good people can feel obliged for good reasons to do things they would normally object to and recoil from. I understand the reasons that governed the decision to resort to these interrogation methods, and I know that those who approved them and those who used them were dedicated to securing justice for victims of terrorist attacks and to protecting Americans from further harm. I know their responsibilities were grave and urgent and the strain of their duty was onerous. I respect their dedication, and I appreciate their dilemma. But I dispute wholeheartedly that it was right for them to use these methods which this report makes clear were neither in the best interests of justice, nor our security, nor the ideals we have sacrificed so much blood and treasure to defend.

The knowledge of torture's dubious efficacy and my moral objection to the abuse of prisoners motivated my sponsorship of the Detainee Treatment Act of 2005, which prohibits ''cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment'' of captured combatants, whether they wear a nation's uniform or not, and which passed the Senate by a vote of 90 to 9.

Subsequently, I successfully offered amendments to the Military Commissions Act of 2006, which, among other things, prevented the attempt to weaken Common Article 3 of the Geneva Conventions and broadened definitions in the War Crimes Act to make the future use of waterboarding and other ''enhanced interrogation techniques'' punishable as war crimes.

There was considerable misinformation disseminated then about what was and wasn't achieved using these methods in an effort to discourage support for the legislation. There was a good amount of misinformation used in 2011 to credit the use of these methods with the death of Osama bin Laden. And there is, I fear, misinformation being used today to prevent the release of this report, disputing its findings and warning about the security consequences of their public disclosure.

Will the report's release cause outrage that leads to violence in some parts of the Muslim world? Yes, I suppose that is possible and perhaps likely. Sadly, violence needs little incentive in some quarters of the world today. But that doesn't mean we will be telling the world something it will be shocked to learn. The entire world already knows we waterboarded prisoners. It knows we subjected prisoners to various other types of degrading treatment. It knows we used black sites, secret prisons. Those practices haven't been a secret for a decade. Terrorists might use the report's reidentification of the practices as an excuse to attack Americans, but they hardly need an excuse for that. That has been their life's calling for a while now.

What might come as a surprise not just to our enemies but to many Americans is how little these practices did aid our efforts to bring 9/11 culprits to justice and to find and prevent terrorist attacks today and tomorrow. That could be a real surprise since it contradicts the many assurances provided by intelligence officials on the record and in private that enhanced interrogation techniques were indispensable in the war against terrorism. And I suspect the objection of those same officials to the release of this report is really focused on that disclosure—torture's ineffectiveness—because we gave up much in the expectation that torture would make us safer—too much.

Obviously, we need intelligence to defeat our enemies, but we need reliable intelligence. Torture produces more misleading information than actionable intelligence. And what the advocates of harsh and cruel interrogation methods have never established is that we couldn't have gathered as good or more reliable intelligence from using humane methods.

The most important lead we got in the search for bin Laden came from using conventional interrogation methods. I think it is an insult to the many intelligence officers who have acquired good intelligence without hurting or degrading prisoners to assert that we can't win these wars without such methods. Yes, we can, and we will.

But in the end torture's failure to serve its intended purpose isn't the main reason to oppose its use. I have often said and I will always maintain that this question isn't about our enemies; it is about us. It is about who we were, who we are, and who we aspire to be. It is about how we represent ourselves to the world.

We have made our way in this often dangerous and cruel world not by just strictly pursuing our geopolitical interests but by exemplifying our political values and influencing other nations to embrace them. When we fight to defend our security, we fight also for an idea—not for a tribe or a twisted interpretation of an ancient religion or for a King but for an idea that all men are endowed by the Creator with inalienable rights. How much safer the world would be if all nations believed the same. How much more dangerous it can become when we forget it ourselves, even momentarily.

Our enemies act without conscience. We must not. This executive summary of the committee's report makes clear that acting without conscience isn't necessary. It isn't even helpful in winning this strange and long war we are fighting. We should be grateful to have that truth affirmed.

Now, let us reassert the contrary proposition: that is it essential to our success in this war that we ask those who fight it for us to remember at all times that they are defending a sacred ideal of how nations should be governed and conduct their relations with others—even our enemies.

Those of us who give them this duty are obliged by history, by our Nation's highest ideals and the many terrible sacrifices made to protect them, by our respect for human dignity, to make

clear we need not risk our national honor to prevail in this or any war. We need only remember in the worst of times, through the chaos and terror of war, when facing cruelty, suffering, and loss, that we are always Americans and different, stronger, and better than those who would destroy us.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak in a seated position.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Madam President, I come to the floor to wholly support the comments of my colleagues, the Senator from California and the Senator from Arizona, to speak about a matter of great importance to me personally but more importantly to the country.

The Senate Intelligence Committee's entire study of the CIA's detention and interrogation program—I will just call it the program—is the most in-depth, the most substantive oversight initiative the committee has ever taken. I doubt any committee has done more than this. It presents extremely valuable insights into crucial oversight questions and problems that need to be addressed by the CIA.

Moreover, this study exemplifies why this committee was created in the first place following the findings of the Church Committee nearly 40 years ago, and I commend my friend and the committee's leader, the Senator from California, for shepherding this landmark initiative to this point. For years, often behind closed doors, without any recognition, she has been a strong and tireless advocate, and she deserves our thanks and recognition.

It is my hope and expectation that beyond the initial release of the executive summary and findings and conclusions, that the entire 6,800 pages, with 37,500 footnotes, will eventually be made public—and I am sure it will—with the appropriate redactions. Those public findings will be critical to fully learning the necessary lessons from this dark episode in our Nation's history and to ensure that it never happens again. It has been a very long, very hard fight to get to this point. Especially in the early years of the CIA's detention program, it was a struggle for the committee to get the most basic information or any information at all about the program.

The committee's study of the detention and interrogation program is not just the story of the brutal and ill-conceived program itself; this study is also the story of the breakdown in our system of governance that allowed the country to deviate in such a significant and horrific way from our core principles. One of the profound ways that breakdown happened was through the active subversion of meaningful congressional oversight—a theme mirrored in the Bush administration's warrantless wiretapping program during that same period.

I first learned about some aspects of the CIA's detention and interrogation program in 2003 when I became vice chair of the committee. At that point and for years after, the CIA refused to provide me or anybody else with any additional information about the program. They further refused to notify the full committee about the program's existence. My colleagues will remember there was always the Gang of 4, the Gang of 6, or the Gang of 8. They would take the chairman and vice chairman, take them to the White House, give them a flip chart, 45 minutes for the Vice President, and off he would go. Senator ROBERTS and I went down by car and were instructed we couldn't talk to each other on the way back from one of those meetings. It was absurd. They refused to do anything to be of assistance.

The briefings I received provided little or no insight into the CIA's program. Questions or followup requests were rejected, and at times I was not allowed to consult with my counsel. I am not a lawyer. There are legal matters involved here. They said we couldn't talk to any of our staff, legal counsel or not, or other members of the committee who knew nothing about this because they had not been informed at all.

It was clear these briefings were not meant to answer any questions but were intended only to provide cover for the administration and the CIA. It was infuriating to me to realize I was part of a box checking exercise that the administration planned to use, and later did use, so they could disingenuously claim they had—in a phrase I will never be able to forget—''fully briefed Congress.''

In the years that followed I fought and lost many battles to obtain credible information about the detention and interrogation program. As vice chair I tried to launch, as has been mentioned, a comprehensive investigation into the program, but that effort was blocked.

Later in 2005, when I fought for access to over 100 specific documents cited in the inspector general report, the CIA refused to cooperate.

The first time the full Senate Intelligence Committee was given any information about this detention program was September 2006. This was years after the program's inception and the same day the President informed the Nation.

The following year when I became chairman, the vice chairman, Kit Bond, and I agreed to push for significant additional access to the program. For heaven's sake, at least allow both the Senate Intelligence Committee and the House Intelligence Committee, on a full basis, to be informed about this and also to include our staff's counsel on these matters. We finally actually prevailed and got this access. I think I withheld something from them until they agreed to do that which enabled us to have much-needed hearings on the program, which we proceeded to do.

As chairman, I made sure we scrutinized it from every angle. However, the challenge of getting accurate information from the CIA persisted. It was during this period that the House and Senate considered the 2008 Intelligence Authorization Act and a potential provision that set the Army Field Manual—which is the only way to go—as the standard for the entire American Government, including the CIA. This would have effectively ended the CIA's enhanced interrogation techniques, a term eerily sanitized in bureaucratic jargon for what, in a number of cases, amounted to torture.

As chairman, I knew the inclusion of the Army Field Manual provision would jeopardize the entire bill. I thought it might bring it down. People would think it was too soft or too radical or whatever, but I was committed to seeing the bill signed into law. In the end, it was an easy decision.

I supported including the provision to end the CIA's program because it was the right thing to do. I did it because Congress needed to send a clear signal that it did not stand by the Bush administration's policy.

The House and Senate went on to pass the bill with bipartisan votes. Although the Bush administration vetoed the bill to preserve its ability to continue these practices, it was an important symbolic moment.

In the same period, I also sent two committee staffers, as our chairwoman has indicated, to begin reviewing cables at the CIA regarding the agency's interrogations of Abu Zubaydah and al-Nashiri. I firmly believed we had to review those cables, which are now the only source of important historical information on this subject, because the CIA destroyed its tapes of some of their interrogation sessions. The CIA destroyed those tapes against the explicit direction from the White House and the Director of National Intelligence.

The investigation that began in 2007 grew under Chairman FEINSTEIN's dedication and tremendous leadership into a full study of the CIA's detention and interrogation program. The more the committee dug, the more the committee found, and the results we uncovered are both shocking and deeply troubling.

First, the detention and interrogation program was conceived by people who were ignorant of the topic and made it up on the fly based on the untested theories of contractors who had never met a terrorist or conducted a real-world interrogation of any kind.

Second, it was executed by personnel with insufficient linguistic and interrogation training and little, if any, real-world experience.

Moreover, the CIA was aware that some of these personnel had a staggering array of personal and professional failings—enumerated by the committee's chairman—including potentially criminal activity, that should

have disqualified them immediately not only from being interrogators but from being employed by the CIA or anybody in government.

Nevertheless, it was consistently represented that these interrogators were professionalized and carefully vetted—their term—and that became a part of the hollow legal justification of the entire program.

Third, the program was managed incompetently by senior officials who paid little or no attention to critical details. It was rife with troubling personal and financial conflicts of interest among the small group of the CIA officials and contractors who promoted and defended it. Obviously it was in their interest to do so.

Fourth, as the chairman indicated, the program was physically very severe, far more so than any of us outside the CIA ever knew. Although waterboarding has received the most attention, there were other techniques I personally believe—one in particular—that may have been much worse.

Finally, its results were unclear at best, but it was presented to the White House, the Department of Justice, the Congress, and the media as a silver bullet that was indispensable to saving lives. That was their mantra. In fact, it did not provide the intelligence it was supposed to provide or the CIA argued that it did provide.

To be perfectly clear, these harsh techniques were not approved by anyone ever for the low-bar standard of learning useful information from detainees. These techniques were approved because the Bush officials were told, and therefore believed, that these coercive interrogations were absolutely necessary to elicit intelligence that was unavailable by any other collection method and would save American lives. That was simply not the case.

For me, personally, the arc of this story comprises more than a decade of my 30 years of work in the Senate and one of the hardest fights—I think the hardest fight—I have ever been through. Many of the worst years were during the Bush administration.

However, I did not fully anticipate how hard these last few years would be in this administration to get this summary declassified and to tell the full story of what happened. Indeed, to my great frustration, even after months of endless negotiations, significant aspects of the story remain obscured by black ink.

I have great admiration for the President, and I am appreciative of the leadership role he has taken to depart from the practices of the Bush administration on these issues. His Executive order formally ended the CIA's detention program practices, and that is a good example. It is a great example.

It was, therefore, with deep disappointment that over the course of a number of private meetings and conversations I came to feel that the White House's strong deference to the CIA throughout this process has at times worked at cross-purposes with the White House's stated interest in transparency and has muddied what should be a clear and unequivocal legacy on this issue.

While aspiring to be the most transparent administration in history, this White House continues to quietly withhold from the committee more than 9,000 documents related to the CIA's programs. I don't know why. They won't say, and they won't produce.

In addition to strongly supporting the CIA's insistence on the unprecedented redaction of fake names in the report, which obscures the public's ability to understand the important connections which are so important for weaving together the tapestry, the administration also pushed for the redaction of information in the committee's study that should not be classified, contradicting the administration's own Executive order on classification.

Let me be clear.

That order clearly states that in no case shall information fail to be declassified in order to conceal violations of law and efficiency or administrative error or prevent embarrassment to a person, organization, or agency.

In some instances, the White House asked not only that information be redacted but that the redaction itself be removed so it would be impossible for the reader to tell that something was already hidden. Strange.

Given this, looking back, I am deeply disappointed, rather than surprised, that even when the CIA inexplicably conducted an unauthorized search of the committee's computer files and emails at an offsite facility, which was potentially criminal, and even when it became clear that the intent of the search was to suppress the committee's awareness of an internal CIA review that corroborated parts of the intelligence committee's study and contradicted public CIA statements, the White House continued to support the CIA leadership, and that support was unflinching.

Despite these frustrations, I have also seen how hard Chairman FEINSTEIN has fought against great odds, stubborn odds, protective odds, mysterious odds, which are not really clear to me. I have tried to support her thoughtful and determined efforts at every opportunity to make sure as much as of the story can be told as possible, and I am deeply proud of the product the committee ended up with.

Now it is time to move forward. For all of the misinformation, incompetence, and brutality of the CIA's program, the committee's study is not and must not be simply a backward-looking condemnation of the past. The study presents a tremendous opportunity to develop forward-looking lessons that must be central to all future activities.

The point has been made—I thoroughly agree—that the vast majority of people who work at the CIA—and there are tens and tens of thousands of them—do very good work and are working very hard and have absolutely nothing to do with any of this. But if this report had not been released, the country would have felt that everybody at the CIA—and the world would have felt it—was involved in this program. It is important to say that that was not the case. It was just 30 or 40 people at the top. Many of the people you see on television blasting this report were intimately involved in carrying it out and setting it up.

The CIA developed the detention program in a time of great fear, anxiety, and unprecedented crisis. It is at these times of crisis when we need sound judgment, excellence, and professionalism from the CIA the most.

When mistakes are made, they call for self-reflection and scrutiny. For that process to begin, we first have to make sure there is an absolutely accurate public record of what happened. We are doing that. The public release of the executive summary and findings and conclusions is a tremendous and consequential step toward that end.

For some, I expect there will be the temptation to reject and cast doubt, to trivialize, to attack or rationalize parts of the study that are disturbing or are embarrassing. Indeed, the CIA program's dramatic divergence from the standards that we hold ourselves to is hard to reconcile. However, we must fight that shortsighted temptation to wish away the gravity of what this study found.

How we deal with this opportunity to learn and improve will reflect on the maturity of our democracy. As a country, we are strong enough to bear the weight of the mistakes we have made. As an institution, so is the Central Intelligence Agency. We must confront this dark period in our recent history with honesty and critical introspection. We must draw lessons, and we must apply those lessons as we move forward. Although it may be uncomfortable at times, ultimately we will grow stronger, and we will ensure that this never happens again.

I thank the Presiding Officer and yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Madam President, I know the time for recess for caucus is approaching and I know there are other Members on the Democratic side who want to speak. It is now time for a Member from the Republican side to speak.

I ask unanimous consent that the recess be delayed for 5 minutes so the distinguished Senator from South Carolina might speak.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is ordered.

The Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. GRAHAM. Thank you very much. I have been a military lawyer for over 30 years. That has been one of the highlights of my life—to serve in the Air Force. During the debate about these

techniques, I was very proud of the fact that every military lawyer came out on the side that the techniques in question were not who we are and what we want to be.

We are one of the leading voices of the Geneva Convention. We have stood by the Geneva Convention since its inception. I am convinced that the techniques in question violate the Geneva Convention. I am also convinced that they were motivated by fear, fear of another attack. Put yourself in the shoes of the people responsible for defending the country right after 9/11. We had been hit. We had been hit hard. Everybody thought something else was coming.

As we rounded these guys up, there was a sense of urgency and a commitment to never let it happen again that generated this program.

Who knew what, when? I do not know. All I can tell you is the people involved believed they were trying to defend the country and what they were doing was necessary. Did they get some good information? Probably so. Has it been a net loser for us as a country? Absolutely so. All I can say is the techniques in question were motivated by fear of another attack, and people at the time thought this was the best way to defend the Nation. I accept that on their part.

But as a nation, I hope we have learned the following: In this ideological struggle, good versus evil, we need to choose good. There is no shortage of people who will cut your head off. The techniques in question are nowhere near what the enemies of this Nation and radical Islam would do to people under their control. There is no comparison.

The comparison is between who we are and what we want to be. In that regard, we made a mistake. No one is going to jail because they should not, because the laws in question—the laws that existed at the time of this program—were, to be generous, vague.

I spent about a year of my life with Senator MCCAIN working with the Bush administration and colleagues on the Democratic side to come up with the Detainee Treatment Act which clearly puts people on notice of what you can and cannot do. Going forward we fixed this problem. How do I know it is a problem? I travel. I go to the Mideast a lot. I go all over the world. It was a problem for us. Whether we like it or not, we are seen as the good guys. I like it.

Sometimes good people make mistakes. We have corrected the problem. We have interrogation techniques now that I think can protect the Nation and are within our values. The one thing I want to stress to my colleagues is that this is a war of an ideological nature. There will be no capital to conquer. We are not going to take Tokyo. We are not going to take Berlin. There is no air force to shoot down; there is no navy to sink. You are fighting a radical extreme ideology that is motivated by hate. In their world, if you do not agree with their religion, you are no longer a human being.

The only way we can possibly defeat this ideology is to offer something better. The good news for us is that we stand for something better. We stand for due process. We stand for humane treatment. We stand for the ability to have a say when you are accused of something. Our enemies stand for none of that. That is their greatest weakness. Our greatest strength is to offer a better way.

When you go to Anbar Province and you go to other places in the Mideast that have experienced life under ISIS—ISIL—and Al Qaeda, the reaction has almost been universal: We do not like this. When America comes over the hill, and they see that flag, they know help is on the way.

To the CIA officers who serve in the shadows, who intermingle with the most notorious in the world, who are always away from home never knowing if you are going back: Thank you. There is a debate about whether this report is accurate line by line. I do not know. Is this the definitive answer to the program's problems? I do not know, but I do know the program hurt our country.

Those days are behind us. The good guys air their dirty laundry. I wished we had waited because the world is in such a volatile shape right now. I do fear this report will be used by our enemies. But I guess there is no good time to do things like this.

So to those who helped prepare the report, I understand where you are coming from. To those on my side who believe that we have gone too far, I understand that too. But this has always been easy for me. I have been too associated with the subject matter for too long. Every time our Nation cuts a corner, and every time we act out of fear and abandon who we are, we always regret it. That has happened forever. This is a step toward righting a wrong. To our enemies: Take no comfort from the fact that we have changed our program. We are committed to your demise. We are committed to your incarceration and killing you on the battlefield, if necessary.

To our friends, because we choose a different path, do not mistake that for weakness. What we are doing today is not a sign of weakness. It is a sign of the ultimate strength—that you can self correct, that you can reevaluate and you can do some soul searching, and you can come out with a better product. The tools available to our intelligence community today over time will yield better results, more reliable results. The example we are setting will, over time, change the world.

To defeat radical Islam you have to show separation. Today is a commitment to show separation. The techniques they employ to impose their will have been used for thousands of years. They are always, over time, rejected. The values we stand for—tolerance, humane treatment of everyone; whether you agree with them or not—have also stood the test of time. Over time, we will win, and they will lose. Today is about making that time period shorter. The sooner America can reattach itself to who she is, the worse off the enemy will be.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

## ALASKA SAFE FAMILIES AND VILLAGES ACT OF 2014

Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 524, S. 1474.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1474) to encourage the State of Alaska to enter into intergovernmental agreements with Indian tribes, to improve the quality of life in rural Alaska, to reduce alcohol and drug abuse, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Indian Affairs, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

S. 1474

***SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.***

*This Act may be cited as the ''Alaska Safe Families and Villages Act of 2014''.*

***SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.***

*(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—*

*(1) residents of remote Alaska villages suffer disproportionately from crimes and civil disturbances rooted in alcohol abuse, illicit drug use, suicide, and domestic violence;*

*(2) the alcohol-related suicide rate in remote Alaska villages is 6 times the average in the United States and the alcohol-related mortality rate is 3.5 times that of the general population of the United States;*

*(3) Alaska Native women suffer the highest rate of forcible sexual assault in the United States and an Alaska Native woman is sexually assaulted every 18 hours;*

*(4) according to the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, one in two Alaska Native women experience physical or sexual violence;*

*(5) according to the 2006 Initial Report and Recommendations of the Alaska Rural Justice and Law Enforcement Commission, more than 95 percent of all crimes committed in rural Alaska can be attributed to alcohol abuse;*

*(6) the cost of drug and alcohol abuse in Alaska is estimated at $525,000,000 per year;*

*(7) there are more than 200 remote villages in Alaska, which are ancestral homelands to Indian tribes and geographically isolated by rivers, oceans, and mountains making most of those villages accessible only by air;*

*(8) small size and remoteness, lack of connection to a road system, and extreme weather conditions often prevent or delay travel, including that of law enforcement personnel, into remote villages, resulting in challenging law enforcement conditions and lack of ready access to the State judicial system;*

*(9) less than ½ of remote Alaska villages are served by trained State law enforcement entities and several Indian tribes provide peace officers or tribal police without adequate training or equipment;*

*(10) the centralized State judicial system relies on general jurisdiction Superior Courts in the*

*regional hub communities, with only a handful of staffed magistrate courts outside of the hub communities;*

*(11) the lack of effective law enforcement and accessible judicial services in remote Alaska villages contributes significantly to increased crime, alcohol abuse, drug abuse, domestic violence, rates of suicide, poor educational achievement, and lack of economic development;*

*(12) Indian tribes that operate within remote Alaska villages should be supported in carrying out local culturally relevant solutions to effectively provide law enforcement in villages and access to swift judicial proceedings;*

*(13) increasing capacities of local law enforcement entities to enforce local tribal laws and to achieve increased tribal involvement in State law enforcement in remote villages will promote a stronger link between the State and village residents, encourage community involvement, and create greater local accountability with respect to violence and substance abuse;*

*(14) the United States has a trust responsibility to Indian tribes in the State;*

*(15) the report of the Indian Law and Order Commission to the President and Congress entitled ''A Roadmap to Making Native America Safer'' and dated November 2013 found that the crisis in criminal justice in the State is a national problem and urged the Federal Government and the State to strengthen tribal sovereignty and self-governance and for Congress to create a jurisdictional framework to support tribal sovereignty and expand the authority of Indian tribes in the State; and*

*(16) it is necessary to invoke the plenary authority of Congress over Indian tribes under article I, section 8, clause 3 of the Constitution to improve access to judicial systems in remote Alaska Native villages and provide for the presence of trained local law enforcement.*

*(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—*

*(1) to improve the delivery of justice in Alaska Native villages by—*

*(A) encouraging the State and Indian tribes to enter into intergovernmental agreements relating to the enforcement and adjudication of State laws relating to drug and alcohol offenses; and*

*(B) supporting Indian tribes in the State in the enforcement and adjudication of tribal laws relating to child abuse and neglect, domestic violence, and drug and alcohol offenses; and*

*(2) to enhance coordination and communication among Federal, State, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies.*

***SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.***

*In this Act:*

*(1) ATTORNEY GENERAL.—The term ''Attorney General'' means the Attorney General of the United States.*

*(2) GRANT PROGRAM.—The term ''grant program'' means the Alaska Safe Families and Villages Self Governance Intergovernmental Grant Program established under section 4.*

*(3) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term ''Indian tribe'' has the meaning given the term in section 102 of the Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 479a).*

*(4) PARTICIPATING INDIAN TRIBE.—The term ''participating Indian tribe'' means an Indian tribe selected by the Attorney General to participate in the grant program or the tribal law program, as applicable.*

*(5) REMOTE ALASKA VILLAGE.—The term ''remote Alaska village'' means an Alaska Native Village Statistical Area delineated for the Director of the Census by the officials of the village for the purpose of presenting data for the decennial census conducted under section 141(a) of title 13, United States Code.*

*(6) STATE.—The term ''State'' means the State of Alaska.*

*(7) TRIBAL COURT.—The term ''tribal court'' means any court, council, or a mechanism of any court or council sanctioned by an Indian tribe for the adjudication of disputes, including the violation of tribal laws, ordinances, and regulations.*

*(8) TRIBAL LAW PROGRAM.—The term ''tribal law program'' means the Alaska Safe Families and Villages Tribal Law Program established under section 5.*

***SEC. 4. ALASKA SAFE FAMILIES AND VILLAGES SELF GOVERNANCE INTERGOVERNMENTAL GRANT PROGRAM.***

*(a) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall establish a program in the Office of Justice Programs of the Department of Justice, to be known as the Alaska Safe Families and Villages Self Governance Intergovernmental Grant Program, to make grants to Indian tribes acting on behalf of 1 or more Indian tribes to assist Indian tribes in planning for and carrying out intergovernmental agreements described in subsection (d).*

*(b) ADMINISTRATION.—*

*(1) IN GENERAL.—Each Indian tribe desiring to participate in the grant program shall submit to the Attorney General an application in accordance with this section.*

*(2) ELIGIBILITY FOR GRANT PROGRAM.—To be eligible to participate in the grant program, an Indian tribe in the State shall—*

*(A) request participation by resolution or other official action by the governing body of the Indian tribe;*

*(B) have for the preceding 3 fiscal years no uncorrected significant and material audit exceptions regarding any Federal contract, compact, or grant;*

*(C) demonstrate to the Attorney General sufficient governance capacity to conduct the grant program, as evidenced by the history of the Indian tribe in operating government services (including public utilities, children's courts, law enforcement, social service programs, or other activities);*

*(D) certify that the Indian tribe has entered into, or can evidence intent to enter into negotiations relating to, an intergovernmental agreement with the State described in subsection (d);*

*(E) meet such other criteria as the Attorney General may promulgate, after providing public notice and an opportunity to comment; and*

*(F) submit to the Attorney General of the State a copy of the application.*

*(c) USE OF AMOUNTS.—Each participating Indian tribe shall use amounts made available under the grant program—*

*(1) to carry out a planning phase that may include—*

*(A) internal governmental and organizational planning;*

*(B) developing written tribal law or ordinances, including tribal laws and ordinances detailing the structure and procedures of the tribal court;*

*(C) developing enforcement mechanisms; and*

*(D) negotiating and finalizing any intergovernmental agreements necessary to carry out this section; and*

*(2) to carry out activities of the Indian tribe in accordance with an applicable intergovernmental agreement with the State.*

*(d) INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENTS.—*

*(1) IN GENERAL.—The State (including political subdivisions of the State) and Indian tribes in the State are encouraged to enter into intergovernmental agreements relating to the enforcement of certain State laws by the Indian tribe.*

*(2) CONTENTS.—*

*(A) IN GENERAL.—An intergovernmental agreement described in paragraph (1) may describe the duties of the State and the applicable Indian tribe relating to—*

*(i) the employment of law enforcement officers, probation, and parole officers;*

*(ii) the appointment and deputization by the State of tribal law enforcement officers as special officers to aid and assist in the enforcement of the criminal laws of the State;*

*(iii) the enforcement of punishments imposed by the Indian tribe under tribal law;*

*(iv) the transfer of enforcement duties for State drug- and alcohol-related misdemeanor offenses to the Indian tribe;*

*(v) the adjudication by the Indian tribe of State drug- and alcohol-related misdemeanor offenses;*

*(vi) the transfer of information and evidence between tribal law enforcement entities and the court system of the State;*

*(vii) the detention of offenders;*

*(viii) searches and seizures of alcohol and drugs at municipal and State airports; and*

*(ix) jurisdictional or financial matters.*

*(B) REMEDIES.—Subject to title II of Public Law 90–284 (25 U.S.C. 1301 et seq. ) (commonly known as the ''Indian Civil Rights Act of 1968''), an intergovernmental agreement described in paragraph (1) may include remedies to be imposed by the applicable Indian tribe relating to the enforcement of State law, including—*

*(i) restorative justice, including circle sentencing;*

*(ii) community service;*

*(iii) fines;*

*(iv) forfeitures;*

*(v) commitments for treatment;*

*(vi) restraining orders;*

*(vii) emergency detentions; and*

*(viii) any other remedies agreed to by the State and Indian tribe.*

*(e) ANNUAL REPORT.—*

*(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than May 1 of each year, the Attorney General shall submit to the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives an annual report that—*

*(A) describes the grants awarded under the grant program;*

*(B) assesses the effectiveness of the grant program; and*

*(C) includes any recommendations of the Attorney General relating to the grant program.*

*(2) REQUIREMENTS.—Each report shall be prepared in consultation with the government of each participating Indian tribe and the State.*

***SEC. 5. ALASKA SAFE FAMILIES AND VILLAGES SELF GOVERNANCE TRIBAL LAW PROJECT.***

*(a) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall establish a project in the Office of Justice Programs of the Department of Justice, to be known as the Alaska Safe Families and Villages Self Governance Tribal Law Project, to make grants to Indian tribes acting on behalf of 1 or more Indian tribes to assist Indian tribes in planning for and carrying out concurrent jurisdiction activities described in subsection (d).*

*(b) APPLICATION.—*

*(1) IN GENERAL.—Each Indian tribe desiring to participate in the tribal law program shall submit to the Attorney General an application in accordance with this section.*

*(2) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to participate in the tribal law program, an Indian tribe in the State shall—*

*(A) request participation by resolution or other official action by the governing body of the Indian tribe;*

*(B) have for the preceding 3 fiscal years no uncorrected significant and material audit exceptions regarding any Federal contract, compact, or grant;*

*(C) demonstrate to the Attorney General sufficient governance capacity to conduct the tribal law program, as evidenced by the history of the Indian tribe in operating government services (including public utilities, children's courts, law enforcement, social service programs, or other activities);*

*(D) meet such other criteria as the Attorney General may promulgate, after providing for public notice; and*

*(E) submit to the Attorney General of the State a copy of the application submitted under this section.*

*(3) ADDITIONAL SUBMISSIONS.—On completion of the planning phase described in subsection (c), the Indian tribe shall provide to the Attorney General—*

*(A) the constitution of the Indian tribe or equivalent organic documents showing the structure of the tribal government and the placement and authority of the tribal court within that structure;*

*(B) written tribal laws or ordinances governing tribal court procedures and the regulation and enforcement of child abuse and neglect, domestic violence, drugs and alcohol, and related matters; and*

*(C) such other information as the Attorney General may, by public notice, require.*

*(c) PLANNING PHASE.—*

*(1) IN GENERAL.—Each participating Indian tribe shall complete a planning phase that includes—*

*(A) internal governmental and organizational planning;*

*(B) developing written tribal law or ordinances detailing the structure and procedures of the tribal court; and*

*(C) enforcement mechanisms.*

*(2) CERTIFICATION.—*

*(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after receiving an application under subsection (b), the Attorney General shall certify the completion of the planning phase under this section.*

*(B) TIMING.—The Attorney General may make a certification described in subparagraph (A) on the date on which the participating Indian tribe submits an application under subsection (b) if the Indian tribe demonstrates to the Attorney General that the Indian tribe has satisfied the requirements of the planning phase under paragraph (1).*

*(d) CONCURRENT JURISDICTION.—*

*(1) IN GENERAL.—Unless otherwise agreed to by the Indian tribe in an intergovernmental agreement, beginning 30 days after the date on which the certification described in subsection (c)(2) is made, the participating Indian tribe may exercise civil jurisdiction, concurrent with the State, in matters relating to child abuse and neglect, domestic violence, drug-related offenses, and alcohol-related offenses over—*

*(A) any member of, or person eligible for membership in, the Indian tribe; and*

*(B) any nonmember of the Indian tribe, if the nonmember resides or is located in the remote Alaska Native village in which the Indian tribe operates.*

*(2) SANCTIONS.—A participating Indian tribe exercising jurisdiction under paragraph (1) shall impose such civil sanctions as the tribal court has determined to be appropriate, consistent with title II of Public Law 90–284 (25 U.S.C. 1301 et seq.) (commonly known as the ''Indian Civil Rights Act of 1968'') and tribal law, including—*

*(A) restorative justice, including community or circle sentencing;*

*(B) community service;*

*(C) fines;*

*(D) forfeitures;*

*(E) commitments for treatment;*

*(F) restraining orders;*

*(G) emergency detentions; and*

*(H) any other remedies the tribal court determines are appropriate.*

*(3) INCARCERATION.—A person shall not be incarcerated by a participating Indian tribe exercising jurisdiction under paragraph (1) except pursuant to an intergovernmental agreement described in section 4(d).*

*(4) EMERGENCY CIRCUMSTANCES.—Nothing in this subsection prevents a participating Indian tribe exercising jurisdiction under paragraph (1) from—*

*(A) assuming protective custody of a member of the Indian tribe or otherwise taking action to prevent imminent harm to that member or others; and*

*(B) taking immediate, temporary protective measures to address a situation involving an imminent threat of harm to a member of the Indian tribe by a nonmember.*

*(e) ANNUAL REPORT.—*

*(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than May 1 of each year, the Attorney General shall submit to the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives a brief annual report that—*

*(A) details the activities carried out under the tribal law program; and*

*(B) includes an assessment and any recommendations of the Attorney General relating to the tribal law program.*

*(2) REQUIREMENTS.—Each report shall be prepared—*

*(A) in consultation with the government of each participating Indian tribe; and*

*(B) after the participating Indian tribe and the State have an opportunity to comment on the report.*

***SEC. 6. ADMINISTRATION.***

*(a) EFFECT OF ACT.—Nothing in this Act—*

*(1) limits, alters, or diminishes the civil or criminal jurisdiction of the State, any subdivision of the State, or the United States;*

*(2) limits or diminishes the jurisdiction of any Indian tribe in the State, including inherent and statutory authority of the Indian tribe over alcohol, and drug abuse, child protection, child custody, and domestic violence (as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act);*

*(3) creates a territorial basis for the jurisdiction of any Indian tribe in the State (other than as provided in section 5) or otherwise establishes Indian country (as defined in section 1151 of title 18, United States Code) in any area of the State;*

*(4) confers any criminal jurisdiction on any Indian tribe in the State unless agreed to in an intergovernmental agreement described in section 4(d);*

*(5) diminishes the trust responsibility of the United States to Indian tribes in the State;*

*(6) abridges or diminishes the sovereign immunity of any Indian tribe in the State;*

*(7) alters the criminal or civil jurisdiction of the Metlakatla Indian Community within the Annette Islands Reserve (as in effect on the date before the date of enactment of this Act); or*

*(8) limits in any manner the eligibility of the State, any political subdivision of the State, or any Indian tribe in the State, for any other Federal assistance under any other law.*

*(b) NO LIABILITY FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA.—The State, including any political subdivision of the State, shall not be liable for any act or omission of a participating Indian tribe in carrying out this Act, including any act or omission of a participating Indian tribe undertaken pursuant to an intergovernmental agreement described in section 4(d).*

*(c) REGULATIONS.—The Attorney General shall promulgate such regulations as the Attorney General determines are necessary to carry out this Act.*

*(d) ELIGIBILITY FOR FEDERAL PROGRAMS.—*

*(1) IN GENERAL.—Participating Indian tribes shall be eligible for the same tribal court and law enforcement programs and level of funding from the Bureau of Indian Affairs as are available to other Indian tribes.*

*(2) APPLICABILITY IN THE STATE.—Nothing in this Act limits the application in the State of—*

*(A) the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–211; 124 Stat. 2261);*

*(B) the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (Public law 113–4; 127 Stat. 54); or*

*(C) any amendments made by the Acts referred to in subparagraphs (A) and (B).*

*(e) FULL FAITH AND CREDIT.—*

*(1) IN GENERAL.—Each of the 50 States shall give full faith and credit to all official acts and decrees of the tribal court of a participating Indian tribe to the same extent and in the same manner as that State accords full faith and credit to the official acts and decrees of other States.*

*(2) OTHER LAWS.—Nothing in this subsection impairs the duty of the State to give full faith and credit under any other law.*

***SEC. 7. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.***

*(a) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General may enter into contracts with Indian tribes in the State to provide—*

*(1) training and technical assistance on tribal court development to any Indian tribe in the State; and*

*(2) the training for proper transfer of evidence and information—*

*(A) between tribal and State law enforcement entities; and*

*(B) between State and tribal court systems.*

*(b) COOPERATION.—Indian tribes may cooperate with other entities for the provision of services under the contracts described in subsection (a).*

***SEC. 8. FUNDING.***

*The Attorney General shall use amounts made available to the Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs to carry out this Act.*

***SEC. 9. REPEAL OF SPECIAL RULE FOR STATE OF ALASKA.***

*Section 910 of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 ( 18 U.S.C. 2265 note; Public Law 113–4 ) is repealed.*

Mr. BEGICH. I further ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute amendment be withdrawn, the Begich substitute amendment, which is at the desk, be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, the title amendment, which is at the desk, be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The committee-reported substitute amendment was withdrawn.

The amendment (No. 3981) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**SECTION 1. REPEAL OF SPECIAL RULE FOR STATE OF ALASKA.**

Section 910 of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (18 U.S.C. 2265 note; Public Law 113–4) is repealed.

The bill (S. 1474), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time and passed.

The title amendment (No. 3982) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To amend the title)

Amend the title so as to read: ''A bill to amend the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 to repeal a special rule for the State of Alaska, and for other purposes.''.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

## SSCI STUDY OF THE CIA'S RETENTION AND INTERROGATION PROGRAM

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Madam President, while Chairman FEINSTEIN and Chairman ROCKEFELLER are still here on the floor, may I just take a moment to thank them for the work they did on this report. I am very proud of the moral certainty of leadership that both Chairman ROCKEFELLER and Chairman FEINSTEIN showed.

It was, as they know better than I, through many troubles, toils, and

snares, that this report was able to be produced. I could not be happier that we made it public while Senator ROCKEFELLER remains a Member of this body and has the chance to participate in this.

I join Chairman FEINSTEIN in recognizing the exceptional work of the Intelligence Committee staff: David, Dan, Alissa—who is not with us any longer. I thank you for mentioning Andrew Grotto, who was my staff member, who worked on this report. I feel we have done a very good thing here. I appreciate very much in particular Senator MCCAIN coming forward. He brings a unique moral perspective and force to this conversation. He has wielded that moral perspective and force with great courage.

I yield the floor.

## RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 1:11 p.m., recessed until 2 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Ms. BALDWIN).

## MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who yields time?

If no one yields time, time will be equally charged to both sides.

The Senator from Georgia.

## SSCI STUDY OF THE CIA'S DETENTION AND INTERROGATION PROGRAM

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Madam President, I rise today as the vice chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence to respond to the public release of the declassified version of the executive summary and findings and conclusions from the committee's study of the CIA's detention and interrogation program.

This is not a pleasant duty for me. During my 4 years as the vice chairman of the Intelligence Committee, I have enjoyed an excellent relationship with our chairman, Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN. We have worked closely to conduct strong bipartisan oversight of the U.S. intelligence community, including the passage and enactment of significant national security legislation. However, this particular study has been one of the very, very few areas where we have never been able to see eye-to-eye.

Putting this report out today is going to have significant consequences. In addition to reopening a number of old wounds both domestically and internationally, it could be used to incite unrest and even attacks against our servicemembers, other personnel overseas, and our international partners. This report could also stoke additional mistreatment or death for American or other Western captives overseas. It will endanger CIA personnel, sources, and future intelligence operations. This report will damage our relationship with several significant international counterterrorism partners at a time when we can least afford it. Even worse, despite the fact that the administration and many in the majority are aware of these consequences, they have chosen to release the report today.

The United States today is faced with a wide array of security challenges across the globe, including in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Syria, Iraq, Yemen, north Africa, Somalia, Ukraine, and the list goes on. Instead of focusing on the problems right in front of us, the majority side of the Intelligence Committee has spent the last 5 years and over $40 million focused on a program that effectively ended over 8 years ago, while the world around us burns.

In March 2009, when the committee first undertook the study, I was the only member of the Intelligence Committee who voted against moving forward with it. I believed then, as I still do today, that vital committee and intelligence community resources would be squandered over a debate that Congress, the executive branch, and the Supreme Court had already settled. This issue has been investigated or reviewed extensively by the executive branch, including criminal investigations by the Department of Justice, the Senate Armed Services Committee, the International Committee of the Red Cross, as well as other entities.

Congress has passed two separate acts directly related to detention and interrogation issues—specifically, the Detainee Treatment Act of 2005 and the Military Commissions Act of 2006. The executive branch terminated the CIA program and directed that future interrogations be conducted in accordance with the U.S. Army Field Manual on Interrogation. Also, the Supreme Court decided Rasul v. Bush in 2004, Hamdi v. Rumsfeld in 2004, Hamdan v. Rumsfeld in 2006, as well as Boumediene v. Bush in 2008, all of which established that detainees were entitled to habeas corpus review and identified certain deficiencies in both the Detainee Treatment Act and the Military Commissions Act.

By the time I became the vice chairman, the minority had already withdrawn from active participation in the study as a result of Attorney General Holder's decision to reopen the criminal inquiry related to the interrogation of certain detainees in the CIA's detention program. This unfortunate decision deprived the committee of the ability to interview key witnesses who participated in the CIA program and essentially limited the committee's study to the review of a cold documentary record. Now, how can any credible investigation take place without interviewing witnesses? This is a 6,000-page report, and not one single witness was ever interviewed in this study being done. This is a poor excuse for the type of oversight the Congress should be conducting.

There is no doubt that the CIA's detention and interrogation program—which was hastily executed in the aftermath of the worst terrorist attack in our Nation's history—had flaws. The CIA has admitted as much in its June 27, 2013, response to the study. There is also no doubt that there were instances in which CIA interrogators exceeded their authorities and certain detainees may have suffered as a result. However, the executive summary and findings and conclusions released today contain a disturbing number of factual and analytical errors. These factual and analytical shortfalls ultimately led to an unacceptable number of incorrect claims and invalid conclusions that I cannot endorse.

The study essentially refuses to admit that CIA detainees—especially CIA detainees subjected to enhanced interrogation techniques—provided intelligence information which helped the U.S. Government and its allies to neutralize numerous terrorist threats. On its face, this refusal does not make sense given the vast amount of information gained from these interrogations, the thousands of intelligence reports that were generated as a result of them, the capture of additional terrorists, and the disruption of the plots those captured terrorists were planning.

Instead of acknowledging these realities, the study adopts an analytical approach designed to obscure the value of the intelligence obtained from the program. For example, the study falsely claims that the use of enhanced interrogation techniques played ''no role'' in the identification of Jose Padilla because Abu Zubaydah, a senior member of Al Qaeda with direct ties to Osama bin Laden, provided the information about Padilla during an interrogation by FBI agents who were ''exclusively'' using what is called ''rapport-building'' techniques against him more than 3 months prior to the CIA's ''use of DOJ-approved enhanced interrogation techniques.'' What the study ignores, however, is the fact that Abu Zubaydah's earlier interrogation in April of 2002 actually did involve the use of interrogation techniques that were later included in the list of enhanced interrogation techniques. Specifically, the facts demonstrate that Abu Zubaydah was subjected to ''around the clock'' interrogation that included more than 4 days of dietary manipulation, nudity, and more than 126 hours—which is about 5 days—of sleep deprivation during a 136-hour period by the time the FBI finished up the 8.5-hour interrogation shift in which Abu Zubaydah finally yielded the identification of Jose Padilla. So during a 5-day time period, Abu Zubaydah got less than 10 hours of sleep, yet the majority does not acknowledge that this was an enhanced interrogation. In light of these facts,

the study's claims that the FBI was exclusively using ''rapport-building'' techniques is nothing short of being dishonest.

More important, the actionable intelligence gleaned from the enhanced interrogation of Abu Zubaydah that started in April of 2002 served as the foundation for the capture of additional terrorists and the disruption of the plots those captured terrorists were planning. His information was also used to gather additional actionable intelligence from these newly captured terrorists, which in turn led to a series of successful capture operations and plot disruptions. By the study's own count, the numerous interrogations of Abu Zubaydah resulted in 766 sole-source disseminated intelligence reports. That is an awful lot of actionable intelligence collected under the CIA program that this study tries to quietly sweep under the carpet in an effort to support its false headline that the CIA's use of enhanced interrogation techniques was not effective.

The study also overlooks several crucial intelligence successes that prevented terror attacks against the United States and our allies around the world. Al Qaeda-affiliated extremists subjected to the program's enhanced interrogation techniques made admissions that led to the identification of the man responsible for plotting the September 11 attacks, Khalid Shaikh Mohammed, or KSM.

The program also helped stop terrorist attacks in the U.S. homeland and against our military forces overseas. Al Qaeda affiliate Abu Zubaydah's statements to interrogators led to the identification of Jose Padilla—an Al Qaeda operative tasked with conducting a terrorist attack inside the United States. The interrogation of KSM and Guleed Hassan Ahmed disrupted Al Qaeda's plotting against Camp Lemonier in Djibouti, a critical base of operations in the war on terror in Africa and at that time home to some 1,600 U.S. military personnel. There is no telling how many lives this program saved in those particular interrogations alone.

Intelligence gathered under the detention and interrogation program also prevented terrorist attacks on our allies in the United Kingdom. Terrorist plots against London's Heathrow Airport and Canary Wharf—a major London financial center—were disrupted because key conspirators were apprehended and questioned on the basis of intelligence gathered using several interrogation techniques, including enhanced interrogation techniques.

Finally, information from detainees held in the program was critical to ascertaining the true significance of Abu Ahmed al-Kuwaiti, the Al Qaeda facilitator who served as Osama bin Laden's personal courier and the man who ultimately lead CIA intelligence analysts and the Navy Seals to bin Laden himself.

For anyone interested in a nice, chronological survey of the significant intelligence gained from the program and how it was used to capture additional terrorists and disrupt terrorist plots, I would invite my colleagues to read two pages of our minority views. Pages 96 and 97 delineate exactly a chronology of significant intelligence that allowed for the takedown of individuals.

It seems as though the study takes every opportunity to unfairly portray the CIA in the worst light possible, presupposing improper motivations and the most detestable behavior at every turn. The very enemies whom the program helped keep at bay for all of those years, as well as adversarial nations, will be able to exploit what is essentially a dangerously insightful and instructive treasure trove of information about our intelligence operations. I am all for pointing out and correcting problems with the intelligence community and I have been very outspoken on some of them, but I prefer our oversight be conducted quietly and in a manner that does not jeopardize the national security of the United States.

Ultimately, our minority views examined eight of the study's most problematic conclusions, many of which attack the CIA's integrity and credibility in developing and implementing the program. These problematic claims and conclusions created the false impression that the CIA was actively misleading policymakers and impeding the counterterrorism efforts of other Federal Government agencies during the program's operation. We found these claims and conclusions were largely not supported by the documentary record and were based upon flawed reasoning.

Specifically, we found that:

No. 1, the CIA's detention and interrogation program was effective and produced valuable and actionable intelligence.

No. 2, most of the CIA's claims of effectiveness with respect to the use of EITs were accurate.

No. 3, the CIA attempted to keep the Congress informed of its activities and did so on a regular basis. As a member of the committee, I can attest to that.

No. 4, the CIA did not impede White House oversight. The White House was very involved in doing oversight of the program.

No. 5, the CIA was not responsible nor did it have control over sharing or dissemination of information to other executive branch agencies or to members of the Principals Committee.

No. 6, many of the study's claims about the CIA providing inaccurate information to the Department of Justice were themselves totally inaccurate.

No. 7, the CIA did not significantly impede oversight by the CIA Office of the Inspector General.

No. 8, the White House determined that the CIA would have the lead on dealing with the media regarding detainees.

These findings are not meant as a defense of the CIA. The CIA is fully capable of defending its own actions, and I know it will do so. Rather, these findings are a critique of certain aspects of this particular study. As a general rule, I want our committee findings, conclusions, and recommendations to be unassailable in every investigation we conduct. Unfortunately, that didn't happen, and I am very concerned about the unintended consequences that will result from the study's erroneous and inflammatory conclusions.

I imagine some members of the media may choose to repeat the study's false headlines contained in the report without checking the underlying facts. By doing so they will only be damaging their own credibility. I invite anyone who reads the study's executive summary and findings and conclusions to pay particular attention to how often the text uses absolutes, such as ''played no role,'' ''no connection'' or ''no indication.'' Please then read our minority views to find the clear counter examples that disprove most of these absolute claims. I suspect the readers who make this effort will be disappointed, as I was, that this study makes so many inaccurate claims and conclusions.

Our minority views also explain how this study was crippled by numerous procedural irregularities that hampered the committee's ability to conduct a fair and objective review of the CIA's detention and interrogation program. These procedural defects resulted in a premature committee vote in December of 2012 to approve the study before the text was adequately reviewed by the committee membership or subjected to a routine fact check by the intelligence community.

Typically, once a Senate committee report has been approved, staff are only authorized to make technical and conforming changes. The executive summary and findings and conclusions released this week have undergone such extensive and unprecedented revisions since the study was approved back in December of 2012 that the traditional concept of technical and conforming changes has now been rendered meaningless. Amazingly, the majority made significant changes in the substance of the study for months after it was voted on by the committee. In addition, after we submitted our minority views, the majority staff then went back and made a few changes to specifically correct some of the more blatant errors that we identified in the views and that the CIA identified in their review. While I am pleased our views led to some minor improvements in the study, those untimely changes required us to add text explaining the validity of our initial conclusions and criticisms. Simply put, the documents released today are very different from the documents that were approved almost exactly 2 years ago by the committee at the end of the last Congress on a partisan basis.

Another significant weakness of this study is its disregard of the context

under which the CIA's detention and interrogation program was developed. It is critical to remember that the intelligence community was inundated by a surge of terrorist threat reporting after the September 11 attacks. The fear of a follow-on attack was pervasive, and it was genuine. The Nation was traumatized by the horrific murders of nearly 3,000 Americans and at the CIA there was no greater imperative than stopping another attack from happening. This context is entirely absent from the study.

In addition, everyone must remember that the CIA was directed to conduct this program by the President. I have spoken with a number of CIA officers over the years who remember the contentious debates about the program at the time it was being considered, but at the end of the day the Agency did what the President directed them to do under the color of law and based upon opinions issued and updated by the Department of Justice.

Many of my colleagues continue to discuss the brutality of many of the enhanced interrogation techniques. I agree that waterboarding, which only occurred against three detainees, is particularly severe. Many of the other techniques were not. By comparison, KSM, who was one of the detainees who was subjected to waterboarding, personally beheaded Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl, and a number of other U.S. citizens have been tortured and beheaded by Al Qaeda-inspired groups since.

In my opinion, the current threat level posed by ISIL and other Al Qaeda-affiliated terrorist groups may be greater today than what we faced prior to the 9/11 terrorist attacks. They are better funded, better equipped, and have recruited hundreds of terrorists who have American as well as European passports. ISIL terrorists are using social media to encourage new recruits to conduct ''lone wolf'' attacks in their home countries such as the United States. They are murdering and beheading captured hostages and planning terrorist attacks against U.S. citizens.

In light of these significant threats, the President is still attempting to make good on a misguided campaign promise to close down Guantanamo Bay. It doesn't seem to matter to him that we are now down to the worst of the worst or that his own review groups have strongly recommended against the release of these remaining terrorists. Instead, he has returned to the pre-9/11 practice of treating terrorists like ordinary criminals. We are reading terrorists their Miranda rights instead of conducting extended intelligence interrogations to develop actionable intelligence that might lead to additional captures or plot disruptions.

I think we would be better off if we were to return to a mindset where we attempt to capture the enemy and use authorized interrogation techniques to obtain the actionable intelligence information needed to neutralize these dangerous terrorist organizations. While there is no doubt there were indeed moments during the CIA detention and interrogation program where interrogators exceeded their authorized limits, such instances were relatively few and far between.

In this, my last week of service on the floor of the U.S. Senate and as the vice chairman of the Intelligence Committee, I wish to thank the men and women of the CIA and the rest of the intelligence community and the members of our Armed Forces who have served us so well since the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Their efforts and their sacrifices have not gone unnoticed. I will be forever grateful for their patriotic service to our beloved country. May God bless them all and may God bless the United States of America.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

## TRIBUTES TO MIKE JOHANNS

Mr. MCCAIN. Madam President, I come to the floor to praise the public service of and bid farewell to my friend and valued colleague from Nebraska, Senator MIKE JOHANNS.

With my remarks, I celebrate not just MIKE's last 6 years in the Senate but also his 30-plus years in public service that will culminate with the end of this term.

At the highest levels of government in both the legislative and executive branches, MIKE's life of public service has been punctuated by great accomplishment. From the Lancaster County Board in Nebraska to the Lincoln City Council, from his service as mayor of Lincoln to his service as the 38th Governor of Nebraska, from his service as the 28th U.S. Secretary of Agriculture and throughout his tenure in the Senate, MIKE has demonstrated a commitment to those with muted voices in our political system, including small business owners, veterans, those impaired by mental illness and most certainly America's farmers and ranchers.

In the Senate, MIKE's leadership and bipartisan efforts to repeal purposeless tax reporting requirements in ObamaCare, his championing new trade agreements, and his contribution to the development and final passage of a new farm bill this year all describe a strong conservative legislator committed to stimulating economic growth through reduced government spending, lower tax rates, and reduced regulatory burdens on American business.

I have appreciated MIKE's partnership on key legislation, including his joining me to cosponsor the bipartisan Congressional Accountability and Line-Item Veto Act of 2009. During the 112th Congress, we were both cosponsors of the Foreign Earnings Reinvestment Act, a bipartisan effort to let corporations reinvest earnings kept overseas by our high corporate tax rates back into the American economy.

I was also proud to join MIKE as an original cosponsor of his bill, the Two-Year Regulatory Freeze Act of 2011, which sought to give the American economy a much needed reprieve to burdensome and confusing Federal regulations that frequently hinder economic growth. MIKE was also an original cosponsor of the Jobs Through Growth Act, and many others.

I am also grateful that he joined in helping replenish the Forest Service's aging air tanker fleet. A decade ago the Forest Service had roughly 40 large air tankers to fight wildfires that burned millions of acres of land across Western States, including Nebraska and Arizona.

Today they own eight large air tankers. Senator JOHANNS and I saw an opportunity to transfer several excess Department of Defense aircraft to the Forest Service to temporarily address this shortage, and that has happened.

While MIKE and I have had disagreements along the way, I have always respected his knowledge and experience as a farmer, foreign trade expert, and the Nation's former Agriculture Secretary.

I am proud of the areas where we agree: reining in certain farm subsidy programs, advocating for free trade agreements with Colombia, Panama, and South Korea, and even working together to kill the proposed USDA catfish office—a little known $15 million program inside the last farm bill that we both highlighted as wasting taxpayer money and that, from a trade perspective, was negatively impacting our cattlemen and soy farmers.

We also agree on the need to help returning veterans seeking to reenter the workforce as beginning farmers, an effort he championed in our last farm bill. I have long applauded Senator JOHANNS for calling on Congress to pass laws to stop farm subsidies from going to millionaires while he was a sitting Secretary of Agriculture.

As much as I respect the substance of MIKE's accomplishments in public service, I have valued how he has achieved them with a quiet, purposeful dignity and, indeed, a vibrant sense of humor. He has never been opposed to bipartisan cooperation whenever it is needed to further the interests of his constituents or the greater Nation.

For these reasons, his approach to governance in legislating has earned him the respect of colleagues and constituents across the political continuum. It should also serve as an example to all of us in this body who remain behind.

In an email MIKE wrote to his friends last February announcing his decision not to seek reelection in 2014, MIKE wrote: ''With everything in life, there is a time and a season.''

Well, to my friend and valued colleague, MIKE JOHANNS, I bid fair winds and following seas in all that he and his lovely wife Stephanie do, and I thank him for his service and his friendship.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Georgia.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Madam President, I rise and second what my friend and colleague from Arizona said.

It has been a privilege of mine to serve in this body for 12 years—and I will be making some comments about that tomorrow—but during my early years in the Senate the Secretary of Agriculture was Secretary MIKE JOHANNS.

Being a very active member of the Agriculture Committee and being chairman for 2 years during then-Secretary JOHANN's tenure, I had the opportunity to work with MIKE on a day-to-day basis and, boy, what a pleasure it is to work with one of the finest gentlemen and public servants I have ever known. He is smart, and he is political when he needs to be political, but he has as much or more common sense as, again, any public servant I have ever known.

For the past 6 years, he has been my next-door neighbor in the Russell building, so we see a lot of each other coming and going and have the opportunity to visit on a regular basis.

As I leave at the end of this term, one of the real Members of the Senate I am going to miss is MIKE JOHANNS. I publicly thank him for his service and thank him for his commitment. I wish him and Stephanie the best, but what I really thank him for is the great friendship he and I developed over the years.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Georgia.

Mr. ISAKSON. Madam President, I join the Senator from Arizona and the Senator from Georgia—my senior Senator, Mr. CHAMBLISS—to rise for a minute and talk about MIKE JOHANNS.

I want to amend that. I don't want to just talk about MIKE JOHANNS, I want to talk about him and Stephanie Johanns.

In the South what we have is what we call a two-for. MIKE and Stephanie are a two-for. They are a great pair for America, and they are a great pair for the State of Nebraska.

As a Senator from an agricultural State, I know the value that MIKE brought to the Cabinet of the United States when he was Secretary of Agriculture.

I know from his serving the State of Nebraska when he was Governor what a great job they did. I know the past 6 years, working side-by-side with MIKE JOHANNS has been a real treat. He is a gentleman, and he is a scholar. He doesn't do anything where he doesn't know what he is doing, and if he is not always right, he is almost always right because he always has Stephanie there to guide him in the right direction.

I pay tribute to a great Senator, and a great personal friend, MIKE JOHANNS, and his lovely wife Stephanie.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska.

FAREWELL TO THE SENATE

Mr. JOHANNS. I wish to start by saying I so appreciate the kind words by Senators MCCAIN, CHAMBLISS, and ISAKSON. I see there are others in the Chamber who may weigh in and offer a thought or two. I can't express how much I appreciate it.

I would like to offer a few thoughts—my farewell thoughts—today.

I rise, first, to convey a very deep and sincere appreciation to the people of a really great State, the State of Nebraska. They have entrusted me with the high privilege and the solemn responsibility of representing them in this body.

I am honored to have served as a Senator from Nebraska, and I hope and pray that I have done so in a manner that upholds the high standards that Nebraskans have rightly established for their elected office holders.

If I could turn back the clock 32 years I would do it again—from my first day as the county commissioner, throughout my service as a Lincoln City Council member, as mayor of our capital city, Lincoln, as the Governor of Nebraska, in President Bush's Cabinet, and now as a Senator. No doubt about it, if I could turn back the clock, I would just do it again.

I am so grateful for the trust placed in me and the support of so many people who have made this service possible.

Let me start with the top of the list, and that would be my family. My wife, Stephanie, has been an incredible pillar of support.

One of my best friends refers to her as ''spirited.'' That would be an understatement. She is a true partner. She has given her whole heart to public service—both her own service as a State senator and as a county commissioner when we first met—and to mine.

I thank my children, Justin and Michaela, who are now grown up. They have their own families. We have five beautiful grandchildren. They have been a source of true joy and pride. They too have cheerfully supported me despite the sometimes long hours and the missed birthdays—I could go on and on. It cut into that dad and grandpa time.

I offer a special word of thanks to the hundreds or thousands of volunteers whom I could never thank individually. They went out there, pounded the yard signs, walked the precincts, worked the phone banks, and they probably wrote checks when the bank account was pretty low. Their belief in me is what has been inspiring in those campaigns.

Another group of people near and dear to my heart are my current and former staff, campaign or government related. We have always called ourselves Team Johanns. It is an extended family and for good reason. Their hard work, their commitment, and their professionalism enabled me to represent and serve our great State and our country.

I have not only been truly blessed by the privilege to serve, but I have been blessed by the privilege of meeting some very extraordinary people.

In my various roles I have been with world leaders, spiritual heads, cultural icons, Presidents, Vice Presidents, Prime Ministers, Queens, and Kings—all memorable experiences to be sure. But I will say they are not the extraordinary people I speak about today. My real inspiration comes from ordinary people whom I have observed and watched do remarkable, extraordinary things.

Each year for the past 6 years, I have had the privilege of selecting a Nebraska family to be honored as ''Angels in Adoption.'' Each year their stories of unconditional love show the limitless capacity of the human heart.

One family, the Welchels of Harrisburg, NE, went from two children to seven. They adopted five children, all with special needs, but their selflessness did not stop there. They created a camp where these very special kids could share life's journeys. How powerful is that?

I have learned that heroes walk among us daily whose courage is revealed in split-second decisions, and in that split second they put the lives of others in front of their own.

Two Nebraskans did exactly that in 2012. A school bus had collided with a semitrailer on a rural road near a community called Blue Hill, NE. These individuals, Ron Meyer and Phil Petr, arrived on this horrific scene. They bravely ran onto that burning bus and pulled five children to safety. A witness who was there at the scene expressed absolutely no doubt those five children would have perished, as others sadly did, if not for the remarkable courage of Ron and Phil.

I have been so moved beyond words by my conversations with the parents of our fallen men and women in uniform. I would call them to offer them my condolences, and I have found their strength to be so astounding. To a person, they speak with such passion about love of country and pride in their loved one's service, despite sorrow. They honor their children with their patriotism. They honor their children with their fortitude. Their grace through incomprehensible grief inspires immeasurable gratitude. May God bless them and all of the families of the fallen.

Walking the streets of a tornado-ravaged community—and I have done that too many times as Governor and as a Senator—I saw ordinary people doing extraordinary things.

One stands out especially in my mind. I watched in amazement as Kim Neiman, the Pilger, NE, city clerk, attempted to take care of every conceivable need of every single resident following a devastating tornado that literally leveled this Nebraska community.

Her tireless advocacy, her raw determination was focused entirely on the community she loved. She had virtually no regard for her personal loss.

You see, her home was destroyed, and her life was turned upside down by this tornado as well. But for Kim, community came first.

These are good people, and there are so many more like them. They inspired me, and they have motivated me to search for solutions to break through partisan rancor that too often dominates this government.

But they also fuel my optimism for the future. You see, I believe that America's strength is in the fabric of which we are woven. The threads of this fabric include both the character of our people and the wisdom reported in our Constitution.

It is a very strong and very durable fabric that withstands the overreach of any one President and the misguided policies of any one administration.

That is why I look back, not with any regret—I would do it all over again—but with gratitude. There were victories won during my time here, and I am pleased to have lead some of those charges. But I have to admit many battles remain.

I would be dishonest if I denied some feelings of frustration about the absence of the will to address issues of paramount importance to our country, but I know that no issue is powerful enough to shred the fabric of this great Nation. Rather, these challenges are overpowered by the ordinary people who do extraordinary things, by the character of our people, and by the wisdom of our Founders. So I reject the prophecy of hopelessness.

As the challenges we face grow more urgent—and they will—so grows the collective fortitude to address them, and I believe that is about to intensify.

On January 3, I will officially pass the baton to Senator-elect Ben Sasse, and I wish him the best. With the 114th Congress, there will be a new day in this Chamber, a new majority, and a lot of new faces. I hope they embrace the new opportunities to exemplify true statesmanship.

Although confidence in our Nation's ability to solve problems may be shaken, I still believe ordinary people can do extraordinary things—even here in Washington, DC. May God guide those efforts and may God bless this great country, the United States of America.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader.

## TRIBUTES TO MIKE JOHANNS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I had an opportunity to address the extraordinary career of the Senator from Nebraska the other day, and he was on the floor, which was welcomed, and his staff was in the gallery. I wanted to say again, in a much shorter version, how much we all appreciate his remarkable contributions to our country, to his State, and to the Senate and wish him well in the future.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska.

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I rise today to celebrate the legacy of my dear friend, my colleague, and my fellow Nebraskan, Senator MIKE JOHANNS.

Senator JOHANNS has dedicated more than three decades of his life to serving the people of Nebraska and also this Nation. His career in public service began at the local level, where he was elected to the Lancaster County Board of Commissioners. He later joined the Lincoln City Council, and eventually became mayor of Nebraska's capital city where he served for two terms.

Perhaps the most infamous decision Senator JOHANNS ever made throughout his career in public service was in his days as mayor of Lincoln. After an early season winter storm dropped more than a foot of heavy wet snow on Lincoln in late October, Mayor JOHANNS decided to cancel Halloween. He cited power outages and hazardous downed power lines.

As you can imagine, this news was not received well among some of those Lincolnites. To this day, constituents haven't forgotten and they still occasionally remind him of how he deprived an entire city of trick or treats on that fateful October evening. He made up for it, though, when he and his wife Stephanie treated children who came to trick or treat at the mansion.

Fortunately, this incident didn't deal a death blow to Senator JOHANNS' political career. He went on to serve as Governor of Nebraska and was reelected to a second term.

As Governor, he focused on fiscal discipline and the responsible use of limited State tax dollars, principles he upheld here in the Senate as well. At one point, as Governor, he even vetoed an entire 2-year budget proposal because it raised taxes to expand government power.

He also championed ambitious mental health reforms that allowed patients to receive care in the stability and in the security of their own communities where they could be near their loved ones. A decade later, these reforms in Nebraska are still regarded as a major milestone in improving mental health care.

Before he was a Senator or a Governor or a mayor or a city councilman, he worked on his family's dairy farm. That is not easy work. And as MIKE puts it, it is a job that builds character and humility. Growing up on a dairy farm, he would milk cows every day before school, sometimes even taking the tractor halfway to town in the winter months when the roads were so bad that the schoolbus couldn't get out to his farm.

This upbringing gave Senator JOHANNS a great appreciation and a deep understanding for the needs of our Nation's ag producers, so it was no surprise when President George W. Bush selected him to lead the Department of Agriculture as its Secretary. MIKE dutifully served in this role, overseeing a new reform-oriented farm bill and opening doors to new global markets for our Nation's ag producers.

As Secretary of Agriculture, he saw firsthand the challenges facing hungry nations. It was in this role that he fell in love with the people of Africa, and he has worked here in the Senate to develop food aid programs that not only feed but also empower hungry populations around the world.

Senator JOHANNS has tirelessly worked for our State and our Nation. He brought to the Senate a unique perspective, having served virtually every level of government. His well-rounded approach to his work here reflects that rare wisdom. Many of us here have had the pleasure of working closely with him because he always makes a point to work with his colleagues regardless of party affiliation, whether it be on complex legislation or that annual Senate secret Santa tradition.

We are all familiar with the confident, peaceful demeanor he brings to the Senate, and his plain-spoken clarity will truly be missed once he leaves Congress. This is who MIKE JOHANNS is. It is who he has always been: a quiet workhorse with a soft spot for the world's most disadvantaged, and a burning desire to help wherever he can. Friends back home who have known him since before he began his career in public service will tell you that he is the same man today he was back then—never losing sight of his goal of helping people, never getting a big head, and always putting Nebraska first.

The Senator's wife Stephanie has been by his side throughout every step of this tremendous journey, always supportive and steadfast. Anyone who knows MIKE knows he and Steph are inseparable. I am sure they are both looking forward to having more time to spend with family next year.

MIKE, you are a statesman and a model citizen. I am thankful for all the work you have done for Nebraska and for the entire Nation. You have set such a great example for your fellow Senators, and we all appreciate your dedication over these past 32 years. You have served Nebraska with dignity and integrity. Good luck. I wish you and Stephanie all the best. God bless you both.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. PORTMAN. Madam President, this is a bittersweet time for all of us. As you have heard, as we close the book on one term of Congress and look forward to the next, we are here to say goodbye to one of our esteemed colleagues who is finishing his service in the Senate. It is always tough, but it is especially hard for me with regard to Senator MIKE JOHANNS—a guy I consider a fine Senator, also a good friend, and sort of the perfect example of the statesman. Through his impressive career as mayor, Governor, Cabinet member, and Senator, as his colleague has just said, he has displayed that.

I first met Senator JOHANNS when he was Secretary JOHANNS. He was Secretary of Agriculture in the George W. Bush Cabinet, and that meant we got to spend a lot of time together. I was the U.S. Trade Representative, and I truly believe I have traveled around the world more with MIKE than I have with my family. We went all over, from Asia to Europe to South America and Africa. We fought for farmers and ranchers. Our ideal was that we could expand exports, and we were able to do that and make some progress with his hard work.

We went to far-flung corners of the world, such as Burkina Faso, to deal with cotton issues important to U.S. farmers. We spent countless—and I mean countless—hours on something called the green room negotiating sessions, trying to reach a deal in the Doha round of talks with the World Trade Organization.

I remember one time MIKE and I had the opportunity to brief reporters as we were going across Africa. We were racing across the Sahara desert to make our way to an airport. Because the airport had no lights, the pilots insisted we get there while there was still light so they could see where they were landing.

He taught me a lot, not just about arcane agricultural issues, such as what is a green box or an amber box subsidy in agriculture—fun issues such as that—but he also taught me a lot about negotiating and about how, as we said earlier, to be a statesman.

We had some tough negotiating sessions, but MIKE was always a proud and relentless representative and champion for the interests of our great country and the interests of the farmers and ranchers he knew so well. He always did his job on the global stage with honor and with dignity. If there has ever been a more forceful advocate for American farmers, whether it was there or here in the Senate, I don't know who it is.

In 2007, he told me he was going to leave the administration and go home to Nebraska, and that he was considering running for the Senate. I never thought I would be able to serve with him, because I didn't know I was going to follow him, but I knew when he told me that, he would be in the Senate and that he would put in the same level of dedication to this body as he had as Secretary of Agriculture, and that has been true.

He is not flashy. His colleague from Nebraska has just called him a workhorse. I hope he takes that as a compliment. I would. He has never sought out the cameras or, for that matter, sought out recognition for his good work. He just does the right thing. A true statesman.

So, MIKE JOHANNS, we are going to miss you. We are going to miss Stephanie. And we wish you Godspeed.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

Mr. ROBERTS. Madam President, the first time I met MIKE JOHANNS was in Hutchison, KS. Hutchison, KS, is where we have the State fair every year. I was somebody then. I was the chairman of the sometimes powerful House Committee on Agriculture, and I had made a pitch to get the Secretary of Agriculture to actually come to the fair, thinking that MIKE JOHANNS would be a far better speaker than myself and maybe I could avoid some trouble. So I had the Secretary come and I made the promise that every farmer who wanted to ask the Secretary of Agriculture a question would have that opportunity. I hadn't bothered to tell MIKE about it, but when he arrived on the scene, he nodded his head and said: Fine. He had this yellow tablet under his arm, and with ample staff, some who used to work for me, but that is beside the point.

So cutting things short, all the activities in the State fair he attended, and he dutifully went around to every exhibit, and we finally ended up in the amphitheater and there must have been 150 to 175 farmers all lined up waiting to speak to or to question the Secretary of Agriculture. I thought to myself: Oh, my gosh, what have I done? The Secretary is coming in—I didn't know MIKE that well at that particular time—and what have I gotten him into?

But MIKE didn't seem to be bothered at all. He was absolutely comfortable, unflappable. He had the microphone and he sat down at a table, put down the yellow tablet and said: Yes, sir, and what is your first question and what is your name? The individual would give his name and the question, and MIKE would write down the question. He said: Thank you very much for that. It will receive all of our attention. Next.

He went through the whole 125 or 150 and never answered a question, but he wrote it down. Every farmer who came up later to me said: You know, the Secretary wrote down my question. They were tremendously impressed, as opposed to me. Silly me, I would have tried to answer their questions, and we would have been there 2 or 3 hours, Lord knows how long. So I asked MIKE: How do you get by with that? He said: Well, it saves a lot of time and you never get in trouble by what you don't say, which always sort of stuck with me and what a class act he was.

County commissioner, mayor of Lincoln, Governor, Secretary of Agriculture, U.S. Senate. I suppose if I floated a balloon for you to be President that you might—no, Stephanie wouldn't buy it and you wouldn't either. But that would be the logical next step, MIKE, and I think we certainly could and probably will do a lot worse. But at any rate, since I brought up Stephanie, Franki and I extend our very best wishes and love.

I do have somewhat of a minor discomfort, it isn't a quarrel—I would never quarrel with Stephanie—but some degree of discomfort.

We have to have meetings around here a lot, and some of us stay for the whole thing. We would always look around for MIKE. He would be around for the fireworks and then he would leave and he would always go home—because he had a home very close on Capitol Hill—to be with Stephanie.

She is absolutely wonderful. She has the best smile ever. You cannot be unhappy or in a bad mood ever when you see Stephanie.

So I would come to work in the Hart Building or here in the Capitol and I would happen to run into Stephanie and she would always come up with that big smile on her face and say: Hi, PAT. How are things going?

What are you going to do? I mean, I am trying to be the curmudgeon of the Senate, but GRASSLEY keeps edging me out. So here I would be in sort of a bad or a grumpy mood and she would flash that smile, and I would say: Just fine. Then I would be feeling pretty good and I would go into the office. They would say: What is wrong? You have a smile on your face. I would say, ''I've been Stephanized.'' I am truly going to miss that.

I remember the time we were sitting probably right about here in the back. We had just concluded the farm bill for the first time, and then it took us 400 days to get the rest of it. MIKE is an expert on agriculture program policy. Ask anybody else if they would like to talk about agriculture program policy and you would get a high glaze after about 8 seconds—but not MICHAEL. MIKE knows agriculture farm program policy. We call it farm program policy in Nebraska and Kansas, but he knows an awful lot about it.

I asked him: How many people do you think in this body, in this Senate, absolutely understand farm program policy? He retorted: How many people want to understand agriculture program policy? We decided there were about 5 in the Senate and maybe about 10 in the House—which shows you why we have a tough time getting the farm bill done.

I relied on his advice and counsel when I was the ranking member. I am so sorry—I regret—should I have the privilege of becoming chairman of the Senate agriculture committee, I would look forward to a dynamic duo with regard to what we could accomplish. But Senator JOHANNS is like Shane: Come back, Shane. Come back, MIKE. But Shane rode away, and the Senator is going to ride back to Nebraska. I give him that, and I give him all of the success he can possibly have.

Six years is all this man has served. Some people have been here a lot longer. I have. You can accomplish a lot in 6 years. People say: What can you do in 6 years?

No. 1, you can work on legislation and you can know what you are talking about and you can earn people's respect and you can be smart about it. I don't mean smart smart. I mean just smart, so that what you say and when

you say it, people pay attention. That is precisely the kind of person MIKE is. You can have all the integrity in the world and you can do exactly what he says when he talks about the people of Nebraska.

The people of Kansas are very similar to the people of Nebraska. My only complaint with the people of Nebraska is they chose to go play in the Big Ten and are finding it a little more difficult than running the track meets they used to run against Kansas State and KU. But if you want to go to the Big Ten and do that, why that is your business—but we have the same kind of roots.

I have always said there are no self-made men or women in public office. It is our friends and the people we represent who make us what we are, and Senator JOHANNS has spoken so eloquently to that.

MICHAEL, I was trying to think of a tag I could label you with that might be noteworthy of everything you stand for. Others will do better than I and others have already said that. I simply come up by saying that you are an uncommon man with a very common touch, and I am going to miss you—and everybody in the conference is going to miss you and I suspect everybody in the Senate is going to miss you for the way you have conducted yourself and the job you have done for Nebraska.

We wish you all the best and we love you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MANCHIN). The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, when Senator MIKE JOHANNS stated in February of last year that he had decided not to seek a second term in the Senate, he did so in a way that revealed so much about his character. There was no dramatic press conference, there were no weeks of rumors, there were no guessing games. Instead, there was just a simple and brief press release.

Then, the very next day it was back to work for Senator JOHANNS, traveling throughout the State of Nebraska for a series of townhall meetings with the people he is honored to serve.

Nine months later, in October of 2013, his character again shone through. The Federal Government was shut down due to a massive failure to govern responsibly. It was stifling our economy and causing great harm to the trust the American people deserve to have in their government.

As a key member of our Common Sense Coalition, Senator JOHANNS worked effectively and quietly to restore government operations and to restore citizen trust in government. Again, no dramatics, no search for the limelight, just solid results, just effective leadership.

Quiet, effective leadership guided by common sense has been the hallmark throughout the Senator's 32 years in public service. From Lancaster County commissioner and mayor of Lincoln to Governor of Nebraska and U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, he has been well informed, thoughtful, and untiring.

The old farm country saying that sowing is easy, reaping is hard perfectly describes his record of accomplishment and his determination to see any task to its completion. Most of all, the Senator from Nebraska always does what he thinks is in the best interests of our country and of the people he so proudly represents.

In an interview shortly before he announced that he would be leaving the Senate, Senator JOHANNS said he hoped he would be remembered as ''a guy who was good to work with.''

Working with Senator MIKE JOHANNS has been more than just good. It has been an honor and a privilege and I wish him and Stephanie all the best.

Thank you for your service.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, I rise to also express my appreciation for Senator MIKE JOHANNS and for his wife Stephanie.

I first met MIKE shortly after I was elected Governor of my State. At that time MIKE was serving as Governor of Nebraska. Right away when I went and visited with MIKE I could tell this was somebody who was not only somebody we could count on but who had the right motivation in public service, had great ideas, and was somebody I could look to as a mentor, and I have ever since.

From his experience at the local level as commissioner, then as mayor, then as Governor, then as Secretary of Agriculture, and then as a Senator, MIKE has been somebody all of us have counted on and somebody whose advice we have sought when we wrestled with tough decisions.

So I just want to add my voice as well to the others who have expressed our appreciation for Senator MIKE JOHANNS and for Stephanie and to say how much we are going to miss him. We are going to miss him not only on a personal level—because he is a great guy and a great friend and somebody we can count on—but we are going to miss his advice, his counsel, his participation in this process on behalf of the American people.

I think MIKE epitomizes the kind of approach we need to have in this body to get work done—to listen, to think carefully, and to remember always that we work for the American people, and he has a long and distinguished career doing that.

He is somebody who will be truly missed, and I think he is somebody who exemplifies the very best of this body and of public service on behalf of our great Nation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, our colleagues know the Presiding Officer is a recovering Governor, I am a recovering Governor, MIKE JOHANNS is a recovering Governor. So we are sort of a support group for one another, men and women who used to be somebody special. I am kidding because I think we still are.

The Senator was talking about MICHAEL, and I had the privilege of knowing him and his wife for a number of years. We were Governors together, and my wife Martha and his wife Stephanie were First Ladies together and define what the standards should be for First Lady or First Man, if you will, if you have a female Governor.

I will never forget when I first met him. I was talking about Stephanie and how we know each other and so forth, and he told me this great story about—I think they were county commissioners together. It was Lancaster County.

I might be mistaken, I think he used to be in those days maybe a Democrat, and a long time ago I was a young Republican for Barry Goldwater, when I was a 17-year-old Republican freshman student at Ohio State, and later found out Hillary Clinton was a Goldwater ''Golden Girl'' at the Republican convention in 1964.

In any event, I just want to say one of the reasons he is so thoughtful, and I hope maybe the reason I am fairly thoughtful, is because we have the ability to work across the aisle and to see and appreciate the views of other people.

The story about how he and Stephanie, when they were on county council together, they met, started liking each other, started dating, fell in love and later got married—they even had lunch together every day they were on county council, and every day he was Governor they continued to have lunch together and here, too, for many days. That is a love, the kind you just don't see. You just don't see that very much.

I just want to say: You are such an inspiration to the rest of us, you and your wife, the way you cherish each other and hold together and support each other and stand by each other. It is just a real source of inspiration.

There is an old saying: It doesn't matter who gets credit for something when you get a lot more done. You define that, a guy who doesn't need headlines, a lot of attention. I hope the rest of us are that way, but you define that for us.

We love working with you. We are going to miss you. We wish you the best and wish you Godspeed. As we say in the Navy, fair winds. God bless you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I am here to talk about the Intelligence Committee report, but before the Senator leaves the floor, I just want to tell my colleague from Nebraska how much I appreciate his service. I note for the body that in the effort to build a bipartisan coalition for major tax reform, MIKE JOHANNS was the Senator whose counsel we all thought we needed, and I thank him. I will have more to say about his career before the end of this week.

SSCI STUDY OF THE CIA'S DETENTION AND INTERROGATION PROGRAM

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I have served on the Senate Intelligence Committee for 14 years and came to the Senate floor in the spring of 2005 to join with Senator ROCKEFELLER in calling for the committee to investigate the CIA's interrogation activities and the possible use of torture. In 2009 I joined my Intelligence Committee colleagues in voting to approve Chair FEINSTEIN's motion to launch an investigation into these activities.

I said at the time, I continue to believe it today, that what this debate over torture requires is an infusion of facts. Americans can hear me and other policymakers argue that the CIA's so-called enhanced interrogation techniques constituted torture and did not work, and Americans can also hear various former officials argue that these techniques are not torture and that they produced uniquely valuable information. What is important is that today all Americans finally have access to the facts so they can make up their own minds. Personally, I hope this report closes the door on the possibility of our country ever resorting to torture again.

Americans have known since the days of the Salem witch trials that torture is an unreliable means of obtaining truthful information in addition to being morally reprehensible. But following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, a small number of CIA officials chose to follow the advice of private, outside contractors who told them the way to quickly get important information from captured terrorist suspects was by using coercive interrogation techniques that had been developed and used by Communist dictatorships during the Cold War.

I would note that the CIA officials later paid these same contractors to evaluate the effectiveness of their own work.

CIA officials repeatedly represented to the public, to the Congress, to the White House, and to the Justice Department that the techniques were safe, that they were only used against high-level terrorist captives, and that their use provided unique otherwise unavailable intelligence that saved lives. After 5 long years of investigation, our committee found that none of these claims held up. The CIA's so-called enhanced interrogation techniques included a number of techniques that our country has long considered torture. Furthermore, the CIA's own interrogation records make it clear that the use of these techniques in the CIA's secret prisons was far harsher than was described in representations by the CIA.

CIA Director Michael Hayden testified that any deviation from approved procedures were reported and corrected, but CIA interrogation logs described a wide variety of harsh techniques that the Justice Department's infamous torture memos did not even consider. Practices such as placing detainees in ice water or threatening a detainee with a power drill were often not appropriately recorded or corrected when they happened. Director Hayden also testified that detainees at a minimum have always had a bucket to dispose of their human waste, but in fact CIA detainees were routinely placed in diapers for extended periods of time, and CIA cables show multiple instances in which interrogators withheld waste buckets from detainees.

CIA records indicate that some CIA prisoners may not have been terrorists at all. Some of these individuals were in fact ruthless terrorists with blood already on their hands, but one of the report's most important findings is that this did not seem to be the case in every instance. In one particularly troubling case, the CIA held an intellectually challenged man prisoner and attempted to use tapes of him crying as leverage against another member of the individual's family.

At another point the CIA official noted in writing that the CIA was holding a number of detainees about whom we know very little, and the CIA on multiple occasions continued to hold people even after CIA officers concluded there was not information to detain them. The review even found email records that described Director Hayden instructing a CIA officer to underreport the total number of CIA detainees. To this day the CIA's official response to this report indicates that senior CIA officials are alarmingly uninterested in determining exactly how many detainees the CIA even held.

To be clear, the report doesn't attempt to determine the motivation behind these misrepresentations. The report doesn't reach judgments about whether individuals deliberately lied or unknowingly passed along inaccurate information. It simply compares the representations the CIA made to Congress, the Justice Department, the public, and others to the information found in the CIA's own internal records, and it notes where those comparisons reveal significant contradictions.

One of the biggest sets of contradictions revolve around the repeated claim that the use of these techniques produced unique, otherwise unavailable intelligence that saved lives. CIA officials made this claim to the White House, the Justice Department, the Congress, and the public. The claim was repeated over and over and over again. Over the years CIA officials came up with a number of examples to try to support the claim, such as the names of particular terrorists supposedly captured as a result of coercive interrogations or plots that had been supposedly thwarted based on this unique, otherwise unavailable information.

The committee took the 20 most prominent or frequently cited examples used by the CIA and our investigators spent years going through them. Twenty examples are going to seem like a lot to anybody who reads the report, but the committee members who were working on the report agreed it was important to be comprehensive and avoid cherry-picking just one or two cases. In every one of these cases the CIA statements about the unique effectiveness of coercive interrogation techniques were contradicted in one way or another by the Agency's own internal records.

I am going to repeat that because I think it is a particularly important finding. In every one of these 20 cases, CIA statements about the unique effectiveness of coercive interrogation was contradicted in one way or another by the Agency's own internal records. We are not talking about minor inconsistencies. We are talking about fundamental contradictions.

For example, in congressional testimony and documents prepared for White House briefings, the CIA claimed that a detainee had identified Khalid Shaikh Mohammed as the mastermind of the 9/11 attacks after he was detained by the CIA and subjected to the CIA's coercive interrogation techniques, but in fact CIA records clearly show that Abu Zubaydah provided this information during noncoercive interrogations by the FBI prior to the beginning of his coercive CIA interrogations and days before he was even moved to the CIA's secret detention site. I personally expected that there would be at least one or two cases where vague or incomplete records might appear to support the Agency's claims, but in fact in every one of these 20 examples they and the arguments for them crumble under close scrutiny.

The report that is being released today includes a number of redactions aimed at protecting our national security. I will say in my view some of these redactions are unnecessary and a few of them even obscure some details that would help Americans understand parts of the report. Overall I am satisfied that the redactions do not make the report unreadable and it would be possible for Americans to read the report to learn not only what happened but how it happened, and learning that is essential to keep it from happening again.

One of the reasons this public release is necessary is that the current CIA leadership has been resistant to acknowledging the full scope of the mistakes and misrepresentations that have surrounded this program. Some of this resistance is made clear in the Agency's official response to the committee's report, and I suspect some of it will be echoed by former officials who were involved in the program.

Finally, I want to wrap up by reminding people about the documents that have come to be known as the Panetta review. When former CIA Director Panetta came to the Agency in 2009, he made it clear from the outset that he wanted to work to put the Agency's history of torture behind it

and that he wanted to cooperate with the Intelligence Committee inquiry. He also sensibly asked CIA personnel to review internal CIA records and get a sense of what this investigation could be expected to find.

The review got off to a solid start. It began to identify some of the same mistakes and misrepresentations that are identified in our committee's report. Unfortunately, it does not appear that this review ever made it to the Director's desk. Instead, publicly available documents made it clear this review was quietly terminated by CIA attorneys who thought it was moving too fast.

Earlier this year the Agency conducted an unprecedented and secret search of Senate files in an effort to find out whether the committee had obtained copies of the Panetta review. After it was found that committee investigators had in fact obtained the Panetta review, the CIA actually attempted to file unsupported criminal allegations against Senate staff members. After the search was publicly revealed by the press, the CIA's own spokesperson acknowledged in USA Today that the search had taken place and it had been done because the CIA was looking to see if our investigators had found a document the CIA didn't want the Congress to have. Incredibly, that same week CIA Director John Brennan told reporter Andrea Mitchell of NBC that the CIA had not spied on Senate files and that ''nothing could be further from the truth.''

I think this incident and the difference between what was said to Andrea Mitchell and what the Agency's own people said to USA Today reflects once again what I call an alarming culture of misinformation. Instead of acknowledging the serious organizational problems that are laid out in this report, the Agency's leadership seems inclined to try to sweep them under the rug. This means organizational problems aren't going to be fixed unless they are laid out publicly, and there is also a danger that other countries or even future administrations might be tempted to use torture if they don't have all the facts about the CIA's experience. That is why the release today is so important.

In concluding, I thank all of the staff who have put in hours and hours and nights and weekends and time away from their families to get this investigation completed. I praise Chair FEINSTEIN and our former Chair Senator ROCKEFELLER, who together were resolute in pushing for this kind of congressional oversight.

## TRIBUTE TO MARK UDALL

Mr. WYDEN. I close with just a word about our friend and colleague Senator MARK UDALL of Colorado. I have had the pleasure of serving with Senator UDALL on the Intelligence Committee and have admired his commitment to American security and core American values. Many in the Senate would not know this because all of those intelligence meetings are behind closed doors, but MARK UDALL is not a Senator who is afraid to stand alone. He is not afraid to fight for what he believes in. When the fight to declassify this report got bumpy—and let me tell you it did a lot of times. I think some of you heard this weekend we had an eleventh-hour objection to the report getting out. People asked me what I thought, and I said it was not particularly surprising because there were objections practically every hour on the hour for months and months. Yet when the fight to declassify the report got very difficult, some people said: This is going to get buried forever. That is what happens when you try to get accountability and transparency. Senator MARK UDALL made it clear that wasn't going to be allowed to happen on MARK UDALL's watch.

I am going to wrap up by saying to Senator UDALL, I remember when we started this battle together and we got a handful of votes, sometimes like 13 to 2 or whatever. We thought it was going to be a long time before there was reform. We went from those days to eventually getting up to 15 or 20 votes. Colleagues, today, to a great extent because of Senator UDALL, in the last vote for real surveillance reform, we were up to 58 votes—58 votes for real surveillance reform. That, to a great extent, is possible because of the extraordinary service of my good friend Senator MARK UDALL from Colorado. We westerners always make sure we stay in touch, and you know that is going to be the case with this particular friend from the West, a wonderful Senator, Mr. MARK UDALL.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.

## SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE STUDY OF THE CIA'S DETENTION AND INTERROGATION PROGRAM

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. President, today is a historic day, as Senator WYDEN made clear, Senator FEINSTEIN, Senator ROCKEFELLER, and many other Senators to follow.

Before I talk about my involvement in the efforts that were put forth to reach this day, I want to say to Senator WYDEN, my good friend, you honor me with those comments. I want to acknowledge that when you are in a fight, it matters whom you are in the fight with. It has been my privilege and honor to fight on the side of transparency, on the side of protecting the Bill of Rights, and this has been a righteous cause. We are going to continue to work to find the right balance between privacy and security. As Ben Franklin famously implied, we can have both, but we don't end up with both if we set aside the Bill of Rights and those fundamental principles that are enshrined into the Bill of Rights. It has been my privilege to fight alongside you, and I wish you all the best. Yes, we westerners will stay in touch.

Turning back to the matter at hand, today, almost 6 years after the Senate Intelligence Committee voted to conduct a study of the CIA's detention and interrogation program and nearly 2 years after approving the report, the American people will finally know the truth about a very dark chapter in our Nation's history.

I had two goals at the beginning of this long process, and I still hold those two goals today. First, I have been committed to correcting the public record on the CIA's multiple misrepresentations to the American people, to other agencies, the executive branch, the White House, and to Congress.

Second, my goal has been to ensure that the truth comes out about the terrible acts committed in the name of the American people. Why? Because I want this to be our way of going forward, that neither the CIA nor any future administration repeats the grievous mistakes this important oversight work reveals.

This has been a careful and very deliberative process. We have compiled, drafted, redacted, and now released this report. It has been much harder than it needed to be. Senator WYDEN and many others pointed it out.

It brings no joy to discuss the CIA's brutal and appalling use of torture or the unprecedented actions that some in the intelligence community and the administration have taken in order to cover up the truth. By releasing the Intelligence Committee's landmark report, we affirm that we are a nation that does not hide from its past but learns from it. An honest examination of our shortcomings is not a sign of weakness but of the strength of our great Republic.

We have made significant progress since the CIA first delivered its heavily—underline ''heavily''—redacted version of the executive summary to the committee in August. The report we released today cuts through the fog the CIA's redactions created and will give the American people a candid, brutal, and coherent account of the CIA's torture program.

As the chairman said earlier today, even when public tensions were high, our committee continued to work behind the scenes to successfully whittle down 400 instances of unnecessary redactions to just a few. We didn't make all the progress we wanted, and the redaction process was filled with unwarranted and completely unnecessary obstacles, but all told, after reviewing the final version, I believe our landmark report accomplishes the goals I laid out at the outset and tells the story that needs to be told. It also represents a significant and essential step toward restoring faith in the crucial role of Congress to conduct oversight of the intelligence community. Congressional oversight is important to all of government's activities, but it

is especially important to those parts of government that operate in secret, as the Church committee discovered decades ago.

The challenges the Church committee confronted four decades ago persists today—namely, how to ensure that those government actions which are necessarily conducted in secret are nonetheless conducted within the confines of the law.

The release of this executive summary is testament to the power of effective oversight and the determination of Chairman FEINSTEIN and members of the committee to doggedly beat back obstacle after obstacle in order to reveal the truth to the American people. I have much more to say about these obstacles and about the critical importance of reforming an agency that refuses to even acknowledge what it has done. I will deliver those remarks soon. For now, I wish to congratulate the chairman and her staff on this very important achievement.

The document we are finally releasing today is the definitive history of what happened in the CIA's detention and interrogation program. We have always been a forward-looking nation, but to be so, we must be mindful of our own history. That is what this study is all about. That is why I have no doubt that we will emerge from this dark episode with our democracy strengthened and our future made even brighter.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. I see the distinguished senior Senator from Texas on the floor seeking recognition. I have been told to come here at 3:30 p.m., but obviously I yield to my friend from Texas and ask unanimous consent that when he completes his remarks I be recognized.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. I thank my friend from Vermont. All of this got pushed back a little bit with the laudatory speeches for our retiring colleague from Nebraska. We are backed up a little bit, but I won't be long.

I have to say that I came to the floor when the Senators from Oregon and Colorado were talking about Senator FEINSTEIN's decision to release this report. I get it that different people see the same subject matter sometimes through a different lens, but I can't think of any more reckless or irresponsible thing to do to our brave men and women who fight in our military, who have fought our wars for the last 13 years, and the intelligence community that has worked while risking their lives to keep us safe.

We all remember what happened on 9/11/2001, but apparently with time our memories have faded. What we do know for a fact is we would not have avoided another attack on our own soil if it were not for the dedication and the patriotism of men and women in our intelligence community who were operating under color of law. In other words, this isn't just something they decided to cook up; this was something that was vetted at the highest levels of the Justice Department and the Department of Defense.

We had hearing upon hearing on these various enhanced interrogation techniques. There were disagreements, but we do know they were effective in gleaning intelligence that helped keep Americans safer. That is not just me saying that. Ask Leon Panetta, the immediate past Director of the Central Intelligence Agency and the Secretary of the Department of Defense—a proud Democrat but also a patriot in his own right. Ask John Brennan, President Obama's choice to be the current CIA Director. He said virtually the same thing.

So much of this should have proven to be unnecessary after two separate U.S. attorneys conducted criminal investigations. There was one done earlier and then one done later when Attorney General Eric Holder reopened the investigation. These men and women who risk their lives to do what their government asks them to do to keep us safe were subjected to at least two Justice Department investigations, and obviously no decision to proceed with any kind of criminal charges was decided upon.

I think you have to wonder about the timing of this in a lameduck session where we have basically three items of business to do before we break for the Christmas holidays and a new Congress. It is clear that this report was pushed out in an attempt to make a political statement, but I have to tell you that I think it is a reckless act, and it is a disservice not only to the men and women who risked their lives but also to the American people who should expect more of us.

This was not a bipartisan Senate Intelligence Committee report. Once Republicans on the Senate Intelligence Committee figured out what was happening, they simply disassociated themselves from it. This is purely a partisan report. There are absolutely no recommendations made for any reforms in this report. It was simply done to embarrass and to hold up our brave men and women who serve our country and the intelligence community to ridicule, and it is a shame.

## TRIBUTE TO RALPH HALL

Mr. CORNYN. I came to the floor to talk about another topic, and that is about my friend and fellow Texan Congressman RALPH HALL, who at the end of this year will be retiring from representing Texas's Fourth District in the House of Representatives for more than three decades. It is hard to speak to the entirety of RALPH's 34 years in Congress in just a few minutes. I will try. I would be remiss if I didn't mention some of his greatest hits, so to speak.

Let me begin with what I admire most about RALPH HALL and why he is so beloved back home in Texas. Why would they return him election after election over these many years?

First, RALPH is someone whom a lot of Texans look up to as a role model. He is a happy warrior. Having proudly served this country and Texas for over 50 years, he is a man of extraordinary character and remarkable integrity.

Thinking about RALPH, the first thing that comes to mind is his service to others, from his military service to being the oldest and among the longest serving Members of Congress. RALPH has lived a life of service to others and leaves behind a considerable legacy—one that will be long remembered and celebrated by people in my State and I believe the people of the United States too.

Those who know RALPH know he is the man who, wherever he goes—whether it is back home or here in Washington—before leaving a room, he will have hugged or shaken the hand of every person in the room, not to mention telling a few bad jokes and leaving everybody laughing in the process. He is a man who truly cares about others, and that is evident by the way he arranged his desk in his Washington office. He said one of his favorite things about his office is the view. Even so, he arranged his desk with his back to the window so others could sit and enjoy the view. This speaks to the kind of man he is, always putting other people first.

As I said, he is also well known for his excellent sense of humor and an occasional bad joke. He is a great storyteller and raconteur. He does have some pretty good stories to tell, though, from selling cigarettes to the famous outlaws Bonnie and Clyde, to putting President Reagan on hold, to his interesting encounters and friendships with Mickey Mantle, Muhammad Ali, Ted Williams, Neil Armstrong, John Glenn, among others. There are his many stories about flying Hellcat fighter aircraft in the U.S. Army during World War II.

RALPH has led a full and exciting life. During his time in Congress, he has not just been the hometown Congressman from Rockwall, TX; he has been the hometown Congressman to everyone he has encountered. It doesn't matter who you are—RALPH just naturally wants to try to find out how he can be helpful to you, from the person he met on the street, to the colleagues in the Texas delegation, to the President of the United States. That is just the way he is.

Knowing RALPH, he probably has something up his sleeve that he is not telling us about what he is going to do after he leaves Congress next month. In fact, when asked about his plans after leaving Congress, RALPH mentioned he would probably go to work at Walmart because he has to have a job.

RALPH has always got to have something to do. But it goes to show that no matter what he does next, he will not be slowing down anytime soon.

RALPH HALL will be greatly missed in this Congress. I am privileged to call him a colleague and a friend. I would like to wish him Godspeed and all the best as he continues to recover from a recent car accident at home in Rockwall. I look forward to seeing what he accomplishes in the next chapter of his long and storied life.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont

## SSCI STUDY OF THE CIA'S DETENTION AND INTERROGATION PROGRAM

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I listened with interest to the tremendous statement made by the Senator from California, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, earlier today. She has spoken of this issue on other occasions, and we Americans should listen.

More than a decade ago the Central Intelligence Agency began detaining and torturing human beings in the name of the war on terrorism. Then employees and contractors of the U.S. Government, paid for by our taxpayers' dollars, abused and degraded, dehumanized people. They stripped them of their basic humanity. But more than stripping them of their basic humanity, they stripped America of its standing in the world as the leader of promoting and protecting human rights. Instead of protecting us as Americans, by their actions they hurt all Americans.

President Obama banned torture and cruel treatment when he took office, but only now, because of the courage and conviction of Senator FEINSTEIN and the other members of the Intelligence Committee and their staffs, do we have a full and public accounting of the CIA's actions—an accounting the American people deserve.

The decision to release this historic report, as Senator FEINSTEIN has courageously said, has been difficult, but it was the right and moral thing to do. If something is right and something is moral, no matter how difficult it is, you should do it. Releasing the report demonstrates that America—the America I love—is different. As Americans, we cannot sweep our mistakes under the rug and pretend they did not happen. We have to acknowledge our mistakes. We have to learn from our mistakes. In this case, we as Americans must and will do everything we can to ensure that our government never tortures again.

Five years ago, in 2009, I called for a commission of inquiry to review the Bush administration's detention and interrogation program and other sweeping claims of executive power by the Bush administration. I believe that in order to restore America's moral leadership, we have to acknowledge what happened in our name because much of the leadership we can show around the world is not based on our wealth or on the power of our military but on our moral leadership. Our Nation needed back then a full accounting of the CIA's treatment of detainees, and we need it today. With this report, at long last we have it.

This is not the first report to record or condemn the detention and interrogation policies and practices that were used during the last administration, but it is the first to fully chronicle the actions of the most secretive of our government agencies, the Central Intelligence Agency. The final report lays bare the dark truth about their program. That truth is far worse and it is far more brutal than most Americans ever imagined.

We have all seen the shocking pictures from Abu Ghraib. We have read the cold, clinical description of ''harsh'' or ''enhanced'' techniques written by Department of Justice attorneys to justify such treatment. We know that what was done at Abu Ghraib terribly diminished the image of the United States throughout the world. It did not make us safer by one iota. In fact, many would argue it made us less safe.

The report makes clear one fundamental truth: The CIA tortured people. That is the bottom line. No euphemistic description or legal obfuscation or pettifoggery can hide that fact any longer. The Intelligence Committee report shows that techniques such as waterboarding and sleep deprivation were used in ways far more frequent and cruel and harmful than previously known. It shows that gross mismanagement by those in charge at the CIA and a shocking indifference to human dignity led to horrendous treatment and conditions of confinement that went far beyond even what they had been approving. It turns out that the senior CIA leadership did not even know that ''enhanced'' techniques were being used at one CIA detention facility. In fact, in one instance, one of their prisoners died as a result, left shackled on a concrete floor in a dungeon room, and likely died of hypothermia.

This is America? This is what we stand for? This is the image we want to give the rest of the world? This American does not think so. This American does not think so. It is not what brought my grandparents and great-grandparents to this country.

These so-called ''enhanced'' interrogation techniques were not just used on the worst of the worst either. In some instances, the CIA did not even know whom it was holding. CIA records show that at least 26 people detained by the CIA did not meet the CIA's own standard for detention. Some of these individuals were subjected to—and this is a wonderful slogan—''enhanced'' techniques. What an evil slogan. Some detainees were determined not even to be members of Al Qaeda.

Moreover, the CIA relied on contractors—not even CIA personnel but contractors—who had no experience as interrogators to develop this program. They were happy to take American taxpayers' money. They did not know what they were doing, but they said: Give us the money. Eventually the CIA outsourced all aspects of the program to the company these contractors set up. Did they make a few thousand dollars? No. They made $80 million. This was a program out of control. It is yet another reason why Congress has to exercise its oversight responsibility.

The report also disproves CIA claims that torture programs were necessary to protect our Nation, and that it thwarted attacks. How many times have we heard it before—that we need this to protect us; we need this to protect us from another 9/11? We had all of the evidence we needed to stop 9/11, but the government had not even bothered to translate some of the material that our intelligence people had already obtained. After the fact, they decided: We should really translate some of that material we have. Then we found it could have been stopped.

This program of torture did not make us safer. As laid out in meticulous detail in the report, the use of these techniques did not generate uniquely valuable intelligence. In fact, the report thoroughly repudiates each of the most commonly cited examples of plots thwarted and terrorists captured. That should not come as a surprise.

The Senate Judiciary Committee held numerous hearings on the Bush administration's interrogation policies and practices. What we heard time and again from witness after witness is that torture and other cruel treatments do not work. But there are still some who continue to argue, even in the face of overwhelming testimony and actually now hard evidence to the contrary, that the program thwarted attacks and saved lives. They defend the CIA's action. They argue that the report does not tell the full story. But these are often the same people who participated in the rampant misrepresentations detailed in this report.

The report shows that CIA officials consistently misled virtually everyone outside the Agency about what was actually going on and about the results of the CIA interrogations—very similar to what we heard leading up to the war in Iraq after 9/11. I remember being in those hearings. I remember listening to the then-Vice President. I remember listening to others in those secret hearings and thinking: It does not ring true. I stated to others that I thought some of the things they were telling us did not ring true.

I remember walking early one morning with my wife near our home and two joggers coming up, calling us by name. These were people we had never seen before in the neighborhood.

One of them said, ''I hear you have some questions.'' He asked whether I had asked to see a particular document.

I said, ''I haven't. I didn't know there was such a thing.''

He said, ''You might find it interesting to read.''

So I did. Then I raised even more questions about what I read there, which totally contradicted what the Vice President and others were saying. I mentioned that to some.

A few days later we are out walking again. Both joggers—my wife remembers this so well—they said, ''I see you read the document.''

I said, ''I did.''

''But did they tell you about this other document?''

I said, ''I didn't know there was such a document.''

''You may find it interesting.''

And so I then reviewed it. It was obvious from what I read that they were withholding evidence that Saddam Hussein had nothing to do with 9/11, contrary to what the Vice President and others were saying; that there were no weapons of mass destruction; and that in fact, they were actually well penned in by the no-fly zone we had set up. But instead we rushed into war because we sought to avenge 9/11, even though they had nothing to do with 9/11. Now almost $3 trillion later, look at the mess we are in.

The report released today details how, like the run-up to the war in Iraq, material that was held back from people who should have seen it. This included Members of Congress, White House officials, even Justice Department lawyers who were being asked to review the legality of CIA techniques.

In the coming weeks, as we go into the new Congress, we are going to hear a lot about the need for oversight. I would hope the new leadership would look at the report Senator FEINSTEIN and her committee have come out with, because this is where oversight should be—at the top of the list. So too should the unprecedented spying by the CIA on the congressional staff investigating this program. Just think about that. They investigated Members of Congress who were asking them about things they had done wrong. Then there is also the troubling pattern of intimidation, which includes the CIA referring its own congressional overseers to the Justice Department for criminal prosecution. My God, we are going back to the Joseph McCarthy days with things like this. This report and those actions show a CIA out of control. It is incumbent upon all of us—Republicans and Democrats alike—in the Congress to hold the Agency accountable.

The Judiciary Committee should take a hard look at the role of the Department of Justice and its legal justifications for this program. Much ink has been spilled criticizing the OLC opinion written during the Bush administration by John Yoo, Jay Bybee, and Stephen Bradbury. The OLC has always had a good reputation, but these opinions sullied the reputation of that office, and they have been rightly repudiated. But the report also demonstrates that even those opinions were the result of key misrepresentations by the CIA about the seniority of the people subjected to these techniques, the implementation of the techniques, and the intelligence resulting from them.

As an institution, if we truly represent 325 million Americans, do we not have a responsibility to examine the systemic failure that allowed this to happen and then to ensure that it does not happen again?

Those who attack the credibility of this report are wrong. This report is not based on conjecture or theory or insinuation. Anyone who reads it can see that this careful, thorough report was meticulously researched and written. It is based on more than 6 million pages of CIA cables, emails, and other documents containing descriptions that CIA employees and contractors themselves recorded.

I believe Senator FEINSTEIN and the other members of the Intelligence Committee who worked on this deserve our respect and our appreciation.

Intelligence Committee staffers, too, have dedicated years of their lives to this report. They have demonstrated courage and dedication in the face of enormous challenges, because they thought first and foremost about the United States of America.

In the past year they were even threatened with criminal prosecution. Why? For doing the job they are supposed to do for the United States of America. But they would not allow themselves to be intimidated. They have served their country well, and they have my deepest appreciation for bringing us this truly historic study.

I thank their families, because they couldn't tell their families the things they were reading. I imagine the families knew of some of these attacks on them. Their families too deserve our thanks.

I am disappointed that those same honorable staffers had to spend so many months arguing with this White House about redactions to this report—a White House that is supposed to be dedicated to transparency. This report should have been issued months ago, and it still contains more redactions than it should. I can think of some who will wonder why the redactions are there, but I am gratified that we can finally shed light on this dark chapter.

Among the many lessons we can take from this report is that Americans deserve more government transparency, and that is essential to a strong democracy. Just yesterday the Senate unanimously passed a bipartisan bill, the Leahy-Cornyn FOIA Improvement Act. It significantly improves the Freedom of Information Act. Today's release of this report is another important victory for greater government transparency.

I strongly disagree with those who argue that the reports should not come out and who have tried to pressure and silence Senator FEINSTEIN. Don't place the blame on those who are telling the truth. Place the blame squarely where it belongs: on those who authorized and carried out a systematic program of torture and secret detention, which is in violation of domestic law, and in violation of international law. But more importantly it is in violation of the fundamental principles of morality on which our great Nation was founded.

In trying times, such as those we faced after September 11 and those we face now, we look to our intelligence, military, and law enforcement professionals to keep us safe. We are fortunate to have so many dedicated and talented people serving in the intelligence community, military, and law enforcement. But one lesson for their sake, our sake, and our country's sake, is that we should never become so blinded by fear that we are willing to sacrifice our own principles, laws, and humanity.

We are the greatest, most powerful Nation on Earth. We cannot turn our backs on our laws, our history, and our Constitution because we are afraid. This Senator is not afraid.

No matter what, our enemies are human beings. And no matter how hardened and evil they are, no matter how repulsive their actions—and many are—no matter how horribly they have treated their own victims, we do not torture them—because we don't join them on that dark side of history. We stand on the other side of history as Americans. Generations of men and women have given their lives and many have even endured torture themselves in order to protect this Nation. They did so not to protect our way of life, but to protect our principles, our understanding of right and wrong, of humanity, of evil.

The shameful actions uncovered by this report dishonored those men and women who have fought to protect what is the best of our Nation, as well as the men and women even today who continue to put their lives at risk for this country.

Americans know, throughout this country, that we are better than this. As we heard after Abu Ghraib and we will hear now, we are better than this and we should never let this happen again. Let's show the rest of the world, too.

I have spoken much longer than I normally do, but this is important to me.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Mr. KING. Mr. President, I also want to address the report that was released this morning by the Chair of the Intelligence Committee. I come at this in a slightly different way than some of my colleagues, because I came to this process late.

I joined the Intelligence Committee in January of 2013. By that time the report had been authorized, had been written, and actually had been finalized. So I came to it as a final product and the decision was whether it should be released.

Before talking about the report, there are two very important points that should be made.

No. 1, one of my problems with this discussion is that everybody talks about the CIA. The CIA did this, the CIA did that. The fact is the CIA as an institution doesn't do anything. People do things.

I have been around the world and met with CIA people in many countries. I have met with them here. They are patriotic, they are dedicated, they are smart, and they are brave. The problem with this situation is their reputation has been sullied by a relatively small group of people early in the prior decade.

So I want to make clear, at least as far as I am concerned, this is not an attempt to discredit or otherwise undermine the CIA or the good people who are there, but to point out that mistakes were made.

No. 2, I think we need to acknowledge that those were extraordinary times, the year or so after September 11. We thought there was going to be another attack. There was a lot of pressure to uncover that information. It is easy, 10 years later, to look back and say: Well, we shouldn't have done this or we shouldn't have done that. I understand that. We have to acknowledge that. However, those circumstances cannot justify a basic violation of who we are as Americans and what our values are.

The process is the report was completed and accepted by the committee on a bipartisan basis. My predecessor, Olympia Snowe, voted in favor of the acceptance of the report in December of 2012.

It was then sent to the CIA. They responded, a rather full response. It took about 6 months, and then they submitted their response to the committee.

I knew the vote was going to be coming up last spring as to whether to release the report. I went to the secure site in one of our buildings and sat down every night for a week and read this executive summary, every single word—all 500 pages, all of the footnotes—and made my own judgment as one who was in no way invested in this report. Here are the conclusions I reached. I must say, until I sat and read it, I didn't fully comprehend what this issue was, why we needed this large report, why we needed to do this study. After reading it, I was shaken and convinced that the report was important and should be released.

Basically, it has four conclusions. I am not going to go through them in detail, but No. 1 was: We committed torture. I am not going to argue that. I would say, as I said repeatedly, read the report. No person can read the description of what was done in our name and not conclude that it was way outside the values of our country and constituted torture by any definition.

No. 2, it was terribly managed. That is not a very exciting point about management, but nobody was in charge. Contractors were actually designing the program and assessing whether it was successful—the people who had designed it and were implementing it. There was no central place at the CIA that managed it, so that was a problem.

No. 3—and this we are going to talk about for a few minutes—it was not effective. The guts of this report are an analysis of the 20 principal cases the CIA presented as justification for the torture to say that it worked, that it led to intelligence that was reliable and current, and the report goes through in excruciating detail looking at each one of those allegations.

It basically finds that the information was either already available, it was available in our hands, it was available in other ways, and the witnesses had given up the data prior to their being subjected to these extraordinary measures. I am going to talk, as I mentioned, in a couple of minutes about this issue of effectiveness.

I should have said this at the beginning. My poor words can't contribute a great deal to this debate, but the speech Senator JOHN MCCAIN made on this floor this morning should be required viewing for every schoolchild in America, every Member of this body, every Member of this Congress, and every American. He spoke eloquently about the violation of our ideals of this program and the fact that it cannot, will not, and could not work.

The final point we take from the report is this program was continually misrepresented. It was misrepresented to the President, it was misrepresented to the Justice Department, it was misrepresented to the Congress, and it was misrepresented to the Intelligence Committee.

The problem is that continues today. In the past few days we have seen an outburst of statements, speeches, and interviews on television saying it was effective. It wasn't effective, and the report makes that clear.

There is a semantic sleight of hand going on, and I have already seen it in two or three interviews on television where people slide from the report and they say: The program of detention of people whom we captured after September 11 was effective in generating intelligence.

Absolutely true. There is no doubt of that. People were detained, they were interrogated, they gave good intelligence, it taught us what we know about Al Qaeda, and it was very helpful to the country in preventing future plots.

The question for the House, though, is was the torture effective? If you have somebody in custody, they give up good information, and then later you torture them and they don't give you anymore information, the torture didn't create that information or that intelligence. The question is did the extraordinary methods create additional evidence.

People should cock their ears when they hear people say the program created this good intelligence. It did. But the program is not what we are talking about today. We are talking about so-called enhanced interrogation techniques.

I would suggest when people come up with a euphemism such as enhanced interrogation techniques, that should tip us off that something is going on that we should be concerned about.

I wrestled with this decision. It was not easy. There is risk involved. There has been a lot of commentary today. Our people are on alert. Will someone attack us because of this report?

I can't deny that risk. I think it is impossible to say. But we have already learned that these people will attack us for any or no reason. They have been trying to attack us for 10 years. That is their reason for existing.

ISIL has beheaded Americans, not because of this report, but because that is their agenda. Now they may issue a press release or a YouTube video and say we are doing this because of the report, but I would submit they are going to do it anyway.

What they are going to cite—it is not the report, it is what we did that has inflamed opposition around the world, and it has done so for many years already.

Finally, on the question of the risk, when the terrible activities at Abu Ghraib came to the attention of the Congress, we did a report. The Armed Services Committee did a study and issued a report in grisly detail of what was done, and at that point we had 100,000 troops in Iraq. If ever there was a report that would have inflamed public opinion in a foreign country and generated retribution against us, it was that. We cannot be intimidated by people who tell us that we cannot exercise and be true to our own ideals.

But if there is any risk, why should we do it? Because these actions are so alien to our values, they are so alien to our principles that we simply can't countenance them.

By the way, if this wasn't torture, if this wasn't a problem, why did the CIA destroy the tapes of one of these interrogations? That is what started all of this, when the Senate learned they had destroyed tapes. If they thought this was not torture—which is what they were telling us—then why are they destroying the tapes? That is what began this process.

To me, one of the most telling quotes in the whole report was a back-and-forth between the CIA and I think the White House—but I think it was within the CIA where the statement was made: ''Whatever you do, don't let Colin Powell find out about this, he'll blow his stack.'' Now that tells me they knew they were doing something that wasn't acceptable to our country and to the American people. But the second reason to release this report is the key: so it will never happen again. That is the whole deal here.

The campaign of the last few days of people saying it worked and it wasn't torture and you shouldn't do it because

of the risk—that, to me, validates my concern because these people are essentially saying: We would do it again if we had the chance. And the only thing standing between them and doing it again is an Executive order signed by this President in January of 2009, which could be wiped out in the first week of a new Presidency or in the first month of a new Presidency. We cannot have this happen again.

The oratory is that it works. I have a letter, which I will submit for the RECORD, from 20 former terrorist interrogators—Army, Air Force, CIA, FBI—saying these kinds of tactics don't work and, in fact, they produce bad intelligence. There is an article in Politico today by Mark Fallen, who is a 30-year interrogator, saying it doesn't work.

We have to have this discussion and lay that to rest because the people who are saying it works are really saying: And we will do it again if we have to. And that is not who we are as people.

Interestingly, in the CIA's response to the report—all during the early part of this past decade the argument was—and we are hearing it today—it works. We are certain it works. We got valuable intelligence. We got Osama bin Laden.

The CIA is not saying that today. When they submitted their response to the committee's report, what they said about effectiveness was that it is unknowable whether it was effective. I believe the migration from the certainty they gave to Members of Congress and the President and the Department of Justice—the migration from ''certainty'' to ''unknowable'' speaks volumes because they couldn't refute the facts that are in this report.

If this idea that this kind of interrogation works becomes conventional wisdom, it will definitely happen again.

I go back in conclusion to JOHN MCCAIN's statement this morning. I can't match his eloquence. It was one of the most powerful messages I have ever heard in this body or anywhere else. He talked about who we are as Americans, and he also talked from personal experience about what torture will do and whether it will produce good information, and I would submit that JOHN MCCAIN knows more about that particular subject than all the rest of us in this body put together.

I got a critical note from a friend in Maine this morning that said ''You know, you are naive'' and all those kinds of things. I just wrote him back and said, ''Don't take it from me; watch what JOHN MCCAIN had to say.''

We are exceptional, but we are not exceptional because of natural resources or because we are smarter and better looking than anybody else; we are exceptional because of our values. We are one of the few countries in the world that was founded on explicit values and ideals and principles. And principles aren't something you discard when times get tough. That is when they are important. That is like saying: I am in favor of free press unless somebody says something offensive. These are principles that make us distinct and different.

I believe this debate is about the soul of America. It is about who we want to be as a people. It is a hard debate. It is difficult. It is hard to talk about these things. This was a dark period. But I believe that having this discussion, having this debate, getting this information out—and by the way, all the information is going to be out: the report; the CIA's response was made public today; the minority had their own statement that is quite substantial. So the public is going to be able to look at all this information and make their own decisions. I looked at the information, and the decision I made was that this is important information the people of America are entitled to, they should understand, and we should move forward consistent with our ideals and our principles as a nation and see that something like this never happens again.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the letter I referred to earlier.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

FEBRUARY 4, 2014.

Hon. ANGUS KING,
*U.S. Senate, 359 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC.*

DEAR SENATOR KING: We write to you as current and former professional interrogators, interviewers, and intelligence officials regarding the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence's (SSCI) 6000-plus page study of the CIA's post-9/11 rendition, detention, and interrogation program. We understand that the SSCI may soon take up the issue of whether to pursue declassification and public release of the study. In the interest of transparency and furthering an understanding of effective interrogation policy, we urge you to support declassification and release of as much of the study as possible, with only such redactions as are necessary to protect national security.

Since the CIA program was established over a decade ago, there has been substantial public interest in, and discussion of, the fundamental efficacy of the so-called ''enhanced interrogation techniques'' (EITs). Despite the employment of these methods, critical questions remain unanswered as to whether EITs are an appropriate, lawful, or effective means of consistently eliciting accurate, timely, and comprehensive intelligence from individuals held in custody. Based on our experience, torture and other forms of abusive or coercive techniques are more likely to generate unreliable information and have repeatedly proven to be counterproductive as a means of securing the enduring cooperation of a detained individual. They increase the likelihood of receiving false or misleading information, undermine this nation's ability to work with key international partners, and bolster the recruiting narratives of terrorist groups.

We would like to emphasize that this view is further supported by relevant studies in the behavioral sciences and publicly available evidence, which show that coercive interrogation methods can substantially disrupt a subject's ability to accurately recall and convey information, cause a subject to emotionally and psychologically ''shut down,'' produce the circumstances where resistance is increased, or create incentives for a subject to provide false information to lessen the experience of pain, suffering, or anxiety.

Despite this body of evidence, some former government officials who authorized the CIA's so-called ''enhanced interrogation'' program after 9/11 claim that it produced a significant and sustained stream of accurate and reliable intelligence that helped disrupt terrorist plots, save American lives, and even locate Osama Bin Laden. While some of the particular claimed successes of the program have been disproven based on publicly available information, the broader claim that the EIT program was necessary to disrupt terrorist plots and save American lives is based on classified information unavailable to the public.

The SSCI study—based on a review of more than 6 million pages of official records—provides an important opportunity to shed light on these important questions. We understand that the SSCI minority and CIA have separate views regarding the meaning and significance of the official documentary record. Those views are important and should also be made public so that the American people have an opportunity to decide for themselves whether the CIA program was ultimately worth it.

It is beyond time for this critical issue of national importance to be driven by facts—not rhetoric or partisan interest. We therefore urge you to vote in favor of declassifying and releasing the SSCI study on the CIA's post-9/11 interrogation program.

Sincerely,

Tony Camerino, Glenn Carle, James T. Clemente, Jack Cloonan, Gerry Downes, Mark Fallon, Brigadier General David R. Irvine, USA (Ret.), Steven Kleinman, Marcus Lewis, Mike Marks, Robert McFadden, Charles Mink, Joe Navarro, Torin Nelson, Erik Phillips, William Quinn, Buck Revell, Mark Safarik, Haviland Smith, Lieutenant General Harry E. Soyster (Ret.).

Mr. KING. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senator LEVIN be permitted to follow my remarks and speak for up to 10 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. President, torture is wrong, it is un-American, and it doesn't work. Recognizing these important realities, the President signed an Executive order in January of 2009 that limited interrogations by any American personnel to the guidelines that are in the Army Field Manual, and he reinforced U.S. commitment to the Geneva Conventions. This closed the book on the Bush administration's interrogation program. But make no mistake—these weren't enhanced interrogations. This was torture. I would challenge anyone to read this report and not be truly disturbed by some of these techniques.

Releasing the Intelligence Committee's study of the CIA's detention and interrogation program to the American people today will finally provide a thorough accounting of what happened and how it happened. In addition, like my colleague and friend from Maine

who spoke before me, I hope this process helps to ensure that it never ever happens again.

This was a grave chapter in our history, and the actions taken under this program cost our Nation global credibility, and—let's be blunt—they put American lives at risk. Some have suggested that releasing this report could put American lives at risk. But let's be clear. It has been the use of torture that has unnecessarily put Americans in harm's way.

There is no question that there will never be a good time to release this study. We all know that for months, terrorists in the extremist group ISIS have been kidnapping and barbarically killing innocent Americans because of what we as a nation stand for. The response to their threats and terrorism should not be for us to change our American values; it should be to stand firm in our values and work with our allies to root out extremism and terrorism in all its forms.

The release of this study will finally let us face what was done in the name of the American people and allow for future generations to use these findings to learn from the mistakes made by the architects of this program. This is an objective, fact-based study. It is a fair study. And it is the only comprehensive study conducted of this program and the CIA's treatment of its detainees in the aftermath of the September 11 attacks. Today marks an enormous, albeit painful, step into our future.

It is important to know that these torture methods were the brainchild of a few CIA officials and their contractors. When I joined the Intelligence Committee two years ago, I began to read the classified report and was surprised to learn this. Frankly, it was not consistent with all of my assumptions. It wasn't what my prejudices told me to expect. But that is exactly why a fact-based study is so important.

Furthermore, it is important to know that at every turn, CIA leadership avoided congressional oversight of these activities and, even worse, misled Congress. That leadership deliberately kept the vast majority of the Senate and House Intelligence Committees in the dark on the interrogation techniques until the day the President revealed the detention and interrogation program to the rest of the world in 2006—4 years after it began.

Even then, misrepresentations to the committee about the effectiveness of this program continued, in large part because the CIA had never performed any comprehensive review of the effectiveness of the interrogation techniques or the actions of its officers. Myths of the effectiveness of torture have been repeated, perpetuating the fable that this was a necessary program that somehow saved lives.

The committee examined the CIA's claims of plots thwarted and detainees captured as a result of intelligence gained through torture. In each and every case, the committee found that the intelligence was already available from other sources or provided by the detainees themselves before they were tortured.

However, we need to stop treating the issue of torture as one worthy of debate over its practical merits. This is about torture being immoral, being un-American. Reducing a human being to a state of despair through systematic subjugation, pain, and humiliation is unquestionably immoral. It should never happen again with the blessing of the Government of the United States of America.

As my colleague who spoke before me—Senator KING of Maine—said so well in an interview this morning, ''This is not America. This is not who we are.'' I think that sums up how I view the revelations in that report.

The information in the study released today to the public will finally pull back the curtain on the terrible judgment that went into creating and implementing this interrogation program.

The decision to use these techniques and the defense of the program were the work of a relatively small number of people at the CIA. This study is in no way a condemnation of the thousands of patriotic men and women at this great Agency who work tirelessly every day to protect and defend our Nation from very real and imminent threats using lawful measures; using effective measures. In fact, the insistence that so many intelligence successes were the result of enhanced interrogations negates and marginalizes the effective work done by thousands of other CIA officers not involved in these activities.

What this study does is show that multiple levels of government were misled about the effectiveness of these techniques. If secretive government agencies want to operate in a democracy, there must be trust and transparency with those who are tasked with the oversight of those agencies.

As the committee carries out future oversight, we will benefit from the lessons in this study. I hope we never again let the challenges of difficult times be used as an excuse to frustrate and defer oversight the way it was in the early years described in this report.

Although President Obama ended the program by signing that Executive order in 2009, any future President could reverse it. It is worth remembering that years before this detention and interrogation program even began, the CIA had sworn off the harsh interrogations of its past. But in the wake of the terrorist attacks against the United States, it repeated those mistakes by once again engaging in brutal interrogations that undermined our Nation's credibility on the issue of human rights, produced information of dubious value, and wasted millions and millions of taxpayer dollars.

The public interest in this issue too often has centered on the personalities involved and the political battle waged in the release of this study, but those stories are reductive, and I hope they will soon be forgotten. Because the story of what happened in this detention and interrogation program—and how it happened—is too important, and it needs to be fully understood so that future generations will not make the same mistakes that our country made out of fear.

When America engages in these acts, with authorization from the highest levels of government, we invite others to treat our citizens and our soldiers the same way. This study should serve as a warning to those who would make similar choices in the future or argue about the efficacy of these techniques. Let us learn from the mistakes of the past, and let us never repeat these mistakes again.

Before I close, I wish to say how important it is to acknowledge that the Intelligence Committee's study of the CIA's detention and interrogation program represents many, many years of hard work by Members and staff who faced incredible obstacles in completing their work. The fact that this study is finished is a testament to their dedication, and it is a testament to the dedication and focus of Chairman ROCKEFELLER and Chairman FEINSTEIN in deciding that oversight is our job, regardless of how long it takes.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The senior Senator from Michigan.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, the report released today by the Intelligence Committee is an important addition to the public's knowledge about the CIA's use of torture, euphemistically described by some as ''enhanced interrogation techniques'' in the period following the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

The use of these techniques was a failure, both moral and practical. These tactics violated the values this Nation has long stood for, while adding little benefit to our security. As GEN David Petraeus and others have pointed out, their use has placed U.S. personnel at greater risk of being tortured. They have tarnished America's standing in the world and undermined our moral authority to confront tyrants and torturers. I am glad this report will fully inform a public debate with facts that have remained classified for too long, and I hope it ensures that our Nation never again resorts to such brutal and misguided methods.

The report lays out clearly that, contrary to claims by former CIA and Bush administration officials, these techniques did not produce uniquely valuable intelligence that saved lives. The report examines 20 such specific representations that were used frequently by the CIA to make the case to policymakers for continued use of abusive techniques. In all 20 cases, the CIA's claims about the value of intelligence gathered through torture were inaccurate. At the same time the CIA

was making false claims about the effectiveness of these techniques, it was failing to mention that some detainees subjected to these techniques provided false, fabricated information—information that led to time-consuming wild-goose chases.

This is not at all surprising when we consider the origin of these abusive interrogation techniques. In 2008 the Senate Armed Services Committee produced a detailed investigative report into the treatment of detainees in military custody. That report traced the path of techniques such as waterboarding, sleep deprivation, and forced nudity from the military's survival, evasion, resistance, and escape training, or SERE training, the path to interrogations of U.S. detainees. SERE training was not designed to train U.S. personnel to torture detainees. Rather, it was designed to prepare U.S. personnel to survive torture at the hands of our enemies. SERE training simulated techniques that were used by the Chinese interrogators during the Korean War—techniques designed to elicit a confession—any confession—whether true or false. Those who tortured U.S. troops were not after valuable actionable intelligence. They were after confessions they could use for propaganda purposes.

Defenders of the CIA's actions have claimed that abusive techniques produced key intelligence on locating bin Laden that couldn't have been acquired through other means. This is false, as the Intelligence Committee's report demonstrates in detail. Not only was the key information leading to bin Laden obtained through other means not involving abusive interrogation techniques by the CIA, but, in fact, the CIA detainee who provided the most significant information about the courier provided the information prior to being subjected to abusive interrogation.

There has been a great deal of conversation, and rightly so, about the need for effective congressional oversight of our intelligence community and the obstacles that exist to that oversight. This report highlights many such obstacles. In one case, this report makes public the likely connection between the Senate's efforts to oversee intelligence and the destruction of CIA tapes documenting abusive interrogation of detainees. In 2005 I sponsored a resolution, with the support of ten colleagues, to establish an independent national commission to examine treatment of detainees since 9/11. According to emails quoted in the report released today, Acting CIA General Counsel John Rizzo wrote on October 31, 2005, that the commission proposal ''seems to be gaining some traction,'' and argued for renewed efforts ''to get the right people downtown''—that is, at the White House—''on board with the notion of our destroying the tapes.'' Does it sound a little bit like Watergate? The videos were destroyed at the direction of Jose Rodriguez, then the head of the CIA's National Clandestine Service, just 1 day after the November 8, 2005, vote on our commission proposal in the Senate. It is just one striking example of the CIA's efforts to evade oversight.

Some have argued against releasing this report, suggesting that it could spark violence against American interests. Fundamentally, the idea that release of this report undermines our security is a massive exercise in blame shifting. Telling the truth about how we engaged in torture doesn't risk our security. It is the use of torture that undermines our security. Release of this report is hopefully an insurance policy against the danger that a future President, a future intelligence community, and a future Congress might believe that we should compromise our values in pursuit of unreliable information through torture. If a future America believes that what America's CIA did in 2001, 2002, and 2003 was acceptable and useful, we are at risk of repeating the same horrific mistakes. That is a threat to our security.

Torture is never the American way. Concealing the truth is never the American way. Our Nation stands for something better. Our people deserve something better—they deserve an intelligence community that conducts itself according to the law, according to basic human values, and with the safety of our troops always in mind. They deserve better than intelligence tactics that are likely to produce useless lies from people trying to end their torture being used against them, instead of producing valuable intelligence.

I thank Chairman FEINSTEIN for her leadership in completing and releasing this report. I thank Senator ROCKEFELLER for his longstanding effort in this regard. I thank Senator MCCAIN and others for speaking out on the need to ensure that the United States never again repeats these mistakes.

Mr. President, I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## AMERICAN SAVINGS PROMOTION ACT

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I am on the floor this afternoon to speak briefly about the American Savings Promotion Act, H.R. 3374.

My understanding is that this bill may soon pass the Senate—it was passed by the House of Representatives in September—and I wish to speak briefly about its value to our country, to its citizens, and to our country's future.

I believe this is a fairly narrow circumstance with broad consequences. I believe if there is a primary responsibility we have in being a citizen of this country, it is to make sure, among other things, that we pass on to future generations of Americans the opportunity to pursue the American dream—to be able to have an idea to pursue a business plan, to save for your family's and children's education, to save for your own retirement, to prepare yourself for a bright financial future. Unfortunately, many Americans struggle to do that.

Certainly, one of the aspects of that circumstance is there is very little savings that goes on in our country today. People are unable or unwilling, or perhaps undisciplined, in a way that allows them to prepare for their financial security and their financial future. The problem is—and statistics bear this out—people aren't saving. The reality is, according to a recent survey, 44 percent of American households lack the savings to cover basic expenses for 3 months if unemployment or medical emergency or another crisis leads to a loss of stable income. Many Americans have the inability—almost the majority of Americans have the inability to care for themselves and their families if there is an emergency or a problem for more than 3 months. That is something we ought to try to resolve.

I also think there has been over a period of time a disparity of incomes. We want to make certain those at the lowest income levels have an opportunity to increase their income and to increase their financial stability. In fact, the Senator from Oregon, Senator WYDEN, and I created sometime ago the Senate Economic Mobility Caucus, trying to make certain that people have a chance to move up the ladder of economic success and security in our economy and in our country. Senator WYDEN and I came together to bring some of the best minds from conservative to more liberal thought-provoking organizations and policy organizations to visit with Republican and Democratic Senators and their staffs about what ideas are out there that might increase the chances that a person or a family has the chance to improve their financial circumstances.

One of the ideas that arose from that caucus's discussions was this legislation called the American Savings Promotion Act, again, with the realization that people are not saving for their own financial security, that they lack stability in times of emergency and difficult economic challenges to care for themselves, how can we encourage Americans to save more?

One of the ideas that came forth in this regard is the opportunity to link savings to prizes. When I first heard this, I thought it sounded a little bit odd, a little bit like a gimmick. But the reality is with little savings, people still believe—in fact, 20 percent of Americans believe that winning the lottery is a meaningful strategy to build wealth. Americans spend more than $60 billion every year on lottery

tickets and families earning the least spend the highest percentage of their earnings on lottery tickets despite the long odds of winning.

This legislation is not about a lottery, but about allowing financial institutions the opportunity to provide prizes for those who save, who open a savings account and deposit money into that account. In our country, because of the way financial institutions are regulated, that has been an opportunity in a number of States in credit union financial institutions for a period of time. In fact, the statistics and the facts that arise from that experiment or that experience indicate that savings increases when there is a prize associated with the savings behavior. So it is one of the reasons this makes sense. Prize-linked savings is an innovation, a tool to encourage savings while offering the chance to win a larger prize.

We know these programs work because of the evidence in the States that I mentioned in which credit unions have been offering these prizes associated with savings, and that has occurred in Nebraska and North Carolina and Washington. Since 2009, over 50,000 accountholders have collectively saved more than $94 million, and it only is available in the credit union setting and not available in a bank setting because of Federal barriers that prevent banks and thrifts from offering these prize-linked savings products.

With the passage of this legislation—again, which is a pretty straightforward, commonsense kind of opportunity—this legislation will update Federal laws to allow States to expand prize-linked savings to other financial institutions beyond credit unions.

Increasing savings is a win-win for individuals. It is certainly valuable to boost the financial institutions' accounts and an improvement to the American economy.

This legislation was introduced by me, with the cosponsorship efforts of Senator SHERROD BROWN, the Senator from Ohio, in an effort to create one more opportunity, one more piece of encouragement for people to save for their own financial well-being, to care for themselves and their families, and to increase the savings rate in this country for the benefit of the entire economy, but most importantly for the benefit of low-income individuals who need a boost of encouragement to save.

I wish to thank my colleagues in the House. As I say, this legislation passed in the House where Congressman KILMER and Congressman COTTON led the effort in the House, and my colleague, the Senator from Ohio, Senator BROWN, for his efforts in supporting this legislation here in the Senate. It is an opportunity for us to do something modest but useful, something based upon common sense, and something that accomplishes a goal we all should have of making certain the American dream is alive and well, that individuals and families take personal responsibility for themselves and their family members. We all know that increased savings, preparing for any kind of circumstance or emergency that comes our way, is something that ought to be encouraged.

I appreciate that it is likely that later today or tomorrow H.R. 3374 will pass, again, an example of where we have been able to work together and bring new ideas to the cause of making certain that everybody has the opportunity to increase their economic value, to increase the economic worth for their family available for the future, to pay their bills, and to make certain their future is bright, again, in my mind making sure the American dream is more alive and all American families are better off.

Mr. President, I thank you for the opportunity to address the Senate, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. WARREN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

## SSCI STUDY OF THE CIA'S DETENTION AND INTERROGATION PROGRAM

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Madam President, I had a chance briefly earlier, when Chairman DIANNE FEINSTEIN of the Senate Intelligence Committee and her predecessor as Chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, Commerce Chairman JAY ROCKEFELLER, were on the floor, to express my appreciation to them for the leadership they showed in bringing the Senate Intelligence Committee report through a very long ordeal and finally before the American public today.

I am not going to revisit what the report says. I was on the Intelligence Committee as it was prepared. I was closely involved in its preparation. The points I would like to make here today are, first, to once again thank Chairman ROCKEFELLER and Chairman FEINSTEIN for persisting through this process, particularly Chairman FEINSTEIN, who I think saw very intense resistance both within the Senate and within the CIA to this effort. They, I think, have done something that is in the very best traditions of the Senate.

The second thing I will say is that in my opinion, in America, an open democracy like ours lives and dies by the truth. If we have done something wrong, if we have done something we should not have done, then we should come clean about it. That is what this report does, in excruciating, painstaking detail.

Let me credential the report for a minute. When the CIA was offered a chance to challenge the facts of the report, they had it for 6 months. My understanding is they came up with one factual correction which was accepted. You hear a lot of blather in the talk show circuit now about how the report is inaccurate. Well, the agency that least wanted to see this report come out and most wanted to hammer at it had 6 months with full access to all of the files and the underlying knowledge of what was done. The best they could come up with was a single correction. So I hope we can get past whether it was correct.

The other thing we should get past is this was a bunch of second-armchair thinking by people who approved the program originally and now, on reflection, want to look good. The Senate was not briefed on this program until the public found out about it. The Senate Intelligence Committee was not briefed on this program until the public found out about it. The only people who were briefed on it were the Chairs, the Chair and the Vice Chair on the House and the Senate side. They were told strictly not to talk to anybody, not to talk to staff, not to consult with lawyers, in some cases not even to talk with each other. So the idea that the Senate is now having some kind of second thoughts about this, having once approved it—part of the findings of the report are that the Senate was misled. Not only was the Senate misled, but it appears the executive branch was misled as well.

The point that I would like to conclude with is that when you have a wrong, a considerable wrong that has taken place—and I think that for an American agency to torture a human being is a very considerable wrong—it tends to affect nearby areas. You cannot contain the wrong. So congressional oversight was compromised in order to protect this program. People simply were not told. When they were told, they were given watered-down, misleading, or outright false versions.

The separation of powers has been compromised by this. A Federal executive agency has actually used its technological skills to hack into the files of a congressional investigative committee. That has to be a first in this country's history. A subject of a congressional investigation was allowed to file a criminal referral with the Department of Justice against members of the investigative committee's staff. That, I believe, is a first in the history of separation-of-powers offenses in this country.

The integrity of reporting not only through congressional oversight, but up into the executive branch, appears to have been compromised to protect this program with information that the government already knew, from legitimate, proper, professional interrogation, being ascribed to the torture program. You can line up the timeline. You can see that the information was disclosed first. You can see where higher-ups in the executive branch were told that that information was due to the torture which occurred after the

information was received. That simply does not meet the test of basic logic.

The final thing is that it compromised the integrity of the way we look at our law. The Department of Justice and the Office of Legal Counsel wrote opinions designed to allow and protect this program that were so bad that they have since been withdrawn by the Department of Justice.

The Presiding Officer is a very able and experienced lawyer. Those of us who have been in the Department of Justice know well that the Office of Legal Counsel stands at the pinnacle of the Department of Justice in terms of legal talent, ability, and acumen. Many of us believe the Department of Justice stands at the pinnacle of the American legal profession. So those are the people who ordinarily are the best of the best. When they write legal opinions so shoddy that they have to be withdrawn, when they overlook and fail to even address the U.S. Circuit Court decisions that describe waterboarding as torture when they are answering the question, is waterboarding torture, that is shoddy legal work.

When I first got a look at this and came to the Senate floor to speak about it, I described it as ''fire the associate'' quality legal work. That is what we got from the very top of the Department of Justice. It is not because there was a lack of talent there. It is because things were bent and twisted to support this program. So it is very important that the truth just came out.

I am very glad this has happened. It is a sad day in many respects because these are hard truths. These are hard facts to have to face. But we are better off as a country if we face hard truths and hard facts.

I will close by saying this. I have traveled all over that theater looking at the way our Central Intelligence Agency operates and the way our other covert operations operate. I am extremely proud of what our intelligence services do. I am incredibly impressed by the courage and the talent of the young officers who go overseas into often very difficult and dangerous situations and do a brilliant job. In many respects, it is for them that I think this report needs to be out. It needs to be known that this was not the whole department, that there are many officers who had nothing to do with it and would want nothing to do with it and knew better. There were many people who were professionals in interrogation who knew how amateurish this was. It was done by a bunch of contractors, basically.

So I think we should be well aware, as we reflect on this, of their courage and of the sacrifice and of the ability and of the discipline of the young men and women who put themselves in harm's way to make sure that this country has the information and the intelligence it needs to succeed in the world. I am proud of them.

I am also proud of the Intelligence Committee and our staffs who worked so hard to perform this extraordinary service.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that following the vote on confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 1081, Walter, the Senate consider Calendars Nos. 1094 and 1095; that there be 2 minutes for debate equally divided between the two leaders or their designees prior to each vote; that upon the use or yielding back of time the Senate proceed to vote without intervening action or debate on the nominations in the order listed; that any rollcall votes, following the first in the series, be 10 minutes in length; that if any nomination is confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nomination; that any statements related to the nomination be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. For the information of all Senators, these two nominations are Peter Michael McKinley to be Ambassador to the Republic of Afghanistan and Richard Rahul Verma to be Ambassador to India.

We expect that the nominations will be considered and confirmed by voice vote.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## OBAMACARE

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, a Bloomberg headline Monday noted: ''Half of the Senators Who Voted for ObamaCare Will be Gone in 2015.'' ObamaCare, it seems, has not been kind to the party that jammed it through Congress.

In fact, the third ranking Democrat in the Senate admitted as much 2 weeks ago when he told an audience that Democrats made a mistake after the 2008 election by putting all their focus on passing a health care law. He further said:

> Unfortunately, Democrats blew the opportunity the American people gave them. We took their mandate and put all of our focus on the wrong problem—health care reform.

Now, as a result, my colleague from New York said: ''The average middle-class person thought, 'the Democrats aren't paying enough attention to me.' ''

Well, Democrats weren't paying enough attention to middle-class families. The American people didn't support the health care law, and they made that clear. But Democrats just ignored their objections and forced it through anyway.

They were far from frank about what was in the bill. In fact, ObamaCare architect Jonathan Gruber essentially admitted that Democrats were deliberatively deceptive when passing their health reform law. Gruber said:

> This bill was written in a tortured way to make sure CBO did not score the mandate as taxes. . . . Lack of transparency is a huge political advantage. And basically, call it the 'stupidity of the American voter' or whatever, but basically that was really, really critical to getting the thing to pass.

That is from Jonathan Gruber, as I said, an architect of ObamaCare.

Well, 4½ years after the law has passed, it is clear Americans were right to be concerned. The law that was supposed to reduce the cost of health care for American families is actually driving up prices.

Each Friday my office puts out a document featuring the ObamaCare headlines of the week. I would like to read a few headlines from the past week that I think give a picture of where we are with this law.

This is from the Associated Press: ''Healthcare.gov average premiums going up in 2015.'' From the Wall Street Journal: ''More Cost of Health Care Shifts to Consumers.'' From Businessweek: ''Obamacare's Future: Cancer Patients Paying More for Medication.'' From Gallup: ''Cost Still a Barrier Between Americans and Medical Care.'' From the Fiscal Times: ''High Deductible Plans Have More People Delaying Treatment.'' From U.S. News & World Report: ''Americans Unhappy With Obamacare Shopping Experience.'' And from The Hill: ''Security Flaws Found in Obamacare Fee Calculator.''

And I could go on. Those are just headlines from last week. I could read similar headlines from the week before and from the week before that.

Any way you look at it, ObamaCare is a mess. The President promised the law would lower premiums by $2,500. In fact, the average family health care premium has increased by $3,064 since the law was passed, and family premiums are still going up.

The President promised Americans could keep the health care plans they had and liked. In reality, ObamaCare has forced millions of Americans off their plans.

The President promised that Americans would be able to keep the doctors they liked. In fact, Americans have lost the doctors they liked and trusted, not to mention access to convenient hospitals and needed medications.

The President promised that shopping for ObamaCare would be like shopping on Amazon or Kayak. The reality is the President's own former Health and Human Services Secretary recently admitted it was more like buying an airline ticket using your fax machine.

We are still just talking about the ways ObamaCare has harmed Americans' health care. But the damage hasn't been confined to health care. ObamaCare is also hurting our already sluggish economy.

Take the ObamaCare tax on lifesaving medical devices, such as pacemakers and insulin pumps. This tax has already eliminated thousands of jobs in the medical device industry, and it is on track to eliminate thousands more if it isn't repealed. In fact, this tax is so bad that even Democrats who voted for ObamaCare support repealing the tax.

Then there is the ObamaCare 30-hour workweek rule, which has forced employers to cut workers' hours and wages, and there are the numerous—numerous—ObamaCare rules and regulations that are making it difficult for small businesses to hire and create jobs. It is no wonder that Democrats are rethinking their decisions to support this law.

Americans have made it clear they do not like ObamaCare, and Republicans are listening. One of our top priorities when we take the majority in the Senate in the new Congress will be working to repeal this law and replacing it with real reforms—reforms that will actually cut costs and improve Americans' access to health care.

In the meantime, we will focus on chiseling away at the law's most harmful provisions. We want to repeal the job-killing medical device tax and restore the 40-hour workweek so that employers will no longer be forced to cut workers' hours in order to afford health care costs. Many Democrats as well as Republicans opposed these ObamaCare provisions, so I look forward to bipartisan repeals.

The senior Senator from New York was right when he said Democrats made a mistake when they decided to focus on the President's health care law instead of on jobs and the economy. In poll after poll, Americans have made it clear they want their representatives in Washington focused on creating jobs and on growing the economy, and that is what the new Republican majority in the Senate intends to do.

We will take up legislation to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline and the 42,000-plus jobs it would support. We will take up House-passed bills that have been gathering dust on the Democratic leader's desk.

We will work with the President to expand trade promotion authority to open new markets for American agricultural products and manufactured goods, and we will take up legislation to repeal the President's national energy tax, which could eliminate tens of thousands—hundreds of thousands—of jobs and devastate entire communities.

We also intend to take up big projects that would help put our economy on a path to long-term health, such as legislation to simplify and streamline our costly and inefficient Tax Code.

The election results were pretty decisive. Americans made it very clear they were tired of the Democrats' policies and they wanted a change in Washington, and Republicans are listening. Our priorities in the next Congress will be the American people's priorities. We will focus on creating jobs and growing our economy, and we hope the Democrats will join us. The American people have been waiting long enough.

Madam President, I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. COBURN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

Mr. CARPER. I object, just for a moment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The assistant bill clerk continued with the call of the roll.

Mr. COBURN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. COBURN. I ask unanimous consent to speak for at least 5 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## TAXPAYERS RIGHT-TO-KNOW ACT

Mr. COBURN. Madam President, I first wish to spend a few minutes talking about my colleague and chairman of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee.

The last 2 years have been a real pleasure on my part, and I have grown to have a great friendship with the chairman of the committee. I can truly say in our committee we have done a lot of great work. We have both compromised on a lot of issues to try to move the country forward, and to him I am thankful for that. I don't think either of us have had to break on any principles we have had to be able to do that. I think our committee has been a model in terms of doing bipartisan bills and on bipartisan approval of nominees. For him, I would say I appreciate his leadership this past year. He has the unfortunate attribute of having the same initials I do, so it is somewhat confusing on our committee. But maybe that is why we have been as successful as we have.

I also wish to recognize the hard work of so many of the staff members on both sides, the work they put in, and the cooperative nature under which they have worked.

We have before us a bill we are trying to clear called the Taxpayers Right-to-Know Act, and it is actually a continuation of a bill that Senator CARPER, myself, and several others—including the President—started when we started the transparency act back in 2009. This follows along with the DATA Act which was passed this year.

What this bill does is says the American people ought to know where the money is being spent, and so it says the agencies are going to list the programs they have. It is done in a stepwise fashion so it doesn't put too much pressure on OMB as they try to implement it. I believe at this time we are waiting to make sure we have clearance for this before we ask for a unanimous consent.

I yield my remaining time to the chairman of the committee, Senator CARPER.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. CARPER. Madam President, I would like to say to my colleague, Ted Kennedy said to me when I first got here a number of years ago, talking about compromise and that sort of thing—he always said: I am willing to compromise on policy, not on principle.

I think if we look at what we have accomplished in the last 2 years, that is exactly what we have done. I thank my colleague for being a great leader—not just of his caucus but of our body and for being my friend.

With that, I would say on the legislation that is before us, as he suggested, the Taxpayers Right-to-Know Act does build on previous legislation reported out of our committee. Some of those bills, the DATA Act, the Government Performance and Results Modernization Act, and some others have been signed into law with bipartisan support, including by the current President.

The Taxpayers Right-to-Know Act is a good government bill that will provide better and more detailed information to Congress and the American people about Federal spending. Congress has passed several bills in the last few years to improve transparency on government spending and to get this information online. Unfortunately, the information has not always been provided at the level of detail taxpayers and a number of my colleagues and I would prefer.

This bill builds on the Government Performance and Results Modernization Act passed in 2010 and that I coauthored with Senators WARNER and Akaka. That bill required OMB to work with agencies to create a list of all Federal programs that can be accessed on a single Web site.

Unfortunately, there has been no consistency whatsoever across the government in how agencies define the term ''program.'' GAO has agreed that the current program list isn't giving us the kind of transparency we want because agencies took different approaches in defining their programs. The Taxpayers Right-to-Know Act addresses this problem by defining the term ''program.''

GAO has also noted that the current program inventory does not allow Congress and the GAO to compare similar programs, which is an obstacle to measuring government performance. Additionally, budget and cost information is not available for all programs.

This bill will ensure that agencies provide a full list of their programs along with important information about each program. For grants and other types of direct assistance, it will provide information on how many people a program serves and how many people it takes to run it.

A complete inventory of Federal programs, along with budget and financial information at the program level, will allow Congress to compare similar programs and identify overlap and duplication.

The bill has strong bipartisan support in our committee and was reported out without dissent. Seeing it to final passage would be a good win for this Congress.

I am pleased to yield back to our colleague from Oklahoma for a unanimous consent request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

## UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 2113

Mr. COBURN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 531, S. 2113; that the committee-reported substitute be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. REID. Madam President, I don't like this bill. The White House doesn't like the bill. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

## CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume executive session to consider the Lodge and Walter nominations.

## NOMINATION OF VIRGINIA TYLER LODGE TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate prior to a vote on the Lodge nomination.

Mr. REID. I yield back all time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, all time is yielded back.

The question occurs on the Lodge nomination.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Virginia Tyler Lodge, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority?

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) and the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 86, nays 12, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 320 Ex.]

YEAS—86

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Alexander | Gillibrand | Murphy |
| Ayotte | Graham | Murray |
| Baldwin | Grassley | Nelson |
| Barrasso | Hagan | Portman |
| Begich | Hatch | Pryor |
| Bennet | Heinrich | Reed |
| Blumenthal | Heitkamp | Reid |
| Booker | Hirono | Rockefeller |
| Boozman | Hoeven | Rubio |
| Boxer | Inhofe | Sanders |
| Brown | Isakson | Schatz |
| Cantwell | Johanns | Schumer |
| Cardin | Johnson (SD) | Scott |
| Carper | Johnson (WI) | Sessions |
| Casey | Kaine | Shaheen |
| Coats | King | Shelby |
| Cochran | Kirk | Stabenow |
| Collins | Klobuchar | Tester |
| Coons | Leahy | Thune |
| Corker | Lee | Udall (CO) |
| Cornyn | Levin | Udall (NM) |
| Cruz | Manchin | Vitter |
| Donnelly | Markey | Walsh |
| Durbin | McCain | Warner |
| Enzi | McCaskill | Warren |
| Feinstein | Menendez | Whitehouse |
| Fischer | Merkley | Wicker |
| Flake | Mikulski | Wyden |
| Franken | Murkowski | |

NAYS—12

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Blunt | Crapo | Paul |
| Burr | Heller | Risch |
| Chambliss | McConnell | Roberts |
| Coburn | Moran | Toomey |

NOT VOTING—2

| | |
|---|---|
| Harkin | Landrieu |

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. This vote we are about to have will be the last recorded vote of the day.

### UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

I now ask unanimous consent that following the vote on confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 1095, the Senate consider Calendar Nos. 800 and 801; that there be 2 minutes for debate equally divided between the two leaders or their designees prior to each vote; that upon the use or yielding back of that time, the Senate proceed to vote without intervening action or debate on the nominations in the order listed; that any rollcall votes following the first in the series be 10 minutes in length; that if any nomination is confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nomination; that any statements related to the nomination be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. We expect the nominations to be considered by voice vote.

## NOMINATION OF RONALD ANDERSON WALTER TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will be 2 minutes of debate prior to a vote on the Walter nomination.

Mr. REID. I yield back that time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, all time is yielded back.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Ronald Anderson Walter, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority?

Mr. CARDIN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) and the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DONNELLY). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 86, nays 12, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 321 Ex.]

YEAS—86

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Alexander | Carper | Fischer |
| Ayotte | Casey | Flake |
| Baldwin | Coats | Franken |
| Barrasso | Cochran | Gillibrand |
| Begich | Collins | Graham |
| Bennet | Coons | Grassley |
| Blumenthal | Corker | Hagan |
| Booker | Cornyn | Hatch |
| Boozman | Cruz | Heinrich |
| Boxer | Donnelly | Heitkamp |
| Brown | Durbin | Hirono |
| Cantwell | Enzi | Hoeven |
| Cardin | Feinstein | Inhofe |

Isakson
Johanns
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (WI)
Kaine
King
Kirk
Klobuchar
Leahy
Lee
Levin
Manchin
Markey
McCain
McCaskill
Menendez
Merkley
Mikulski
Murkowski
Murphy
Murray
Nelson
Portman
Pryor
Reed
Reid
Rockefeller
Rubio
Sanders
Schatz
Schumer
Scott
Sessions
Shaheen
Shelby
Stabenow
Tester
Thune
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Vitter
Walsh
Warner
Warren
Whitehouse
Wicker
Wyden

NAYS—12

Blunt
Burr
Chambliss
Coburn
Crapo
Heller
McConnell
Moran
Paul
Risch
Roberts
Toomey

NOT VOTING—2

Harkin
Landrieu

The nomination was confirmed.

## NOMINATION OF PETER MICHAEL McKINLEY, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN

## NOMINATION OF RICHARD RAHUL VERMA TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA

## NOMINATION OF TONY HAMMOND TO BE A COMMISSIONER OF THE POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

## NOMINATION OF NANCI E. LANGLEY TO BE A COMMISSIONER OF THE POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of the following nominations, which the clerk will report.

The assistant bill clerk read the nominations of Peter Michael McKinley, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan; Richard Rahul Verma, of Maryland, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of India; Tony Hammond, of Missouri, to be a Commissioner of the Postal Regulatory Commission; Nanci E. Langley, of Hawaii, to be a Commissioner of the Postal Regulatory Commission.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I yield back the time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

VOTE ON MCKINLEY NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Peter Michael McKinley, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan?

The nomination was confirmed.

VOTE ON VERMA NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Richard Rahul Verma, of Maryland, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of India?

The nomination was confirmed.

VOTE ON HAMMOND NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Tony Hammond, of Missouri, to be a Commissioner of the Postal Regulatory Commission?

The nomination was confirmed.

VOTE ON LANGLEY NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Nanci E. Langley, of Hawaii, to be a Commissioner of the Postal Regulatory Commission?

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motions to reconsider are considered made and laid upon the table and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

LODGE AND WALTER NOMINATIONS

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I voted to confirm Virginia Lodge and Ron Walter to be members of the Board of the Tennessee Valley Authority. I believe that these nominees are qualified and have demonstrated the characteristics that will enable them to fulfill their duties in supporting the mission of the TVA.

According to the TVA Act, the Board sets the broad strategies and goals of the Tennessee Valley Authority. Given the many changes facing our electricity system, those strategies for TVA—one of the Nation's biggest utilities—are critical. As technology changes the future of energy production and energy use, the administration is busy unleashing costly regulations that risk damaging our economy for little environmental gain.

Navigating these crosscurrents, TVA's Board must strive to keep electricity costs low through prudential and nonideological decisionmaking. They must continue the work of TVA's current management to cut costs without impacting service. Only through demanding decisions based on data and through questioning assumptions will they successfully lead TVA through today's challenges.

Also of importance is TVA's continued maintenance and eventual completion of the Bellefonte nuclear power plant. In the 1970s, TVA made plans to build a large number of nuclear reactors, but it abandoned those plans after completing several plants while others—including two units at Bellefonte—were only partially completed. TVA continues to maintain its assets at Bellefonte, where it has invested $6 billion. I know that these nominees will examine the cost to complete Bellefonte and the baseload demand forecasts for TVA to best determine when the plant should be completed.

I believe the nominees have demonstrated the ability to serve effectively and I look forward to their service on the Board and to working with them for the betterment of the region in the years to come.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will resume legislative session.

## PROTECTING VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND EMERGENCY RESPONDERS ACT OF 2014

Mr. REID. I ask the Chair to lay before the Senate a message from the House with respect to H.R. 3979.

The Presiding Officer laid before the Senate the following message from the House of Representatives:

Resolved, That the House agree to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3979) entitled ''An Act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act,'' with an amendment.

MOTION TO CONCUR

Mr. REID. I move to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3979.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] moves to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3979.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. There is a cloture motion at the desk. I ask that the Chair order it reported.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3979.

Harry Reid, Carl Levin, Brian Schatz, Martin Heinrich, John E. Walsh, Patty Murray, Jack Reed, Tom Udall, Sheldon Whitehouse, Amy Klobuchar,

Christopher A. Coons, Debbie Stabenow, Robert Menendez, Tom Harkin, Richard J. Durbin, Charles E. Schumer, Robert P. Casey, Jr.

MOTION TO CONCUR WITH AMENDMENT NO. 3984

Mr. REID. I move to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3979, with a further amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] moves to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3979 with an amendment numbered 3984.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end, add the following:

This Act shall become effective 1 day after enactment.

Mr. REID. I ask for the yeas and nays on that.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 3985 TO AMENDMENT NO. 3984

Mr. REID. I have an amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] proposes an amendment numbered 3985 to amendment No. 3984.

The amendment is as follows:

In the amendment, strike ''1 day'' and insert ''2 days''.

MOTION TO REFER WITH AMENDMENT NO. 3986

Mr. REID. I have a motion to refer the House message with respect to H.R. 3979 with instructions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] moves to refer the House message on H.R. 3979 to the Committee on Armed Services with instructions to report back forthwith with an amendment numbered 3986.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end, add the following:

This Act shall become effective 3 days after enactment.

Mr. REID. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 3987

Mr. REID. I have an amendment to the instructions which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] proposes an amendment numbered 3987 to the instructions of the motion to refer the House message on H.R. 3979.

The amendment is as follows:

In the amendment, strike ''3 days'' and insert ''4 days''.

Mr. REID. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 3988 TO AMENDMENT NO. 3987

Mr. REID. I have a second-degree amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] proposes an amendment numbered 3988 to amendment No. 3987.

The amendment is as follows:

In the amendment, strike ''4'' and insert ''5''.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum required under rule XXII be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

TRIBUTES TO DEPARTING SENATORS

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I would like to take a few minutes to salute my colleagues who are departing the Senate at the end of this year with the conclusion of the 113th Congress: MARK BEGICH of Alaska, SAXBY CHAMBLISS of Georgia, TOM COBURN of Oklahoma, KAY HAGAN of North Carolina, TOM HARKIN of Iowa, MIKE JOHANNS of Nebraska, TIM JOHNSON of South Dakota, MARY LANDRIEU of Louisiana, CARL LEVIN of Michigan, MARK PRYOR of Arkansas, JAY ROCKEFELLER of West Virginia, MARK UDALL of Colorado, and JOHN WALSH of Montana.

They have all worked hard, ceaselessly giving their energy and considerable time and service to their constituents, to their home States and to our country. I want to thank them for their service and for their kindness to me over many, many years in so many cases. In particular, I want to say a few words about these colleagues.

MARK BEGICH

MARK BEGICH and I worked together to address the challenges facing the fishing industry, which is vital to both of our States. He has continually fought to address the unique challenges facing Alaskans, particularly with respect to access to VA health care. I salute him and wish him the best.

SAXBY CHAMBLISS

I have served with SAXBY CHAMBLISS on the Armed Services Committee and joined him in his efforts to support the National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center. Saxby has been a strong supporter of our men and women in uniform. He has also been a leader on homeland security and intelligence matters. I wish him well.

TOM COBURN

TOM COBURN has always been passionate on the issues he cares about. We have engaged in vigorous debate, demonstrating, I hope, that principled disagreement can lead ultimately to principled progress. My thoughts are with him, particularly as he battles health issues, his cancer. I hope and wish him success and much happiness as he moves forward.

KAY HAGAN

I have served with KAY HAGAN on the Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee and on the Armed Services Committee. We have worked together on a number of initiatives, including efforts to keep student loan interest rates low. We traveled together to Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan in 2010. She has been a tremendous advocate, especially for our military families and for small businesses.

TOM HARKIN

TOM HARKIN has been a great friend, a longtime advocate for students, for workers, for individuals with disabilities. As Chairman of the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, he has worked to end the logjam and pass reauthorizations of our childcare programs and the workforce investment system, and he recently worked with me to pass a bipartisan bill I helped author to ensure consumers have access to the safest, most effective sunscreens available.

He has been a steadfast advocate for increasing our investment in medical research at the NIH. An extraordinary Senator, we have so much to thank him for on behalf of every American. His legacy is going to be so profound. It is hard to pick one. But his efforts, along with Arlen Specter's, to double NIH funding was a landmark in terms of not only successful investment in programs that matter to Americans and the world but bipartisan efforts to lead the country forward.

MIKE JOHANNS

I have been proud to work with MIKE JOHANNS, an extraordinary Senator and an extraordinary gentleman, on a number of issues. We were particularly happy—both of us—when the HAVEN Act was incorporated into the pending version of the National Defense Authorization Act. This legislation will allow disabled and low-income veterans the ability to finance improvements to their homes so they are safer and more accessible. We also worked together on healthy housing efforts and to reduce lead hazards. This is consistent with so many things he has done, particularly with respect to veterans. Again, I wish him the best as he goes forward.

TIM JOHNSON

TIM JOHNSON and I served in the House of Representatives together. We came to the Senate together in 1997. As chairman of the banking committee, he has been an extraordinary leader. He has dedicated himself particularly to community banks and to rural housing, which is consistent with the interests of his constituents in South Dakota.

He has worked to build bipartisan compromise on issues like TRIA and FHA reform, among so many other matters. As the chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies he has been a tireless

advocate for our military personnel. I thank him.

MARY LANDRIEU

MARY LANDRIEU and I also came to the Senate together in 1997. We served together on the Appropriations Committee, where she has been an extraordinary advocate for Louisiana, particularly after Hurricane Katrina. In fact, her efforts have been so profoundly influential in her home State, she is one that we all look to as a model for what it is to be an advocate for your constituents. She has done it so well.

MARK PRYOR

MARK PRYOR and I have worked together on the Appropriations Committee. We have worked together on a number of initiatives. I want to thank him particularly for his role in trying to help states like Rhode Island be included in the Commodity Supplemental Food Program. I thank MARK for that. I offer him my fondest wishes.

JAY ROCKEFELLER

Today, we are recognizing the work of JAY ROCKEFELLER as chairman of the Intelligence Committee, along with Senator FEINSTEIN. But he has been such a stalwart in so many different areas: as chairman of the commerce committee, someone who has championed the Children's Health Insurance Program, someone who has been in the lead with respect to advocacy for the E-Rate, which helps bring broadband connectivity to all of our libraries and schools, to EPSCoR. I can go on and on for a remarkable career by a remarkable individual, a real gentleman, someone whom I am proud to call a friend and am deeply indebted to his friendship.

MARK UDALL

MARK UDALL and I served together on the Armed Services Committee. I am grateful to have traveled with him also to Afghanistan and Pakistan in 2011. Again, he is committed to our troops, committed to our national security, committed to his home State. He has been an advocate for clean energy, for natural resources, for things that will be a legacy for generations to come in Colorado and throughout the United States.

JOHN WALSH

JOHN WALSH is a friend that I met and served with over the last several years. I want to salute him, not only as a Senator but as a combat veteran. He has had the greatest privilege that I believe any American has—the privilege to lead American soldiers. He did it well. I thank him for that.

CARL LEVIN

But let me say, especially, a few words about my dear, dear friend CARL LEVIN. For 18 years, CARL LEVIN has either been chairman or ranking member of the Armed Services Committee. The U.S. military, the most powerful and professional force in the world, has in countless ways been shaped because CARL LEVIN repeatedly helped form a new common ground to move us forward as a Nation for the benefit of our men and women in uniform and for the benefit of us all.

CARL and I have traveled many times together—Bosnia, Kosovo, Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Israel, Syria, Colombia. We were there to visit with commanders and local leaders, but especially to see our troops and to thank them. In the faces of those troops I saw the trust and respect they felt—some to their own surprise—when they met the chairman—the powerful chairman of the Armed Services Committee. He was there. He had traveled across the globe to listen to them, to work for them, and to thank them.

It was profoundly moving to me to see this—inspiring indeed. As the chairman of one of the other major committees, the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, he has pursued the powerful on behalf of the powerless, on behalf of the people. He has not only uncovered abuse, but he has sent a powerful message to an increasingly discouraged America that there is someone who will fight for them, who understands that everyone deserves a fair chance at a better future.

CARL LEVIN has been a friend, a role model. I will miss working with him.

Along with all of my other colleagues who are leaving us at the conclusion of the 113th Congress, let me thank them for their service, their dedication to improving the lives of Americans, and on a very personal level for their friendship. I wish them all well.

SSCI STUDY OF THE CIA'S DETENTION AND INTERROGATION PROGRAM

Let me conclude on a slightly different topic; that is, to commend Senator ROCKEFELLER again and Senator FEINSTEIN for their extraordinary leadership today in bringing forward to the American public the Intelligence Committee report on the CIA's interrogation program.

But I particularly want to commend and thank Senator MCCAIN. For many years, Senator MCCAIN has spoken out, and many times alone, against the despicable and heinous actions that have been illustrated today. He has led our efforts. No one has led them more vigorously and more intensely and more successfully than JOHN MCCAIN—to prohibit the use of torture and abusive methods by the United States of America, to remind us that our highest ideals require us to do something else—something better—and also to remind us that what is at stake—very much at stake—are the lives and the health of our soldiers.

We cannot expect others to follow the law if we do not. We cannot expect our forces to be treated according to the conventions and laws that govern civilized society if we depart from them. That is a powerful message. It is no surprise coming from someone whose personal experience, whose personal courage lends incredible credibility, incredible support to these efforts.

To these three colleagues, I extend my thanks.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

TAX EXTENDERS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, this week it seems that the Senate is finally ready to take up and pass a tax extenders bill. Congress' procrastination on tax extenders has been causing a lot of headaches and indigestion to many of my constituents back home in Iowa.

Small business owners and farmers want to know whether the enhanced expensing rules under section 179 will be extended so that they can invest in new machinery. Retirees want to know whether they can make a charitable donation from their IRA to meet their required minimum distribution. The renewable energy sector wants to know what investments they should make to increase production.

The Senate could have made strides towards answering these questions just this past spring. The Finance Committee acted in a bipartisan fashion to report an extenders package to the floor that would have extended all expiring provisions for 2 years. By all accounts, this package could have been passed by the Senate with broad support on both sides of the aisle.

Unfortunately, movement of this package in the Senate stalled in May due to procedural maneuvering on the Senate floor. That maneuvering was meant to prevent votes on all amendments—even those with broad, bipartisan support. With the Senate failing to take action, the hopes of getting the extenders done in a timely fashion faded last spring.

However, there were high hopes that a bipartisan deal could be worked out with the House that could provide individuals and businesses much-needed tax certainty. Before Thanksgiving, House and Senate negotiators were making real headway towards a bipartisan agreement that would have extended most provisions for 2 years and made several provisions permanent. The President then thwarted negotiations by threatening to veto that package before it was even finalized.

Why the President would threaten to veto a package that, by all accounts, recognized bipartisan priorities as well as priorities of the administration is beyond me. The President's stated complaint is that the deal was geared too heavily toward business. From an administration that has regularly been advocating business-only tax reform, this complaint rings hollow.

However, all of the business provisions that would have been made permanent under the proposed deal have had strong support from both sides of the aisle here in the Senate as well as from the White House. For instance, the President's fiscal package that was in the 2015 budget calls for both the research and development tax credit and the enhanced expensing rules under Section 179 to be made permanent.

The bipartisan deal would have accomplished this. The proposed deal also

included priorities specific to President Obama and many of my Democratic colleagues. For instance, the American opportunity tax credit enacted as part of the President's 2009 stimulus bill would have been made permanent. The President's other named priorities were the enhanced refundable child tax credit and the earned-income tax credit. But it was the President's own actions on immigration—using presidential edict—that made their inclusion a very tough sell. Many on my side of the aisle have long had concerns about fraud and abuse in both of these credits. The President's Executive action only served to enhance these concerns and added fuel to the fire by eroding established policy that prohibits undocumented immigrants from receiving their earned-income credit.

The President may have a phone and a pen. He says he has it, and it seems as if he is always using it. But the last time I checked, Congress is still a coequal branch of government under the Constitution. When the President acts unilaterally, it should not surprise him when Congress responds.

So it is true that the deal did not include everything the President wanted, but it didn't include everything Republicans wanted either. Nobody ever gets everything they want in bipartisan negotiations. The point of negotiating is to get something the majority of us can support.

By cutting off negotiations, the White House has left us with voting on something that is barely better than nothing for individuals and industries. This includes industries the President claims to be a priority of his, such as the renewable energy sector, which is very much a high priority for me.

Forward policy guidance is critically important to the renewable energy sector. The proposed deal would have provided certainty to wind energy through a multiyear phaseout that would have provided a glidepath to self-sustainability. Other renewable provisions would have been extended for 2 years. Instead, Congress is now faced with settling for a 1-year retroactive extension that fails to provide any meaningful incentive for the further development of renewable energy.

It also fails to provide certainty to other businesses and to individuals as well. These are provisions that will once again expire almost as soon as they go into law. I think we all agree that making tax law 1 year at a time in retroactive fashion is not the way to do business. Yet that is the reality we currently face because of this administration's refusal to compromise.

While I would prefer longer extensions of these provisions, that is no longer a viable option as we close down this Congress. As a result, I intend to support the House package. My only hope is that in the new Congress we can make strides toward putting some certainty back into the Tax Code.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

WOMEN OWNED SMALL BUSINESS CONTRACTING

Ms. CANTWELL. I rise today to speak about an important piece of legislation that will be before the Senate shortly that will help women entrepreneurs across the country break through the glass ceiling.

Earlier this year, as chairwoman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, I released a report entitled ''21st Century Barriers to Women's Entrepreneurship.'' These barriers, according to our report, show that women entrepreneurs were not getting a fair shot at access to capital, not getting a fair shot at competing for Federal contracts, and needed more programs tailored specifically to their needs and certainly needed more access to capital and at smaller amounts of money.

This chart shows the various things that were relevant from that report: equal access to Federal contracts, access to capital, and relevant business training.

We heard an earful from women entrepreneurs all across America, and it spurred us to take action and make major changes.

That is why we introduced legislation called the Women's Small Business Ownership Act of 2014, and this legislation did three things: It said, let's focus on sole-source contracting authority for women-owned businesses when they are working with the Federal Government, let's improve the counseling to women, and let's make sure women get the access to capital that they deserve.

Additionally, the issue of sole-source contracting was taken up by two of my colleagues, Senator SHAHEEN and Senator GILLIBRAND. I should say that my predecessor on the committee, Senator LANDRIEU, had worked on this issue of access to capital for women for a long time, and we certainly applaud all she did as chairwoman of the Small Business Committee.

The sole-source contracting provision is in the Defense bill we are going to be taking up shortly.

I thank all of my colleagues—as I said, Senator SHAHEEN, Senator GILLIBRAND, Senator LANDRIEU—and also the SBA Administrator, Maria Contreras-Sweet, for their support in getting more federal contracts to women-owned businesses.

There are more than 8 million women-owned businesses in the United States, but they only get a tiny percent—about 4 percent—of Federal contracts. We want to make sure this is changed. I think we have a second chart that describes this problem.

We have a Federal goal of making sure that small businesses get access to contracts at each Federal agency so that we are doing all we can to grow small businesses in America. If you think about it, many small businesses have the technological expertise to do the work. What they often don't have is the manpower to wade through the lengthy and complicated federal contracting process. So sole-source contracting allows the Federal Government to streamline the procurement process when selecting a company. So we want to make sure this is changed, and the FY 15 NDAA legislation will do just that.

Twenty years ago, Congress established the goal of awarding 5 percent of all Federal contracts to women-owned small businesses, but we did not make sure there was fair representation in the marketplace to achieve this goal. Last year, the Department of Defense accounted for 68 percent of Federal procurement opportunities; yet the Department of Defense only issued 3.6 percent of those contracts to women-owned small businesses. In my State, the State of Washington, women received only 1.67 percent of Federal contracts. We heard from women across America, when they came to testify before the Small Business Committee this summer, exactly how challenging this process is.

I want to point out a last chart, which shows that 28 percent of businesses in the United States are women-owned, and we certainly want to increase that. Part of our challenge economically is to make sure various groups are getting access to adequate capital, getting opportunities to compete for federal contracts, and getting the counseling and training they need, so they can participate in the economy as small business owners. But we can see on this chart that the percentage of federal contracts to women-owned businesses is minuscule. We want to make sure we are doing everything we can to help these women.

Trena Payton, a business owner and veteran from my home state of Washington, is one of these voices fighting for this provision to be made into law. Trena testified at a Small Business Committee hearing on Veterans' Entrepreneurship. In 2003, Trena decided to open her own business. It took her more than a year to land her first contract. She said at the hearing:

> As the head of a women-owned small business, I can tell you that access to the federal marketplace is a huge issue.

Today, Trena's company, ABN Technologies, has grown to employ twelve people and last year generated revenues of 8.1 million dollars. On sole-source contracting, Trena said, this change ''would help millions of women break through barriers to accessing federal contracts.''

I also want to talk about Charlotte Baker, who owns Digital Hands in Tampa, FL. Charlotte's company provides cyber security services and IT business to the government. Her company is developing new, innovative solutions to deter cyber threats. That is a service we need, but she may never win a contract through the regular process.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation that is coming over from the House and give women the tools they need to be successful.

I would like to thank the many organizations, small business advocates, and staff who have worked to get the women's sole-source provision enacted into law: Women Impacting Public Policy—especially Ann Sullivan, Barbara Kasoff, John Stanford, and Martin Feeney; the National Women's Business Council; the Women's Business Enterprise National Council; the Women President's Organization; the National Association of Women Business Owners; the National Women Business Owners Corporation; the U.S. Black Chambers; the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; the Association for Enterprise Opportunity; the Business and Professional Women's Foundation; Enterprising Women; the Path Forward Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship; the REDC Center for Women's Enterprise; the Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council; Women in Trucking; the Women's Business Development Council; the Women's Exchange; and the Association of Women's Business Centers. From staff, I'd like to thank Jonathan Hale, Alison Mueller, Nick Sutter, Ami Sanchez, Carl Seip, Jane Campbell, Kevin Wheeler and LeAnn Delaney.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to address the Senate as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO CARL LEVIN

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I wish to offer a few words of tribute to my departing colleague, Senator CARL LEVIN—a model of serious purpose, firm principle, and personal decency, and whose example ought to inspire the service of new and returning Senators. We could not aspire to better service than what he has given our country.

CARL and I have served together on the Senate Armed Services Committee for the better part of three decades. He is my senior in this body by 8 years and has been my chairman for more than 10 years in total. It has been a privilege to serve under his very able, honorable, and fair leadership.

CARL and I sit on opposite sides of the aisle. The difference is quite obvious on any number of issues, but I hope it is also obvious how much I admire and respect my friend from Michigan.

We have had our moments on the committee. Debate there can get a little passionate from time to time, perhaps a little more passionate on my part than CARL's, but that, as all my colleagues would surely attest, is my problem, not CARL's. We are, however, both proud of the committee's tradition of bipartisan cooperation which CARL has worked diligently to preserve and strengthen. We both know how important that tradition is to faithfully discharging our responsibilities to help maintain the defense of this country and do right by the men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces. We both feel their example of selfless sacrifice would shame us if we let the committee descend into the partisan posturing that often makes it hard to get important work done in Congress.

When Members disagree in committee—often heatedly—it is because we feel passionately about whatever issue is in dispute. Even then we try to behave civilly and respectfully to each other, and we do not let our disagreements prevent us from completing the committee's business. CARL won't let us. That we have managed to keep that reputation in these contentious times is a tribute to CARL LEVIN. He has kept the committee focused on its duties and not on the next election or the latest rush-to-the-barricades partisan quarrel. He does so in a calm, measured, patient, and thoughtful manner. He seems, in fact, to be calmer and more patient the more heated our disagreements are. As members' emotions and temperatures rise, CARL's unperturbed composure and focus bring our attention back to the business at hand. You could safely say he and I have slightly different leadership styles. I am gentler and less confrontational. But Carl's style seems to work for him. It works well for the committee too, for the armed services, and for the country.

The committee has a heavy workload every year, and CARL manages to keep us all in harness and working together at a good pace and with a constructive, results-oriented approach that is the envy of the dozen or so lesser committees of the Senate. Our principal responsibility is to produce the Defense authorization bill—one of the most important and comprehensive pieces of legislation the Senate considers on an annual bases. The committee has never failed to report the bill, and the Senate has never failed to pass it. That is not an accomplishment that some of the lesser committees I just referred to can claim every year, and no one deserves more of the credit than CARL LEVIN.

When CARL LEVIN first joined the committee, he explained his reason for seeking the assignment this way:

> I had never served, and I thought there was a big gap in terms of my background and, frankly, felt it was a way of providing service.

He might never have served in the military, but he has surely served the military well, and he has served the national interests our Armed Forces protect in an exemplary manner that the rest of us would be wise to emulate.

More recently, I have had the honor and privilege of serving alongside CARL on the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations. His tireless efforts and steadfast dedication to exposing misconduct and abuse by financial institutions and government regulators have set a new standard for thoughtful and thorough congressional investigations.

Whether the topic was the 2008 financial crisis, Swiss banking secrecy, or JPMorgan's ''London Whale'' debacle, professionals in the industry and the public at large knew they could count on CARL LEVIN to get to the bottom of it with authoritative reports and hearings. CARL's tenacity in uncovering wrongdoing sparked significant changes in the financial sector.

I also commend CARL LEVIN on zealously and effectively pursuing his investigations in a way that has furthered the subcommittee's longstanding tradition of bipartisanship. While CARL LEVIN and I may have had our disagreements, we never let them get in the way of finding common ground where we could.

While CARL's retirement may come as a relief to some of those on Wall Street, his patience, thoughtfulness, and commitment to bipartisanship will be deeply missed on the subcommittee and in the Senate.

Indeed, from CARL LEVIN's long and distinguished service in the Senate, Carl has obtained the respect of his colleagues on both sides of the aisle. We all listen to him, and we listen closest to him on the occasions when we disagree with him. That, in my view, is a great compliment from one Senator to another. It is a tribute paid to only the most respected Members.

Of course, the greatest compliment one Senator can pay another is to credit him or her as a person who keeps his or her word. That has become too rare in Washington but not so in my experiences with CARL LEVIN. He has never broken his word to me. He has never backed out of a deal, even when doing so would have been personally and politically advantageous. When we are in agreement on an issue, CARL usually argues more effectively than I can, and when we disagree, we usually find a way to settle our dispute without abandoning our responsibilities. CARL LEVIN deserves most of the credit for that too.

One of the great satisfactions in life is to fight for a common cause with someone you haven't always agreed with, someone whose background, views, and personality are different from yours. Yet you discover that despite your differences, you have always been on the same side on the big things.

Thank you, CARL, for the privilege and for your friendship and example. The committee is going to miss you, the Senate is going to miss you, the men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces are going to miss you, and I will miss you a lot.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

FOIA IMPROVEMENT ACT

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to engage in a colloquy with Senator LEAHY of Vermont, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, regarding S. 2520, the FOIA Improvement Act of 2014.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. I thank Senator LEAHY for attempting to address my concerns about this bill. I thank his committee staff for working with my committee staff to insert clarifying report language.

Mr. LEAHY. I would like to acknowledge the chairman of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation for highlighting important concerns of the agencies his committee works with closely. This legislation seeks to further the goal of government transparency; but we also understand the need for government agencies to dutifully and carefully fulfill their responsibilities.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. From the beginning, I have recognized that this bill would make important changes to the Freedom of Information Act. My concerns have been rooted in the possible unintended consequences this bill would have on consumer protection. I was concerned this bill would make it harder for our consumer protection agencies to bring enforcement actions against corporate wrongdoers.

Specifically, I am concerned that requiring government law enforcement agencies to show foreseeable harm that is not ''speculative or abstract'' when invoking FOIA exemptions for attorney-client, work-product, and deliberative process privileges will undermine law enforcement efforts.

Hundreds of years of American legal tradition has generally protected work-product documents and attorney-client communications from the discovery process in civil litigation. Further, the deliberative process privilege has allowed government agencies' law enforcers to freely exchange ideas and legal strategies as part of their internal decision making process.

I am concerned that the bill could have a ''chilling effect'' on internal communications and deliberations of agencies' law enforcement personnel who are preparing law enforcement actions against alleged wrongdoers, in order to avoid the prospect of increased litigation.

We do not want to hinder the robust, internal exchange of rigorous ideas and legal strategies within government agencies when they are bringing enforcement actions.

Given this, courts should review agency law enforcement decisions on the new foreseeable harm standard under an ''abuse of discretion'' standard.

Mr. LEAHY. At Senator ROCKEFELLER's request we have included language in the committee report on the abuse of discretion standard and its application to make clear that it is the intent of Congress that judicial review of agency decisions to withhold information relating to current law enforcement actions under the foreseeable harm standard be subject to an abuse of discretion standard.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Furthermore, if we are going to potentially burden our government agencies with increased costs that will be associated with complying with the bill, then I think Congress should also provide these agencies with sufficient funding to deal with what is sure to be an increased workload.

While I still have concerns about this bill's effect on consumer protection, I think the accommodation made by Senator LEAHY will help. I thank him for inserting clarifying language in the report with regard to this congressional intent on review of information withheld under the foreseeable harm standard.

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. President, I ask consent to engage in a colloquy with Senator LEAHY, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, regarding important aspects of S. 2520, the FOIA Improvement Act of 2014.

While I support the ultimate goal of this legislation, which seeks to increase government transparency, as the chairman of the Senate Banking Committee, I am also mindful of the need for government agencies to dutifully and carefully fulfill their oversight responsibilities of our Nation's financial institutions and the health and welfare of our financial systems at-large. Financial regulatory agencies are tasked with ensuring the safety and soundness of the financial system, compliance with Federal consumer financial law, and promoting fair, orderly, and efficient financial markets. A critical component of effective oversight is the ability of a financial regulator to have unfettered access to information from a regulated institution. A financial institution should not have to fear that its regulator will be unable to protect the institution's confidential information from disclosure. Since the passage of the Freedom of Information Act, Congress has recognized the importance of protecting this type of supervisory information as evidenced specifically in 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(8), commonly referred to as Exemption 8, and more generally in other exemptions. It is my understanding that nothing in S. 2520 is intended to limit the scope of the protections under Exemption 8, or other exemptions relevant to financial regulators; nor is the bill intended to require release of confidential information about individuals or information that a financial institution may have, the release of which could compromise the stability of the financial institution or the financial system, or undermine the consumer protection work by the regulators. Given that the release of confidential or sensitive information relating to oversight of regulated entities could cause harm to such entities, individuals, or the financial system, a financial regulatory agency could reasonably foresee that disclosure of such information requested under FOIA may harm an interest protected by Exemption 8. This is precisely why Congress continues to provide these statutory exemptions.

Mr. LEAHY. I thank Senator JOHNSON for his remarks and for his interest and support for this legislation. I agree that it is important to ensure that our financial regulators are able to do the work required to maintain the safety and soundness of our financial institutions. I also agree that the free flow of information between regulators and financial institution is important to this process. Exemption 8 was intended by Congress, and has been interpreted by the courts, to be very broadly construed to ensure the security of financial institutions and to safeguard the relationship between financial institutions and their supervising agencies. The proposed amendments to the Freedom of Information Act, FOIA, are not intended to undermine the broad protection in Exemption 8 or to undermine the integrity of the supervisory examination process. Moreover, much of the information that the government is permitted to withhold under Exemption 8, is also protected under Exemption 4, which exempts from disclosure commercial and financial information that is privileged or confidential. Exemption 4 covers information prohibited from disclosure under the Trade Secrets Act and similar laws, and as such does not provide for discretionary disclosure under FOIA. As with other exemptions that are based on separate legal restrictions, it is understood that the foreseeable harm standard will not apply to most of the information falling under Exemption 4. I will address these concerns, and I appreciate all the time and attention the Senator from South Dakota has given to this important legislation.

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. I thank the Senator from Vermont for his work on this important matter and for working with me to clarify the scope of this bill. I hope the Senator from Vermont continues to work on these issues with the agencies to ensure that this new standard will not serve to undermine the broad protections currently afforded to confidential supervisory information and in turn undermine the cooperative relationship between regulators and their supervised institutions.

TRIBUTE TO MARK PRYOR

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, today we honor the dedicated public service of my dear friend and colleague, Senator MARK PRYOR from Arkansas.

For MARK PRYOR, public service is a calling—one that goes to the roots of who he is. MARK PRYOR is the fifth generation in his family to serve in public office.

Beholden to no party, no special interests, Senator PRYOR's singular objective in Washington has been to make lives better for the people of the State his family calls home. The sign on his desk says ''Arkansas comes first.'' It was his father's campaign slogan a generation ago, and that's the priority that guided MARK PRYOR from the day he arrived in the Senate.

When Senator PRYOR learned that a widow in Greenwood, AR, was being deprived death benefits because her husband died at home, instead of in combat, Senator PRYOR crafted an amendment to change that Pentagon rule, restoring the full death benefit for the widow—and fixing it permanently so it would be available to other surviving spouses.

A deeply patriotic man, with a profound respect for those who serve, Senator PRYOR is the author of the HIRE At Home Act, which encourages companies to consider military experience for servicemembers reentering the workforce.

But he has also fought to bring down the costs of Arkansans' prescriptions and to protect the social safety net. When FEMA demanded back pay for Federal disaster aid it provided to Arkansas, Senator PRYOR made sure the rule got changed.

And I was honored this past year to partner with Senator PRYOR on the Bring Jobs Home Act, to prevent companies from being rewarded for shipping jobs overseas and giving them an incentive to bring those jobs that have left our borders back home again.

Of course, Senator PRYOR served as chairman of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies. So as author of the 2014 Farm Bill, I relied on Senator PRYOR as a partner. He introduced the Forest Products Fairness Act, which helps timber farmers in Arkansas and across the Nation qualify for USDA's BioPreferred Program.

During an age of partisan strife, Senator PRYOR has provided sanctuary for those who seek compromise. I share the sentiment he expressed in his farewell address—it is imperative that we come to work not wearing jerseys of red or blue but ones that have red, white and blue.

It saddens me that my dear friend, Senator PRYOR, cannot join us in this enterprise, because he has truly been a voice of civility and reason. But I have no doubt he will find new ways to serve the country and the State that he loves.

I wish him Godspeed in his future efforts.

SSCI STUDY OF THE CIA'S DETENTION AND INTERROGATION PROGRAM

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I would like to personally commend Senator FEINSTEIN for releasing this report today. We have all heard the Justice Louis Brandeis quote that ''sunlight is the best disinfectant'' but occasionally we need a real world reminder. Today, Senator FEINSTEIN and the members and staff of the Intelligence Committee have provided that. The findings of this report are truly remarkable, laying bare that the CIA interrogation program was simultaneously far more brutal and far less effective than previously claimed.

This 600-page report is long overdue and makes clear that the CIA's so-called ''enhanced interrogation techniques'' failed to produce any otherwise unavailable intelligence that saved lives. At no time were these coercive interrogation techniques effective.

But more critically, this report makes clear to all Americans that what took place was not in keeping with our ideals as a nation. We have no greater duty than to protect the American people and our national security. But the single best way to do that is—and always has been—to do that in a manner consistent with our laws and our traditions. Horrific and torturous practices are explicitly prohibited and are never necessary. I thank Senator FEINSTEIN, Senator UDALL and other members of the committee for the months and years they have committed to making this release a reality.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to speak on the release of the declassified Senate Select Intelligence Committee report on the CIA's past rendition, detention and interrogation practices.

As a longtime member of the committee, I strongly support today's release of the declassified Executive Summary, Findings, Conclusions and Additional and Minority Views of the committee's report. With the release of this report, the American people finally have the information they need to understand the CIA's interrogation practices that spanned 2001 through 2009, when President Obama put an end to the Bush-era program.

The CIA's practices went against our values as Americans and damaged America's global reputation. The committee's report shows not only that torture did not extract the ''otherwise unavailable'' intelligence that some CIA officials claimed, it did not work as a policy or in practice.

I have consistently opposed the repugnance, legality and efficacy of torture. I supported FBI Director Robert Mueller's directive saying FBI agents may not participate in torture. I have repeatedly and publicly expressed my frustration about being lied to and manipulated by some CIA officials over many years. As I said during the Intelligence Committee's hearing confirming John Brennan as CIA Director, ''I'm going to be blunt and this will be no surprise to you, sir—but I've been on this Committee for more than 10 years, and with the exception of Mr. Panetta, I feel I've been jerked around by every CIA Director.''

My views against torture have been consistent with those of Senator JOHN MCCAIN, whose stance against torture is particularly compelling given his own experiences as a prisoner of war. I have also supported the use of interrogation techniques as laid out in the Army Field Manual and have decried the use of contractors by the CIA in the torture of detainees.

Some people have raised concerns about the timing of the release of this report and that our enemies could use it as a pretext for violence. Long before the release of this report, however, terrorist groups made their violent intentions towards America clear. They hate America and our freedoms. They use violence for the sake of violence. No public action is without risks, whether by President or Congress, but we also risk who we are as Americans by suppressing the facts in this report.

I would like to reiterate that this report was reviewed and redacted in conjunction with the CIA and White House, and the Director of National Intelligence approved its declassification. It was a difficult process that took over a year, but we finally got to a place where the narrative of the report was adequately preserved while ensuring that CIA personnel and operations were not compromised. The DNI weighed the risks and ultimately certified the declassification of the report.

To be clear, my support for this report in no way diminishes my respect for the men and women of the CIA, who are faithfully and legally doing their duties. The CIA's intelligence professionals put their lives at risk for our country. They deserve our support and respect.

I would like to thank Select Committee on Intelligence Chairman DIANNE FEINSTEIN for her leadership, as well as my committee colleagues from both sides of the aisle who supported this investigation. Throughout the frustrating and sometimes contentious process of producing this report, we never gave up on pursuing the truth. Thanks also to the committee staff who worked tirelessly on this report at great sacrifice to themselves and their families.

This report sheds light on a complicated episode in America's history, but it is also a testament to the value of never giving up on the search for truth and accountability. I hope that future generations will read it, study it, learn from it and make sure that torture is never again used by the U.S. government.

## TRIBUTE TO CLEMENCIA SPIZZIRRI

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I would like to take this time to honor an extraordinary Iowa teacher who has had a positive impact on a great many students. Ms. Clemencia Spizzirri was recently announced as the 2015 Iowa Teacher of the Year. This award honors the great work she has done as a foreign language teacher at Merrill Middle School in Des Moines, IA.

Ms. Spizzirri has been teaching Spanish to eager young minds at Merrill Middle School for 5 years. Despite her relatively short time there, her profound impact is evident. The high praise she receives from her students, colleagues, and community members are a testament to the work ethic and passion she displays in her classroom every schoolday.

As an immigrant herself, Ms. Spizzirri embodies the importance of a broad-based education that helps students understand the world beyond their own country. Born in Quito, Ecuador's capital city, Ms. Clemencia was the youngest of seven children. She learned quickly that success was nearly impossible without a quality education. This drove her to become a teacher. She witnessed firsthand the struggles that accompany poverty and knew she could make a difference through teaching. She started her career teaching English in Quito. When the conditions in her country began to worsen, she obtained a visa and moved to the United States. After immigrating to this country, Ms. Spizzirri received a bachelor's degree in New York. She then moved to Des Moines, IA, where she received her master's degree from Drake University.

Ms. Spizzirri attributes her passion for educating young minds to unfortunate circumstances she has witnessed in her own life. This passion ensures a quality education for all her students and contributes well-rounded citizens to the community. Great teachers are an invaluable resource to all of our communities and Ms. Spizzirri deserves nothing but praise for her tremendous work. I thank Ms. Spizzirri for her service to the people of her community and wish her nothing but the best in her future school years and beyond.

## REMEMBERING MARK HESSE

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. President, I wish to remember an upstanding Coloradan and accomplished mountaineer who passed away unexpectedly this year while doing what he was so passionate about: climbing. Mark Hesse was a man of exceptional character, exhibited a strong sense of adventure, and was a devoted admirer of nature; all of which are qualities of a true conservationist. He was an inspiration to many of us in the great State of Colorado.

Mark grew up in Colorado Springs, CO, where he became an Eagle Scout. Upon graduating from the University of Colorado at Boulder with a master's degree in special education and teaching, Mark took to traveling abroad in pursuit of climbing peaks around the world. In 1976, he became the first person to climb the completely vertical southeast face of Mount Asgard on Baffin Island. In 1986, he made the first ascent up the northeast buttress of Kangtega in Nepal, a prominent Himalayan peak with a summit of over 20,000 feet. These ascents, among countless others, inspired him to advocate for conservation and accomplish so much for Colorado's environment.

He is survived by Julie Asmuth, his wife of 30 years, his two daughters Hartley and Laurel, his mother Florence, brothers Jon, Paul, Phil, and sisters Anne Ness and Maria Hesse Vasey.

Mark was a loyal and devoted husband and father. He had a warm personality and a great sense of humor. He also had an amazing knack for turning ordinary outings into epic adventures, and thus was well known for adventure stories that seemed almost too absurd to be true. These qualities enabled him to inspire and educate his children and their peers, as well as the friends and colleagues he had through climbing and service projects he was part of. Mark was devoted to taking his family on trips to some of the most remote places possible, including the rainforests in South America and the ocean reefs of South East Asia. He believed in supporting ecotourism and educating himself and his family about different cultures and natural wonders of the world before they disappeared.

Mark loved the environment, believed in a higher standard for managing public spaces, and was committed to preserving the natural beauty of our great Nation. He received several distinguished awards for his work, such as the American Alpine Club's David Brower Award for Mountain Conservation in 1995, the Bob Marshall Champion of Wilderness Award presented by the U.S. Forest Service in 2005 and 2007, and the U.S. Bureau of Land Management's Making a Difference National Volunteer Award for outstanding service on public lands in 2014. He was the co-founder and executive director of the Santa Fe Mountain Center from 1977 to 1980, the program director of the Southwest Outward Bound School, and co-founder of the Colorado Fourteeners Initiative Program. He worked with the Bureau of Land Management to preserve two popular climbing destinations: Shelf Road and Penitente Canyon. Perhaps most notably, Mark founded the Rocky Mountain Field Institute in 1982, which has engaged more than 16,000 volunteers to contribute 200,000 hours to public land stewardship projects. These efforts amounted to more than $4 million in on-the-ground restoration efforts.

One of Mark's final projects, and a dream he had been nurturing for many years, was to create a hot-shot trail crew with high-end rock working skills that could build climbing access trails in the steep, rocky, and unstable terrain where climbers travel. At the time of his passing, Mark was collaborating with the Boulder Climbing Community and the Access Fund, two non-profits based in Boulder, to develop the Front Range Climbing Stewards trail crew. The project moved forward, inspired by Mark's lifetime of work, and in 2014 the trail crew performed more than $120,000 worth of work, in both Eldorado Canyon and the Flatirons, including the spectacular rebuild of the iconic Royal Arch Trail that was destroyed in the flood of 2013.

Colorado lost an irreplaceable individual with the passing of Mark Hesse. I, along with many others, have lost a respected leader, visionary, and friend. Let his life be a reminder of what every American is capable of accomplishing.

I ask that my colleagues join me in remembering Mark Hesse for his passion for the outdoors, his vast wealth of experiences, and his leadership in showing us how to be good stewards of our public lands.

# ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

## TRIBUTE TO CHARLES NIX

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I wish to honor Charles Nix, who will retire as the Poinsett County judge after three terms of honorable service to the citizens of Arkansas in this elected position.

As Poinsett County judge, Charles faced and overcame several disasters including the 2011 flood and multiple tornadoes. Charles played a pivotal role in leading the county through the storms, repairing the damages and restoring the livelihood of the citizens.

Beyond his county judge duties, Charles served as a member of the County Judges Association of Arkansas, Crowley's Ridge Development Council Board, Eastern Arkansas Planning and Development Council Board, and Northwest Arkansas Workforce Investment. He also presided as president of the Harrisburg Area Chamber of Commerce and served in the Army National Guard for 6 years.

Charles Nix has displayed honor, perseverance, and an eagerness to serve his community that we can all admire. I am truly grateful for his years of dedicated service and commitment to Poinsett County and the State of Arkansas.•

## RECOGNIZING ST. PATRICK SCHOOL

• Mr. DONNELLY. Mr. President, I wish to applaud St. Patrick School of Chesterton, IN for being recognized as a 2014 National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education.

Established in 1982, the National Blue Ribbon Schools program has recognized over 7,000 public and nonpublic schools that demonstrate a vision of educational excellence for all students, regardless of their social or economic

background. Since its inception, this program has offered the opportunity for schools in every State to gain recognition for educational accomplishments in closing the achievement gaps among student groups.

Recognition as a National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education is based on a school being measured as either an ''Exemplary High Performing School''—where schools are among the State's highest scorers in English and mathematics—or as an ''Exemplary Achievement Gap Closing School''—where schools with at least 40 percent of their student body coming from disadvantaged backgrounds have reduced the achievement gap in English and mathematics within the last 5 years. St. Patrick School has made great strides in the area of improved proficiency in both English and mathematics.

As a Four Star School, St. Patrick's takes great care to integrate elements of Catholic faith into its curriculum. Consisting of strong morals, a deeply rooted faith in community, and a strong sense of respectful conduct, the staff at St. Patrick challenges its students to put their faith into action through community service and social engagement on global issues.

I wish to acknowledge Principal Richard John Rupcich of St. Patrick School, the entire staff, and the student body. It undoubtedly took hard work and dedication to achieve this prestigious award.

On behalf of the citizens of Indiana, I congratulate St. Patrick School, and I wish them continued success in the future.●

## TRIBUTE TO DONALD LINDBERG

● Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, as a member of the Senate who has spent many years leading efforts to build support for biomedical research and improved public health, I would like to pay tribute to a great public servant and trailblazer in medical informatics, Donald A.B. Lindberg, Director of the National Library of Medicine, NLM, the world's largest biomedical library, and a part of the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Lindberg recently announced that he will retire next year after over 30 years of distinguished public service.

Trained as a pathologist, Dr. Lindberg is recognized worldwide as a pioneer in medical information technology, artificial intelligence, computer-aided medical diagnosis and electronic health records. When Dr. Lindberg joined NLM in 1984, the library had no electronic journals, personal computers were few and far between, and only a relatively small number of research institutions had access to the Internet. Today millions of scientists, health professionals, and members of the public use NLM's high-quality electronic information resources billions of times a year.

Dr. Lindberg arrived at NLM with a belief in the potential of advanced computing and telecommunications. He immediately launched the groundbreaking Unified Medical Language System, now broadly used to help computer systems behave as if they understand biomedical meaning. He also greatly expanded NLM's informatics research training programs, increasing the Nation's supply of informatics researchers and health information technology leaders. The library, its grantees, and its former trainees continue to play essential roles in the development of electronic health records, health data standards, and the exchange of health information.

One of the proudest achievements of Dr. Lindberg's tenure was the establishment of the National Center for Biotechnology Information, NCBI, in 1988. It expanded the scope of the NLM and provided a national resource for molecular biology information and essential support for mapping the human genome. Today, NCBI is home to GenBank, dbGaP, PubChem, and PubMed Central and is an indispensable international repository and software tool developer for genetic sequences and other genomic data, and a pioneer and leader in linking data and published research results to promote new scientific discoveries.

In another unprecedented move, Dr. Lindberg asked NLM to create the Visible Humans, a library of digital images representing the complete anatomy of a man and a woman—giving a unique and detailed look inside the body. People around the world can and do use the images in a variety of ways. They have been used to help students learn anatomy; to develop products like artificial limbs; and to create tools to help surgeons rehearse operations.

As access to the World Wide Web and the Internet spread throughout the country, Dr. Lindberg seized the opportunity to make high quality medical information freely available to the public. In a 1997 press briefing that I sponsored with the late Senator Arlen Specter, R–PA, and then Vice President Al Gore, we announced free Internet access to MEDLINE via PubMed. In 1998, Dr. Lindberg went on to create the consumer-friendly MedlinePlus.gov and a new era of timely and trusted online health information for the general public began. ClinicalTrials.gov, now the world's largest trial registry and a unique source of summary results data for many trials, followed soon after in 2000, providing patients, families and members of the public easy access to information about the location of clinical trials, their design and purpose, and criteria for participation.

In 2003, I again joined the NLM and the National Institute on Aging in launching NIHSeniorHealth.gov, a website that features authoritative, up-to-date information from the NIH, in a format that addresses the cognitive changes that come with aging and allows easy use. In that same year, I partnered with Dr. Lindberg and respected national physician groups to launch the Information Rx project, which supplies prescription pads to health providers to point their patients to trusted health care information from the NIH. At the urging of the Senate Appropriations Committee, Dr. Lindberg has also made high-quality health information available to physicians and their patients via NIH's first consumer magazine, NIH MedlinePlus. This free magazine is now available in Spanish and online around the Nation and worldwide.

Over the past three decades, Dr. Lindberg greatly expanded the scope of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine. Now, NLM and this network of more than 6,000 academic, hospital, and public libraries partner with community-based organizations to bring high-quality information to health professionals and the public-regardless of location, socioeconomic status or access to computers and telecommunications. NLM has entered into longstanding and successful partnerships with minority-serving institutions, tribal and community-based organizations, and the public health community. NLM's marvelous exhibitions which Dr. Lindberg championed, such as Native Voices: Native Peoples' Concepts of Health and Illness, expand NLM's reach with electronic and traveling versions, bringing important issues and scholarship to persons unable to make it through NLM's Bethesda doors. Moreover, Dr. Lindberg helped set the U.S. standards for the public's use of the Internet. He was the founding Director of the National Coordination Office for High Performance Computing and Communications in the President's Office of Science and Technology Policy and was named by the HHS Secretary to be the U.S. National Coordinator for the G–7 Global healthcare Applications Project.

It gives me great pleasure pay tribute to Dr. Donald A.B. Lindberg, one of this country's visionaries, for his many contributions in science and technology that have transformed access to biomedical information and clearly had a lasting positive impact on the Nation.●

## TRIBUTE TO COLONEL ROBERT J. McALEER

● Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to my constituent COL Robert J. McAleer for his exemplary dedication to duty and his service to the U.S. Army and to the United States of America. He has served his last 2 years in the Army as Chief of the Army's Senate Liaison Division, representing the Army on Capitol Hill.

A native of Washington State, Colonel McAleer earned a commission as a distinguished graduate from the U.S. Military Academy in 1988. Colonel McAleer has served in a broad range of challenging operational assignments and an unusually diverse set of Army units: cannon artillery, rocket and missile, air defense, light infantry, cavalry, Ranger, Special Forces, and Stryker.

Colonel McAleer spent more than a decade overseas, including two tours each in Germany and Korea, and two 15-month tours in Iraq. As a lieutenant, he completed critical assignments in austere locations on the Demilitarized Zone in Korea. As a captain and major with the Army Special Operations Command, he participated in the detention of Bosnian war criminals, served as a fire support officer for twenty AC–130 gunship and similar missions in Kosovo, an operation to rescue American hostages in South America, and numerous exercises that served as blueprints for post-9/11 operations. In Iraq, as battalion operations officer and, later, Squadron Commander, he worked to secure dangerous areas in southwest Baghdad, Abu Ghraib, and then Diyala Province. His units were marked by their discipline, determination, purposeful operations, and focus on the needs of the civilian population. He led efforts in intelligence, governance, essential services, and reconciliation. As a colonel, serving as Chief of Future Operations for Combined Forces Command in Korea, he synchronized the U.S. and South Korean response to North Korea's artillery shelling of Yong Pyong Island, the death of Kim Jong Il, and a North Korean ballistic missile launch. He led major joint and international planning efforts on the Korean Peninsula to prepare military forces and governments for contingencies, especially in the areas of rear area logistics, noncombatant evacuation, and countering and preventing the use of weapons of mass destruction.

With the exception of his current assignment as an Army legislative liaison, Colonel McAleer spent his entire career in combat units, either in command or operations positions. He spent 6 years in command of four units: Bravo Battery 1–39 Field Artillery, Airborne; Bravo Battery 1–321 Field Artillery, Airborne; 2nd Battalion, 8th Field Artillery; and Fires Squadron, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment. A soldier's soldier, focused on his assigned mission and the wellbeing of those under his command, he touched thousands of lives, developing countless leaders and young soldiers in his units.

On behalf of a grateful nation, I join my colleagues today in recognizing and commending Colonel McAleer for over 26 years of service to his country. He played a key role in defending our national interests while positively impacting the soldiers and families under his command. He has been an excellent Army liaison to the Senate. We wish Bob, his wife Kate, daughter Catherine, and son Colin all the best as they continue their journey of service.●

## MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:02 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 229. An act to designate the medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs located at 3900 Woodland Avenue in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as the ''Corporal Michael J. Crescenz Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center''.

S. 1434. An act to designate the Junction City Community-Based Outpatient Clinic located at 715 Southwind Drive, Junction City, Kansas, as the Lieutenant General Richard J. Seitz Community-Based Outpatient Clinic.

S. 2921. An act to designate the community based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs located at 310 Home Boulevard in Galesburg, Illinois, as the ''Lane A. Evans VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic''.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2901. An act to strengthen implementation of the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act of 2005 by improving the capacity of the United States Government to implement, leverage, and monitor and evaluate programs to provide first-time or improved access to safe drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene to the world's poorest on an equitable and sustainable basis, and for other purposes.

### ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 3:46 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 5462. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to provide for limitations on the fees charged to passengers of air carriers.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

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At 4:04 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 579. An act to designate the United States courthouse located at 501 East Court Street in Jackson, Mississippi, as the ''R. Jess Brown United States Courthouse''.

H.R. 4030. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 18640 NW 2nd Avenue in Miami, Florida, as the ''Father Richard Marquess-Barry Post Office Building''.

H.R. 4926. An act to designate a segment of Interstate Route 35 in the State of Minnesota as the ''James L. Oberstar Memorial Highway''.

H.R. 5146. An act to designate the United States courthouse located at 700 Grant Street in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, as the ''Joseph F. Weis Jr. United States Courthouse''.

H.R. 5385. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 55 Grasso Plaza in St. Louis, Missouri, as the ''Sgt. Amanda N. Pinson Post Office''.

H.R. 5562. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 801 West Ocean Avenue in Lompoc, California, as the ''Federal Correctional Officer Scott J. Williams Memorial Post Office Building''.

H.R. 5687. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 101 East Market Street in Long Beach, California, as the ''Juanita Millender-McDonald Post Office''.

H.R. 5794. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 16105 Swingley Ridge Road in Chesterfield, Missouri, as the ''Sgt. Zachary M. Fisher Post Office''.

### ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

At 4:51 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills and joint resolution:

S. 229. An act to designate the medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs located at 3900 Woodland Avenue in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as the ''Corporal Michael J. Crescenz Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center''.

S. 1434. An act to designate the Junction City Community-Based Outpatient Clinic located at 715 Southwind Drive, Junction City, Kansas, as the Lieutenant General Richard J. Seitz Community-Based Outpatient Clinic.

S. 2673. An act to enhance the strategic partnership between the United States and Israel.

S. 2917. An act to expand the program of priority review to encourage treatments for tropical diseases.

S. 2921. An act to designate the community based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs located at 310 Home Boulevard in Galesburg, Illinois, as the ''Lane A. Evans VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic''.

H.R. 2366. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of World War I.

H.R. 5739. An act to amend the Social Security Act to provide for the termination of social security benefits for individuals who participated in Nazi persecution, and for other purposes.

H.J. Res. 105. Joint Resolution conferring honorary citizenship of the United States on Bernardo de Galvez y Madrid, Viscount of Galveston and Count of Galvez.

The enrolled bills and joint resolution were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 6:18 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 78. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4110 Almeda Road in Houston, Texas, as the ''George Thomas 'Mickey' Leland Post Office Building''.

H.R. 1707. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 302 East Green Street in Champaign, Illinois, as the ''James R. Burgess Jr. Post Office Building''.

H.R. 2112. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 787 State Route 17M in Monroe, New York, as the ''National Clandestine Service of the Central Intelligence Agency NCS Officer Gregg David Wenzel Memorial Post Office''.

H.R. 2223. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 220 Elm Avenue in Munising, Michigan, as the ''Elizabeth L. Kinnunen Post Office Building''.

H.R. 2678. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 10360 Southwest 186th Street in Miami, Florida, as the ''Larcenia J. Bullard Post Office Building''.

H.R. 3534. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 113 West Michigan Avenue in Jackson, Michigan, as the ''Officer James Bonneau Memorial Post Office''.

H.R. 4939. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2551 Galena Avenue in Simi Valley, California, as the ''Neil Havens Post Office''.

H.R. 5030. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13500 SW 250 Street in Princeton, Florida, as the ''Corporal Christian A. Guzman Rivera Post Office Building''.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

## MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 5759. An act to establish a rule of construction clarifying the limitations on executive authority to provide certain forms of immigration relief.

H.R. 5771. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions and make technical corrections, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of ABLE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN, from the Select Committee on Intelligence:

Special Report entitled ''Committee Study of the Central Intelligence Agency's Detention and Interrogation Program'' (Rept. No. 113–288). Additional and minority views filed.

## EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. LEVIN for the Committee on Armed Services.

*Alissa M. Starzak, of New York, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Army.

*Robert M. Scher, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

*David J. Berteau, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

Army nomination of Brig. Gen. Margaret C. Wilmoth, to be Major General.

Marine Corps nomination of Maj. Gen. James B. Laster, to be Lieutenant General.

Navy nomination of Rear Adm. James G. Foggo III, to be Vice Admiral .

Air Force nomination of Brig. Gen. Derek P. Rydholm, to be Major General.

Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Larry D. Wyche, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nomination of Col. Lawrence F. Thoms, to be Brigadier General.

*Navy nomination of Adm. Harry B. Harris, Jr., to be Admiral.

Air Force nomination of Col. Shelley R. Campbell, to be Brigadier General.

Air Force nomination of Maj. Gen. Mark C. Nowland, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nominations beginning with Colonel Michael G. Amundson and ending with Colonel Clifford W. Wilkins, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 12, 2014. (minus 1 nominee: Colonel Barry K. Taylor)

Army nomination of Brig. Gen. Darsie D. Rogers, Jr., to be Major General.

Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Frederick S. Rudesheim, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nomination of Col. Stephen J. Hager, to be Brigadier General.

Army nomination of Col. Eugene J. LeBoeuf, to be Brigadier General.

Army nomination of Brig. Gen. John C. Harris, to be Major General.

Army nomination of Brig. Gen. Lewis G. Irwin, to be Major General.

Army nomination of Maj. Gen. David E. Quantock, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Anthony R. Ierardi, to be Lieutenant General.

Marine Corps nomination of Maj. Gen. Vincent R. Stewart, to be Lieutenant General.

Air Force nomination of Lt. Gen. Andrew E. Busch, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nomination of Brig. Gen. Richard D. Clarke, Jr., to be Major General.

Army nomination of Lt. Gen. John F. Mulholland, Jr., to be Lieutenant General.

Army nomination of Col. Aaron T. Walter, to be Brigadier General.

Army nomination of Col. David W. Ling, to be Brigadier General.

Navy nomination of Rear Adm. Troy M. Shoemaker, to be Vice Admiral.

Navy nomination of Vice Adm. Scott H. Swift, to be Admiral.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, for the Committee on Armed Services I report favorably the following nomination lists which were printed in the RECORDS on the dates indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Air Force nominations beginning with Taft Owen Aujero and ending with Jeffery Lynn Richard, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 15, 2014. (minus 105 nominees beginning with Peter G. Bailey)

Air Force nominations beginning with Peter Brian Abercrombie II and ending with Jason C. Zumwalt, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 31, 2014.

Air Force nominations beginning with George W. Clifford III and ending with Young J. Jun, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 15, 2014.

Air Force nominations beginning with Travis K. Acheson and ending with Paul C. Zurkowski, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 13, 2014.

Air Force nomination of Jennifer C. Alexander, to be Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Joyce P. Fiedler, to be Colonel.

Air Force nominations beginning with Robert B. O. Allen and ending with Keith M. Vollenweider, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on December 3, 2014.

Air Force nominations beginning with Richard Y. Baird and ending with Jerome L. Vinluan, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on December 3, 2014.

Air Force nominations beginning with Richard M. Burgon and ending with Joshua N. Scott, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on December 3, 2014.

Air Force nomination of Allyson M. Yamaki, to be Major.

Air Force nominations beginning with Aaron J. Agirre and ending with Gregory S. Zilinski, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on December 3, 2014.

Air Force nominations beginning with Erika S. Abraham and ending with Fei Zhang, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on December 3, 2014.

Air Force nominations beginning with Rhett B. Casper and ending with Stacey Elizabeth Zaikoski, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on December 3, 2014.

Air Force nominations beginning with Jose C. Aguirre and ending with Sandy K. Yip, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on December 3, 2014.

Air Force nominations beginning with Jason D. Eitutis and ending with Brian K. Wyrick, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on December 3, 2014.

Air Force nominations beginning with Sarahann Beal and ending with Carol C. Walters, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on December 3, 2014.

Air Force nominations beginning with David P. Abbott and ending with Kevin D. Underwood, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on December 3, 2014.

Air Force nominations beginning with Mohammed H. Aljallad and ending with Anita M. Yates, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on December 3, 2014.

Army nomination of Kimberely Derouenslaven, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Barry C. Busby, to be Major.

Army nominations beginning with Lamar D. Adams and ending with G001317, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 15, 2014. (minus 6 nominees beginning with Steven R. Berger)

Army nominations beginning with Eric C. Anderson and ending with D011466, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 15, 2014. (minus 9 nominees beginning with Steven R. Ansley, Jr.)

Army nominations beginning with Randy L. Brandt and ending with Kenneth R. Williams, Jr., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 15, 2014.

Army nominations beginning with Michael D. Acord and ending with D006516, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 15, 2014. (minus 8 nominees beginning with Treavor J. Bellandi)

Army nomination of Darrell R. V. Tran, to be Major.

Army nominations beginning with George W. Mason III and ending with Alvin D. Wilson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 15, 2014.

Army nominations beginning with John W. Bozicevic and ending with James E. Scalf, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 15, 2014.

Army nomination of Patrick M. McGrath, to be Major.

Army nominations beginning with Peggy E. D. McGill and ending with Elena M. Scarbrough, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 17, 2014.

Army nominations beginning with Delroy A. Brown and ending with Richard G. Schmid, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 17, 2014.

Army nominations beginning with Brian R. Coleman and ending with Robert W. Thompson, Jr., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 17, 2014. (minus 1 nominee: Spencer T. Price)

Army nominations beginning with Vance J. Argo and ending with Gregory W. Teisan, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 17, 2014.

Army nominations beginning with Scott A. Arcand and ending with William D. Weaver, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 17, 2014.

Army nominations beginning with Dawn M. Flynn and ending with Sandra J. Hetzel, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 17, 2014. (minus 1 nominee: Paul V. Rahm)

Army nominations beginning with Scott B. Byers and ending with Charlene A. Weingarten, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 17, 2014. (minus 1 nominee: Michele M. Spencer)

Army nominations beginning with Donna K. Ayers and ending with Mary E. Woodard, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 17, 2014. (minus 2 nominees: Lesley A. Watts; Roy Wilms)

Army nominations beginning with Felix J. E. Andujar and ending with Terence R. Woods, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 17, 2014. (minus 1 nominee: Jerry L. Tolbert)

Army nominations beginning with Bryan D. Brown and ending with Nicholas D. Young, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 17, 2014. (minus 4 nominees: Timothy A. Doherty; William R. Elliott; Lynnell D. Peace; Craig A. Yunker)

Army nominations beginning with Anthony J. Labadia and ending with Joseph F. Tommasino, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 17, 2014.

Army nominations beginning with Marta E. Acha and ending with Ricord W. Torgerson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 17, 2014. (minus 1 nominee: Jacob A. Johnson)

Army nominations beginning with Zenaida M. Cofie and ending with Todd L. Stewart, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 17, 2014.

Army nomination of Joseph T. Morris, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Richard T. Knowlton, to be Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Robert A. Borcherding and ending with Dean L. Whitford, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 13, 2014.

Army nomination of Steven E. Baker, to be Major.

Army nomination of Arun Sharma, to be Major.

Army nomination of James M. Brumit, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Samuel Agostosantiago and ending with John R. Wilt, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 13, 2014.

Army nominations beginning with Edwin B. Bales and ending with Ryan M. Zipf, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 13, 2014.

Army nominations beginning with Paul P. McBride and ending with Paul E. Reynolds, Jr., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 13, 2014.

Army nomination of John E. Atwood, to be Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Daniel H. Aldana and ending with David R. Navorska, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 13, 2014.

Army nomination of Eric Graham, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Susan Davis and ending with Matthew G. St. Laurent, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 13, 2014. (minus 1 nominee: Raymond L. Phua)

Army nominations beginning with Shelley P. Honnold and ending with Neal E. Woollen, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 13, 2014.

Army nominations beginning with Susan J. Argueta and ending with Jason S. Windsor, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 13, 2014. (minus 1 nominee: Susan R. Cloft)

Army nominations beginning with John R. Bailey and ending with D004653, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 13, 2014. (minus 2 nominees: Roger S. Giraud; Neil I. Nelson)

Army nominations beginning with Gary L. Gross and ending with Craig D. Shriver, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 13, 2014.

Army nominations beginning with Melissa R. Beauman and ending with Michael W. Stephens, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 13, 2014.

Army nomination of Richard M. Hester, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Army nomination of Jay E. Clasing, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Scott J. Anderson and ending with Stefania V. Wilcox, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on December 3, 2014. (minus 1 nominee: Marion A. Alston)

Army nominations beginning with Rachel R. Anthony and ending with D011532, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on December 3, 2014. (minus 1 nominee: Steven A. Brewer)

Army nominations beginning with Nadine M. Alonzo and ending with D012299, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on December 3, 2014.

Army nominations beginning with Mark Acopan and ending with Timothy R. Yourk, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on December 3, 2014. (minus 1 nominee: James Lawhorn, Jr.)

Army nominations beginning with Katharine M. E. Adams and ending with Hans P. Zeller, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on December 3, 2014.

Army nominations beginning with Robert J. Abbott and ending with D011857, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on December 3, 2014.

Marine Corps nomination of Timothy E. Robertson, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Marine Corps nomination of Christopher E. Hall, to be Major.

Navy nomination of Angela M. Rowell, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nomination of Gregory L. Koontz, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nomination of Timothy S. Roush, to be Captain.

Navy nomination of Kimberly M. Freitas, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nomination of Adam B. Yost, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nomination of Charles S. Eisenberg, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nomination of Jack W.L. Tsao, to be Captain.

Navy nomination of James M. Ross, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nomination of Lakeeva B. Gunderson, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nominations beginning with Travis S. Anderson and ending with Julian G. Wilson III, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 17, 2014.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER for the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

*Willie E. May, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology.

*Tho Dinh-Zarr, of Texas, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board for the remainder of the term expiring December 31, 2018.

*Mark R. Rosekind, of California, to be Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

*Carlos A. Monje, Jr., of Louisiana, to be an Assistant Secretary of Transportation.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

## INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 2990. A bill to establish a State Trade and Export Promotion Grant Program; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. BEGICH:

S. 2991. A bill to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to promote sustainable conservation and management for the Nation's fisheries and the communities that rely on them, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND:

S. 2992. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to reform procedures for determinations to proceed to trial by court-martial for certain offenses under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, and for other purposes; read the first time.

## ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 209

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK)

was added as a cosponsor of S. 209, a bill to require a full audit of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal reserve banks by the Comptroller General of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 318

At the request of Mr. JOHANNS, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 318, a bill to rescind funds made available to the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency if the Administrator fails to meet certain deadlines.

S. 631

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 631, a bill to allow Americans to earn paid sick time so that they can address their own health needs and the health needs of their families.

S. 769

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 769, a bill to designate as wilderness certain Federal portions of the red rock canyons of the Colorado Plateau and the Great Basin Deserts in the State of Utah for the benefit of present and future generations of people in the United States.

S. 1695

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1695, a bill to designate a portion of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as wilderness.

S. 1861

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1861, a bill to save taxpayer money and end bailouts of financial institutions by providing for a process to allow financial institutions to go bankrupt.

S. 2206

At the request of Mr. COBURN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2206, a bill to streamline the collection and distribution of government information.

S. 2689

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2689, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to specify coverage of continuous glucose monitoring devices, and for other purposes.

S. 2807

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2807, a bill to encourage States to report to the Attorney General certain information regarding the deaths of individuals in the custody of law enforcement agencies, and for other purposes.

S. 2898

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2898, a bill to provide consumer protections for students.

S. 2911

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2911, a bill to establish a task force to review policies and measures to promote, and to develop best practices for, reduction of short-lived climate pollutants, and for other purposes.

S. 2930

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. DONNELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2930, a bill to direct the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide for the conduct of an evaluation of mental health care and suicide prevention programs of the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs, to require a pilot program on loan repayment for psychiatrists who agree to serve in the Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 2946

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2946, a bill to provide improved water, sanitation, and hygiene programs for high priority developing countries, and for other purposes.

S. 2965

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2965, a bill to provide that members of the Armed Forces performing hazardous humanitarian services in West Africa to combat the spread of the 2014 Ebola virus outbreak shall be entitled to tax benefits in the same manner as if such services were performed in a combat zone.

S. 2971

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) were added as cosponsors of S. 2971, a bill to promote energy efficiency, and for other purposes.

S. 2975

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2975, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require State licensure and bid surety bonds for entities submitting bids under the Medicare durable medical equipment, prosthetics, orthotics, and supplies (DMEPOS) competitive acquisition program, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 413

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 413, a resolution recognizing 20 years since the genocide in Rwanda, and affirming it is in the national interest of the United States to work in close coordination with international partners to help prevent and mitigate acts of genocide and mass atrocities.

## AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3977. Mr. REID (for Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself and Mr. TESTER)) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 1204, to amend title 49, United States Code, to direct the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security (Transportation Security Administration) to establish an Aviation Security Advisory Committee, and for other purposes.

SA 3978. Mr. REID (for Ms. AYOTTE) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2719, to require the Transportation Security Administration to implement best practices and improve transparency with regard to technology acquisition programs, and for other purposes.

SA 3979. Mrs. GILLIBRAND submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3979, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3980. Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. DONNELLY, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. WICKER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5771, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions and make technical corrections, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of ABLE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3981. Mr. BEGICH proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1474, to amend the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 to repeal a special rule for the State of Alaska, and for other purposes.

SA 3982. Mr. BEGICH proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1474, supra.

SA 3983. Mrs. GILLIBRAND submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3979, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3984. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 3979, supra.

SA 3985. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to amendment SA 3984 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 3979, supra.

SA 3986. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 3979, supra.

SA 3987. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to amendment SA 3986 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 3979, supra.

SA 3988. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to amendment SA 3987 proposed by Mr. REID to the amendment SA 3986 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 3979, supra.

SA 3989. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3979, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3990. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3979, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3991. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill

H.R. 3979, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3992. Mr. CRUZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3979, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3993. Mr. SCHATZ (for Mr. COONS) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 413, recognizing 20 years since the genocide in Rwanda, and affirming it is in the national interest of the United States to work in close coordination with international partners to help prevent and mitigate acts of genocide and mass atrocities.

SA 3994. Mr. SCHATZ (for Mr. COONS) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 413, supra.

SA 3995. Mr. SCHATZ (for Mrs. FEINSTEIN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 4681, to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2014 and 2015 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes.

## TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

**SA 3977.** Mr. REID (for Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself and Mr. TESTER)) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 1204, to amend title 49, United States Code, to direct the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security (Transportation Security Administration) to establish an Aviation Security Advisory Committee, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the ''Aviation Security Stakeholder Participation Act of 2014''.

**SEC. 2. AVIATION SECURITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 449 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

**''§ 44946. Aviation Security Advisory Committee**

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Assistant Secretary shall establish within the Transportation Security Administration an aviation security advisory committee.

''(b) DUTIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Assistant Secretary shall consult the Advisory Committee, as appropriate, on aviation security matters, including on the development, refinement, and implementation of policies, programs, rulemaking, and security directives pertaining to aviation security, while adhering to sensitive security guidelines.

''(2) RECOMMENDATIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Advisory Committee shall develop, at the request of the Assistant Secretary, recommendations for improvements to aviation security.

''(B) RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUBCOMMITTEES.—Recommendations agreed upon by the subcommittees established under this section shall be approved by the Advisory Committee before transmission to the Assistant Secretary.

''(3) PERIODIC REPORTS.—The Advisory Committee shall periodically submit to the Assistant Secretary—

''(A) reports on matters identified by the Assistant Secretary; and

''(B) reports on other matters identified by a majority of the members of the Advisory Committee.

''(4) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Advisory Committee shall submit to the Assistant Secretary an annual report providing information on the activities, findings, and recommendations of the Advisory Committee, including its subcommittees, for the preceding year. Not later than 6 months after the date that the Secretary receives the annual report, the Secretary shall publish a public version describing the Advisory Committee's activities and such related matters as would be informative to the public consistent with the policy of section 552(b) of title 5.

''(5) FEEDBACK.—Not later than 90 days after receiving recommendations transmitted by the Advisory Committee under paragraph (4), the Assistant Secretary shall respond in writing to the Advisory Committee with feedback on each of the recommendations, an action plan to implement any of the recommendations with which the Assistant Secretary concurs, and a justification for why any of the recommendations have been rejected.

''(6) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—Not later than 30 days after providing written feedback to the Advisory Committee under paragraph (5), the Assistant Secretary shall notify the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives on such feedback, and provide a briefing upon request.

''(7) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Prior to briefing the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives under paragraph (6), the Assistant Secretary shall submit to such committees a report containing information relating to the recommendations transmitted by the Advisory Committee in accordance with paragraph (4).

''(c) MEMBERSHIP.—

''(1) APPOINTMENT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Aviation Security Stakeholder Participation Act of 2014, the Assistant Secretary shall appoint the members of the Advisory Committee.

''(B) COMPOSITION.—The membership of the Advisory Committee shall consist of individuals representing not more than 34 member organizations. Each organization shall be represented by 1 individual (or the individual's designee).

''(C) REPRESENTATION.—The membership of the Advisory Committee shall include representatives of air carriers, all-cargo air transportation, indirect air carriers, labor organizations representing air carrier employees, labor organizations representing transportation security officers, aircraft manufacturers, airport operators, airport construction and maintenance contractors, labor organizations representing employees of airport construction and maintenance contractors, general aviation, privacy organizations, the travel industry, airport-based businesses (including minority-owned small businesses), businesses that conduct security screening operations at airports, aeronautical repair stations, passenger advocacy groups, the aviation security technology industry (including screening technology and biometrics), victims of terrorist acts against aviation, and law enforcement and security experts.

''(2) TERM OF OFFICE.—

''(A) TERMS.—The term of each member of the Advisory Committee shall be 2 years. A member of the Advisory Committee may be reappointed.

''(B) REMOVAL.—The Assistant Secretary may review the participation of a member of the Advisory Committee and remove such member for cause at any time.

''(3) PROHIBITION ON COMPENSATION.—The members of the Advisory Committee shall not receive pay, allowances, or benefits from the Government by reason of their service on the Advisory Committee.

''(4) MEETINGS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Assistant Secretary shall require the Advisory Committee to meet at least semiannually and may convene additional meetings as necessary.

''(B) PUBLIC MEETINGS.—At least 1 of the meetings described in subparagraph (A) shall be open to the public.

''(C) ATTENDANCE.—The Advisory Committee shall maintain a record of the persons present at each meeting.

''(5) MEMBER ACCESS TO SENSITIVE SECURITY INFORMATION.—Not later than 60 days after the date of a member's appointment, the Assistant Secretary shall determine if there is cause for the member to be restricted from possessing sensitive security information. Without such cause, and upon the member voluntarily signing a non-disclosure agreement, the member may be granted access to sensitive security information that is relevant to the member's advisory duties. The member shall protect the sensitive security information in accordance with part 1520 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations.

''(6) CHAIRPERSON.—A stakeholder representative on the Advisory Committee who is elected by the appointed membership of the Advisory Committee shall chair the Advisory Committee.

''(d) SUBCOMMITTEES.—

''(1) MEMBERSHIP.—The Advisory Committee chairperson, in coordination with the Assistant Secretary, may establish within the Advisory Committee any subcommittee that the Assistant Secretary and Advisory Committee determine to be necessary. The Assistant Secretary and the Advisory Committee shall create subcommittees to address aviation security issues, including the following:

''(A) AIR CARGO SECURITY.—The implementation of the air cargo security programs established by the Transportation Security Administration to screen air cargo on passenger aircraft and all-cargo aircraft in accordance with established cargo screening mandates.

''(B) GENERAL AVIATION.—General aviation facilities, general aviation aircraft, and helicopter operations at general aviation and commercial service airports.

''(C) PERIMETER AND ACCESS CONTROL.—Recommendations on airport perimeter security, exit lane security and technology at commercial service airports, and access control issues.

''(D) SECURITY TECHNOLOGY.—Security technology standards and requirements, including their harmonization internationally, technology to screen passengers, passenger baggage, carry-on baggage, and cargo, and biometric technology.

''(2) RISK-BASED SECURITY.—All subcommittees established by the Advisory Committee chairperson in coordination with the Assistant Secretary shall consider risk-based security approaches in the performance of their functions that weigh the optimum balance of costs and benefits in transportation security, including for passenger screening, baggage screening, air cargo security policies, and general aviation security matters.

''(3) MEETINGS AND REPORTING.—Each subcommittee shall meet at least quarterly and submit to the Advisory Committee for inclusion in the annual report required under subsection (b)(4) information, including recommendations, regarding issues within the subcommittee.

''(4) SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRS.—Each subcommittee shall be co-chaired by a Government official and an industry official.

''(e) SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTS.—Each subcommittee under this section shall include

subject matter experts with relevant expertise who are appointed by the respective subcommittee chairpersons.

''(f) NONAPPLICABILITY OF FACA.—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the Advisory Committee and its subcommittees.

''(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—The term 'Advisory Committee' means the aviation security advisory committee established under subsection (a).

''(2) ASSISTANT SECRETARY.—The term 'Assistant Secretary' means the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security (Transportation Security Administration).

''(3) PERIMETER SECURITY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'perimeter security' means procedures or systems to monitor, secure, and prevent unauthorized access to an airport, including its airfield and terminal.

''(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term 'perimeter security' includes the fence area surrounding an airport, access gates, and access controls.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for subchapter II of chapter 449 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

**''44946. Aviation Security Advisory Committee.''.**

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**SA 3978.** Mr. REID (for Ms. AYOTTE) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2719, to require the Transportation Security Administration to implement best practices and improve transparency with regard to technology acquisition programs, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the ''Transportation Security Acquisition Reform Act''.

**SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

Congress finds the following:

(1) The Transportation Security Administration has not consistently implemented Department of Homeland Security policies and Government best practices for acquisition and procurement.

(2) The Transportation Security Administration has only recently developed a multiyear technology investment plan, and has underutilized innovation opportunities within the private sector, including from small businesses.

(3) The Transportation Security Administration has faced challenges in meeting key performance requirements for several major acquisitions and procurements, resulting in reduced security effectiveness and wasted expenditures.

**SEC. 3. TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION ACQUISITION REFORM.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title XVI of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–296; 116 Stat. 2312) is amended to read as follows:

**''TITLE XVI—TRANSPORTATION SECURITY**

**''Subtitle A—General Provisions**

**''SEC. 1601. DEFINITIONS.**

''In this title:

''(1) ADMINISTRATION.—The term 'Administration' means the Transportation Security Administration.

''(2) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term 'Administrator' means the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration.

''(3) PLAN.—The term 'Plan' means the strategic 5-year technology investment plan developed by the Administrator under section 1611.

''(4) SECURITY-RELATED TECHNOLOGY.—The term 'security-related technology' means any technology that assists the Administration in the prevention of, or defense against, threats to United States transportation systems, including threats to people, property, and information.

**''Subtitle B—Transportation Security Administration Acquisition Improvements**

**''SEC. 1611. 5-YEAR TECHNOLOGY INVESTMENT PLAN.**

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall—

''(1) not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of the Transportation Security Acquisition Reform Act, develop and submit to Congress a strategic 5-year technology investment plan, that may include a classified addendum to report sensitive transportation security risks, technology vulnerabilities, or other sensitive security information; and

''(2) to the extent possible, publish the Plan in an unclassified format in the public domain.

''(b) CONSULTATION.—The Administrator shall develop the Plan in consultation with—

''(1) the Under Secretary for Management;

''(2) the Under Secretary for Science and Technology;

''(3) the Chief Information Officer; and

''(4) the aviation industry stakeholder advisory committee established by the Administrator.

''(c) APPROVAL.—The Administrator may not publish the Plan under subsection (a)(2) until it has been approved by the Secretary.

''(d) CONTENTS OF PLAN.—The Plan shall include—

''(1) an analysis of transportation security risks and the associated capability gaps that would be best addressed by security-related technology, including consideration of the most recent quadrennial homeland security review under section 707;

''(2) a set of security-related technology acquisition needs that—

''(A) is prioritized based on risk and associated capability gaps identified under paragraph (1); and

''(B) includes planned technology programs and projects with defined objectives, goals, timelines, and measures;

''(3) an analysis of current and forecast trends in domestic and international passenger travel;

''(4) an identification of currently deployed security-related technologies that are at or near the end of their lifecycles;

''(5) an identification of test, evaluation, modeling, and simulation capabilities, including target methodologies, rationales, and timelines necessary to support the acquisition of the security-related technologies expected to meet the needs under paragraph (2);

''(6) an identification of opportunities for public-private partnerships, small and disadvantaged company participation, intragovernment collaboration, university centers of excellence, and national laboratory technology transfer;

''(7) an identification of the Administration's acquisition workforce needs for the management of planned security-related technology acquisitions, including consideration of leveraging acquisition expertise of other Federal agencies;

''(8) an identification of the security resources, including information security resources, that will be required to protect security-related technology from physical or cyber theft, diversion, sabotage, or attack;

''(9) an identification of initiatives to streamline the Administration's acquisition process and provide greater predictability and clarity to small, medium, and large businesses, including the timeline for testing and evaluation;

''(10) an assessment of the impact to commercial aviation passengers;

''(11) a strategy for consulting airport management, air carrier representatives, and Federal security directors whenever an acquisition will lead to the removal of equipment at airports, and how the strategy for consulting with such officials of the relevant airports will address potential negative impacts on commercial passengers or airport operations; and

''(12) in consultation with the National Institutes of Standards and Technology, an identification of security-related technology interface standards, in existence or if implemented, that could promote more interoperable passenger, baggage, and cargo screening systems.

''(e) LEVERAGING THE PRIVATE SECTOR.—To the extent possible, and in a manner that is consistent with fair and equitable practices, the Plan shall—

''(1) leverage emerging technology trends and research and development investment trends within the public and private sectors;

''(2) incorporate private sector input, including from the aviation industry stakeholder advisory committee established by the Administrator, through requests for information, industry days, and other innovative means consistent with the Federal Acquisition Regulation; and

''(3) in consultation with the Under Secretary for Science and Technology, identify technologies in existence or in development that, with or without adaptation, are expected to be suitable to meeting mission needs.

''(f) DISCLOSURE.—The Administrator shall include with the Plan a list of nongovernment persons that contributed to the writing of the Plan.

''(g) UPDATE AND REPORT.—Beginning 2 years after the date the Plan is submitted to Congress under subsection (a), and biennially thereafter, the Administrator shall submit to Congress—

''(1) an update of the Plan; and

''(2) a report on the extent to which each security-related technology acquired by the Administration since the last issuance or update of the Plan is consistent with the planned technology programs and projects identified under subsection (d)(2) for that security-related technology.

**''SEC. 1612. ACQUISITION JUSTIFICATION AND REPORTS.**

''(a) ACQUISITION JUSTIFICATION.—Before the Administration implements any security-related technology acquisition, the Administrator, in accordance with the Department's policies and directives, shall determine whether the acquisition is justified by conducting an analysis that includes—

''(1) an identification of the scenarios and level of risk to transportation security from those scenarios that would be addressed by the security-related technology acquisition;

''(2) an assessment of how the proposed acquisition aligns to the Plan;

''(3) a comparison of the total expected lifecycle cost against the total expected quantitative and qualitative benefits to transportation security;

''(4) an analysis of alternative security solutions, including policy or procedure solutions, to determine if the proposed security-related technology acquisition is the most effective and cost-efficient solution based on cost-benefit considerations;

''(5) an assessment of the potential privacy and civil liberties implications of the proposed acquisition that includes, to the extent practicable, consultation with organizations that advocate for the protection of privacy and civil liberties;

''(6) a determination that the proposed acquisition is consistent with fair information

practice principles issued by the Privacy Officer of the Department;

''(7) confirmation that there are no significant risks to human health or safety posed by the proposed acquisition; and

''(8) an estimate of the benefits to commercial aviation passengers.

''(b) REPORTS AND CERTIFICATION TO CONGRESS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the end of the 30-day period preceding the award by the Administration of a contract for any security-related technology acquisition exceeding $30,000,000, the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives—

''(A) the results of the comprehensive acquisition justification under subsection (a); and

''(B) a certification by the Administrator that the benefits to transportation security justify the contract cost.

''(2) EXTENSION DUE TO IMMINENT TERRORIST THREAT.—If there is a known or suspected imminent threat to transportation security, the Administrator—

''(A) may reduce the 30-day period under paragraph (1) to 5 days to rapidly respond to the threat; and

''(B) shall immediately notify the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives of the known or suspected imminent threat.

**''SEC. 1613. ACQUISITION BASELINE ESTABLISHMENT AND REPORTS.**

''(a) BASELINE REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Before the Administration implements any security-related technology acquisition, the appropriate acquisition official of the Department shall establish and document a set of formal baseline requirements.

''(2) CONTENTS.—The baseline requirements under paragraph (1) shall—

''(A) include the estimated costs (including lifecycle costs), schedule, and performance milestones for the planned duration of the acquisition;

''(B) identify the acquisition risks and a plan for mitigating those risks; and

''(C) assess the personnel necessary to manage the acquisition process, manage the ongoing program, and support training and other operations as necessary.

''(3) FEASIBILITY.—In establishing the performance milestones under paragraph (2)(A), the appropriate acquisition official of the Department, to the extent possible and in consultation with the Under Secretary for Science and Technology, shall ensure that achieving those milestones is technologically feasible.

''(4) TEST AND EVALUATION PLAN.—The Administrator, in consultation with the Under Secretary for Science and Technology, shall develop a test and evaluation plan that describes—

''(A) the activities that are expected to be required to assess acquired technologies against the performance milestones established under paragraph (2)(A);

''(B) the necessary and cost-effective combination of laboratory testing, field testing, modeling, simulation, and supporting analysis to ensure that such technologies meet the Administration's mission needs;

''(C) an efficient planning schedule to ensure that test and evaluation activities are completed without undue delay; and

''(D) if commercial aviation passengers are expected to interact with the security-related technology, methods that could be used to measure passenger acceptance of and familiarization with the security-related technology.

''(5) VERIFICATION AND VALIDATION.—The appropriate acquisition official of the Department—

''(A) subject to subparagraph (B), shall utilize independent reviewers to verify and validate the performance milestones and cost estimates developed under paragraph (2) for a security-related technology that pursuant to section 1611(d)(2) has been identified as a high priority need in the most recent Plan; and

''(B) shall ensure that the use of independent reviewers does not unduly delay the schedule of any acquisition.

''(6) STREAMLINING ACCESS FOR INTERESTED VENDORS.—The Administrator shall establish a streamlined process for an interested vendor of a security-related technology to request and receive appropriate access to the baseline requirements and test and evaluation plans that are necessary for the vendor to participate in the acquisitions process for that technology.

''(b) REVIEW OF BASELINE REQUIREMENTS AND DEVIATION; REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

''(1) REVIEW.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The appropriate acquisition official of the Department shall review and assess each implemented acquisition to determine if the acquisition is meeting the baseline requirements established under subsection (a).

''(B) TEST AND EVALUATION ASSESSMENT.—The review shall include an assessment of whether—

''(i) the planned testing and evaluation activities have been completed; and

''(ii) the results of that testing and evaluation demonstrate that the performance milestones are technologically feasible.

''(2) REPORT.—Not later than 30 days after making a finding described in clause (i), (ii), or (iii) of subparagraph (A), the Administrator shall submit a report to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives that includes—

''(A) the results of any assessment that finds that—

''(i) the actual or planned costs exceed the baseline costs by more than 10 percent;

''(ii) the actual or planned schedule for delivery has been delayed by more than 180 days; or

''(iii) there is a failure to meet any performance milestone that directly impacts security effectiveness;

''(B) the cause for such excessive costs, delay, or failure; and

''(C) a plan for corrective action.

**''SEC. 1614. INVENTORY UTILIZATION.**

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Before the procurement of additional quantities of equipment to fulfill a mission need, the Administrator, to the extent practicable, shall utilize any existing units in the Administration's inventory to meet that need.

''(b) TRACKING OF INVENTORY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall establish a process for tracking—

''(A) the location of security-related equipment in the inventory under subsection (a);

''(B) the utilization status of security-related technology in the inventory under subsection (a); and

''(C) the quantity of security-related equipment in the inventory under subsection (a).

''(2) INTERNAL CONTROLS.—The Administrator shall implement internal controls to ensure up-to-date accurate data on security-related technology owned, deployed, and in use.

''(c) LOGISTICS MANAGEMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall establish logistics principles for managing inventory in an effective and efficient manner.

''(2) LIMITATION ON JUST-IN-TIME LOGISTICS.—The Administrator may not use just-in-time logistics if doing so—

''(A) would inhibit necessary planning for large-scale delivery of equipment to airports or other facilities; or

''(B) would unduly diminish surge capacity for response to a terrorist threat.

**''SEC. 1615. SMALL BUSINESS CONTRACTING GOALS.**

''Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of the Transportation Security Acquisition Reform Act, and annually thereafter, the Administrator shall submit a report to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives that includes—

''(1) the Administration's performance record with respect to meeting its published small-business contracting goals during the preceding fiscal year;

''(2) if the goals described in paragraph (1) were not met or the Administration's performance was below the published small-business contracting goals of the Department—

''(A) a list of challenges, including deviations from the Administration's subcontracting plans, and factors that contributed to the level of performance during the preceding fiscal year;

''(B) an action plan, with benchmarks, for addressing each of the challenges identified in subparagraph (A) that—

''(i) is prepared after consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the heads of Federal departments and agencies that achieved their published goals for prime contracting with small and minority-owned businesses, including small and disadvantaged businesses, in prior fiscal years; and

''(ii) identifies policies and procedures that could be incorporated by the Administration in furtherance of achieving the Administration's published goal for such contracting; and

''(3) a status report on the implementation of the action plan that was developed in the preceding fiscal year in accordance with paragraph (2)(B), if such a plan was required.

**''SEC. 1616. CONSISTENCY WITH THE FEDERAL ACQUISITION REGULATION AND DEPARTMENTAL POLICIES AND DIRECTIVES.**

''The Administrator shall execute the responsibilities set forth in this subtitle in a manner consistent with, and not duplicative of, the Federal Acquisition Regulation and the Department's policies and directives.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended by striking the items relating to title XVI and inserting the following:

''TITLE XVI—TRANSPORTATION SECURITY

''Subtitle A—General Provisions

''Sec. 1601. Definitions.

''Subtitle B—Transportation Security Administration Acquisition Improvements

''Sec. 1611. 5-year technology investment plan.

''Sec. 1612. Acquisition justification and reports.

''Sec. 1613. Acquisition baseline establishment and reports.

''Sec. 1614. Inventory utilization.

''Sec. 1615. Small business contracting goals.

''Sec. 1616. Consistency with the Federal acquisition regulation and departmental policies and directives.''.

(c) PRIOR AMENDMENTS NOT AFFECTED.—Nothing in this section may be construed to

affect any amendment made by title XVI of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 as in effect before the date of enactment of this Act.

**SEC. 4. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE REPORTS.**

(a) IMPLEMENTATION OF PREVIOUS RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit a report to Congress that contains an assessment of the Transportation Security Administration's implementation of recommendations regarding the acquisition of security-related technology that were made by the Government Accountability Office before the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION OF SUBTITLE B OF TITLE XVI.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act and 3 years thereafter, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit a report to Congress that contains an evaluation of the Transportation Security Administration's progress in implementing subtitle B of title XVI of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as amended by section 3, including any efficiencies, cost savings, or delays that have resulted from such implementation.

**SEC. 5. REPORT ON FEASIBILITY OF INVENTORY TRACKING.**

Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration shall submit a report to Congress on the feasibility of tracking security-related technology, including software solutions, of the Administration through automated information and data capture technologies.

**SEC. 6. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE REVIEW OF TSA'S TEST AND EVALUATION PROCESS.**

Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit a report to Congress that includes—

(1) an evaluation of the Transportation Security Administration's testing and evaluation activities related to security-related technology;

(2) information on the extent to which—

(A) the execution of such testing and evaluation activities is aligned, temporally and otherwise, with the Administration's annual budget request, acquisition needs, planned procurements, and acquisitions for technology programs and projects; and

(B) security-related technology that has been tested, evaluated, and certified for use by the Administration but was not procured by the Administration, including the reasons the procurement did not occur; and

(3) recommendations—

(A) to improve the efficiency and efficacy of such testing and evaluation activities; and

(B) to better align such testing and evaluation with the acquisitions process.

**SEC. 7. NO ADDITIONAL AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act or the amendments made by this Act.

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**SA 3979.** Mrs. GILLIBRAND submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3979, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title V, add the following:

**Subtitle J—Uniform Code of Military Justice Reform**

**SEC. 596. SHORT TITLE.**

This subtitle may be cited as the ''Military Justice Improvement Act of 2014''.

**SEC. 597. MODIFICATION OF AUTHORITY TO DETERMINE TO PROCEED TO TRIAL BY COURT-MARTIAL ON CHARGES ON CERTAIN OFFENSES WITH AUTHORIZED MAXIMUM SENTENCE OF CONFINEMENT OF MORE THAN ONE YEAR.**

(a) MODIFICATION OF AUTHORITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—

(A) MILITARY DEPARTMENTS.—With respect to charges under chapter 47 of title 10, United States Code (the Uniform Code of Military Justice), that allege an offense specified in paragraph (2) and not excluded under paragraph (3), the Secretary of Defense shall require the Secretaries of the military departments to provide for the determination under section 830(b) of such chapter (article 30(b) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice) on whether to try such charges by court-martial as provided in paragraph (4).

(B) HOMELAND SECURITY.—With respect to charges under chapter 47 of title 10, United States Code (the Uniform Code of Military Justice), that allege an offense specified in paragraph (2) and not excluded under paragraph (3) against a member of the Coast Guard (when it is not operating as a service in the Navy), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall provide for the determination under section 830(b) of such chapter (article 30(b) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice) on whether to try such charges by court-martial as provided in paragraph (4).

(2) COVERED OFFENSES.—An offense specified in this paragraph is an offense as follows:

(A) An offense under chapter 47 of title 10, United States Code (the Uniform Code of Military Justice), that is triable by court-martial under that chapter for which the maximum punishment authorized under that chapter includes confinement for more than one year.

(B) An offense under section 892a of title 10, United States Code (article 92a of the Uniform Code of Military Justice), as added by section 599B of this Act, regardless of the maximum punishment authorized under that chapter for such offense.

(C) An offense under section 907a of title 10, United States Code (article 107a of the Uniform Code of Military Justice), as added by section 599C of this Act, regardless of the maximum punishment authorized under that chapter for such offense.

(D) A conspiracy to commit an offense specified in subparagraph (A) through (C) as punishable under section 881 of title 10, United States Code (article 81 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice).

(E) A solicitation to commit an offense specified in subparagraph (A) through (C) as punishable under section 882 of title 10, United States Code (article 82 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice).

(F) An attempt to commit an offense specified in subparagraphs (A) through (E) as punishable under section 880 of title 10, United States Code (article 80 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice).

(3) EXCLUDED OFFENSES.—Paragraph (1) does not apply to an offense as follows:

(A) An offense under sections 883 through 917 of title 10, United States Code (articles 83 through 117 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice).

(B) An offense under section 933 or 934 of title 10, United States Code (articles 133 and 134 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice).

(C) A conspiracy to commit an offense specified in subparagraph (A) or (B) as punishable under section 881 of title 10, United States Code (article 81 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice).

(D) A solicitation to commit an offense specified in subparagraph (A) or (B) as punishable under section 882 of title 10, United States Code (article 82 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice).

(E) An attempt to commit an offense specified in subparagraph (A) through (D) as punishable under section 880 of title 10, United States Code (article 80 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice).

(4) REQUIREMENTS AND LIMITATIONS.—The disposition of charges pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be subject to the following:

(A) The determination whether to try such charges by court-martial shall be made by a commissioned officer of the Armed Forces designated in accordance with regulations prescribed for purposes of this subsection from among commissioned officers of the Armed Forces in grade O–6 or higher who—

(i) are available for detail as trial counsel under section 827 of title 10, United States Code (article 27 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice);

(ii) have significant experience in trials by general or special court-martial; and

(iii) are outside the chain of command of the member subject to such charges.

(B) Upon a determination under subparagraph (A) to try such charges by court-martial, the officer making that determination shall determine whether to try such charges by a general court-martial convened under section 822 of title 10, United States Code (article 22 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice), or a special court-martial convened under section 823 of title 10, United States Code (article 23 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice).

(C) A determination under subparagraph (A) to try charges by court-martial shall include a determination to try all known offenses, including lesser included offenses.

(D) The determination to try such charges by court-martial under subparagraph (A), and by type of court-martial under subparagraph (B), shall be binding on any applicable convening authority for a trial by court-martial on such charges.

(E) The actions of an officer described in subparagraph (A) in determining under that subparagraph whether or not to try charges by court-martial shall be free of unlawful or unauthorized influence or coercion.

(F) The determination under subparagraph (A) not to proceed to trial of such charges by general or special court-martial shall not operate to terminate or otherwise alter the authority of commanding officers to refer such charges for trial by summary court-martial convened under section 824 of title 10, United States Code (article 24 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice), or to impose non-judicial punishment in connection with the conduct covered by such charges as authorized by section 815 of title 10, United States Code (article 15 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice).

(5) CONSTRUCTION WITH CHARGES ON OTHER OFFENSES.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to alter or affect the disposition of charges under chapter 47 of title 10, United States Code (the Uniform Code of Military Justice), that allege an offense triable by court-martial under that chapter for which the maximum punishment authorized under that chapter includes confinement for one year or less.

(6) POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretaries of the military departments and the Secretary of Homeland Security (with respect to the Coast Guard when it is not operating as a service in the Navy) shall revise policies and procedures as necessary to comply with this subsection.

(B) UNIFORMITY.—The General Counsel of the Department of Defense and the General Counsel of the Department of Homeland Security shall jointly review the policies and procedures revised under this paragraph in order to ensure that any lack of uniformity in policies and procedures, as so revised, among the military departments and the Department of Homeland Security does not render unconstitutional any policy or procedure, as so revised.

(7) MANUAL FOR COURTS-MARTIAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall recommend such changes to the Manual for Courts-Martial as are necessary to ensure compliance with this subsection.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE AND APPLICABILITY.—Subsection (a), and the revisions required by that subsection, shall take effect on the date that is 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and shall apply with respect to charges preferred under section 830 of title 10, United States Code (article 30 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice), on or after such effective date.

**SEC. 598. MODIFICATION OF OFFICERS AUTHORIZED TO CONVENE GENERAL AND SPECIAL COURTS-MARTIAL.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 822 of title 10, United States Code (article 22 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice), is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (8) and (9) as paragraphs (9) and (10), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (7) the following new paragraph (8):

''(8) the officers in the offices established pursuant to section 598(c) of the Military Justice Improvement Act of 2014 or officers in the grade of O–6 or higher who are assigned such responsibility by the Chief of Staff of the Army, the Chief of Naval Operations, the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, the Commandant of the Marine Corps, or the Commandant of the Coast Guard, but only with respect to offenses to which section 597(a)(1) of the Military Justice Improvement Act of 2014 applies;''.

(b) NO EXERCISE BY OFFICERS IN CHAIN OF COMMAND OF ACCUSED OR VICTIM.—Such section (article) is further amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(c) An officer specified in subsection (a)(8) may not convene a court-martial under this section if the officer is in the chain of command of the accused or the victim.''.

(c) OFFICES OF CHIEFS OF STAFF ON COURTS-MARTIAL.—

(1) OFFICES REQUIRED.—Each Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces or Commandant specified in paragraph (8) of section 822(a) of title 10, United States Code (article 22(a) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice), as amended by subsection (a), shall establish an office to do the following:

(A) To convene general and special courts-martial under sections 822 and 823 of title 10, United States Code (articles 22 and 23 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice), pursuant to paragraph (8) of section 822(a) of title 10, United States Code (article 22(a) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice), as so amended, with respect to offenses to which section 592(a)(1) applies.

(B) To detail under section 825 of title 10, United States Code (article 25 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice), members of courts-martial convened as described in subparagraph (A).

(2) PERSONNEL.—The personnel of each office established under paragraph (1) shall consist of such members of the Armed Forces and civilian personnel of the Department of Defense, or such members of the Coast Guard or civilian personnel of the Department of Homeland Security, as may be detailed or assigned to the office by the Chief of Staff or Commandant concerned. The members and personnel so detailed or assigned, as the case may be, shall be detailed or assigned from personnel billets in existence on the date of the enactment of this Act.

**SEC. 599. DISCHARGE USING OTHERWISE AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL AND RESOURCES.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretaries of the military departments and the Secretary of Homeland Security (with respect to the Coast Guard when it is not operating as a service in the Navy) shall carry out sections 597 and 598 (and the amendments made by section 598) using personnel, funds, and resources otherwise authorized by law.

(b) NO AUTHORIZATION OF ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL OR RESOURCES.—Sections 597 and 598 (and the amendments made by section 598) shall not be construed as authorizations for personnel, personnel billets, or funds for the discharge of the requirements in such sections.

**SEC. 599A. MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT OF MODIFICATION OF AUTHORITIES ON COURTS-MARTIAL BY INDEPENDENT PANEL ON REVIEW AND ASSESSMENT OF PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE UNIFORM CODE OF MILITARY JUSTICE.**

Section 576(d)(2) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law 112–239; 126 Stat. 1762) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subparagraph (J) as subparagraph (K); and

(2) by inserting after subparagraph (I) the following new subparagraph (J):

''(J) Monitor and assess the implementation and efficacy of sections 597 through 599 of the Military Justice Improvement Act of 2014, and the amendments made by such sections.''.

**SEC. 599B. EXPLICIT CODIFICATION OF RETALIATION FOR REPORTING A CRIME AS AN OFFENSE UNDER THE UNIFORM CODE OF MILITARY JUSTICE.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 893 of title 10, United States Code (article 93 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice), is amended by inserting '', or retaliating against any person subject to his order for reporting a criminal offense,'' after ''any person subject to his orders''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) SECTION (ARTICLE) HEADING.—The heading of such section (article) is amended to read as follows:

**''§ 893. Art. 93. Cruelty and maltreatment; retaliation for reporting a crime''.**

(2) TABLE OF SECTIONS (ARTICLES).—The table of sections at the beginning of subchapter X of chapter 47 of such title is amended by striking the item relating to section 893 (article 93) and inserting the following new item:

''893. Art. 93. Cruelty and maltreatment; retaliation for reporting a crime.''.

(c) REPEAL OF SUPERSEDED PROHIBITION.—Section 1709 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 (Public Law 113–66; 127 Stat. 962; 10 U.S.C. 113 note) is repealed.

**SEC. 599C. ESTABLISHMENT OF OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE AS A SEPARATE OFFENCE UNDER THE UNIFORM CODE OF MILITARY JUSTICE.**

(a) PUNITIVE ARTICLE.—Subchapter X of chapter 47 of title 10, United States Code (the Uniform Code of Military Justice), is amended by inserting after section 907 (article 107) the following new section (article):

**''§ 907a. Art. 107a. Obstruction of justice**

''Any person subject to this chapter who wrongfully does a certain act with the intent to influence, impede, or otherwise obstruct the due administration of justice shall be punished as a court-martial may direct. except that the maximum punishment authorized for such offense may not exceed dishonorable discharge, forfeiture of all pay and allowances, and confinement for not more than five years.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of subchapter X of chapter 47 of such title, as amended by section 599B(b)(2) of this Act, is further amended by inserting after the item relating to section 907 (article 107) the following new item:

''907a. Art. 107a. Obstruction of justice.''.

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**SA 3980.** Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. DONNELLY, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. WICKER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5771, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions and make technical corrections, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of ABLE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 6, between lines 4 and 5, insert the following:

**SEC. 101. EXTENSION OF HEALTH CARE TAX CREDIT.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (B) of section 35(b)(1) is amended by striking ''January 1, 2014'' and inserting ''January 1, 2016''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to coverage months beginning after December 31, 2013.

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**SA 3981.** Mr. BEGICH proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1474, to amend the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 to repeal a special rule for the State of Alaska, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**SECTION 1. REPEAL OF SPECIAL RULE FOR STATE OF ALASKA.**

Section 910 of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (18 U.S.C. 2265 note; Public Law 113–4) is repealed.

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**SA 3982.** Mr. BEGICH proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1474, to amend the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 to repeal a special rule for the State of Alaska, and for other purposes; as follows:

Amend the title so as to read: ''A bill to amend the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 to repeal a special rule for the State of Alaska, and for other purposes.''.

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**SA 3983.** Mrs. GILLIBRAND submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3979, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title V, add the following:

**Subtitle J—Uniform Code of Military Justice Reform**

**SEC. 596. SHORT TITLE.**

This subtitle may be cited as the ''Military Justice Improvement Act of 2014''.

**SEC. 597. MODIFICATION OF AUTHORITY TO DETERMINE TO PROCEED TO TRIAL BY COURT-MARTIAL ON CHARGES ON CERTAIN OFFENSES WITH AUTHORIZED MAXIMUM SENTENCE OF CONFINEMENT OF MORE THAN ONE YEAR.**

(a) MODIFICATION OF AUTHORITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—

(A) MILITARY DEPARTMENTS.—With respect to charges under chapter 47 of title 10, United States Code (the Uniform Code of Military Justice), that allege an offense specified in paragraph (2) and not excluded under paragraph (3), the Secretary of Defense shall require the Secretaries of the military departments to provide for the determination under section 830(b) of such chapter (article 30(b) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice) on whether to try such charges by court-martial as provided in paragraph (4).

(B) HOMELAND SECURITY.—With respect to charges under chapter 47 of title 10, United States Code (the Uniform Code of Military Justice), that allege an offense specified in paragraph (2) and not excluded under paragraph (3) against a member of the Coast Guard (when it is not operating as a service in the Navy), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall provide for the determination under section 830(b) of such chapter (article 30(b) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice) on whether to try such charges by court-martial as provided in paragraph (4).

(2) COVERED OFFENSES.—An offense specified in this paragraph is an offense as follows:

(A) An offense under chapter 47 of title 10, United States Code (the Uniform Code of Military Justice), that is triable by court-martial under that chapter for which the maximum punishment authorized under that chapter includes confinement for more than one year.

(B) An offense of retaliation for reporting a crime under section 893 of title 10, United States Code (article 93 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice), as amended by section 599B of this Act, regardless of the maximum punishment authorized under that chapter for such offense.

(C) An offense under section 907a of title 10, United States Code (article 107a of the Uniform Code of Military Justice), as added by section 599C of this Act, regardless of the maximum punishment authorized under that chapter for such offense.

(D) A conspiracy to commit an offense specified in subparagraph (A) through (C) as punishable under section 881 of title 10, United States Code (article 81 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice).

(E) A solicitation to commit an offense specified in subparagraph (A) through (C) as punishable under section 882 of title 10, United States Code (article 82 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice).

(F) An attempt to commit an offense specified in subparagraphs (A) through (E) as punishable under section 880 of title 10, United States Code (article 80 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice).

(3) EXCLUDED OFFENSES.—Paragraph (1) does not apply to an offense as follows:

(A) An offense under sections 883 through 917 of title 10, United States Code (articles 83 through 117 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice).

(B) An offense under section 933 or 934 of title 10, United States Code (articles 133 and 134 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice).

(C) A conspiracy to commit an offense specified in subparagraph (A) or (B) as punishable under section 881 of title 10, United States Code (article 81 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice).

(D) A solicitation to commit an offense specified in subparagraph (A) or (B) as punishable under section 882 of title 10, United States Code (article 82 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice).

(E) An attempt to commit an offense specified in subparagraph (A) through (D) as punishable under section 880 of title 10, United States Code (article 80 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice).

(4) REQUIREMENTS AND LIMITATIONS.—The disposition of charges pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be subject to the following:

(A) The determination whether to try such charges by court-martial shall be made by a commissioned officer of the Armed Forces designated in accordance with regulations prescribed for purposes of this subsection from among commissioned officers of the Armed Forces in grade O–6 or higher who—

(i) are available for detail as trial counsel under section 827 of title 10, United States Code (article 27 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice);

(ii) have significant experience in trials by general or special court-martial; and

(iii) are outside the chain of command of the member subject to such charges.

(B) Upon a determination under subparagraph (A) to try such charges by court-martial, the officer making that determination shall determine whether to try such charges by a general court-martial convened under section 822 of title 10, United States Code (article 22 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice), or a special court-martial convened under section 823 of title 10, United States Code (article 23 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice).

(C) A determination under subparagraph (A) to try charges by court-martial shall include a determination to try all known offenses, including lesser included offenses.

(D) The determination to try such charges by court-martial under subparagraph (A), and by type of court-martial under subparagraph (B), shall be binding on any applicable convening authority for a trial by court-martial on such charges.

(E) The actions of an officer described in subparagraph (A) in determining under that subparagraph whether or not to try charges by court-martial shall be free of unlawful or unauthorized influence or coercion.

(F) The determination under subparagraph (A) not to proceed to trial of such charges by general or special court-martial shall not operate to terminate or otherwise alter the authority of commanding officers to refer such charges for trial by summary court-martial convened under section 824 of title 10, United States Code (article 24 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice), or to impose non-judicial punishment in connection with the conduct covered by such charges as authorized by section 815 of title 10, United States Code (article 15 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice).

(5) CONSTRUCTION WITH CHARGES ON OTHER OFFENSES.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to alter or affect the disposition of charges under chapter 47 of title 10, United States Code (the Uniform Code of Military Justice), that allege an offense triable by court-martial under that chapter for which the maximum punishment authorized under that chapter includes confinement for one year or less.

(6) POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretaries of the military departments and the Secretary of Homeland Security (with respect to the Coast Guard when it is not operating as a service in the Navy) shall revise policies and procedures as necessary to comply with this subsection.

(B) UNIFORMITY.—The General Counsel of the Department of Defense and the General Counsel of the Department of Homeland Security shall jointly review the policies and procedures revised under this paragraph in order to ensure that any lack of uniformity in policies and procedures, as so revised, among the military departments and the Department of Homeland Security does not render unconstitutional any policy or procedure, as so revised.

(7) MANUAL FOR COURTS-MARTIAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall recommend such changes to the Manual for Courts-Martial as are necessary to ensure compliance with this subsection.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE AND APPLICABILITY.—Subsection (a), and the revisions required by that subsection, shall take effect on the date that is 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and shall apply with respect to charges preferred under section 830 of title 10, United States Code (article 30 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice), on or after such effective date.

**SEC. 598. MODIFICATION OF OFFICERS AUTHORIZED TO CONVENE GENERAL AND SPECIAL COURTS-MARTIAL.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 822 of title 10, United States Code (article 22 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice), is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (8) and (9) as paragraphs (9) and (10), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (7) the following new paragraph (8):

''(8) the officers in the offices established pursuant to section 598(c) of the Military Justice Improvement Act of 2014 or officers in the grade of O–6 or higher who are assigned such responsibility by the Chief of Staff of the Army, the Chief of Naval Operations, the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, the Commandant of the Marine Corps, or the Commandant of the Coast Guard, but only with respect to offenses to which section 597(a)(1) of the Military Justice Improvement Act of 2014 applies;''.

(b) NO EXERCISE BY OFFICERS IN CHAIN OF COMMAND OF ACCUSED OR VICTIM.—Such section (article) is further amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(c) An officer specified in subsection (a)(8) may not convene a court-martial under this section if the officer is in the chain of command of the accused or the victim.''.

(c) OFFICES OF CHIEFS OF STAFF ON COURTS-MARTIAL.—

(1) OFFICES REQUIRED.—Each Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces or Commandant specified in paragraph (8) of section 822(a) of title 10, United States Code (article 22(a) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice), as amended by subsection (a), shall establish an office to do the following:

(A) To convene general and special courts-martial under sections 822 and 823 of title 10, United States Code (articles 22 and 23 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice), pursuant to paragraph (8) of section 822(a) of title 10, United States Code (article 22(a) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice), as so amended, with respect to offenses to which section 592(a)(1) applies.

(B) To detail under section 825 of title 10, United States Code (article 25 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice), members of courts-martial convened as described in subparagraph (A).

(2) PERSONNEL.—The personnel of each office established under paragraph (1) shall consist of such members of the Armed Forces and civilian personnel of the Department of Defense, or such members of the Coast Guard or civilian personnel of the Department of Homeland Security, as may be detailed or assigned to the office by the Chief of Staff or

Commandant concerned. The members and personnel so detailed or assigned, as the case may be, shall be detailed or assigned from personnel billets in existence on the date of the enactment of this Act.

**SEC. 599. DISCHARGE USING OTHERWISE AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL AND RESOURCES.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretaries of the military departments and the Secretary of Homeland Security (with respect to the Coast Guard when it is not operating as a service in the Navy) shall carry out sections 597 and 598 (and the amendments made by section 598) using personnel, funds, and resources otherwise authorized by law.

(b) NO AUTHORIZATION OF ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL OR RESOURCES.—Sections 597 and 598 (and the amendments made by section 598) shall not be construed as authorizations for personnel, personnel billets, or funds for the discharge of the requirements in such sections.

**SEC. 599A. MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT OF MODIFICATION OF AUTHORITIES ON COURTS-MARTIAL BY INDEPENDENT PANEL ON REVIEW AND ASSESSMENT OF PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE UNIFORM CODE OF MILITARY JUSTICE.**

Section 576(d)(2) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law 112–239; 126 Stat. 1762) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subparagraph (J) as subparagraph (K); and

(2) by inserting after subparagraph (I) the following new subparagraph (J):

''(J) Monitor and assess the implementation and efficacy of sections 597 through 599 of the Military Justice Improvement Act of 2014, and the amendments made by such sections.''.

**SEC. 599B. EXPLICIT CODIFICATION OF RETALIATION FOR REPORTING A CRIME AS AN OFFENSE UNDER THE UNIFORM CODE OF MILITARY JUSTICE.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 893 of title 10, United States Code (article 93 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice), is amended by inserting '', or retaliating against any person subject to his orders for reporting a criminal offense,'' after ''any person subject to his orders''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) SECTION (ARTICLE) HEADING.—The heading of such section (article) is amended to read as follows:

**''§ 893. Art. 93. Cruelty and maltreatment; retaliation for reporting a crime''.**

(2) TABLE OF SECTIONS (ARTICLES).—The table of sections at the beginning of subchapter X of chapter 47 of such title is amended by striking the item relating to section 893 (article 93) and inserting the following new item:

''893. Art. 93. Cruelty and maltreatment; retaliation for reporting a crime.''.

(c) REPEAL OF SUPERSEDED PROHIBITION.—Section 1709 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 (Public Law 113–66; 127 Stat. 962; 10 U.S.C. 113 note) is repealed.

**SEC. 599C. ESTABLISHMENT OF OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE AS A SEPARATE OFFENCE UNDER THE UNIFORM CODE OF MILITARY JUSTICE.**

(a) PUNITIVE ARTICLE.—Subchapter X of chapter 47 of title 10, United States Code (the Uniform Code of Military Justice), is amended by inserting after section 907 (article 107) the following new section (article):

**''§ 907a. Art. 107a. Obstruction of justice**

''Any person subject to this chapter who wrongfully does a certain act with the intent to influence, impede, or otherwise obstruct the due administration of justice shall be punished as a court-martial may direct. except that the maximum punishment authorized for such offense may not exceed dishonorable discharge, forfeiture of all pay and allowances, and confinement for not more than five years.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of subchapter X of chapter 47 of such title, as amended by section 599B(b)(2) of this Act, is further amended by inserting after the item relating to section 907 (article 107) the following new item:

''907a. Art. 107a. Obstruction of justice.''.

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**SA 3984.** Mr. REID proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 3979, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

This Act shall become effective 1 day after enactment.

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**SA 3985.** Mr. REID proposed an amendment to amendment SA 3984 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 3979, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; as follows:

In the amendment, strike ''1 day'' and insert ''2 days''.

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**SA 3986.** Mr. REID proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 3979, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

This Act shall become effective 3 days after enactment.

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**SA 3987.** Mr. REID proposed an amendment to amendment SA 3986 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 3979, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; as follows:

In the amendment, strike ''3 days'' and insert ''4 days''.

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**SA 3988.** Mr. REID proposed an amendment to amendment SA 3987 proposed by Mr. REID to the amendment SA 3986 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 3979, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; as follows:

In the amendment, strike ''4'' and insert ''5''.

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**SA 3989.** Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3979, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 1209.

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**SA 3990.** Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3979, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle G of title X, add the following:

**SEC. 1080. REPORT ON UNITED STATES CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNITED NATIONS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall submit to Congress a report on all assessed and voluntary contributions, including in-kind, of the United States Government to the United Nations and its affiliated agencies and related bodies during the previous fiscal year.

(b) CONTENT.—The report required under subsection (a) shall include the following elements:

(1) The total amount of all assessed and voluntary contributions, including in-kind, of the United States Government to the United Nations and United Nations affiliated agencies and related bodies.

(2) The approximate percentage of United States Government contributions to each United Nations affiliated agency or body in such fiscal year when compared with all contributions to such agency or body from any source in such fiscal year.

(3) For each such contribution—

(A) the amount of the contribution;

(B) a description of the contribution (including whether assessed or voluntary);

(C) the department or agency of the United States Government responsible for the contribution;

(D) the purpose of the contribution; and

(E) the United Nations or United Nations affiliated agency or related body receiving the contribution.

(c) SCOPE OF INITIAL REPORT.—The first report required under subsection (a) shall include the information required under this section for the previous four fiscal years.

(d) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION.—Not later than 14 days after submitting a report required under subsection (a), the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall post a public version of the report on a text-based, searchable, and publicly available Internet website.

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**SA 3991.** Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3979, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient

Protection and Affordable Care Act; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of section 1535, add the following:

(f) LIMITATION ON USE OF CERTAIN FUNDS PENDING CERTIFICATION ON DEFENSE BUDGETS OF NATO EUROPEAN ALLIES.—Funds available for the European Reassurance Initiative, other than funds covered by subsection (b)(1), may not be used for purposes described in subsection (a) unless, not later than 10 days before the commencement of the expenditure of such funds for such purposes, the President certifies to Congress in writing that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) allies in Europe are—

(1) appropriately prioritizing current defense resources towards deterring aggression by the Russian Federation; and

(2) taking steps—

(A) to reverse declining defense spending, as most recently agreed to in the Wales Summit Declaration issued on September 5, 2014; and

(B) to increase defense spending towards the goal of defense spending in an amount equal to two-percent of gross domestic product (GDP).

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**SA 3992.** Mr. CRUZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3979, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike title XXX.

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**SA 3993.** Mr. SCHATZ (for Mr. COONS) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 413, recognizing 20 years since the genocide in Rwanda, and affirming it is in the national interest of the United States to work in close coordination with international partners to help prevent and mitigate acts of genocide and mass atrocities; as follows:

On page 6, beginning on line 14, strike ''events; and'' and all that follows through ''(8) supports'' on line 15 and insert the following: ''events;

(8) clarifies that nothing in this resolution shall be construed as an authorization for the use of force or a declaration of war; and

(9) supports

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**SA 3994.** Mr. SCHATZ (for Mr. COONS) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 413, recognizing 20 years since the genocide in Rwanda, and affirming it is in the national interest of the United States to work in close coordination with international partners to help prevent and mitigate acts of genocide and mass atrocities; as follows:

Amend the twelfth whereas clause of the preamble to read as follows:

Whereas, in September 2005, the United States joined other members of the United Nations in adopting United Nations General Assembly Resolution 60/1, which affirmed that the international community has a responsibility to use appropriate diplomatic, humanitarian and other peaceful means to help protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity;

**SA 3995.** Mr. SCHATZ (for Mrs. FEINSTEIN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 4681, to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2014 and 2015 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015''.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. Definitions.
Sec. 3. Budgetary effects.

TITLE I—INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

Sec. 101. Authorization of appropriations.
Sec. 102. Classified Schedule of Authorizations.
Sec. 103. Personnel ceiling adjustments.
Sec. 104. Intelligence Community Management Account.

TITLE II—CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY SYSTEM

Sec. 201. Authorization of appropriations.

TITLE III—GENERAL PROVISIONS

Subtitle A—General Matters

Sec. 301. Increase in employee compensation and benefits authorized by law.
Sec. 302. Restriction on conduct of intelligence activities.
Sec. 303. National intelligence strategy.
Sec. 304. Software licensing.
Sec. 305. Reporting of certain employment activities by former intelligence officers and employees.
Sec. 306. Inclusion of Predominantly Black Institutions in intelligence officer training program.
Sec. 307. Management and oversight of financial intelligence.
Sec. 308. Analysis of private sector policies and procedures for countering insider threats.
Sec. 309. Procedures for the retention of incidentally acquired communications.
Sec. 310. Clarification of limitation of review to retaliatory security clearance or access determinations.
Sec. 311. Feasibility study on consolidating classified databases of cyber threat indicators and malware samples.
Sec. 312. Sense of Congress on cybersecurity threat and cybercrime cooperation with Ukraine.
Sec. 313. Replacement of locally employed staff serving at United States diplomatic facilities in the Russian Federation.
Sec. 314. Inclusion of Sensitive Compartmented Information Facilities in United States diplomatic facilities in the Russian Federation and adjacent countries.

Subtitle B—Reporting

Sec. 321. Report on declassification process.
Sec. 322. Report on intelligence community efficient spending targets.
Sec. 323. Annual report on violations of law or executive order.
Sec. 324. Annual report on intelligence activities of the Department of Homeland Security.
Sec. 325. Report on political prison camps in North Korea.
Sec. 326. Assessment of security of domestic oil refineries and related rail transportation infrastructure.
Sec. 327. Enhanced contractor level assessments for the intelligence community.
Sec. 328. Assessment of the efficacy of memoranda of understanding to facilitate intelligence-sharing.
Sec. 329. Report on foreign man-made electromagnetic pulse weapons.
Sec. 330. Report on United States counterterrorism strategy to disrupt, dismantle, and defeat al-Qaeda and its affiliated or associated groups.
Sec. 331. Feasibility study on retraining veterans in cybersecurity.

**SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

In this Act:

(1) CONGRESSIONAL INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEES.—The term ''congressional intelligence committees'' means—

(A) the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

(B) the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

(2) INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.—The term ''intelligence community'' has the meaning given that term in section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4)).

**SEC. 3. BUDGETARY EFFECTS.**

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go-Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled ''Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation'' for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the Senate Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

## TITLE I—INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

**SEC. 101. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

Funds are hereby authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2015 for the conduct of the intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the following elements of the United States Government:

(1) The Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

(2) The Central Intelligence Agency.

(3) The Department of Defense.

(4) The Defense Intelligence Agency.

(5) The National Security Agency.

(6) The Department of the Army, the Department of the Navy, and the Department of the Air Force.

(7) The Coast Guard.

(8) The Department of State.

(9) The Department of the Treasury.

(10) The Department of Energy.

(11) The Department of Justice.

(12) The Federal Bureau of Investigation.

(13) The Drug Enforcement Administration.

(14) The National Reconnaissance Office.

(15) The National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency.

(16) The Department of Homeland Security.

**SEC. 102. CLASSIFIED SCHEDULE OF AUTHORIZATIONS.**

(a) SPECIFICATIONS OF AMOUNTS AND PERSONNEL LEVELS.—The amounts authorized to be appropriated under section 101 and, subject to section 103, the authorized personnel ceilings as of September 30, 2015, for the conduct of the intelligence activities of the elements listed in paragraphs (1) through (16) of section 101, are those specified in the classified Schedule of Authorizations prepared to accompany the bill H.R. 4681 of the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress.

(b) AVAILABILITY OF CLASSIFIED SCHEDULE OF AUTHORIZATIONS.—

(1) AVAILABILITY.—The classified Schedule of Authorizations referred to in subsection (a) shall be made available to the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, and to the President.

(2) DISTRIBUTION BY THE PRESIDENT.—Subject to paragraph (3), the President shall provide for suitable distribution of the classified Schedule of Authorizations, or of appropriate portions of the Schedule, within the executive branch.

(3) LIMITS ON DISCLOSURE.—The President shall not publicly disclose the classified Schedule of Authorizations or any portion of such Schedule except—

(A) as provided in section 601(a) of the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (50 U.S.C. 3306(a));

(B) to the extent necessary to implement the budget; or

(C) as otherwise required by law.

**SEC. 103. PERSONNEL CEILING ADJUSTMENTS.**

(a) AUTHORITY FOR INCREASES.—The Director of National Intelligence may authorize employment of civilian personnel in excess of the number authorized for fiscal year 2015 by the classified Schedule of Authorizations referred to in section 102(a) if the Director of National Intelligence determines that such action is necessary to the performance of important intelligence functions, except that the number of personnel employed in excess of the number authorized under such section may not, for any element of the intelligence community, exceed 3 percent of the number of civilian personnel authorized under such Schedule for such element.

(b) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN PERSONNEL.—The Director of National Intelligence shall establish guidelines that govern, for each element of the intelligence community, the treatment under the personnel levels authorized under section 102(a), including any exemption from such personnel levels, of employment or assignment in—

(1) a student program, trainee program, or similar program;

(2) a reserve corps or as a reemployed annuitant; or

(3) details, joint duty, or long term, full-time training.

(c) NOTICE TO CONGRESSIONAL INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEES.—The Director of National Intelligence shall notify the congressional intelligence committees in writing at least 15 days prior to each exercise of an authority described in subsection (a).

**SEC. 104. INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT.**

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated for the Intelligence Community Management Account of the Director of National Intelligence for fiscal year 2015 the sum of $507,400,000. Within such amount, funds identified in the classified Schedule of Authorizations referred to in section 102(a) for advanced research and development shall remain available until September 30, 2016.

(b) AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL LEVELS.—The elements within the Intelligence Community Management Account of the Director of National Intelligence are authorized 794 positions as of September 30, 2015. Personnel serving in such elements may be permanent employees of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence or personnel detailed from other elements of the United States Government.

(c) CLASSIFIED AUTHORIZATIONS.—

(1) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addition to amounts authorized to be appropriated for the Intelligence Community Management Account by subsection (a), there are authorized to be appropriated for the Community Management Account for fiscal year 2015 such additional amounts as are specified in the classified Schedule of Authorizations referred to in section 102(a). Such additional amounts for advanced research and development shall remain available until September 30, 2016.

(2) AUTHORIZATION OF PERSONNEL.—In addition to the personnel authorized by subsection (b) for elements of the Intelligence Community Management Account as of September 30, 2015, there are authorized such additional personnel for the Community Management Account as of that date as are specified in the classified Schedule of Authorizations referred to in section 102(a).

## TITLE II—CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY SYSTEM

**SEC. 201. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

There is authorized to be appropriated for the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability Fund for fiscal year 2015 the sum of $514,000,000.

## TITLE III—GENERAL PROVISIONS

### Subtitle A—General Matters

**SEC. 301. INCREASE IN EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS AUTHORIZED BY LAW.**

Appropriations authorized by this Act for salary, pay, retirement, and other benefits for Federal employees may be increased by such additional or supplemental amounts as may be necessary for increases in such compensation or benefits authorized by law.

**SEC. 302. RESTRICTION ON CONDUCT OF INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES.**

The authorization of appropriations by this Act shall not be deemed to constitute authority for the conduct of any intelligence activity which is not otherwise authorized by the Constitution or the laws of the United States.

**SEC. 303. NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE STRATEGY.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title I of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3021 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 108 the following:

**"SEC. 108A. NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE STRATEGY.**

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning in 2017, and once every 4 years thereafter, the Director of National Intelligence shall develop a comprehensive national intelligence strategy to meet national security objectives for the following 4-year period, or a longer period, if appropriate.

''(b) REQUIREMENTS.—Each national intelligence strategy required by subsection (a) shall—

''(1) delineate a national intelligence strategy consistent with—

''(A) the most recent national security strategy report submitted pursuant to section 108;

''(B) the strategic plans of other relevant departments and agencies of the United States; and

''(C) other relevant national-level plans;

''(2) address matters related to national and military intelligence, including counterintelligence;

''(3) identify the major national security missions that the intelligence community is currently pursuing and will pursue in the future to meet the anticipated security environment;

''(4) describe how the intelligence community will utilize personnel, technology, partnerships, and other capabilities to pursue the major national security missions identified in paragraph (3);

''(5) assess current, emerging, and future threats to the intelligence community, including threats from foreign intelligence and security services and insider threats;

''(6) outline the organizational roles and missions of the elements of the intelligence community as part of an integrated enterprise to meet customer demands for intelligence products, services, and support;

''(7) identify sources of strategic, institutional, programmatic, fiscal, and technological risk; and

''(8) analyze factors that may affect the intelligence community's performance in pursuing the major national security missions identified in paragraph (3) during the following 10-year period.

''(c) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—The Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report on each national intelligence strategy required by subsection (a) not later than 45 days after the date of the completion of such strategy.''.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS AMENDMENTS.—The table of contents in the first section of the National Security Act of 1947 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 108 the following new item:

''Sec. 108A. National intelligence strategy.''.

**SEC. 304. SOFTWARE LICENSING.**

Section 109 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3044) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(2), by striking ''usage; and'' and inserting ''usage, including—

''(A) increasing the centralization of the management of software licenses;

''(B) increasing the regular tracking and maintaining of comprehensive inventories of software licenses using automated discovery and inventory tools and metrics;

''(C) analyzing software license data to inform investment decisions; and

''(D) providing appropriate personnel with sufficient software licenses management training; and'';

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''; and'' and inserting a semicolon;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ''usage.'' and inserting ''usage, including—

''(A) increasing the centralization of the management of software licenses;

''(B) increasing the regular tracking and maintaining of comprehensive inventories of software licenses using automated discovery and inventory tools and metrics;

''(C) analyzing software license data to inform investment decisions; and

''(D) providing appropriate personnel with sufficient software licenses management training; and''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(3) based on the assessment required under paragraph (2), make such recommendations with respect to software procurement and usage to the Director of National Intelligence as the Chief Information Officer considers appropriate.''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(d) IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the Director of National Intelligence receives recommendations from the Chief Information Officer of the Intelligence Community in accordance with subsection (b)(3), the Director of National Intelligence shall, to the extent practicable, issue guidelines for the intelligence community on software procurement and usage based on such recommendations.''.

**SEC. 305. REPORTING OF CERTAIN EMPLOYMENT ACTIVITIES BY FORMER INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES.**

(a) RESTRICTION.—Title III of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3071 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 303 the following new section:

**"SEC. 304. REPORTING OF CERTAIN EMPLOYMENT ACTIVITIES BY FORMER INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES.**

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The head of each element of the intelligence community shall issue regulations requiring each employee of such element occupying a covered position to sign a written agreement requiring the regular reporting of covered employment to the head of such element.

''(b) AGREEMENT ELEMENTS.—The regulations required under subsection (a) shall provide that an agreement contain provisions requiring each employee occupying a covered position to, during the two-year period beginning on the date on which such employee ceases to occupy such covered position—

''(1) report covered employment to the head of the element of the intelligence community that employed such employee in such covered position upon accepting such covered employment; and

''(2) annually (or more frequently if the head of such element considers it appropriate) report covered employment to the head of such element.

''(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) COVERED EMPLOYMENT.—The term 'covered employment' means direct employment by, representation of, or the provision of advice relating to national security to the government of a foreign country or any person whose activities are directly or indirectly supervised, directed, controlled, financed, or subsidized, in whole or in major part, by any government of a foreign country.

''(2) COVERED POSITION.—The term 'covered position' means a position within an element of the intelligence community that, based on the level of access of a person occupying such position to information regarding sensitive intelligence sources or methods or other exceptionally sensitive matters, the head of such element determines should be subject to the requirements of this section.

''(3) GOVERNMENT OF A FOREIGN COUNTRY.—The term 'government of a foreign country' has the meaning given the term in section 1(e) of the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938 (22 U.S.C. 611(e)).''.

(b) REGULATIONS AND CERTIFICATION.—

(1) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the head of each element of the intelligence community shall issue the regulations required under section 304 of the National Security Act of 1947, as added by subsection (a) of this section.

(2) CERTIFICATION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees—

(A) a certification that each head of an element of the intelligence community has prescribed the regulations required under section 304 of the National Security Act of 1947, as added by subsection (a) of this section; or

(B) if the Director is unable to submit the certification described under subparagraph (A), an explanation as to why the Director is unable to submit such certification, including a designation of which heads of an element of the intelligence community have prescribed the regulations required under such section 304 and which have not.

(c) TABLE OF CONTENTS AMENDMENTS.—The table of contents in the first section of the National Security Act of 1947 is amended—

(1) by striking the second item relating to section 302 (Under Secretaries and Assistant Secretaries) and the items relating to sections 304, 305, and 306; and

(2) by inserting after the item relating to section 303 the following new item:

''Sec. 304. Reporting of certain employment activities by former intelligence officers and employees.''.

**SEC. 306. INCLUSION OF PREDOMINANTLY BLACK INSTITUTIONS IN INTELLIGENCE OFFICER TRAINING PROGRAM.**

Section 1024 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3224) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(1), by inserting ''and Predominantly Black Institutions'' after ''universities''; and

(2) in subsection (g)—

(A) by redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (5); and

(B) by inserting after paragraph (3) the following new paragraph:

''(4) PREDOMINANTLY BLACK INSTITUTION.—The term 'Predominantly Black Institution' has the meaning given the term in section 318 of the Higher education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059e).''.

**SEC. 307. MANAGEMENT AND OVERSIGHT OF FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE.**

(a) REQUIREMENT FOR PLAN.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall prepare a plan for management of the elements of the intelligence community that carry out financial intelligence activities.

(b) CONTENTS OF PLAN.—The plan required by subsection (a) shall establish a governance framework, procedures for sharing and harmonizing the acquisition and use of financial analytic tools, standards for quality of analytic products, procedures for oversight and evaluation of resource allocations associated with the joint development of information sharing efforts and tools, and an education and training model for elements of the intelligence community that carry out financial intelligence activities.

(c) BRIEFING TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall brief the congressional intelligence committees on the actions the Director proposes to implement the plan required by subsection (a).

**SEC. 308. ANALYSIS OF PRIVATE SECTOR POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR COUNTERING INSIDER THREATS.**

(a) ANALYSIS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence, in consultation with the National Counterintelligence Executive, shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees an analysis of private sector policies and procedures for countering insider threats.

(b) CONTENT.—The analysis required by subsection (a) shall include—

(1) a review of whether and how the intelligence community could utilize private sector hiring and human resources best practices to screen, vet, and validate the credentials, capabilities, and character of applicants for positions involving trusted access to sensitive information;

(2) an analysis of private sector policies for holding supervisors and subordinates accountable for violations of established security protocols and whether the intelligence community should adopt similar policies for positions of trusted access to sensitive information;

(3) an assessment of the feasibility and advisability of applying mandatory leave policies, similar to those endorsed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the Securities and Exchange Commission to identify fraud in the financial services industry, to certain positions within the intelligence community; and

(4) recommendations for how the intelligence community could utilize private sector risk indices, such as credit risk scores, to make determinations about employee access to sensitive information.

**SEC. 309. PROCEDURES FOR THE RETENTION OF INCIDENTALLY ACQUIRED COMMUNICATIONS.**

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COVERED COMMUNICATION.—The term ''covered communication'' means any nonpublic telephone or electronic communication acquired without the consent of a person who is a party to the communication, including communications in electronic storage.

(2) HEAD OF AN ELEMENT OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.—The term ''head of an element of the intelligence community'' means, as appropriate—

(A) the head of an element of the intelligence community; or

(B) the head of the department or agency containing such element.

(3) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term ''United States person'' has the meaning given that term in section 101 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 (50 U.S.C. 1801).

(b) PROCEDURES FOR COVERED COMMUNICATIONS.—

(1) REQUIREMENT TO ADOPT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act each head of an element of the intelligence community shall adopt procedures approved by the Attorney General for such element that ensure compliance with the requirements of paragraph (3).

(2) COORDINATION AND APPROVAL.—The procedures required by paragraph (1) shall be—

(A) prepared in coordination with the Director of National Intelligence; and

(B) approved by the Attorney General prior to issuance.

(3) PROCEDURES.—

(A) APPLICATION.—The procedures required by paragraph (1) shall apply to any intelligence collection activity not otherwise authorized by court order (including an order or certification issued by a court established under subsection (a) or (b) of section 103 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 (50 U.S.C. 1803)), subpoena, or similar legal process that is reasonably anticipated to result in the acquisition of a covered communication to or from a United States person and shall permit the acquisition, retention, and dissemination of covered communications subject to the limitation in subparagraph (B).

(B) LIMITATION ON RETENTION.—A covered communication shall not be retained in excess of 5 years, unless—

(i) the communication has been affirmatively determined, in whole or in part, to constitute foreign intelligence or counterintelligence or is necessary to understand or assess foreign intelligence or counterintelligence;

(ii) the communication is reasonably believed to constitute evidence of a crime and is retained by a law enforcement agency;

(iii) the communication is enciphered or reasonably believed to have a secret meaning;

(iv) all parties to the communication are reasonably believed to be non-United States persons;

(v) retention is necessary to protect against an imminent threat to human life, in which case both the nature of the threat and the information to be retained shall be reported to the congressional intelligence committees not later than 30 days after the date such retention is extended under this clause;

(vi) retention is necessary for technical assurance or compliance purposes, including a court order or discovery obligation, in which case access to information retained for technical assurance or compliance purposes shall

be reported to the congressional intelligence committees on an annual basis; or

(vii) retention for a period in excess of 5 years is approved by the head of the element of the intelligence community responsible for such retention, based on a determination that retention is necessary to protect the national security of the United States, in which case the head of such element shall provide to the congressional intelligence committees a written certification describing—

(I) the reasons extended retention is necessary to protect the national security of the United States;

(II) the duration for which the head of the element is authorizing retention;

(III) the particular information to be retained; and

(IV) the measures the element of the intelligence community is taking to protect the privacy interests of United States persons or persons located inside the United States.

**SEC. 310. CLARIFICATION OF LIMITATION OF REVIEW TO RETALIATORY SECURITY CLEARANCE OR ACCESS DETERMINATIONS.**

Section 3001(b)(7) of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (50 U.S.C. 3341(b)(7)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''2014—'' and inserting ''2014, and consistent with subsection (j)—'';

(2) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''to appeal a determination to suspend or revoke a security clearance or access to classified information'' and inserting ''alleging reprisal for having made a protected disclosure (provided the individual does not disclose classified information or other information contrary to law) to appeal any action affecting an employee's access to classified information''; and

(3) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''information,'' inserting ''information following a protected disclosure,''.

**SEC. 311. FEASIBILITY STUDY ON CONSOLIDATING CLASSIFIED DATABASES OF CYBER THREAT INDICATORS AND MALWARE SAMPLES.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Director of the National Security Agency, the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, and the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, shall conduct a feasibility study on consolidating classified databases of cyber threat indicators and malware samples in the intelligence community.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The feasibility study required by subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) An inventory of classified databases of cyber threat indicators and malware samples in the intelligence community.

(2) An assessment of actions that could be carried out to consolidate such databases to achieve the greatest possible information sharing within the intelligence community and cost savings for the Federal Government.

(3) An assessment of any impediments to such consolidation.

(4) An assessment of whether the Intelligence Community Information Technology Enterprise can support such consolidation.

(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which the Director of National Intelligence completes the feasibility study required by subsection (a), the Director shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a written report that summarizes the feasibility study, including the information required under subsection (b).

**SEC. 312. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON CYBERSECURITY THREAT AND CYBERCRIME COOPERATION WITH UKRAINE.**

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) cooperation between the intelligence and law enforcement agencies of the United States and Ukraine should be increased to improve cybersecurity policies between these two countries;

(2) the United States should pursue improved extradition procedures among the Governments of the United States, Ukraine, and other countries from which cybercriminals target United States citizens and entities;

(3) the President should—

(A) initiate a round of formal United States-Ukraine bilateral talks on cybersecurity threat and cybercrime cooperation, with additional multilateral talks that include other law enforcement partners such as Europol and Interpol; and

(B) work to obtain a commitment from the Government of Ukraine to end cybercrime directed at persons outside Ukraine and to work with the United States and other allies to deter and convict known cybercriminals;

(4) the President should establish a capacity building program with the Government of Ukraine, which could include—

(A) a joint effort to improve cyber capacity building, including intelligence and law enforcement services in Ukraine;

(B) sending United States law enforcement agents to aid law enforcement agencies in Ukraine in investigating cybercrimes; and

(C) agreements to improve communications networks to enhance law enforcement cooperation, such as a hotline directly connecting law enforcement agencies in the United States and Ukraine; and

(5) the President should establish and maintain an intelligence and law enforcement cooperation scorecard with metrics designed to measure the number of instances that intelligence and law enforcement agencies in the United States request assistance from intelligence and law enforcement agencies in Ukraine and the number and type of responses received to such requests.

**SEC. 313. REPLACEMENT OF LOCALLY EMPLOYED STAFF SERVING AT UNITED STATES DIPLOMATIC FACILITIES IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION.**

(a) EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall ensure that, not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, every supervisory position at a United States diplomatic facility in the Russian Federation shall be occupied by a citizen of the United States who has passed, and shall be subject to, a thorough background check.

(2) EXTENSION.—The Secretary of State may extend the deadline under paragraph (1) for up to one year by providing advance written notification and justification of such extension to the appropriate congressional committees.

(3) PROGRESS REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on progress made toward meeting the employment requirement under paragraph (1).

(b) PLAN FOR REDUCED USE OF LOCALLY EMPLOYED STAFF.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination with other appropriate government agencies, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a plan to further reduce the reliance on locally employed staff in United States diplomatic facilities in the Russian Federation. The plan shall, at a minimum, include cost estimates, timelines, and numbers of employees to be replaced.

(c) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(1) the congressional intelligence committees;

(2) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(3) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to infringe on the power of the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to appoint ambassadors, other public ministers, and consuls.''

**SEC. 314. INCLUSION OF SENSITIVE COMPARTMENTED INFORMATION FACILITIES IN UNITED STATES DIPLOMATIC FACILITIES IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION AND ADJACENT COUNTRIES.**

(a) SENSITIVE COMPARTMENTED INFORMATION FACILITY REQUIREMENT.—Each United States diplomatic facility that, after the date of the enactment of this Act, is constructed in, or undergoes a construction upgrade in, the Russian Federation, any country that shares a land border with the Russian Federation, or any country that is a former member of the Soviet Union shall be constructed to include a Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility.

(b) NATIONAL SECURITY WAIVER.—The Secretary of State may waive the requirement under subsection (a) if the Secretary determines that such waiver is in the national security interest of the United States and submits a written justification to the appropriate congressional committees not later than 180 days before exercising such waiver.

(c) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(1) the congressional intelligence committees;

(2) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(3) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

## Subtitle B—Reporting

**SEC. 321. REPORT ON DECLASSIFICATION PROCESS.**

Not later than December 31, 2016, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to Congress a report describing—

(1) proposals to improve the declassification process throughout the intelligence community; and

(2) steps the intelligence community could take, or legislation that may be necessary, to enable the National Declassification Center to better accomplish the missions assigned to the Center by Executive Order No. 13526 (75 Fed. Reg. 707).

**SEC. 322. REPORT ON INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY EFFICIENT SPENDING TARGETS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than April 1, 2016, and April 1, 2017, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report on the status and effectiveness of efforts to reduce administrative costs for the intelligence community during the preceding year.

(b) ELEMENTS.—Each report under subsection (a) shall include for each element of the intelligence community the following:

(1) A description of the status and effectiveness of efforts to devise alternatives to government travel and promote efficient travel spending, such as teleconferencing and video conferencing.

(2) A description of the status and effectiveness of efforts to limit costs related to hosting and attending conferences.

(3) A description of the status and effectiveness of efforts to assess information technology inventories and usage, and establish controls, to reduce costs related to underutilized information technology equipment, software, or services.

(4) A description of the status and effectiveness of efforts to limit the publication and printing of hard copy documents.

(5) A description of the status and effectiveness of efforts to improve the performance of Federal fleet motor vehicles and limit executive transportation.

(6) A description of the status and effectiveness of efforts to limit the purchase of extraneous promotional items, such as plaques, clothing, and commemorative items.

(7) A description of the status and effectiveness of efforts to consolidate and streamline workforce training programs to focus on the highest priority workforce and mission needs.

(8) Such other matters relating to efforts to reduce intelligence community administrative costs as the Director may specify for purposes of this section.

**SEC. 323. ANNUAL REPORT ON VIOLATIONS OF LAW OR EXECUTIVE ORDER.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title V of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3091 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

**"SEC. 511. ANNUAL REPORT ON VIOLATIONS OF LAW OR EXECUTIVE ORDER.**

''(a) ANNUAL REPORTS REQUIRED.—The Director of National Intelligence shall annually submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report on violations of law or executive order relating to intelligence activities by personnel of an element of the intelligence community that were identified during the previous calendar year.

''(b) ELEMENTS.—Each report submitted under subsection (a) shall, consistent with the need to preserve ongoing criminal investigations, include a description of, and any action taken in response to, any violation of law or executive order (including Executive Order No. 12333 (50 U.S.C. 3001 note)) relating to intelligence activities committed by personnel of an element of the intelligence community in the course of the employment of such personnel that, during the previous calendar year, was—

''(1) determined by the director, head, or general counsel of any element of the intelligence community to have occurred;

''(2) referred to the Department of Justice for possible criminal prosecution; or

''(3) substantiated by the inspector general of any element of the intelligence community.''.

(b) INITIAL REPORT.—The first report required under section 511 of the National Security Act of 1947, as added by subsection (a), shall be submitted not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) GUIDELINES.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence, in consultation with the head of each element of the intelligence community, shall—

(1) issue guidelines to carry out section 511 of the National Security Act of 1947, as added by subsection (a); and

(2) submit such guidelines to the congressional intelligence committees.

(d) TABLE OF CONTENTS AMENDMENT.—The table of sections in the first section of the National Security Act of 1947 is amended by adding after the item relating to section 510 the following new item:

''Sec. 511. Annual report on violations of law or executive order.''.

(e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section or the amendments made by this section shall be construed to alter any requirement existing on the date of the enactment of this Act to submit a report under any provision of law.

**SEC. 324. ANNUAL REPORT ON INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—For each fiscal year and along with the budget materials submitted in support of the budget of the Department of Homeland Security pursuant to section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, the Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis of the Department shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report for such fiscal year on each intelligence activity of each intelligence component of the Department, as designated by the Under Secretary, that includes the following:

(1) The amount of funding requested for each such intelligence activity.

(2) The number of full-time employees funded to perform each such intelligence activity.

(3) The number of full-time contractor employees (or the equivalent of full-time in the case of part-time contractor employees) funded to perform or in support of each such intelligence activity.

(4) A determination as to whether each such intelligence activity is predominantly in support of national intelligence or departmental missions.

(5) The total number of analysts of the Intelligence Enterprise of the Department that perform—

(A) strategic analysis; or

(B) operational analysis.

(b) FEASIBILITY AND ADVISABILITY REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security, acting through the Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis, shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report that—

(1) examines the feasibility and advisability of including the budget request for all intelligence activities of each intelligence component of the Department that predominantly support departmental missions, as designated by the Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis, in the Homeland Security Intelligence Program; and

(2) includes a plan to enhance the coordination of department-wide intelligence activities to achieve greater efficiencies in the performance of the Department of Homeland Security intelligence functions.

(c) INTELLIGENCE COMPONENT OF THE DEPARTMENT.—In this section, the term ''intelligence component of the Department'' has the meaning given that term in section 2 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101).

**SEC. 325. REPORT ON POLITICAL PRISON CAMPS IN NORTH KOREA.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of National Intelligence, in consultation with the Secretary of State, shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees, the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives a report on political prison camps in North Korea.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection (a) shall—

(1) describe the actions the United States is taking to support implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including the eventual establishment of a tribunal to hold individuals accountable for abuses; and

(2) include, with respect to each political prison camp in North Korea to the extent information is available—

(A) the estimated prisoner population of each such camp;

(B) the geographical coordinates of each such camp;

(C) the reasons for confinement of the prisoners at each such camp;

(D) a description of the primary industries and products made at each such camp, and the end users of any goods produced in such camp;

(E) information regarding involvement of any non-North Korean entity or individual involved in the operations of each such camp, including as an end user or source of any good or products used in, or produced by, in such camp;

(F) information identifying individuals and agencies responsible for conditions in each such camp at all levels of the Government of North Korea;

(G) a description of the conditions under which prisoners are confined, with respect to the adequacy of food, shelter, medical care, working conditions, and reports of ill-treatment of prisoners, at each such camp; and

(H) unclassified imagery, including satellite imagery, of each such camp.

(c) FORM.—The report required by subsection (a) shall be submitted in an unclassified form and may include a classified annex if necessary.

**SEC. 326. ASSESSMENT OF SECURITY OF DOMESTIC OIL REFINERIES AND RELATED RAIL TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE.**

(a) ASSESSMENT.—The Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Intelligence and Analysis shall conduct an intelligence assessment of the security of domestic oil refineries and related rail transportation infrastructure.

(b) SUBMISSION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Intelligence and Analysis shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees—

(1) the results of the assessment required under subsection (a); and

(2) any recommendations with respect to intelligence sharing or intelligence collection to improve the security of domestic oil refineries and related rail transportation infrastructure to protect the communities surrounding such refineries or such infrastructure from potential harm that the Under Secretary considers appropriate.

**SEC. 327. ENHANCED CONTRACTOR LEVEL ASSESSMENTS FOR THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.**

Section 506B(c) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3098(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (11), by striking ''or contracted'';

(2) by redesignating paragraph (12) as paragraph (13); and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (11) the following:

''(12) The best estimate of the number of intelligence collectors and analysts contracted by each element of the intelligence community and a description of the functions performed by such contractors.''.

**SEC. 328. ASSESSMENT OF THE EFFICACY OF MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING TO FACILITATE INTELLIGENCE-SHARING.**

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Intelligence and Analysis, in consultation with the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and

the Program Manager of the Information Sharing Environment, shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate, and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives an assessment of the efficacy of the memoranda of understanding signed between Federal, State, local, tribal, and territorial agencies to facilitate intelligence-sharing within and separate from the Joint Terrorism Task Force. Such assessment shall include—

(1) any language within such memoranda of understanding that prohibited or may be construed to prohibit intelligence-sharing between Federal, State, local, tribal, and territorial agencies; and

(2) any recommendations for memoranda of understanding to better facilitate intelligence-sharing between Federal, State, local, tribal, and territorial agencies.

**SEC. 329. REPORT ON FOREIGN MAN-MADE ELECTROMAGNETIC PULSE WEAPONS.**

(a) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees, the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate, and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives a report on the threat posed by man-made electromagnetic pulse weapons to United States interests through 2025, including threats from foreign countries and foreign non-State actors.

(b) FORM.—The report required under subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

**SEC. 330. REPORT ON UNITED STATES COUNTERTERRORISM STRATEGY TO DISRUPT, DISMANTLE, AND DEFEAT AL-QAEDA AND ITS AFFILIATED OR ASSOCIATED GROUPS.**

(a) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a comprehensive report on the United States counterterrorism strategy to disrupt, dismantle, and defeat al-Qaeda and its affiliated or associated groups.

(2) COORDINATION.—The report required by paragraph (1) shall be prepared in coordination with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Attorney General, and the Secretary of Defense, and the head of any other department or agency of the United States Government that has responsibility for activities directed at combating al-Qaeda and its affiliated or associated groups.

(3) ELEMENTS.—The report required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) A definition of—

(i) al-Qaeda core, including a list of which known individuals constitute al-Qaeda core;

(ii) an affiliated group of al-Qaeda, including a list of which known groups constitute an affiliate group of al-Qaeda;

(iii) an associated group of al-Qaeda, including a list of which known groups constitute an associated group of al-Qaeda; and

(iv) a group aligned with al-Qaeda, including a description of what actions a group takes or statements it makes that qualify it as a group aligned with al-Qaeda.

(B) A list of any other group, including the organization that calls itself the Islamic State (also known as ''ISIS'' or ''ISIL''), that adheres to the core mission of al-Qaeda, or who espouses the same violent jihad ideology as al-Qaeda.

(C) An assessment of the relationship between al-Qaeda core and the groups referred to in subparagraph (B).

(D) An assessment of the strengthening or weakening of al-Qaeda and the groups referred to in subparagraph (B) from January 1, 2010, to the present, including a description of the metrics that are used to assess strengthening or weakening and an assessment of the relative increase or decrease in violent attacks attributed to such entities.

(E) An assessment of whether or not an individual can be a member of al-Qaeda core if such individual is not located in Afghanistan or Pakistan.

(F) An assessment of whether or not an individual can be a member of al-Qaeda core as well as a member of a group referred to in subparagraph (B).

(G) A definition of defeat of core al-Qaeda.

(H) An assessment of the extent or coordination, command, and control between core al-Qaeda and the groups referred to in subparagraph (B), specifically addressing each such group.

(I) An assessment of the effectiveness of counterterrorism operations against core al-Qaeda and the groups referred to in subparagraph (B), and whether such operations have had a sustained impact on the capabilities and effectiveness of core al-Qaeda and such groups.

(4) FORM.—The report required by paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

(b) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means—

(1) the congressional intelligence committees;

(2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate; and

(3) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives.

**SEC. 331. FEASIBILITY STUDY ON RETRAINING VETERANS IN CYBERSECURITY.**

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and the Secretary of Homeland Security, shall submit to Congress a feasibility study on retraining veterans and retired members of elements of the intelligence community in cybersecurity.

## NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a business meeting has been scheduled before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The business meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 10, 2014, at 10 a.m., room SD–366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building. The purpose of the business meeting is to consider the nomination of Colette D. Honorable to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send it to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510–6150, or by email to sam__fowler@energy.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact Sam Fowler at (202) 224–7571.

## AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on December 9, 2014, at 6 p.m., in room S–216 of the Capitol Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 9, 2014, at 9:30 a.m., in room SD–215 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled ''Social Security: Is a Key Foundation of Economic Security Working for Women?''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 9, 2014, at 2 p.m., to conduct a hearing entitled ''Authorization for the use of Military Force Against ISIL

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 9, 2014, at 10 a.m., in room SD–226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled ''Campus Sexual Assault: the Roles and Responsibilities of Law Enforcement.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE CONSTITUTION, CIVIL RIGHTS, AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Human Rights, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 9, 2014, at 2:30 p.m., in room SH–216 of the Hart Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled ''The State of Civil and Human Rights in the United States.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOUSING, TRANSPORTATION, AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 9, 2014, at 11 a.m., to conduct a

hearing entitled ''Inequality, Opportunity, and the Housing Market.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS, HUMAN RIGHTS, DEMOCRACY, AND GLOBAL WOMEN'S ISSUES

Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 9, 2014, at 10 a.m., to hold an International Operations and Organizations, Human Rights, Democracy, and Global Women's Issues subcommittee hearing entitled ''ISIL's Reign of Terror: Confronting the Growing Humanitarian Crisis in Iraq and Syria.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Kelly Tribble Spencer, a detailee in my office, be granted privileges of the floor for the remainder of the 113th Congress.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that William Conlon, an intern in my personal office, be granted floor privileges for December 11, 2014.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. KING. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that James Reeve, a defense fellow in Senator KAINE's office, be granted floor privileges for the duration of the 113th Congress.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Alison Mueller, of the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, be granted floor privileges for the rest of December 9, 2014.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## MAKING REVISIONS TO TITLE 36 UNITED STATES CODE

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1067 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1067) to make revisions in title 36, United States Code, as necessary to keep the title current and make technical corrections and improvements.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 1067) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

## DORIS MILLER DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans' Affairs be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 4199 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4199) to name the Department of Veterans Affairs medical center in Waco, Texas, as the ''Doris Miller Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center.''

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. SCHATZ. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 4199) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

## RECOGNIZING 20 YEARS SINCE THE GENOCIDE IN RWANDA

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 363, S. Res. 413.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 413) recognizing 20 years since the genocide in Rwanda, and affirming it is in the national interest of the United States to work in close coordination with international partners to help prevent and mitigate acts of genocide and mass atrocities.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Coons amendment to the resolution, which is at the desk, be agreed to and the Senate proceed to vote on the resolution, as amended.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 3993) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To provide that nothing in the resolution shall be construed as an authorization for the use of force or a declaration of war)

On page 6, beginning on line 14, strike ''events; and'' and all that follows through ''(8) supports'' on line 15 and insert the following: ''events;

(8) clarifies that nothing in this resolution shall be construed as an authorization for the use of force or a declaration of war; and

(9) supports

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the resolution, as amended.

The resolution (S. Res. 413), as amended, was agreed to.

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Coons amendment to the preamble be agreed to, the preamble, as amended, be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 3994) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To amend the preamble)

Amend the twelfth whereas clause of the preamble to read as follows:

Whereas, in September 2005, the United States joined other members of the United Nations in adopting United Nations General Assembly Resolution 60/1, which affirmed that the international community has a responsibility to use appropriate diplomatic, humanitarian and other peaceful means to help protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity;

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

(The resolution, as amended, with its preamble, as amended, will be printed in a future edition of the RECORD.)

## INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEARS 2014 AND 2015

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Intelligence Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 4681 and the Senate proceed to its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4681) to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2014 and 2015 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. SCHATZ. I ask unanimous consent that the Feinstein substitute amendment, which is at the desk, be agreed to; the bill, as amended, be read a third time, and the Senate proceed to vote on passage.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it so ordered.

The amendment (No. 3995) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under ''Text of Amendments.'')

The amendment was ordered to be engrossed, and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Hearing no further debate, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (H.R. 4681), as amended, was passed.

Mr. SCHATZ. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## JOINT EXPLANATORY STATEMENT TO ACCOMPANY THE INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015

The following consists of the explanatory material to accompany the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015.

This joint explanatory statement shall have the same effect with respect to the implementation of this Act as if it were a joint explanatory statement of a committee of conference.

This explanatory statement is accompanied by a classified annex that contains a classified Schedule of Authorizations. The classified Schedule of Authorizations is incorporated by reference in the Act and has the legal status of public law.

The classified annex and classified Schedule of Authorizations are the result of negotiations between the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence and the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence to reconcile differences in their respective versions of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015. The congressionally directed actions described in Senate Report No. 113–233, the classified annex that accompanied Senate Report No. 113–233, and the classified annex that accompanied House Report No. 113–463 should be carried out to the extent they are not amended, altered, substituted, or otherwise specifically addressed in either this Joint Explanatory Statement or in the classified annex to this Statement.

### SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS AND EXPLANATION

The following is a section-by-section analysis and explanation of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015.

### TITLE I—INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

*Section 101. Authorization of appropriations*

Section 101 lists the United States Government departments, agencies, and other elements for which the Act authorizes appropriations for intelligence and intelligence-related activities for Fiscal Year 2015.

*Section 102. Classified Schedule of Authorizations*

Section 102 provides that the details of the amounts authorized to be appropriated for intelligence and intelligence-related activities and the applicable personnel levels by program for Fiscal Year 2015 are contained in the classified Schedule of Authorizations and that the classified Schedule of Authorizations shall be made available to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and House of Representatives and to the President.

*Section 103. Personnel ceiling adjustments*

Section 103 is intended to provide additional flexibility to the DNI in managing the civilian personnel of the Intelligence Community (IC). Section 103 provides that the DNI may authorize employment of civilian personnel in Fiscal Year 2015 in excess of the number of authorized positions by an amount not exceeding three percent of the total limit applicable to each IC element under Section 102. The DNI may do so only if necessary to the performance of important intelligence functions.

*Section 104. Intelligence Community Management Account*

Section 104 authorizes appropriations for the Intelligence Community Management Account (ICMA) of the DNI and sets the authorized personnel levels for the elements within the ICMA for Fiscal Year 2015.

### TITLE II—CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY SYSTEM

*Section 201. Authorization of appropriations*

Section 201 authorizes appropriations in the amount of $514,000,000 for Fiscal Year 2015 for the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability Fund.

### TITLE III—GENERAL PROVISIONS

#### SUBTITLE A—GENERAL MATTERS

*Section 301. Increase in employee compensation and benefits authorized by law*

Section 301 provides that funds authorized to be appropriated by the Act for salary, pay, retirement, and other benefits for federal employees may be increased by such additional or supplemental amounts as may be necessary for increases in compensation or benefits authorized by law.

*Section 302. Restriction on conduct of intelligence activities*

Section 302 provides that the authorization of appropriations by the Act shall not be deemed to constitute authority for the conduct of any intelligence activity that is not otherwise authorized by the Constitution or laws of the United States.

*Section 303. National intelligence strategy*

Section 303 amends the National Security Act of 1947 to require the DNI to develop a comprehensive national intelligence strategy every four years beginning in 2017.

*Section 304. Software licensing*

Section 304 amends Section 109 of the National Security Act of 1947, which requires chief information officers within the IC to prepare biennial inventories and assessments concerning the use and procurement of software licenses, to make certain enhancements to the biennial assessments required under Section 109.

*Section 305. Reporting of certain employment activities by former intelligence officers and employees*

Section 305 requires the head of each element of the IC to issue regulations that require an employee occupying positions with access to particularly sensitive information within such element to sign a written agreement that requires the regular reporting of any employment by, representation of, or the provision of advice relating to national security to the government of a foreign country, or any person whose activities are supervised, directed, controlled, financed, or subsidized by any government of a foreign country, for a two-year period after the employee ceases employment with the IC element.

*Section 306. Inclusion of Predominantly Black Institutions in intelligence officer training program*

Section 306 amends the National Security Act of 1947 to include predominantly black institutions in the intelligence officer training programs established under Section 1024 of the Act.

*Section 307. Management and oversight of financial intelligence*

Section 307 requires the DNI to prepare a plan for management of the elements of the IC that carry out financial intelligence activities.

*Section 308. Analysis of private sector policies and procedures for countering insider threats*

Section 308 directs the DNI to submit to the congressional intelligence committees an analysis of private sector policies and procedures for countering insider threats.

*Section 309. Procedures for the retention of incidentally acquired communications*

Section 309 requires the head of each element of the IC to adopt Attorney General-approved procedures that govern the retention of nonpublic telephone or electronic communications acquired without consent of a person who is a party to the communications, including communications in electronic storage.

The procedures required under this section shall apply to any intelligence activity that is reasonably anticipated to result in the acquisition of such telephone or electronic communications to or from a United States person not otherwise authorized by court order, subpoena, or similar legal process, regardless of the location where the collection occurs. The procedures shall prohibit the retention of such telephone or electronic communications for a period in excess of five years, unless the communications are determined to fall within one of several categories, enumerated in subsection (b)(3)(B), for which retention in excess of five years is authorized, to include communications that have been affirmatively determined to constitute foreign intelligence or counterintelligence, communications that are reasonably believed to constitute evidence of a crime and are retained by a law enforcement agency, and communications that are enciphered or reasonably believed to have a secret meaning.

Because it may be necessary in certain instances for IC elements to retain communications covered by this section for a period in excess of five years that do not fall into the categories specifically enumerated in subsection (b)(3)(B), subsection (b)(3)(B)(vii) provides flexibility for the head of each element of the intelligence community to authorize such extended retention where the head of the element determines that it is necessary to protect the national security of the United States. In the absence of such a determination, Section 309 is intended to establish a default rule for intelligence collection activities, not otherwise authorized by legal process, that requires agencies to delete communications covered by this section after five years, unless a determination is made that the communications constitute foreign intelligence or counterintelligence or otherwise meet the retention requirements set forth in this section.

*Section 310. Clarification of limitation of review to retaliatory security clearance or access determinations*

Section 310 makes a technical amendment to Section 3001(b)(7) of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 to clarify that the policies and procedures prescribed by that section (to permit individuals to appeal adverse security clearance or access determinations) are only required to apply to adverse security clearance or access determinations alleged to be in reprisal for having made a protected whistleblower disclosure.

*Section 311. Feasibility study on consolidating classified databases of cyber threat indicators and malware samples*

Section 307 requires the DNI to conduct a feasibility study on consolidating classified databases of cyber threat indicators and malware samples in the IC and to provide a report to the congressional intelligence committees summarizing the feasibility study.

*Section 312. Sense of Congress on cybersecurity threat and cybercrime cooperation with Ukraine*

Section 312 expresses the sense of Congress concerning cybersecurity threat and

cybercrime cooperation between the United States and Ukraine.

*Section 313. Replacement of locally employed staff serving at United States diplomatic faculties in the Russian Federation*

Section 313 requires the Secretary of State to ensure that every supervisory position at a U.S. diplomatic facility in the Russian Federation is occupied by a citizen of the United States who has passed a background check and to provide Congress with a plan to further reduce reliance on locally employed staff.

*Section 314. Inclusion of Sensitive Compartmented Information Facilities in United States diplomatic facilities in the Russian Federation and adjacent countries*

Section 314 requires that each U.S. diplomatic facility that is constructed in, or undergoes a construction upgrade in, the Russian Federation, any country that shares a land border with the Russian Federation, or any country that is a former member of the Soviet Union, shall be constructed to include a Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility. The Secretary of State may waive the requirements of this section upon a determination that it is in the national security interest of the United States.

SUBTITLE B—REPORTING

*Section 321. Report on declassification process*

Section 321 requires the DNI to submit a report to Congress describing proposals to improve the declassification process and steps the IC could take or legislation that may be necessary, to enable the National Declassification Center to better accomplish the missions assigned to the Center by Executive Order 13526.

*Section 322. Report on intelligence community efficient spending targets*

Section 322 requires the DNI to submit a report to the congressional intelligence committees on the status and effectiveness of efforts to reduce administrative costs for the IC during the preceding year.

*Section 323. Annual report on violations of law or executive order*

Section 323 requires the DNI to report annually to the congressional intelligence committees on violations of law or executive order by personnel of an element of the IC that were identified during the previous calendar year. Under the National Security Act, the President is required to keep the congressional intelligence committees fully and currently informed of the intelligence activities of the United States government. Nonetheless, this annual reporting requirement is necessary to ensure that the intelligence oversight committees of the House and Senate are made fully aware of violations of law or executive order, including, in particular, violations of Executive order 12333 for activities not otherwise subject to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act.

*Section 324. Annual report on intelligence activities of the Department of Homeland Security*

Section 324 requires the Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis of the DHS to provide the congressional intelligence committees with a report on each intelligence activity of each intelligence component of the Department that includes, among other things, the amount of funding requested, the number of full-time employees, and the number of full-time contractor employees. In addition, Section 324 requires the Secretary of Homeland Security to submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report that examines the feasibility and advisability of consolidating the planning, programming, and resourcing of such activities within the Homeland Security Intelligence Program (HSIP).

The HSIP budget was established to fund those intelligence activities that principally support missions of the DHS separately from those of the NIP. To date, however, this mechanism has only been used to supplement the budget for the office of Intelligence and Analysis. It has not been used to fund the activities of the non-IC components in the DHS that conduct intelligence-related activities. As a result, there is no comprehensive reporting to Congress regarding the overall resources and personnel required in support of the Department's intelligence activities.

*Section 325. Report on political prison camps in North Korea*

Section 325 requires the DNI to submit a report on political prison camps in North Korea to the congressional intelligence committees.

*Section 326. Assessment of security of domestic oil refineries and related rail transportation infrastructure*

Section 326 requires the Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Intelligence and Analysis to conduct an intelligence assessment of the security of domestic oil refineries and related rail transportation infrastructure.

*Section 327. Enhanced contractor level assessments for the intelligence community*

Section 327 amends the National Security Act of 1947 to require that the annual personnel level assessments for the IC, required under Section 506B of the Act, include a separate estimate of the number of intelligence collectors and analysts contracted by each element of the IC and a description of the functions performed by such contractors.

*Section 328. Assessment of the efficacy of memoranda of understanding to facilitate intelligence-sharing*

Section 328 requires the Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Intelligence and Analysis to provide appropriate congressional committees with an assessment of the efficacy of the memoranda of understanding signed between Federal, State, local, tribal, and territorial agencies to facilitate intelligence-sharing within and separate from the Joint Terrorism Task Force. This study should help identify any obstacles to intelligence sharing between agencies, particularly any obstacles that might have impeded intelligence sharing in the wake of the April 2013 bombing of the Boston Marathon, and find improvements to existing intelligence sharing relationships.

*Section 329. Report on foreign man-made electromagnetic pulse weapons*

Section 329 requires the DNI to provide appropriate congressional committees with a report on the threat posed by manmade electromagnetic pulse weapons to United States interests through 2025.

*Section 330. Report on United States counterterrorism strategy to disrupt, dismantle, and defeat al-Qaeda and its affiliated or associated groups*

Section 330 requires the DNI to provide appropriate congressional committees with a report on the United States counterterrorism strategy to disrupt, dismantle, and defeat al Qaeda and its affiliated or associated groups.

*Section 331. Feasibility study on retraining veterans in cybersecurity*

Section 331 requires the DNI to submit to Congress a feasibility study on retraining veterans and retired members of elements of the IC in cybersecurity.

## DENOUNCING THE USE OF CIVILIANS AS HUMAN SHIELDS BY HAMAS AND OTHER TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS IN VIOLATION OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 616, H. Con. Res. 107.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 107) denouncing the use of civilians as human shields by Hamas and other terrorist organizations in violation of international humanitarian law.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution, which had been reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment and an amendment to the preamble and an amendment to the title.

(Strike out all after the resolving clause and insert the part printed in italic.)

(Strike the preamble and insert the part printed in italic.)

H. CON. RES. 107

*Whereas the use of human shields is unconscionable and morally unacceptable;*

*Whereas since June 15, 2014, there have been over 2,000 rockets fired by Hamas and other terrorist organizations from Gaza into Israel;*

*Whereas Hamas uses civilian populations as human shields by placing their missile batteries in densely populated areas and near schools, hospitals, and mosques;*

*Whereas Israel dropped leaflets, made announcements, placed phone calls, and sent text messages to the Palestinian people in Gaza warning them in advance that an attack was imminent, and went to extraordinary lengths to target only terrorist actors and to minimize collateral damage;*

*Whereas Hamas urged the residents of Gaza to ignore the Israeli warnings and to remain in their houses and encouraged Palestinians to gather on the roofs of their homes to act as human shields;*

*Whereas on July 23, 2014, the 46-Member UN Human Rights Council passed a resolution to form a commission of inquiry over Israel's operations in Gaza that completely fails to condemn Hamas for its indiscriminate rocket attacks and its unconscionable use of human shields, with the United States being the lone dissenting vote;*

*Whereas public reports have cited the role of Iran and Syria in providing material support and training to Hamas and other terrorist groups carrying out rocket and mortar attacks from Gaza;*

*Whereas throughout the summer of 2006 conflict between the State of Israel and the terrorist organization Hezbollah, Hezbollah forces utilized innocent civilians as human shields;*

*Whereas al Qaeda, Al-Shabaab, Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), and other foreign terrorist organizations typically use innocent civilians as human shields;*

*Whereas the United States and Israel have cooperated on missile defense projects, including Iron Dome, David's Sling, and the Arrow Anti-Missile System, projects designed to thwart a diverse range of threats, including short-range missiles and rockets fired by non-state actors, such as Hamas;*

*Whereas the United States provided $460,000,000 in fiscal year 2014 for Iron Dome research, development, and production;*

*Whereas, during the most recent rocket attacks from Gaza, Iron Dome successfully intercepted dozens of rockets that were launched against Israeli population centers; and*

*Whereas 5,000,000 Israelis are currently living under the threat of rocket attacks from Gaza: Now, therefore, be it*

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),*

*That Congress—*

*(1) strongly condemns the use of innocent civilians as human shields;*

*(2) calls on the international community to recognize and condemn Hamas' use of human shields;*

*(3) places responsibility for the rocket attacks against Israel on Hamas and other terrorist organizations, such as Palestine Islamic Jihad;*

*(4) supports the sovereign right of the Government of Israel to defend its territory and its citizens from Hamas' rocket attacks, kidnapping attempts, and the use of tunnels and other means to carry out attacks against Israel;*

*(5) expresses condolences to the families of the innocent victims on both sides of the conflict;*

*(6) supports Palestinian civilians who reject Hamas and all forms of terrorism and violence, desiring to live in peace with their Israeli neighbors;*

*(7) supports efforts to demilitarize the Gaza Strip, removing Hamas's means to target Israel, including its use of tunnels, rockets, and other means; and*

*(8) condemns the United Nations Human Rights Council's biased resolution establishing a commission of inquiry into Israel's Gaza operations.*

Mr. SCHATZ. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported amendment to the resolution be agreed to, the resolution, as amended, be agreed to, and that the committee-reported amendment to the preamble be agreed to, the preamble, as amended, be agreed to, and that the committee-reported amendment to the title be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The committee-reported amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 107), as amended, was agreed to.

The committee-reported amendment to the preamble in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

The committee-reported amendment to the title was agreed to, as follows:

Amend the title so as to read: ''A concurrent resolution denouncing the use of civilians as human shields by Hamas and other terrorist organizations.''.

## MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 2992

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I understand that S. 2992, introduced earlier today by Senator GILLIBRAND, is at the desk and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2992) to amend title 10, United States Code, to reform procedures for determinations to proceed to trial by court-martial for certain offenses under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, and for other purposes.

Mr. SCHATZ. I now ask for its second reading and object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The bill will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

## ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2014

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, December 10, 2014; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; and that following any leader remarks, the Senate resume consideration of the motion to concur in the House message to accompany H.R. 3979.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. SCHATZ. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 8:53 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, December 10, 2014, at 9:30 a.m.

## CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate December 9, 2014:

### POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

TONY HAMMOND, OF MISSOURI, TO BE A COMMISSIONER OF THE POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 14, 2018.

NANCI E. LANGLEY, OF HAWAII, TO BE A COMMISSIONER OF THE POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING NOVEMBER 22, 2018.

### TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

VIRGINIA TYLER LODGE, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING MAY 18, 2019.

RONALD ANDERSON WALTER, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING MAY 18, 2019.

### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

PETER MICHAEL MCKINLEY, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER–COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN.

RICHARD RAHUL VERMA, OF MARYLAND, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA.

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## HONORING CONGRESSMAN TOM LATHAM ON HIS RETIREMENT

SPEECH OF

### HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 8, 2014*

Mr. BOEHNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend and colleague, the gentleman from Iowa, Mr. LATHAM. I know my colleagues will agree that his retirement is a loss for the House and his constituents.

Ten times beginning in 1994, the people of Iowa had the wisdom to send a good man to Washington.

He brought with him true and much-needed Iowa values, fighting the good fight for individual liberty, fiscal responsibility, and economic opportunity.

His work on the Appropriations Committee for first responders, the Iowa National Guard, agriculture, and education will long outlast him—a legacy of leadership many aspire to, but few truly achieve.

In addition, as the House is well-aware, Mr. LATHAM is my best friend. This, like all his other duties, he has handled with grace and good humor.

On behalf of the House, I thank Mr. LATHAM for his service and wish him and his wife, Kathy, all the best.

## TRIBUTE TO MR. ENNIS ANTOINE JR.

### HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the accomplishments of a dear friend and colleague, Mr. Ennis Antoine Jr. Over the last twenty years, Mr. Antoine has left an indelible impression on the city of Atlanta, Georgia through his entrepreneurial advances in real estate and philanthropic endeavors.

Whether it be in his church, his community, or business, Mr. Antoine strives to turn any challenge into an opportunity. In 2004, Mr. Antoine moved from a promising career in journalism to pursue his passions in the realm of real estate, marking the beginning of a career that would be recognized as among the most prolific in the booming real estate market of Atlanta. Later, in 2008, Mr. Antoine made history by becoming the first African American to be honored with the Realtor of the Year award for his outstanding commercial accomplishments during a time in which Georgia was still reeling from the Great Recession. Recently, the Atlanta Board of Realtors elected to honor Mr. Antoine by making him their 90th president and the first African American president in the history of the organization.

Throughout his distinguished career, Mr. Antoine has used his success to empower those around him. Well known by his friends and family for a seemingly inexhaustible amount of energy, Mr. Antoine spends much of his weekends volunteering at his local church as a deacon and assistant pastor, in addition to also mentoring youth.

On many weeknights, he can be found teaching real estate classes, where he passes on the practical business skills he has accumulated through years of shaping the Atlanta real estate market.

When Hurricane Katrina decimated his hometown of New Orleans, Mr. Antoine took in over 40 friends and relatives whose homes and livelihoods had been destroyed by the flood waters.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to not only honor the impressive achievements of this man and his recent election as the President of the Atlanta Board of Realtors, but also to commend his compassionate contributions to my Congressional district and to the great State of Georgia. I ask my colleagues to join me in venerating this distinguished individual.

## TRIBUTE TO ROBERT MERWIN CEO OF MILLS-PENINSULA HEALTH SERVICES ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

### HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplished career of a distinguished Californian, Mr. Robert Merwin of San Mateo County, who is retiring at the end of 2014 from his position as Chief Executive Officer of Mills-Peninsula Health Services, a post he has held since January, 1996.

A resident of San Carlos, California, Bob Merwin is a 1971 graduate of the United States International University, and earned his M.B.A. from UCLA in 1973. He began his career in hospital management in 1973 as Assistant Executive Director of the Long Beach Community Hospital. He progressed up the corporate ladder at Long Beach, joined Pacific Presbyterian Medical Center, then came to Mills-Peninsula in 1987 as Executive Vice President and Chief Operations Officer.

Bob Merwin has served our community as a member of the San Mateo Rotary Club, the American College of Health Care Executives, as Chair of the West Bay Hospital Conference, and Chair of the Hospital Consortium of San Mateo County.

He is a past director of the American Red Cross Bay Area and a member of the Finance Committee of the Health Plan of San Mateo.

Mills-Peninsula has thrived under Bob Merwin's leadership. He has improved relations between physicians and management, contained costs while increasing productivity, and helped develop a strategic plan for the combined hospitals. Under his leadership a new 241 bed acute care facility, Mills-Peninsula Medical Center was constructed. It is a state-of-the-art, $640 million, 450,000 square foot facility that is a source of pride to our entire community.

Bob Merwin is married to Jean Merwin and he is the father of Michael and Megan. He enjoys golf, tennis and photography.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in honoring Bob Merwin for his stellar career in hospital management and for his extraordinary contributions to our community and our country.

## MEDICAID AND WOMEN'S HEALTH

### HON. DAVID LOEBSACK

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. LOEBSACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to act before the end of this year to improve access to care for low-income women in America. The Medicaid primary care bump, which expires on December 31st, should be extended and must be expanded to include women's health.

The current program has improved access to care for low-income Americans by increasing reimbursement for primary care and vaccine administration codes in Medicaid to Medicare levels. However, women's health was left out of the original provision. I think it is critical that we correct this oversight.

Ob-gyns deliver primary and preventative care to women, and an ob-gyn is often the only doctor a woman sees on a regular basis. In Iowa, Ob-gyns are considered primary care under our state Medicaid program. However, the federal law as written says they are not, making it harder for low-income women to get needed care. Extending and expanding the Medicaid primary care access bump would make care available to women in need.

In Iowa, providers receive only 77% in Medicaid reimbursement compared to Medicare for primary services. This affects a physician's willingness to accept new Medicaid patients, and 23% of women Medicaid beneficiaries report problems with finding a new doctor who will accept their insurance due to low Medicaid payment rates, compared to 7% of Medicare beneficiaries and 13% of women with private insurance.

I support extending the Medicaid primary care access bump and expanding it to include women's health so that all Iowa women can access the critical primary and preventative care services they need. I would like to thank colleagues of both parties for introducing legislation to do just this.

## HONORING CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 2 WILLIAM C. SMITH

### HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor retired United States Army Chief Warrant Officer 2 William C. Smith who passed away on Friday, November 28, 2014.

William ''Bill'' Smith made the decision at a young age to join the military and serve our country. After graduating from high school, he enlisted to serve in the United States Army.

Soon after joining the Army, Bill came back home to marry his 3rd grade sweetheart, Mona Joye Swanson of Mount Jewett, Pennsylvania. He was named Honor Graduate in 1951 at his graduation from the Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) Academy, achieving the highest grades in all phases of the course. He also attended Winona State University in Minnesota. Bill continued to serve in the Army for 22 years at duty stations in New York, Massachusetts, Oklahoma, Colorado, Texas, Pennsylvania, Minnesota, Germany, and Korea.

In his later military years, he served in Bravo Battery, 3rd battalion (Hercules), 68th Artillery, Army Air Defense Command, as a Nike missile technician, and retired as a Chief Warrant Officer 2. During his service he was awarded with an Army Commendation Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Army Forces Reserve Medal, and an Expert Missile Man Badge.

After leaving the military in 1968, Bill accepted a job with Texas Instruments (TI) and the family settled in Plano, Texas. He worked for TI until 1990, when he retired after 22 years, attaining the ''Gold Badge'' level.

On November 28, 2014, William Carl Smith was laid to rest. His legacy will live on for many generations, as Bill is survived by his and Mona's nine children, 20 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews. He will forever be remembered as a caring man who cherished family values and who was dedicated to serving our Great Nation.

America thanks Bill and his family for their service and sacrifice on behalf of our country.

As I close, I ask everyone to continue praying for our country during these difficult times. I also ask everyone to pray for our military men and women who protect us from external threats and our first responders who protect us from internal threats right here at home.

God bless our military men and women, and God bless the United States of America.

## FUTURE PEARLAND FOOTBALL HEROES ARE YOUNG BUT MIGHTY

### HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Pearland Patriots for winning the 2014 Bay Area Football League championship.

Their dominating victory caps off a year of excellent performance against tough opponents, and is a testament to their hard work and focus throughout the season. The discipline that carried them through the championship game will bring continued success as they advance in their athletic careers and build on the Pearland community's great legacy in football.

On behalf of the residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to the Pearland Patriots for winning the Bay Area Football League championship. We look forward to their continued success both on and off the field.

## HONORING BARBARA BAYMON

### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Barbara Baymon who is a remarkable Leader and Public Servant.

Ms. Barbara Baymon holds a B.A. degree in Speech Communication from Mississippi Valley State University and an M.A. degree from Arkansas State University.

Ms. Baymon teaches a variety of speech courses in the department of Communication and is also the Director of Theater. She is the Coordinator for the Speech Communication major.

Each semester, Ms. Baymon directs one or more productions that features MVSU students and is performed on campus and on the road. Her duties also include serving on various departmental and university committees.

Ms. Baymon is also active in her community. She is an Alderwoman for Isola and President of Humphrey County Hospital Board of Directors.

Her memberships include Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc, Mississippi Theater Association, Mississippi Communication Association, International Communication Association and Southern Conference on Afro-American Studies, Inc.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Barbara Baymon, a leader and public servant, for her dedication to serving others and giving back to the African American community.

## IN RECOGNITION OF DAVID E. GLOWINSKI FOR 37 YEARS OF FEDERAL SERVICE IN THE DEFENSE CONTRACT MANAGEMENT AGENCY

### HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life's work of David E. Glowinski. For the better part of four decades, Mr. Glowinski has served the Defense Contract Management Agency with distinction. On January 2, 2015, Mr. Glowinski will retire from federal service after more than 37 years.

David E. Glowinski was born in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. A graduate of Wilkes University, David graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Economics and a Master's in Business Administration. After finishing school, David began working for the Department of Defense in August 1977. He was stationed at General Dynamics in Eynon, where he worked as Quality Assurance Specialist. In 1980, David became an Industrial Specialist and has served in that capacity until the present time.

During his time with the Department of Defense, Mr. Glowinski built up a reputation for being an outstanding worker and vigilant steward of resources. David was well known for his superior technical skills and constantly relied on for his technical expertise at General Dynamics. He was often called upon to complete complex delivery predictions and notices for Top 500 contractors. In addition, Mr. Glowinski managed expedited customer requests which assisted early delivery in support of critical worldwide missions. Because of his dedication, Mr. Glowinski was recognized for outstanding performance in each of his 37 years at General Dynamics.

I take great honor in congratulating Mr. Glowinski on his retirement from federal service. His career with the Defense Contract Management Agency has been exceptional. I offer my thanks for his service to our country, and I wish him the best in retirement.

## HONORING THE FRALINGER STRING BAND'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Fralinger String Band as it celebrates its 100th anniversary on December 18, 2014.

The Fralinger String Band was founded on December 18, 1914 by a group of young men playing music on a street corner in South Philadelphia where physician Dr. John Fralinger operated a neighborhood drug store, in the heart of Pennsylvania's 1st Congressional District. The doctor, known for his interest in promoting promising youth, would sponsor the band. The J.J. Fralinger String Band would make its debut in the New Year's Day Mummers Parade, a Philadelphia tradition, on January 1, 1915, just two weeks after its founding.

The band has won an unmatched 16 first-place prizes in the Mummer's Parade in the last 50 years, and was the first string band to use the saxophone and the first to appear in a major motion picture. The band served as a goodwill ambassador for Philadelphia and traveled throughout both the United States and the world, in Miss America Pageant Parades, and the International Chinese New Year Parade in Hong Kong.

Over its 100-year history, the Fralinger String Band has been led by the friends and family members of Dr. Fralinger and operates today as a non-profit corporation run entirely by volunteers. The band's clubhouse is still located in the heart of South Philadelphia, just feet from the original Fralinger Pharmacy.

I invite you and all of my colleagues to join me in commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Fralinger String Band. May its commitment to performing for and entertaining people

of all ages be an inspiration to all of us in the years to come.

## RECOGNIZING HARRY WAMPLER

### HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to recognize one of the most admired public servants in my District on the occasion of his 80th birthday.

Harry Wampler has served my State with distinction for many decades, and he has one of the most well-known last names in my District.

His family founded Wampler's Sausage in 1937 with just $38 worth of supplies, and today, most folks in East Tennessee could probably sing the Wampler's Sausage jingle—''made on the farm in Tennessee.''

Wampler's Sausage is an iconic Tennessee company that Harry helped lead. During his successful business career, he has also served as President and CEO of Family Brands International and as a member of the Board of Emeritus of Sun Trust Bank and the Board of Trustees of Baptist Hospital. He is a longtime member of the Civitan Club, serving as President twice and named Civitan ''Man of the Year.''

For several decades, Harry Wampler has also served the people of Lenoir City in public office, including the Lenoir City Council, the Loudon County Planning Commission, and the Tennessee State Legislature.

He has also held the post of Vice Mayor of Lenoir City, member of the Lenoir City Utilities Power Board, Chairman of the Republican Party of Loudon County, and Deacon of First Baptist Church of Lenoir City, where he served as Chairman several times.

Harry's hard work, personal faith and love of East Tennessee is very well known by his constituents.

He is a very patriotic American and one of the finest public servants I have ever known.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my Colleagues and other Readers of the RECORD to join me in wishing a very happy birthday to my friend Harry Wampler and celebrate his impressive service to the people of Loudon County, Tennessee.

## APPLAUDING THE PEARLAND OILERS—A TEXAS FOOTBALL POWERHOUSE

### HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Pearland Oilers for winning the 2014 South Texas Youth Football Association championship.

Their overpowering performance highlighted the athletic ability and relentless work ethic that carried the Oilers past tough opponents all season. The lessons of previous seasons and defensive greatness have helped these terrific athletes achieve success at the highest level of youth football and will continue to serve them well in future challenges.

On behalf of the residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to the Pearland Oiler sophomore football team for winning the South Texas Youth Football Association championship. We look forward to their continued success both on and off the field.

## JAMES L. OBERSTAR MEMORIAL HIGHWAY

SPEECH OF

### HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 8, 2014*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4926 and to honor the life of a truly remarkable man that we lost this year, Jim Oberstar. This legislation would designate the ''James L. Oberstar Memorial Highway'' and the ''James L. Oberstar National Scenic Byway'' in the State of Minnesota, but more importantly, it would honor the legacy of one of our most beloved former colleagues.

Jim grew up appreciating the value of hard work and he innately understood the importance of cultivating strong relationships and tirelessly fighting for what was right.

He left the House of Representatives and the nation quite frankly, in a better place than when he found it. He was the consummate public servant and has an incredible lasting legacy.

In the 18 terms he served in Congress, he had a remarkable impact on the transportation industry in America and upon all of his colleagues. He was uniquely aware of the value of jobs, the economy, and the interconnectedness of goods and people throughout the country.

In a profession not always known for brevity of remarks, his speeches, as we can all attest, were amongst the most lengthy. However, when delivering remarks, he spoke passionately and with great intellect, never failing to effectively convey his point to a wide variety of audiences.

More importantly, he understood the value of bipartisanship in Washington and never let politics get in the way of good policy.

While we mourn the loss of our dear friend, we celebrate his life and service to this nation. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

## TRIBUTE TO KATHERINE ''KELLY'' KRAUSER KNOTT

### HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a wonderful young woman, Katherine ''Kelly'' Krauser Knott, who passed away last week after a long and courageous battle with breast cancer. We will miss Kelly dearly. She brought grace and warmth to everything she did. She was a great colleague, a great wife and mother, and a great friend to all she knew.

Kelly was one of the best parts of the fabric of life for those of us who have the privilege of serving the people here on Capitol Hill. Every day, lawmakers and staff interact with dozens or even hundreds of people who are representing their issues or interests in Congress; but few of these people make the kind of lasting impression that Kelly made on many of us. She was a tireless advocate for her members at the Associated General Contractors of America and later at the National Retail Federation. Many of us had the pleasure of working with Kelly on tough policy issues over the years, and we appreciated her patience, her perseverance and her friendship through all.

Kelly came to Washington, DC from Connecticut with a bachelor's degree from St. Mary's College, Notre Dame in Indiana, and she earned a master's degree in political management from George Washington University. She got her start on Capitol Hill with the late Representative Mel Hancock from southwestern Missouri, and I'm sure it didn't take long for her colleagues in Mr. Hancock's office to recognize that Kelly was a team player and a quiet leader who was always eager to pitch in and help.

The staff and members of the Associated General Contractors of America were fortunate enough to work with Kelly through her marriage to Stewart and birth of her three children. She was a thoughtful, informed and aggressive member of the AGC team. She had a unique way of asserting her position without being too disagreeable. She made friends in the association, became a favorite of members who came to town and had a good way of guiding constituent comments back to the topic of concern without getting in their way. Most of all she was a friend and a person who used her warmth and charm to make others feel good.

Later on, even though her own family was still quite young, Kelly's effective leadership was again at the fore as she became a mentor mom to other young working mothers who learned to count on her as a source of wisdom on balancing work and family responsibilities. While her work was important to Kelly, family always came first. In the last hours of her fight, her thoughts were not about the business of continuing resolutions, issue briefs or committee assignments, but of simply ensuring that the right Christmas tree was brought home to her house so that her treasured children would have all that they needed for Christmas.

Kelly was a wonderful friend and colleague to so many, a trusted advocate on many issues, a loving wife, and a beautiful and enduring role model for her children. We have worried about and prayed for Kelly and her family during the course of her illness. We will continue to worry about and pray for her family as we all deal with the hole in our lives that comes from her passing. We know that her shoes will be impossible to fill; we are privileged to say that we were given the opportunity to call her a friend and colleague.

I am sure that many of my colleagues join me today in saying that our hearts go out to Kelly's husband Stewart, her three beautiful children, Carson (9), Halle (6) and Kendall (6), her loving family, and her friends, too numerous to count.

## RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF BOSCOV'S

### HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in partnership with my colleagues, Representative CHARLIE DENT, Representative PAT MEEHAN, and Representative JOE PITTS, to recognize Boscov's, one of the nation's largest family-owned department store chains, on the occasion of its 100th Anniversary.

Boscov's, headquartered in Berks County, Pennsylvania, was founded by Solomon Boscov in 1914 at 9th and Pike Streets in Reading, Pennsylvania. Solomon emigrated to the United States in 1911, purchased $8 worth of merchandise, and traveled on foot through Lancaster and Berks Counties selling his wares. Within a year, he had saved enough to purchase a horse and wagon and increase his inventory.

From these humble beginnings, Boscov's has grown to a chain of 43 stores in 6 states with a yearly revenue of over $1 billion. Currently headed by Solomon's son, Albert, who serves as Chairman and CEO, Boscov's is one of the last family-owned department store chains in the United States. In addition to offering fine merchandise at outstanding value, Albert Boscov has been a tireless advocate for the Greater Reading area and his devotion to the community, through civic and charitable activities, is unrivaled. Throughout its long and storied history, Boscov's has exemplified the notion that quality never goes out of style. And Albert has exemplified the principle of corporate leaders being involved in their community's life and reaching beyond the company office to help those in need.

Mr. Speaker, in recognition of its 100 years of faithful service to its customers and community, I and my Pennsylvania colleagues ask that the House join us today in recognizing Boscov's on the exciting occasion of its 100th Anniversary.

## OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was $10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is $17,991,068,498,107.32. We've added $7,364,191,449,194.24 to our debt in 5 years. This is over $7.3 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

## RECOGNIZING THE DESERT VISTA HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

### HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Girls Cross Country Team of Desert Vista High School in Phoenix, Arizona, home of the Thunder. On November 8, 2014, the team won the Division One State Championship in Cross Country, and the team's captain, Senior Dani Jones, set a new course record for Arizona.

This year, for the first time in Desert Vista High School history, the team qualified for the Nike Cross Nationals, a meet that brings together the fastest high school cross country teams and individuals from around the country. On Saturday December 6, 2014, the team took 5th place at this meet, and Dani Jones took 3rd place in the individual category.

This past year, I have had the great honor of running with the team during their early morning practices. The focus, dedication and spirit of these exceptional young women are inspiring.

Congratulations to the Desert Vista High School Girls Cross Country Team, to Team Captain Dani Jones, and to Head Coach Jeff Messer and his dedicated coaching staff. This amazing team consists of exceptional young female athletes, dedicated coaches, and supportive parents.

I am very proud to represent the students and families of Desert Vista High School, and I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the accomplishments of these remarkable young women.

## HONORING MR. TONY ROACH

### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable American Soldier, Sergeant First Class Tony Roach, a resident of Shaw, Mississippi.

Sergeant First Class Roach entered the Army Reserves on February 9, 1990, and completed Basic and Advanced Individual Training as an armor crewman at Fort Knox, Kentucky directly after graduating from Shaw High School. He was stationed at Fort Hood, Texas and Camp Shelby, Mississippi. His overseas assignment include Log Base Seitz in Iraq.

SFC Roach was deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, OIF 2004–2005, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, and Camp Shelby in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, OEF 2006–2014. Most recently, he served eight years as an Observer Controller Team Leader at Camp Shelby in Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

SFC Roach has served with overwhelming admiration at every level within a Tank Platoon to include: Tank Gunner, Tank Commander, Squad Leader and Platoon Sergeant. He has served as an Interim Observer Controller Team Leader, Battalion Operations Sergeant, and Observer Controller Group Leader.

His military education includes 19K (Tanker) OSUT, 88M (Truck Driver), Primary Leadership Development Course, Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course, Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Course, Basic Instructor Course, Recruiting and Retention School, Driver Training Course, Mind Resistant AP Instructor Course.

He furthered his civilian education at Coahoma Community College in Clarksdale, Mississippi where he graduated in 1999 with a technical certification in Barbering.

His awards and decorations include: the Army Commendation Medal, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal (3RD Award), National Defense Service Medal With Bronze Star (2ND Award), Iraqi campaign Medal with Campaign Star, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal with Campaign Star, Global War On Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, and Armed Forces Reserve Medal with M Device (2nd Award).

Sergeant First Class Roach has two daughters: Laliya and Brianna; and one son, Tony Cordale. Sergeant First Class Roach is the son of Freddy Bryant and Gloria Roach and has 6 siblings: Gloria, Dellia, Nicole, Lee, James, and Isaac.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing an amazing American Soldier.

## IN RECOGNITION OF THE SAN BRUNO CENTENNIAL

### HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the 100th birthday of the city of San Bruno, California, a city of about 40,000 residents spreading over 5.5 square miles between the flat lowlands near San Francisco Bay and the foothills of the Santa Cruz Mountains rising 700 feet above the Pacific Ocean. San Bruno is adjacent to San Francisco International Airport and bestrides the Golden Gate National Cemetery. San Bruno is located in my Congressional District and its scenic beauty and community life make it one of the most beloved cities on the Peninsula.

San Bruno is filled with natural beauty and stunning views of the ocean and bay. It has superb schools, a beautiful main city park, and top-notch businesses. The city has also contributed to popular culture and sports as it is the hometown of actress Suzanne Somers, soprano Luana DeVol, musician Ron ''Pigpen'' McKernan and three famous baseball players: Wally Bunker, Keith Hernandez and Pablo Sandoval.

Long before the city of San Bruno was incorporated, the Ohlone people lived in a village here named Urebure. In 1769, the area was explored by a Spanish expedition led by Gaspar de Portola, followed by a more extensive exploration by Bruno de Heceta. That second exploration resulted in the naming of San Bruno Creek which eventually gave the community its name.

When Mission San Francisco de Asis was established to the north, much of the land around today's San Bruno became pasture for livestock. Grazing continued even after the decline of the missions.

The city had its origins in Clark's Station, an 1849 inn that served as a stop on the Butterfield Overland Mail stagecoach route. This inn was eventually renamed Uncle Tom's Cabin. Significant development of San Bruno didn't begin until after the 1906 earthquake. The first public school was completed that year. The paving of California's first state highway, El Camino Real, began in 1912 in front of Uncle Tom's Cabin, eventually replaced by 14 Mile House and subsequently by other structures and businesses. In 1914, San Bruno was incorporated following a campaign by the San Bruno Herald, the local newspaper. Incorporation allowed more streets to be paved and the population rapidly grew from 1,500 residents in 1920 to 3,610 residents in 1930.

San Francisco International Airport opened in 1927. One of the first visitors to SFO was Charles Lindbergh after his historic transatlantic flight. More aviation history was made when Eugene Ely completed the first successful shipboard aircraft landing, taking off from San Bruno's Tanforan race track, and landing on the USS *Pennsylvania* anchored in San Francisco Bay.

Golden Gate National Cemetery was created in 1939 under the direction of the Presidio in San Francisco. Today, the cemetery is the hallowed final resting place of citizen soldiers who defended our freedom from World War II to the present. San Bruno annually honors their sacrifices through multiple ceremonies great and small. This is a community that cherishes those who gave their all so that all might live in freedom and at peace.

The era of World War II left a dark stain on American history in the form of the internment of Japanese American citizens. Tanforan race track became a temporary internment center. Today a memorial plaque at Tanforan mall serves as a reminder that we must learn from history and never again allow such an infringement on civil liberties.

After the war, San Bruno continued to grow. U.S. Route 101, the Bayshore freeway, opened in 1947. San Bruno high school students had to travel to San Mateo and Burlingame, but in 1950, San Bruno finally had its own high school, Capuchino. Capuchino was the school of a remarkable history teacher who soon entered the State Assembly and then the House of Representatives: Leo J. Ryan. Congressman Ryan loved Capuchino and would sometimes reflect on the lessons that he learned in the classroom from his bright, energetic San Bruno students.

In 1954, the city dedicated a library and city hall. Skyline College, a two year community college, was established in 1960. Later in the 60s, Interstate 280 and 380 were built making San Bruno further accessible and attractive to retail businesses. In 2003, the Bay Area Rapid Transit system extended further into San Mateo County, and a station was opened in San Bruno, further tying this town to others in our region. Just this year, a new train station opened, making rail transit from San Francisco to San Jose even more convenient for San Bruno residents and markedly improving cross-town mobility and safety.

Mr. Speaker, San Bruno's daily life is based upon families. Families go to its churches. Families flock to sporting events, including nationally-competitive youth baseball. Families play in San Bruno Park and walk throughout the community enjoying the small-town atmosphere that makes San Bruno so special. There might be some millionaires or someday perhaps even a billionaire living in San Bruno, but fundamentally the community is where American families live so that they may enjoy great schools and great fun amidst like-minded people dedicated to hard work, honest commerce, and civic engagement.

Its 40,000 residents are a wonderful mix of ethnic backgrounds and ages. Under the steady guidance of Mayor Jim Ruane and councilmembers Rico Medina, Ken Ibarra, Irene O'Connell and Michael Salazar, City Manager Connie Jackson and an amazing city staff, San Bruno has reached the remarkable age of 100 years and yet it is still in its youth. No challenge, not even a 2010 explosion that cost the lives of eight precious souls and changed the laws of this nation, can dampen the love of residents for this beautiful city.

Some like to define a city by its history, but I prefer to defy convention and to instead define it by the predominant characteristic of its residents. When people ask me to describe San Bruno I offer one word in reply: Optimism. It is the defining characteristic of those who create families, the defining characteristic of those who remain after their children have left, and the defining characteristic of a long series of public servants who have walked in the hills of San Bruno, gazed upon its boundaries, and seen only a bright future in the land that lies between a wonderful college in the hills, the grand city park in the south, the great bay to the east, and precious neighbors to the north. Optimism is the drummer boy in the parade of San Bruno's story.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to celebrate the centennial of San Bruno, California. Yesterday, the Ohlone made their livelihoods upon its shores. Today, America thrives in its bosom. Tomorrow, history will be the child of its remarkable citizenry. Congratulations San Bruno, you are America's heartland upon its western shore!

## THE ''LOST BATTALION''

### HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, over 72 years ago, the 2nd Battalion of the 131st Field Artillery Regiment (36th Division—Texas National Guard) gathered and met for the first time. The 2nd Battalion was predominately made up of a scrappy group of Northwest Texas farmhands who hailed from towns like Abilene, Wichita Falls and Lubbock. About a year after their initial encounter, the group was detached from its division in Texas and sent out west to the San Francisco Bay where they were told that they would soon be on route to PLUM, a code-name for a destination unknown to the boys from the prairie lands of Texas.

The 2nd Battalion arrived in Pearl Harbor a few days later on November 28, but immediately departed after being warned of a possible Japanese attack. The tragic prediction came true, and on December 7, 1941, the 2nd Battalion was informed that Pearl Harbor was indeed attacked by the Japanese and that the United States was now at war. After leaving Hawaii, the Battalion headed over to Brisbane, Australia, where they spent Christmas until boarding a Dutch ship and setting sail for Java, an island in the Dutch East Indies, shortly before New Year's Day. They arrived at Java on January 11 and stayed for nearly two months, sharing the island with troops from the Netherlands and Australia, among other allied countries.

After weeks of uncertainty, the boys started to grow restless as they pondered what their next assignment would be. Then, on February 28, their lives would change forever as they heard a quick succession of loud explosions. At this point explosions were sounding off faster than they could count and it became evident that the war's Pacific Theater was quickly encompassing their temporary island home of Java. As the melting pot of troops watched the horizon, they noticed something that appeared to be men swimming ashore. The dozens they first saw quickly turned into hundreds and the onshore troops soon learned that the men were all sailors aboard the USS *Houston* (a ship that was anchored nearby). The USS *Houston* was made up almost entirely of volunteers from the city of Houston, many of whom were just teenagers. That evening, Japanese forces surrounded and attacked the USS *Houston*, killing all but 368 of the 1,011 men aboard. The surviving sailors swam ashore, joined the 534 men of the 2nd Battalion, and would soon become known as the ''Lost Battalion.''

Though the allied troops on the beaches of Java held off for as long as they could, they finally succumbed to Japanese forces on March 8 after days of relentless, back-and-forth artillery fire. Within a matter of weeks, all of the remaining soldiers of the 2nd Battalion and the USS *Houston* were together at one camp as Japanese prisoners of war. This group of 902 men, nearly all of whom hailed from Texas, soon disappeared, not to be seen again for three and a half years. They would go on to be known as the ''Lost Battalion.''

For 42 months, these captured American sailors toiled away in different parts of Pacific Asia. Forced together through a tragic turn of events, these men banded together to overcome a set of truly awful circumstances. Physical beatings were daily and torture came to be expected. Hard labor and starvation were now part of their daily routines. But, perhaps the hardest part of it all was being separated from their families without any chance at communicating with them. Their wives, children, parents and siblings all believed they were dead. Though the Japanese camps attempted to make them wish for that fate, they never gave up hope. It was the memory of their families back in Texas that kept them going each day. Moving from island to island in the darkest, dampest bowels of the Japanese ships' smallest compartments, the men were treated like cattle. Then, once reaching their destinations they would be immediately forced into hard slave labor. Some built roads, some worked in Burmese jungles chopping down trees and some mined coal. One of the worst physical punishments was working on a railway that became known as ''The Railroad of Death.'' Working on this railroad amounted to constant torture. Over 70,000 allied soldiers died after being subjected to these horrible 20-plus hour work days. They were constantly starved, and when they did have the opportunity to eat, their food was rotten and full of insects. These men overcame slavery, torture,

malnutrition, beatings and diseases, and came out of the atrocity stronger than ever with a bond that would last a lifetime.

Liberation didn't come until the end of the war, and when it was all said and done, 163 of the 902 men had tragically lost their lives. Among these 163 were 89 from the 2nd Battalion of the 36th Division of the Texas National Guard and 74 sailors from the USS *Houston*. When the surviving men were finally liberated from their hell on earth, they headed back to Texas where a celebration in Wichita Falls was waiting for them. The boys from Texas had such a good time at the celebration that they decided to make it an annual get-together. They used this get-together to not only celebrate their families and lives, but to remember their 163 comrades who perished in Japanese war camps. Though they were now safe and back home with their families, many of them would go on to suffer from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. However, their mental fortitude helped them overcome many of the adversities they faced as POW's and then as victims of PTSD.

The lesson the ''Lost Battalion'' taught us, and continues to teach us each day, goes further than just patriotism. Their resiliency, friendship, and faith in each other and in God are all important values that would benefit every American individual who chooses to observe them.

The ''Lost Battalion'' is yet another group of that rare breed we call the Greatest Generation.

And that's just the way it is.

## SENATOR PAUL SIMON WATER FOR THE WORLD ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 8, 2014*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend Mr. BLUMENAUER and Mr. POE for their hard work on H.R. 2901, the Senator Paul Simon Water for the World Act. I am proud to be a cosponsor of this legislation, and was pleased to work closely with the bill's sponsors and Chairman ROYCE to bring the bill through our Foreign Affairs Committee and onto the floor today.

This legislation enjoys broad support from a coalition of nearly 80 civil society groups that are dedicated to developing access to clean water around the world, and it has more than 100 bipartisan cosponsors in the House.

Congress has long been committed to making the United States a global leader in improving access to water, sanitation, and hygiene. America and its international partners have provided clean water to millions of the world's poorest people. This investment has saved countless lives, but there is much more work to be done.

More than 750 million people still lack access to clean water. Twenty percent of the global population remains dependent on water that is either polluted or drastically overdrawn. Two and a half billion do not have proper sanitation facilities. Nearly 1 in every 5 deaths among children under age 5 are caused by water-related diseases, and 3.4 million people die from inadequate water, sanitation, and hygiene every year. These problems are not merely social injustices but pose a significant obstacle to security and economic prosperity across wide regions of the world.

This bill will make our existing water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) programs more effective by establishing priorities and focusing on areas with the greatest need and the most potential. It will enhance oversight and coordination by requiring the designation of a Global Water Coordinator at USAID and a Global Water Advisor at the Department of State, and it will update strategic planning by calling for an improved Global Water Strategy. These changes will enhance the investments we are already making through USAID and the Department of State.

Through these steps, H.R. 2901 will help ensure that our water development programs continue to save lives and improve health for millions of people in need around the world. I encourage my colleagues to support this important bill and hope the other body will give this legislation the expedited consideration it deserves.

## CONGRATULATING ZUPPARDI APIZZA ON ITS 80TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to rise today to join the West Haven community in extending my sincere congratulations to the Zuppardi family as they celebrate the 80th Anniversary of their restaurant, and cherished local treasure, Zuppardi's Apizza.

As you may know, New Haven and many of its surrounding communities are well known for their Italian cuisine—particularly for our pizza. Zuppardi's Apizza has been a local favorite since its opening eight decades ago. Like so many other businesses in and around New Haven, Zuppardi's speaks to the immigrant experience. Domenico Zuppardi, an immigrant from Maiori, Italy arrived in New Haven in 1921 with little more than a dream and a talent for the family business, bread. He worked as a bread baker with family members before moving to West Haven in 1934, where he opened his own business, Salerno Bakery. His specialty was bread and pizza. Joined by his son, Anthony, upon his return from the Navy in 1946, they opened Zuppardi's Apizza as an extension of the bakery. Though both flourished, in later years Anthony made the decision to keep his focus on the pies and the rest, as they say is history.

Zuppardi's Apizza is a family business in every sense of the word. Anthony and his wife, Frances, lived above the restaurant, and their children spent their free time watching, learning, and working there. Now run by those third and fourth generations, Zuppardi's Apizza is the 7th oldest continuously run family pizzeria in the country, and the 2nd oldest existing pizzeria in Connecticut. Just last year, ''The Special,'' a pie made with mozzarella, mushrooms, and their homemade sausage, made the Daily Meal's list of 101 Best Pizzas in the nation, coming in at #50. ''The Special'' was named by Anthony and Frances Zuppardi and has never changed. Zuppardi's also offers not one but two clam pizzas—white, of course—just make sure you specify canned or fresh shucked when ordering. With all of this history, the family has also created a niche by selling hundreds of frozen pizzas to customers around the country each month.

Anthony Zuppardi had a simple philosophy ''The last bite has to be as good as the first when people eat our pizza.'' Today, his daughters Lori and Cheryl still hold true to that simple message. Customers are valued and they take pride in putting forth a quality pizza. That is what makes Zuppardi's so special. I am happy to rise today to join the West Haven community in extending my heartfelt congratulations to Lori, Cheryl, and the entire Zuppardi family as they mark this remarkable milestone. Happy 80th Anniversary!

## HONORING MASTER SERGEANT CHARLES E. MILLER

### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable American Soldier, Master Sergeant Charles Miller, a resident of Clarksdale, Mississippi.

Master Sergeant Charles E. Miller started his military career, June 1978, at Fort McClellan, Alabama. Master Sergeant Miller was in the first group of Soldiers to participate in the One Station Unit Training (OSUT), this program entailed Soldiers going through Basic Training and Military Occupation Specialty (MOS) training, at the same military post with the same Drill Sergeants. After completing basic training and his military occupation specialty training in January 1978, he is now qualified to be a Military Policeman (MP). Master Sergeant Miller was stationed at Fort Sill, Oklahoma as a Military Policeman, with the 546th MP Company. After 18 months at Fort Sill, Oklahoma Master Sergeant Miller received orders to report to Baumholder, West Germany, as a Physical Security Specialist. At the end of June 1981, MSG Miller ended his time in service, receiving an honorable discharge.

In January 1982, MSG Miller re-enlisted in the U.S. Army at Fort Dix, New Jersey, to attend Truck Driving School. March 1982, after successfully completing the Truck Driver School, he was reassigned to the 66th Engineer (ADM) Company, Fort Hood, Texas. December 1983, MSG Miller was reassigned to Charlie Company 249th Engineer BN., Karlsruhe, West Germany. December 1986, he returned stateside where he was discharged with an Honorable Discharge.

Master Sergeant Miller still wanted to serve his country so he enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserve, 479th Ordinance Company, Lyon Mississippi. The 479th ORD. CO. was activated to active duty, September 1990 to support the Gulf War. The 479th Ord. Co., arrived in Saudi Arabia, November 1990. In July 1991, the 479th ORD. Company returned home to receive a Heroes' Welcome.

In July 2001, Master Sergeant Miller was transferred to the 412th Engineer Command, Vicksburg, Mississippi. April 2006, Master Sergeant Miller was called to active duty to support Operation Iraqi Freedom where he was

stationed at Baghdad, Iraqi. In April 2008, Master Sergeant Miller returned home.

Master Sergeant Miller took the position as First Sergeant (1SG), April 2012, with the 4/323rd REGT, this is a Drill Sergeant Unit, U.S. Army Reserve. Master Sergeant Miller recalls when he was stationed in Germany, assigned to the 249th ENG BN, his First Sergeant at the time asked him if he wanted to go to Drill Sergeant School and he declined. Master Sergeant Miller wishes today that his First Sergeant would have asked him several times and given him more information on becoming a Drill Sergeant. In the reserve component the First Sergeant is just the manager of the unit, he or she does not have to be a Drill Sergeant.

As of March 17, 2014, Master Sergeant Miller is now re-assigned to the 412th Theater Engineer Command, Vicksburg, Mississippi. He speaks highly about the 412th Theater Command, he says, he is now back home. Master Sergeant Miller is fully aware that his military career is now coming to an end, and when he does retire it will be a difficult transition. Serving in the military was never a mistake to him, it is a privilege which he is so glad that he took advantage of to serve our great country.

Master Sergeant Miller has numerous military occupation specialties, he is qualified as an Army Maintenance Management System Clerk, Prescribed Load List Clerk, Ammunition Specialist, Transportation Operator, Military Police, Physical Security Specialist, and Supply Specialist.

During Master Sergeant Miller's military career, he has received numerous awards, not listed in prestigious order to include: Meritorious Service Medal, Army Occupation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Army Overseas Service Ribbons, Army Good Conduct Medal, Army Reserve Overseas Training Ribbons, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Army NCO Professional, Development Ribbon, Army Service Ribbon, Southwest Asia Service Ribbons and Drivers Badge.

Master Sergeant Miller is married to Mrs. Florine Miller and they have 3 daughters: Lakechia, Tiffany, and Alexis; one son, French and 6 grandchildren. Master Sergeant Miller is son of Eddie & Evelyn Brown, and Willard Hughes and has 2 sisters: Jackie and Shelia; and 5 brothers: Willous, Allen, Reginald, Michael and Willard.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a distinguished American Soldier.

## HONORING THE NEW PALESTINE HIGH SCHOOL DRAGONS

### HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the New Palestine High School Dragons on their first state football championship.

The Dragons faced off against the New Prairie Cougars on November 28th at Lucas Oil Stadium. During their first appearance in the Indiana state football finals in more than 20 years, the team made their mark by breaking the record for total points, total yards, and most touchdowns and extra points. In the end, the Dragons won the Class 4A state final 77–42 over the Cougars.

I am proud of these young men for not only their remarkable win, but also for the Hoosier sportsmanship that they each displayed throughout the game. Their dedication to excellence and their perseverance was evident not just in this game, but throughout the entire 2014 season. I want to commend Coach Kyle Ralph and all of the assistant coaches who led these young men through this historic season.

I want to again congratulate the New Palestine Dragons on both their hard-earned victory in the state finals, as well as on their record-breaking 2014 football season. I look forward to hearing about the accomplishments of each of these young men in the future, and I wish the Dragons the best of luck in the 2015 season.

## IN RECOGNITION OF LEN STONE

### HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Len Stone who is departing the Pacifica City Council after serving with distinction during these past four years.

Mr. Stone is a local business owner and resident of Pacifica since 2002. He and his wife, Jessica, have two young children. In addition to his service to the community while on the city council, Len Stone served for five years on the Board of Directors of the Pacifica Chamber of Commerce.

Pacifica is a city nestled between the Pacific Ocean and the hills. Its young families are energetic and often part of Silicon Valley's high tech businesses. Its longtime residents are rightfully proud of many traditions of environmental protection that have shaped modern Pacifica. Newer residents move to Pacifica to enjoy the ocean, Pacifica's great beaches, its strong schools and its natural beauty.

During his four years on the Pacifica City Council, Len Stone focused tirelessly on all of the qualities of Pacifica that make it a special place in this nation. He led the effort to improve economic development. He successfully sought to have an economic development director position created in city government. He worked to recruit new businesses to town, and he wanted to expand the tax base by filling the vacant storefronts that sometimes exist in shopping centers and shopping areas in this marvelous community.

Len is deeply committed to making Pacifica a destination for more people from outside the community, and so his support of tourism is energetic. To this end, he and another councilmember recently negotiated an option on land that will, if purchased and improved, fill the missing link in the coastal trail. With the opening of the Devil's Slide trail just south of Pacifica, the city is an even greater magnet for tourists seeking vigorous, outside excursions. During both his term as mayor and while on the council, Len sought to position Pacifica as an unrivaled place to bring a family for an outdoor adventure.

Len joined the city council during the worst economic downturn in modem times. This downturn hit Pacifica's tax base hard. Residents had to leave town to do major shopping and to enjoy entertainment options such as movies. The city's budget, never flush, was in deficit. Len sought to balance the budget and to retain needed services. As a businessperson, he was aware that new ways of doing things were needed to help close the deficit. It is difficult for a community to change, but if any community can pull together to find solutions, I have faith that Pacifica is that community. Len, who participated in countless budget and study sessions, demonstrated the energy that many Pacifica residents possess when confronted with challenges.

Mr. Speaker, it is never easy or simple to serve in local government. If times are good then your neighbors expect a great deal. If times are not so great then your neighbors wonder why you are shuttering a popular local field or laying off longtime personnel or considering changes in the services of the city. Len Stone is an example of local councilmembers throughout our nation: he is smart, tenacious, and deeply committed to the community that he serves at great expense to his personal time and family life. Please join with me in honoring the public service of Len Stone, departing city councilmember of Pacifica. Thankfully, he will retire from public life but not from the community that he and his family love. Pacifica will therefore continue to have the talents of this resourceful young man to call upon in the years to come.

## S. 1691: ''BORDER PATROL AGENT PAY REFORM ACT OF 2014''

### HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 1691, the Border Patrol Agent Pay Reform Act of 2014.

This measure would replace the current antiquated overtime system used by the Border Patrol and create a new pay system that results in more hours worked on the border, provides more reliable schedules and paychecks for agents, and saves taxpayers millions of dollars each year.

As Chairman of the Border and Maritime Security Subcommittee, I have been focused on increasing border security efforts along our long and porous border and supporting the men and women of the U.S. Border Patrol who defend our nation against drug and human smugglers and others who would do us harm.

This measure supports that effort.

The men and women who secure our borders often work alone, in very remote locations on the border. They cannot simply punch a clock at the end of their shift if they are in pursuit of illicit border crossers. Instead they work irregular hours to track and apprehend dangerous criminal aliens.

This bill will allow front line supervisors to better manage agents' work schedules, saving taxpayers millions of dollars each year. In fact, according to the Congressional Budget Office, this bill will save taxpayers up to $100 million a year.

Last year, the Office of Special Counsel issued a scathing report about the misuse and

abuse of the current overtime system by Customs and Border Protection. This legislation will end such abuse in the future, at the same time increasing the number of hours the Border Patrol can secure the border, which is the equivalent of adding an additional 1,500 Border Patrol agents.

With additional hours on the border, our nation will be more secure as additional agent hours will help gain control of the border, carry out additional law enforcement missions, and apprehend dangerous criminals.

Mr. Speaker, the mission carried out by the men and women of the Border Patrol is extremely dangerous—more than one hundred agents have given their lives protecting our nation.

We owe it to them to give them a stable, predicable paycheck that takes into account the irregular nature of the arduous work they do every day on the border.

So, I want to commend the leadership of the Chief of the Border Patrol, Michael Fisher, and the Deputy Chief of the Border Patrol, Ronald Viteillo, for their commitment to finding sustainable reforms for agent pay, while also improving the security of our border.

I urge my colleagues to support this common sense bill that saves the taxpayers millions of dollars.

## HONORING TOMMY ''MR. NOTTIE'' GUNNS, JR.

### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man of noble character from Shaw, MS in Bolivar County.

I believe that when you give honor and recognition to someone they should truly deserve it. I am always happy when I meet someone or hear their story about overcoming, rising from obscurity, coming from meager beginnings but leaving a legacy although unaware; which doesn't get the recognition and thanks it really deserves. This is why I want to honor Mr. Tommy Gunns, Jr. a man of ''noble'' character.

Childhood: Nottie was originally from Egypt, MS in Chickasaw County, MS. He was born in the year 1900 to Mr. Tommy Gunns, Sr. and Mrs. Alberta Gunns. Nottie was raised in a home with his mother, his only sister named Alma, and his stepfather, ''Mr. Brick''. His parents were sharecroppers and struggled; which was the backdrop for an unstable home environment that easily led to abuse. And Nottie was often times the one subjected to the abuse (verbal and physical) by his stepfather. Since his mother would not protect him and because of years of abuse, he developed the drive early in life to want ''better,'' so he planned to run away, someday. In his plan, he always included Alma, his young sister.

The day came when he ran away and took Alma with him, never returning home. Nottie ran away and arrived in Shaw, MS in 1914. He was a young teenager when he ran away. When Nottie arrived in Shaw, he worked as many odd jobs as he could find and raised his sister alone; vowing to never let anyone else abuse him or his little sister. In fact, he was so protective of her that he never eased up until he had approved of the man she married. He had to be assured the man was not abusive and was a good provider for Alma.

A Young Man and Family Man: As a young man working in Shaw he was able to acquire many skills and a reputation as a fast learner, hard worker, and a person of good moral character, which equated to a nonsense type of reputation. He was still determined to have a better life and wanted to be respected and treated like a man so he carried himself like a man. Nottie eventually earned that reputation and people began calling him Mr. Nottie or Mr. Gunns. Some of the jobs he worked included driving trucks to haul logs, a loader at the Shaw lumber yard, and sharecropping as a small farmer. While working at the Shaw lumber yard, he learned the skill of carpentry; and became known as a master carpenter around Shaw. Everyone wanted him to do their work.

Mr. Gunns eventually met and married, Nancy Hunt of Shaw, MS. The couple had ten children, 2 died shortly after child birth. Mr. Gunns wanted a big loving family that was full of happy times but serious about life. He directed his journey and based goals in life on his childhood, all that he never had, he was determined to experience before dying. His and Nancy's children are Berna ''BB'' Gunns-Williams, Nathaniel ''Baby Sister'' Gunns-Clark, Tommy ''Win'' Gunns, Jr. (although he is the 3rd), Christine Gunns-Gardner, Torries Gunns, Maurine ''Morgan'' Gunns-Gray, Shirley Ann ''Shelly'' Gunns-Juette, and Lonnie Lee Gunns.

As a husband, father, and community member, Mr. Gunns saw the need to become more involved. You see he wanted to be a role model for his children; he wanted to make sure they had a good upbringing and education, so he felt he needed to get involved in the community and help make it happen. Mr. Gunns served as a volunteer fireman for the city. He wasn't trying to be a hero or win a popularity campaign; he just wanted a better life for his children. Mr. Gunns number one priority was education for all colored children.

Since he was very vocal about education he was asked to become a member of the Board of Trustees for the Shaw Colored School.

The Shaw Colored School only educated children to the 8th grade. Beyond 8th grade the colored children had to travel to Greenville or surrounding towns for a high school education. Mr. Gunns helped changed that. He convinced the Board of Trustees to agree to vote on establishing a curriculum for 9th through 12th grades for Shaw students to be able to get their high school education. So, under his tutelage the first high school graduating class from the Shaw Colored High School was in 1949.

How did he do it? Mr. Gunns had an unyielding faith. That was the same faith that brought him as a young teenage runaway with his little sister, Alma, safely to Shaw, MS during the early 1900s. His faith in God provided him with jobs to take care of himself and his sister as a young boy, alone in the Mississippi Delta. His ability to pick up on things and learn fast paid off because he became that master carpenter. His daughter, Maurine said he could build a house from the ground up. He was a devoted member and deacon of the Strangers Home M.S. Church in Shaw, where he was laid to rest for eternity. And those trying times were no match for his common sense, the old folks called it ''mother wit'' for survival. It was the foundation of his approach on how to survive in life:

Financial Policy—never spend all your money. Save some for a rainy day.

Child Rearing—everybody has a role and place. Only adults are in charge and children are to stay in their place and do as they are told. He called it his no nonsense approach to raising children. He would often paraphrase Proverbs 13:24, by saying ''Spare the rod and spoil the child.''

Preparation—your future depends on your education. ''All my children are going to college. I had enough children to work and chip in to help pay for everyone's college,'' he would say.

The End: The first of Mr. Gunns' children to go to college was Berna at the age of 16. This was made possible by two reasons: (1) everyone in the family picked and chopped cotton, and (2) his financial policy of saving money. The children all knew their earnings went to their parents to help provide for the family and save for college. Berna went to Tuskegee Institute in 1950 in Tuskegee, AL. Berna graduated before he died. He was able to see the first of his children to get a college education. His daughter, Berna remembers her father and mother faces as they watched her graduate with all her sisters and brothers watching as well. They knew they had to do it too. Berna went on to become a self-employed, self-made millionaire. She started her own company ''Scrubbles Janitorial Service'' in her home and grew it to become a multi-million dollar company in Washington, DC. She was able to live that better life because of her fathers' determination to clear the path.

Mr. Gunns didn't live to see another one of his children to go to college, he died in 1954 but he had already planted the seeds for success. Everyone in the family knew their place and role. Mrs. Gunns, his wife and eldest daughter, Berna carried on his mantra for every child of his going to college. Mrs. Gunns continued to work as the cafeteria manager and cook for the Shaw Colored School.

Tommy, his eldest son, became the father figure for his siblings. Since his father had taught him the carpentry trade, Tommy was able to get his father's job at the Shaw Lumber Yard. It was a year later in 1958 that he got the job because graduating from high school was priority in 1957. The family never missed a check; he knew the money was going to help pay for his siblings to finish high school and attend college. Tommy eventually went to college in 1959 by getting a job with Mississippi Vocational College (now called Mississippi Valley State University-MVSU) driving the school bus picking up students in Bolivar and Sunflower County. That was one of the ways he was able to pay his way through college, as well as it served as his transportation to and from the College. The other way was when Dean Isaac offered him a work study job to help build other buildings on campus (i.e., the auditorium, and campus maintenance) because he had seen his work as a student. As a requirement for graduation, Tommy had to build something to show he had mastered his trade. But the requirement was reconsidered when he drove his instructor to Shaw and showed him the house he built along with the blueprint he had drawn. When asked how, Tommy told him ''My Dad is a master carpenter and he taught me this stuff a long time ago.'' That house was for his best

friend, Roy Magee and the family still lives there. In fact, Tommy still has the blueprints he drew. Tommy was a part of the team that built the first house on campus for the first president of Mississippi Valley State University, Dr. James H. White. The house now serves as the National Alumni House on the campus of the University. Tommy did not graduate until 1964 because of split session with his degree in Industrial Arts. He became the Industrial Art instructor for the Shaw School District, working for 30 years until his retirement.

All of Mr. Gunns' children went to college and became very successful in their own rights with good jobs, homes, cars, money to send their children to college, and blessed to see retirement, etc. But Benam and Tommy stood out as the oldest daughter and son after their father's death. As for Mr. Gunns master carpentry skills, his son, Tommy and grandson, Undra Gunns (son of Torries and Dorothy Washington-Gunns) acquired that skill. So, he lives on in many ways and in many accomplishments without even trying to do so, he left a legacy.

One more mention on how did he do it? Mr. Gunns received only a 2nd grade education. He never learned to read or write. But, his stepfather, "Mr. Brick" taught him how to count. And passed that on to his children by teaching them how to add, subtract, multiply, and divide. That's all he could do in terms of academics. It was his faith in God, his common sense, determination, and ability to count money and perform mathematical operations in his head, and serve on the school board, which sparked change in education in Shaw. All those things got him through life and he was destined to accomplish the things he did. "If you don't walk in purpose, you won't walk in destiny. Find your purpose in life and walk it out" (Quote by: Farrah Gray). Now, that's how he did it.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the legacy of Tommy "Mr. Nottie" Gunns, Jr. from the Second Congressional District of Mississippi.

## IN RECOGNITION OF CAROL KLATT

### HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Daly City Vice-Mayor Carol Klatt, who after serving on the City Council for 21 years, will be retiring on December 2, 2014.

Carol's commitment to Daly City can be traced back to 1965, when she served as a Girl Scout Leader, fostering good citizenship among Daly City's next generation of women leaders. In 1980, Carol was elected as the President and Secretary of the Serramonte Homeowners Association, and that same year she started to follow the City Council's activities closely. Then in 1991, Carol's enduring commitment to serve the Daly City community resulted in her appointment to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Carol continued to serve on the Parks and Recreation Commission until she was appointed by the City Council to fill the unexpired term of former Councilmember Jane Powell in 1993. Carol was first elected in a special election to the City Council in June of 1994 and re-elected later that year in November. She was re-elected in 1998, 2002, 2006, and 2010.

During Carol's 21 years on the City Council, she served as Mayor five times, and earned a reputation as one of the hardest working elected officials in San Mateo County. She has served on numerous local, county and regional boards like the Association of the Bay Area Governments (ABAG), the Bay Air Quality Management District, the Clean Community Committee, the Anti-Graffiti Committee, the Airport Land Use Committee, the Airport Roundtable, the Daly City Host Lions, the Mission Street Merchants Association, and the North Peninsula Food Pantry & Dining Center of Daly City, just to name a few.

While on the City Council, Carol served with numerous Daly City Mayors like Al Teglia, Mike Nevin, and Adrienne Tissier, each of whom had a tremendous impact on San Mateo County. As you can see from her numerous volunteer and civic endeavors, Carol Klatt has her own proud legacy of county achievements, and she currently serves with Mayor David Canepa, Councilmember Mike Guingona, Councilmember Sal Torres, and Councilmember Ray Buenaventura.

Daly City was born out of a small town known as Vista Grande over one hundred years ago. Vista Grande was a town of about two thousand people, made up mostly of refugees from the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire. The name Daly City was chosen to honor John D. Daly, a local farmer who opened his land to refugees of the disaster.

Today, Daly City is home to a Bay Area-wide rail system, a developing shopping center, and a population of more than 100,000 residents. The city prides itself on its ethnic diversity, with many newcomers from Asia and Central or South American nations. Daly City is known as the Gateway of the Peninsula, as Carol Klatt regularly reminds residents and visitors.

Carol has not only been a friend to me, but to everyone seeking advice on the daily activities occurring in the city. I am sure Carol will be missed dearly by her city council colleagues and countless Daly City residents. I want to wish Carol and her husband John a happy retirement as they move to their new home in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Nelson Mandela once said: "What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived. It is what difference we have made to the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life we lead." Carol's life exemplifies the way one should meet this standard.

I ask that the House of Representatives rise with me to commend Carol Klatt for her many years of outstanding public service to the community she loves. Daly City returns her love with the same gusto as a player at the tables proclaiming a royal flush—loudly and with great pride. Las Vegas may be getting Carol Klatt as a resident, but she will remain the Queen of Hearts in Daly City.

## CELEBRATING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF PROENGLISH

### HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 20th anniversary of ProEnglish, a national grassroots organization based in Arlington, VA.

ProEnglish works on Capitol Hill, in the states, in the courts, and in the court of public opinion to defend English as our common language and to make it the official language at all levels of government.

ProEnglish is an effective and vigorous advocate for English language unity, and for the past 20 years, ProEnglish has worked hard to stop harmful, divisive policies such as bilingual education and multilingual ballots.

At the time of their founding, only 18 states had passed laws establishing English as the official language, yet thanks to ProEnglish along with other patriots, 31 states and countless towns, cities, and counties have official English laws today.

Originally founded in 1994 as English Language Advocates, it was renamed ProEnglish and helped defend Arizona's state official English law. This law was the subject of a 10-year long federal court challenge, Arizonans for Official English v. Arizona (1997). The case was eventually appealed all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court, and the ruling there was important in upholding official English laws in other states.

ProEnglish has filed amicus curiae briefs in a number of successful landmark English cases, including Home v. Flores (2009), where the U.S. Supreme Court found that bilingual education (where children are segregated by language and taught primarily in their native tongue) was not the most effective way of teaching children.

In Anderson v. Utah (2001), ProEnglish successfully argued in defense of a year 2000 official English ballot initiative that passed by 67% of the popular vote. This ballot initiative declared English as Utah's official language.

ProEnglish has even come to the aid of various small business owners, like Richard and Shauna Kidman in EEOC v. Kidmans (2002), who were bullied by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) for implementing lawful English-language workplace policies.

The organization has testified before Congress and various local and state legislatures with the goal of restoring the Melting Pot principle inherent in having a common language. Our common English language has helped make the U.S. the most successful multi-ethnic and multi-racial nation on earth.

Over 90% of the world's nations have an established official language, but despite the high levels of public support, the United States is not one of them. Polls continue to show that immigrants—like all Americans—support official English in overwhelming numbers.

The vast majority of Americans agree that official English laws are necessary to prevent waste, protect freedom, and protect national unity. Official English laws are nondiscriminatory, because they treat all Americans, of whatever background, alike.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize ProEnglish for its 20th anniversary. I ask all of my distinguished colleagues to join me in commending ProEnglish on its commitment to preserve English's role as the nation's unifying tongue.

## SOUL SANCTUARY OF THE DESERT 10TH ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON

### HON. DAVID SCHWEIKERT

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Soul Sanctuary of the Desert and the Heart and Soul Luncheon. This month, the Sanctuary is celebrating ten years of helping at-risk families in the community break the cycle of substance abuse and domestic violence. The dedicated volunteers and sponsors who make rehabilitation possible will be honored at the Luncheon. I commend the Soul Sanctuary of the Desert and all those who have participated in this important work in the last ten years.

## RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE NICK JOE RAHALL

### HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career of our distinguished colleague from West Virginia, the Honorable NICK JOE RAHALL.

NICK, the current Ranking Member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and former Chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee, was first elected to Congress in 1976.

Born in West Virginia, NICK tirelessly worked to improve the lives of his constituents and remained firmly committed to the economic development of his state.

His dedication to our country's transportation and infrastructure systems led him to be a key architect of many transportation reauthorizations, including the Transportation equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA 21).

Having served in this body since 1977, NICK understands the value of bipartisanship and being able to work with all members, regardless of their party. As such, NICK never let a party label stand in the way of good policy.

NICK's friendship and professionalism will be greatly missed and I wish him the best of luck in all his future endeavors.

## HONORING DR. SAMUEL O. OSUNDE

### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Samuel Osunde, who is a remarkable Leader, Director and Public Servant.

Dr. Samuel Osunde received his Ph.D. in Mass Communication from Howard University in Washington D.C. Dr. Osunde has more than 28 years of professional, academic and administrative experience. From 1986 to 1989 he served as the Special Assistant to the President for special projects at Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

While in Baton Rouge, Louisiana Dr. Osunde served as the Creative Director/Senior Copywriter for Partnership Advertising and Ampoule Advertising Companies. He has produced numerous copywriting for advertisements, publicity packets for release to television, radio, and newspapers, has created visualized concepts for product advertising and serves as advertising consultant to mass media companies throughout the United States, Europe and Africa.

Dr. Osunde's research interests include "The Role of Mass Media in Perception Influence," "Media Effects Theory," "Intercultural/International Communication" and "Mass Communication Development". His professional memberships include: Mississippi Communication Association, National Communication Association, Speech Communication Association and the American Communication Association.

Dr. Osunde is the recipient of many academic and professional awards that include, President's Scholar, Chancellor's Scholar Teaching Fellow and the Certificate of Commendation for Outstanding Scholastic Achievement.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing an Outstanding Professor, Leader and Extraordinaire, Dr. Samuel O. Osunde, for his dedication to serving others and giving back to the African American community.

## TRIBUTE TO MR. HORACE E. STACY, JR.

### HON. MIKE McINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Horace E. Stacy, Jr., of Lumberton, North Carolina, for his commitment and service to his community, state, and nation. Mr. Stacy is a veteran, public servant, community leader, honorable attorney, devoted family man, and he has been both a mentor to me and a dear friend to my family. I ask you to join me in recognizing his long and honorable career.

As Helen Sharpe and Bob Horne note in their article in The Robesonian, Horace was born to Horace and Lillian Stacy in my hometown of Lumberton, North Carolina, on September 14, 1929. Horace attended Lumberton High School where he started at offensive and defensive left guard on the football team. After graduation from Lumberton High in 1946, Horace began college at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He graduated in 1950 with an English degree after being inducted into the Order of the Golden Fleece, UNC's most selective honor society.

Horace went on to begin law school at UNC shortly after the Korean War started and after only one semester enlisted in the U.S. Air Force to serve his country. He attended the Air Force language school at Syracuse University for one year, where he learned to read, write, and speak Russian. While stationed in Germany during the Cold War he was a member of a security squadron monitoring Russian aircraft.

Horace returned to law school at UNC in 1954 and graduated in 1956. He was on the staff of The North Carolina Law Review and President of Phi Alpha Delta, a law school service and social fraternity. During his final year of law school he met Miss Joan Purser, whom he would go on to marry in 1957.

Horace joined McLean & Stacy law firm, where I would later practice early in my own legal career under his kind and knowledgeable mentorship. A brilliant jurist, Horace became a prominent attorney in general practice, both criminal and civil. He also became a distinguished civic leader. In 1964, the Mayor and Lumberton City Council appointed him to chair the first Tri-Racial Committee to help prepare for the pending enactment of the Civil Rights Act.

Notably, Horace has been an effective advocate for our state and local libraries. He served as President of Friends of the Robeson County Public Library, has been a library trustee since 1998 and was honored as the Public Library Trustee of the Year in our state in 2010. In 2004, North Carolina Governor Mike Easley appointed Horace to be a member of the State Library Commission of North Carolina, which he would chair for two years. The State Library is the main depository for North Carolina state publications and provides state government agencies with information critical to the formation of public policy.

Horace served as President of the Robeson County Bar Association in 1970. He was a member of the state Board of Law Examiners for 23 years and Chairman for five years. He served on numerous committees of the North Carolina Bar Association and in 2002 was inducted into the General Practice Hall of Fame. Ever a Tar Heel at heart, Horace also served as District Chairman of the Morehead Scholarship Selection Committee.

Driven by love for his community and its people, Horace served as President of the Lumberton Jaycees in 1964 and 1965, and also chaired the Southeastern Regional Medical Center Foundation from 1998 to 2000. In 2005, he was instrumental in the founding of the Robeson County Community Foundation, which raises money and awards grants to nonprofit organizations. Horace's tireless service to his community through these and other leadership roles has resulted in his being revered as "the Dean of Lumberton." Appropriately, he was selected to speak on behalf of Lumberton when the city won the All-America City Award in 1970.

A true brother in Christ, Horace has held several offices in Trinity Episcopal Church and served as chancellor of the Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina from 1970 to 1980.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the service, goodness, humility, and character that defines Horace E. Stacy, Jr. His life has created a legacy of civic service that will benefit the citizens of Robeson County and North Carolina for years to come. His personal mentorship and friendship has been a blessing to my family and me, but we are not alone. Horace Stacy gives of himself freely and inspires goodness in all who know him. May God bestow His richest blessings upon Horace and Joan Stacy, their three children, Robin, Jody and Mark, and their six grandsons.

## TRIBUTE TO MONTY HALL

### HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great humanitarian and philanthropist, Monty Hall.

Monty Hall is widely known for his iconic work in daytime television, but what many Americans don't know is that he has spent his life engaged in philanthropic work. Monty Hall has traveled extensively throughout the United States, Canada, and Europe and raised an estimated $1 billion for charities. He has been honored with more than 500 awards for his tireless work.

In 1975, Monty Hall was elected President of the world's largest children's charity, Variety Clubs International, and in 1981 he was honored with the lifetime title of International Chairman. In 1988, he was awarded the prestigious Order of Canada for his humanitarian works around the world. In 2002, he was inducted into the Order of Manitoba. For the past 35 years, he has hosted the annual Monty Hall/Cedars-Sinai Tennis Tournament to benefit the Diabetes Center and Pancreatic Cancer Program.

It is a tribute to Monty Hall's commitment that the children's wings of four hospitals—UCLA Medical Center, Hahnemann Hospital in Philadelphia, Mount Sinai in Toronto, and Johns Hopkins in Baltimore—all bear his name.

Monty Hall has received honorary doctorates from the University of Manitoba, Haifa University in Israel, and Hahnemann Medical College. He and Marilyn, his beloved wife of 66 years, have three children and five grandchildren.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Monty Hall for his tremendous contributions, which have made lives better for countless individuals in our nation and around the world.

## COMMEMORATING THE PASSAGE OF H.R. 2901, THE PAUL SIMON WATER FOR THE WORLD ACT OF 2014

### HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, nearly three-and-a-half years ago, Congressman TED POE and I set out on a joint effort to increase access to clean drinking water and sanitation for the world's poorest. His commitment to work together on this effort was for all of the right reasons. The most important, however, was his clear understanding that politics stops at water.

And last night, our years of work and shared efforts were rewarded when the House passed the bipartisan Senator Paul Simon Water for the World Act.

My efforts began over a decade ago, and were encouraged by the late Senator Paul Simon, the namesake of this bill and my 2005 Water for the Poor Act. It's fitting that on this day—the anniversary of his passing on December 9, 2003—Congress would honor his memory by considering a bill that aims to fulfill one of his greatest passions. This country owes him a great deal for his vision and foresight. Thank you, Senator Paul Simon, and to his wife, Patti, who continues to support his important work.

The passage of the Water for the World Act is historic.

Never before has the U.S. had a Global Water Strategy for how to effectively deal with growing water scarcity in all corners of the world. We now have a blueprint on how to help those in need, while at the same time planning for, and then implementing, efforts to prevent and mitigate water-related conflict. The U.S. can no longer afford to play a modest role, and instead must take up the mantle of leadership. This bill ensures that will happen.

None of this would have been possible if it weren't for efforts of literally thousands of people all across the country that took action and urged Congress to pass the Water for the World Act. In October, I joined CHARLIE DENT and over 60,000 of our closest friends in Central Park for a rally calling on Congress to act on this critical legislation. It worked.

The Water for the World Act was endorsed by over 80 NGOs, nearly half of whom are faith-based organizations. While all played a critical role, there are a few that deserve individual recognition.

Going all the way back to 2005, we would have barely moved the needle if it weren't for Malcolm Morris and Mark Winter of Living Water International.

David Douglas has been a constant source of encouragement and support.

I also want to thank Lisa Schechtman of WaterAid, John Sparks of the Millennium Water Alliance, Lisa Bos of World Vision, John Oldfield of WASH Advocates, and Erin Rein ("Reen") of InterAction. They have been on the front lines of this effort, ready to jump into action at a moment's notice.

Others have been indispensible as well, including Habitat for Humanity, Water.org, and the Global Poverty Project.

I also want to thank my House colleagues who personally invested a great deal of time into bringing this bill to the floor. Without TED POE, the issue of increasing access to clean drinking water and sanitation would not have the bipartisan support and appreciation it deserves. He made this happen. Thank you, TED. I also want to thank Chairman ROYCE. The Chairman went out of his way to make Water for the World a priority and is the latest extension of his efforts to meaningfully reform our aid programs.

Just as important to this effort have been our friends and allies at USAID and the Department of State. Starting with former Secretary of State Clinton, who made water a focal point of her time in Foggy Bottom, and her Special Advisor for Water Resources, Dr. Aaron Salzberg. And Christian Holmes at USAID, the first-ever Global Water Coordinator, with whom I look forward to continuing to work.

Finally, as every Member of Congress knows, we wouldn't make much progress on anything if it weren't for the dedicated, hard-working staff that actually run the place. Without the tireless efforts and expertise from Joan Condon and her colleagues on the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and from Luke Murry in Congressman POE's office, it would have been nearly impossible to secure this important victory for water and sanitation.

I want to conclude by thanking my staff. It seems like generations of Team Blumenauer have been involved in this effort at one point or another. From Judah Ariel to Steph Cappa, to Michael Harold, thank you!

Let's hope this shining example of bipartisan cooperation is not only a source of holiday cheer, but also an example all of us in Congress can draw on in the New Year.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE ANNA E. BARRY SCHOOL FOR BEING NAMED A NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

### HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate the Anna E. Barry School of Chicopee, Massachusetts for the honor of being named a National Blue Ribbon School for 2014, and to recognize their achievements both in academic excellence and in narrowing education gaps between students.

The Anna E. Barry School currently enrolls students from kindergarten through fifth grade. In its mission statement, the school states that its purpose is "to educate children . . . in order that they may successfully continue with their education, pursue their aspirations and eventually become contributing community members."

The National Blue Ribbon School Program was established in 1982 to honor elementary, middle and high schools which have excellent performance, or which have substantially reduced the performance gap for disadvantaged student populations. Created under Secretary of Education Terrel H. Bell, the program was designed to celebrate achievement among public and private schools alike, as well as to encourage the sharing of successful teaching strategies.

With just fewer than 7,900 educational institutions having been named National Blue Ribbon Schools, it is an extraordinary achievement for the Anna E. Barry School to be recognized with this award. The uniting feature of National Blue Ribbon Schools is their commitment and dedication to outstanding educational outcomes for their pupils, and I am proud to count a school from the First District of Massachusetts among them.

In being named a National Blue Ribbon School, the Anna E. Barry School has been recognized for their outstanding work improving the results of both students with special educational needs, and those who have English as a second language. The school's accomplishment has been the product of tailored student teaching, the integration of technology, and the engagement of the community. By focusing on individual achievement and establishing positive lines of communication with families, the Anna E. Barry School has not only improved educational outcomes, but has made learning a collaborative exercise between students, parents and teachers.

The success of the school can also be attributed to the dedication of its teachers and administrators in promoting and advancing the students' education. I wish the school, its staff

and the students well in their future endeavors, and again congratulate them on this remarkable achievement.

## TRIBUTE TO MAJOR KEVIN TANN

### HON. MIKE McINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. McINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Major Kevin Tann, United States Army, for his extraordinary dedication to duty and service to the United States of America. Major Tann will be moving on from his current assignment as an Army Congressional Liaison for the House of Representatives to Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

Army Congressional Liaisons provide an invaluable service to both the Military and Congress. They assist Members and staff in understanding the Army's policies, actions, operations, and requirements. Their first hand knowledge of military needs, culture, and tradition is a tremendous benefit to Congressional Staff.

A native of North Carolina, Major Tann graduated from Florida International University in 1999 and was commissioned as Second Lieutenant in the Army's Aviation Branch. He has served in a variety of assignments including service in Alabama, Texas, South Carolina, and the Pentagon. Major Tann was selected for the highly competitive Congressional Fellowship Program and has participated in multiple combat tours in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Major Tann's military awards include the Army Aviator and Parachutist Badges and Bronze Star Medal, as well as the Iraq Campaign Medal. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from Florida International University; a Master of Arts in Public Administration from Florida International University; and, a Master of Political Science from George Washington University.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the selfless service of Major Tann as he proceeds to the next chapter in his remarkable career and continues to serve our great Nation. On behalf of a grateful Nation, I join my colleagues in recognizing and commending Major Tann for his dedicated service to our Country. For all he and his family have given and continue to give to our Country, we are in their debt. We wish him, his wife Joi, and his son Kevin, all the best as they continue their journey in the United States Army.

## IN RECOGNITION OF DOUG HORNER

### HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Doug Horner on the occasion of his departure from elected office in my district.

Mr. Horner was first appointed to the Livermore City Council in July of 2007 and succeeded to a second term in 2009. During his time in office, he was twice appointed to serve one year terms as Vice Mayor. He has also represented Livermore on a variety of intergovernmental agencies, including the League of California Cities East Bay Division, the Tri-Valley Transportation Council, the Livermore Pleasanton Fire Department Joint Powers Authority, and the Intergovernmental Committee with the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District and the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District.

Prior to serving on the City Council, Mr. Horner was an active member of the Livermore Community, having served on the Livermore Planning Commission, the Design Review Committee, and the City's General Plan Review Committee.

Mr. Horner's commitment to open space and the viticulture industry has helped maintain the character and quality of life of Livermore, maintaining the best of aspects of his community for future generations.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Mr. Horner for his many years of service to the community and wishing him the best in his future endeavors.

## CELEBRATING THE 85TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE (DOP)

### HON. NIKI TSONGAS

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 85th anniversary of the Daughters of Penelope, one of our nation's preeminent international women's organizations.

Since its founding in 1929, these committed women of Hellenic descent and admirers of Greek culture have worked tirelessly to promote the ideals of ancient Greece in the fields of education, philanthropy and civic duty.

Today, the Daughters of Penelope and its 250 chapters around the world strive to strengthen the status of women in society, help the victims of domestic violence both in the United States and in Greece, and raise funding for some of today's most important medical research—among other philanthropic causes.

In 2009, this body along with our colleagues in the Senate recognized the work of the Daughters of Penelope and passed resolutions commemorating its many achievements.

After five more years of exceptional work and dedication, I rise to acknowledge these truly outstanding women and their many accomplishments.

## TRIBUTE TO LARRY J. ELLISON, FOUNDER OF ORACLE

### HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary American visionary, Mr. Larry Ellison, as he steps down from his position as CEO of Oracle, the world-renowned company he founded in Redwood City, California.

Larry Ellison was born in the New York City borough of the Bronx in 1944, and from an early age showed a keen aptitude for math and science. He attended the University of Illinois where he was named Science Student of the Year and the University of Chicago. He was awarded an Honorary Doctorate by Howard University in 2005.

For more than 35 years Larry Ellison has built and guided Oracle to its current position as the world's largest database-software company and one of the biggest providers of business programs. Oracle has a market capitalization of $185 billion and annual revenues of $38 billion, numbers that attest to Ellison's technical brilliance, strategic genius and unsurpassed business acumen.

Larry Ellison worked as a technician for Firemen's Fund, Wells Fargo Bank and as a programmer at Amdahl Corporation, where he was part of a team that built the first IBM-compatible mainframe system. In 1999, Ellison, together with his Amdahl colleagues Robert Miner and Ed Oates, founded Software Development Labs which became Oracle after building a database named Oracle for the Central Intelligence Agency.

A Silicon Valley legend, Larry Ellison is a man of widely diverse interests. He has received many honors, including being inducted into the Academy of Achievement in 1997. He is number five on the Forbes list of world billionaires, and is a generous philanthropist who has given millions to many causes, particularly in the field of medicine. He has signed the Giving Pledge which is a commitment to donate most of his wealth to non-profit organizations. He is the father of two, film producers David and Megan. He's also a pilot and competitive sailor whose team won the America's Cup in 2010 and in 2013.

President John F. Kennedy said, "Americans by nature, are optimistic. They are experimental, inventors, and are builders who build best when called upon to build greatly." Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in honoring Larry Ellison, an American icon, for his extraordinary vision and great contributions to American technology. He has enhanced the leadership of our nation around the world by "building greatly."

## A FOND FAREWELL TO THE CONSTITUENTS OF THE 33RD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

### HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my profound appreciation to the constituents of the 33rd Congressional District of California. It has been a tremendous privilege for me to serve as their representative in Congress for forty years. While the numbers and boundaries of the district have changed four times, generous constituent support has given me latitude to pursue comprehensive solutions to problems that not only benefit us in the district, but benefit our nation as a whole.

It also has been extremely gratifying for me to have the opportunity to assist individuals and families on a more personal level, from helping reunify families more quickly, to getting Section 8 housing vouchers more efficiently, expediting Social Security and Medicare benefits, cutting red tape to ensure military heroes receive the medals they've

earned, and fast-tracking veterans' health care, housing and other benefits.

I am grateful for the support of committed allies in our community who have helped me tackle problems such as safety and pollution at Santa Monica Airport, helicopter noise, veteran homelessness, attempts to commercialize the West LA VA property, traffic gridlock, beach pollution, and so many more. Of course these challenges remain and new ones will emerge, but I have full confidence in the ability of Representative-Elect Ted Lieu to successfully tackle them.

It has been an honor to work with some of the finest elected state and local officials in the nation. I thank my colleagues in the cities of the 33rd Congressional District, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, and the California State Legislature for fiercely advocating on behalf of our constituents and working closely with me on federal policies that affect our State.

I have had a long career and an eventful one—and I wouldn't trade any of it. I woke each day looking forward to opportunities to make our country stronger, healthier, and fairer. I will always be grateful for this opportunity and privilege and for the many friendships I've forged over the last forty years.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, during last week's vote on Roll No. 551, I inadvertently voted "yea." I intended to vote "nay" on Roll No. 551.

## REMEMBERING ED LEONG

### HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, it is with sadness that we mourn the loss of Edward J. Leong, who passed away on December 7th, after a lengthy battle with cancer.

Ed served for 36 years in the Office of the House Legislative Counsel, 16 of them as Senior Counsel. He specialized in titles 5 and 39 of the United States Code, the law governing the federal workforce and the United States Postal Service. His sharp mind, relentless pursuit of perfection, and skill ensured the bills considered by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and the Congress were written in a manner that allow for effective implementation.

Ed was a mentor and teacher to many current and former staff. His professionalism and dedication to his work are an example to this institution. Ed's soft-spoken manner, kind nature, and laugh made him a pleasure to work with.

As Chairman, I extend the sympathy and condolences of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee to Ed's wife, Chee Lee, his children Stephen and Anna, and his colleagues—in particular those in the House Office of Legislative Counsel.

## HONORING TURLOCK MAYOR JOHN LAZAR

### HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Turlock Mayor John Lazar on his retirement from the Turlock City Council and to personally thank him for his dedicated, life-long spirit of community service.

Mayor Lazar was born and raised in Turlock and is a graduate of California State University, Stanislaus. In 1976, he served as a page in the U.S. House of Representatives, beginning his long career in public service. His experience includes working as a district representative for U.S. Representative Tony Coelho and as a legislative assistant for Assembly Members Gary Condit and Jack O'Connell. In 1988, he secured his real estate license and began working at Coldwell Bank Central Valley Realtors.

John Lazar was first elected to the Turlock City Council in 1992 and served on the council for 14 years until elected as Mayor of Turlock in 2006. He was appointed to the Stanislaus County Council of Governments, where he served from 1999–2000, California State Mandates Commission from 2000–2005, and the Stanislaus County Local Agency Formation Commission from 2000–2006. He is currently a member of the Emanuel Medical Center Governing Board.

Over the years, Mayor Lazar has received several honors; including receiving the 2007 Turlock Chamber of Commerce's Citizen of the Year, 2002 Central Valley Association of Realtors' Realtor of the Year Award, and the 1995 California Junior Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Young Californian Award.

He has sat on numerous boards, including the Rotary Club of Turlock, Stanislaus County Organization of Governments, Turlock Community Auditorium, and the California Association of Realtors.

Mayor Lazar and his wife, Nellie, have three sons. His hobbies include reading history and biographies and collecting political buttons.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Turlock Mayor John Lazar on his retirement from the Turlock City Council and thanking him for his exemplary leadership and service to the community.

# *Daily Digest*

# Senate

## *Chamber Action*

***Routine Proceedings, pages S6399–S6466***

**Measures Introduced:** Three bills were introduced, as follows: S. 2990–2992. **Page S6448**

**Measures Reported:**

Special Report entitled "Committee Study of the Central Intelligence Agency's Detention and Interrogation Program". (S. Rept. No. 113–288) **Page S6447**

**Measures Passed:**

***Aviation Security Stakeholder Participation Act:*** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1204, to amend title 49, United States Code, to direct the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security (Transportation Security Administration) to establish an Aviation Security Advisory Committee, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S6400–01**

Reid (for Rockefeller/Tester) Amendment No. 3977, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S6400–01**

***Transportation Security Acquisition Reform Act:*** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2719, to require the Transportation Security Administration to implement best practices and improve transparency with regard to technology acquisition programs, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S6401**

Reid (for Ayotte) Amendment No. 3978, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S6401**

***Alaska Safe Families and Villages Act:*** Senate passed S. 1474, to amend the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 to repeal a special rule for the State of Alaska, after withdrawing the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and agreeing to following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S6414–16**

Begich Amendment No. 3981, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S6416**

Begich Amendment No. 3982, to amend the title. **Page S6416**

***Technical Corrections and Improvements:*** Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1067, to make revisions in title 36, United States Code, as necessary to keep the title current and make technical corrections and improvements, and the bill was then passed. **Page S6463**

***Doris Miller Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center:*** Committee on Veterans' Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 4199, to name the Department of Veterans Affairs medical center in Waco, Texas, as the "Doris Miller Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center", and the bill was then passed. **Page S6463**

***Genocide in Rwanda:*** Senate agreed to S. Res. 413, recognizing 20 years since the genocide in Rwanda, and affirming it is in the national interest of the United States to work in close coordination with international partners to help prevent and mitigate acts of genocide and mass atrocities, after agreeing to the following amendments proposed thereto: **Page S6463**

Schatz (for Coons) Amendment No. 3993, to provide that nothing in the resolution shall be construed as an authorization for the use of force or a declaration of war. **Page S6463**

Schatz (for Coons) Amendment No. 3994, to amend the preamble. **Page S6463**

***Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 2014 and 2015:*** Select Committee on Intelligence was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 4681, to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2014 and 2015 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S6463–64**

Schatz (for Feinstein) Amendment No. 3995, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S6463**

***Denouncing the Use of Civilians As Human Shields:*** Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 107, denouncing the use of civilians as human shields by Hamas and other terrorist organizations in violation

of international humanitarian law, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S6465–66**

**House Messages:**

**Carl Levin and Howard P. "Buck" McKeon National Defense Authorization Act—Agreement:** Senate began consideration of the amendment of the House of Representatives to the amendment of the Senate to H.R. 3979, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, taking action on the following motions and amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S6437–42**

Pending:

Reid motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill. **Page S6437**

Reid motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill, with Reid Amendment No. 3984 (to the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill), to change the enactment date. **Page S6438**

Reid Amendment No. 3985 (to Amendment No. 3984), of a perfecting nature. **Page S6438**

Reid motion to refer the message of the House on the bill to the Committee on Armed Services, with instructions, Reid Amendment No. 3986, to change the enactment date. **Page S6438**

Reid Amendment No. 3987 (to (the instructions) Amendment No. 3986), of a perfecting nature. **Page S6438**

Reid Amendment No. 3988 (to Amendment No. 3987), of a perfecting nature. **Page S6438**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Thursday, December 11, 2014. **Page S6437**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill at approximately 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, December 10, 2014. **Page S6466**

**Nominations Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 86 yeas to 12 nays (Vote No. EX. 320), Virginia Tyler Lodge, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority for a term expiring May 18, 2019. **Pages S6404, S6436, S6466**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 63 yeas to 32 nays (Vote No. 318), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S6404**

By 86 yeas to 12 nays (Vote No. EX. 321), Ronald Anderson Walter, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority for a term expiring May 18, 2019. **Pages S6405, S6436–37, S6466**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 65 yeas to 31 nays (Vote No. 319), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S6404**

Peter Michael McKinley, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. **Pages S6437, S6466**

Richard Rahul Verma, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of India. **Pages S6437, S6466**

Tony Hammond, of Missouri, to be a Commissioner of the Postal Regulatory Commission for a term expiring October 14, 2018. **Pages S6437, S6466**

Nanci E. Langley, of Hawaii, to be a Commissioner of the Postal Regulatory Commission for a term expiring November 22, 2018. **Pages S6437, S6466**

**Messages from the House:** **Page S6446**

**Measures Placed on the Calendar:** **Pages S6400, S6467**

**Measures Read the First Time:** **Page S6446**

**Executive Reports of Committees:** **Pages S6447–48**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S6448–49**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S6444–46**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Pages S6449–62**

**Notices of Hearings/Meetings:** **Page S6462**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** **Pages S6462–43**

**Privileges of the Floor:** **Page S6463**

**Record Votes:** Four record votes were taken today. (Total—321) **Pages S6404, S6436–37**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 8:53 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, December 10, 2014. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S6466.)

# *Committee Meetings*

*(Committees not listed did not meet)*

## BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Robert M. Scher, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for Strategy, Plans, and Capabilities, David J. Berteau, to be Assistant Secretary for Logistics and Material Readiness, and Alissa M. Starzak, of New York, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Army, all of the Department of Defense, and 3,579 nominations in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps.

## INEQUALITY, OPPORTUNITY, AND THE HOUSING MARKET

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation and Community Development concluded a hearing to examine inequality, opportunity, and the housing market, including S. 1217, to provide secondary mortgage market reform, after receiving testimony from Wayne T. Meyer, New Jersey Community Capital, New Brunswick; Julia Gordon, Center for American Progress, and Debby Goldberg, National Fair Housing Alliance, both of Washington, D.C.; and Mabel Guzman, National Association of Realtors, Chicago, Illinois.

## BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Willie E. May, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology, Tho Dinh-Zarr, of Texas, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board, and Mark R. Rosekind, of California, to be Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and Carlos A. Monje, Jr., of Louisiana, to be Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy, both of the Department of Transportation.

## SOCIAL SECURITY

*Committee on Finance:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine Social Security, focusing on if there is a key foundation of economic security working for women, after receiving testimony from Catherine J. Dodd, National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, and Sita Nataraj Slavov, George Mason University, both of Washington, D.C.; Janet Barr, American Academy of Actuaries, Chicago, Illinois; and Barbara Perrin, Eugene, Oregon.

## HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN IRAQ AND SYRIA

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Subcommittee on International Operations and Organizations, Human Rights, Democracy and Global Women's Issues concluded a hearing to examine the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), focusing on confronting the growing humanitarian crisis in Iraq and Syria, after receiving testimony from Tom Malinowski, Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor; Nancy Lindborg, Assistant Administrator, Agency for International Development; Iraq Parliament Minister Vian Dakhil, Baghdad; Sarah Margon, Human Rights Watch, Washington, D.C.; and Bishop Francis Kalabat, St. Thomas the Apostle Chaldean Catholic Diocese, Detroit, Michigan.

## AUTHORIZATION FOR THE USE OF MILITARY FORCE

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the authorization for the use of military force against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), after receiving testimony from John Kerry, Secretary of State.

## CAMPUS SEXUAL ASSAULT

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism concluded a hearing to examine campus sexual assault, focusing on the roles and responsibilities of law enforcement, including S. 2692, to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 and the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act to combat campus sexual violence, and S. 195, to amend the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend projects relating to children and violence to provide access to school-based comprehensive mental health programs, after receiving testimony from Senators McCaskill and Gillibrand; Angela Fleischer, Southern Oregon University, Corvallis; Kathy R. Zoner, Cornell University Police, Syracuse, New York; and Peg Langhammer, Day One, Providence, Rhode Island.

## THE STATE OF CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE U.S.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Human Rights concluded a hearing to examine the state of civil and human rights in the United States, including H.R. 1447, to encourage States to report to the Attorney General certain information regarding the deaths of individuals in the custody of law enforcement agencies, S. 1410, to focus limited Federal resources on the most serious offenders, S. 2235, to secure the Federal voting rights of persons when released from incarceration, S. 1945, to amend the Voting Rights Act of 1965 to revise the criteria for determining which

States and political subdivisions are subject to section 4 of the Act, S. 1675, to reduce recidivism and increase public safety, and S. 1038, to eliminate racial profiling by law enforcement, after receiving testimony from Senator Booker, Representatives Gutierrez and Ellison; Cedric Alexander, National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives, DeKalb County, Georgia; and Wade Henderson, The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, and Laura W. Murphy, American Civil Liberties Union, both of Washington, D.C.

# House of Representatives

## *Chamber Action*

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 14 public bills, H.R. 5811–5824 were introduced. **Pages H8930–31**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages H8931–32**

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 5086, to amend the National Trails System Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Chief Standing Bear National Historic Trail, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 113–651);

H.R. 5699, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire approximately 44 acres of land in Martinez, California, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 113–652);

H.R. 4320, to amend the National Labor Relations Act with respect to the timing of elections and pre-election hearings and the identification of pre-election issues, with an amendment (H. Rept. 113–653); and

H. Res. 775, providing for consideration of the bill (S. 2244) to extend the termination date of the Terrorism Insurance Program established under the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules; and providing for proceedings during the period from December 12, 2014, through January 3, 2015 (H. Rept. 113–654). **Page H8930**

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative LaMalfa to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H8869**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 10:42 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H8875**

**Guest Chaplain:** Reverend Dr. Robert Jeffress, First Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas. **Page H8875**

**Suspensions:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

***Chief Standing Bear National Historic Trail Designation Act:*** H.R. 5086, amended, to amend the National Trails System Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Chief Standing Bear National Historic Trail; **Pages H8881–82**

***Western Oregon Indian Tribal Lands Act:*** H.R. 5701, amended, to require that certain Federal lands be held in trust by the United States for the benefit of federally recognized tribes in the State of Oregon; **Pages H8882–86**

***EARLY Act Reauthorization of 2014:*** H.R. 5185, amended, to reauthorize the Young Women's Breast Health Education and Awareness Requires Learning Young Act of 2009; **Pages H8889–91**

***Propane Education and Research Enhancement Act of 2014:*** H.R. 5705, to modify certain provisions relating to the Propane Education and Research Council; **Pages H8891–92**

***Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Act of 2014:*** H.R. 5764, to authorize the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative; **Pages H8892–97**

***To release the city of St. Clair, Missouri from all restrictions related to the St. Clair Regional Airport:*** S. 2759, to release the City of St. Clair, Missouri, from all restrictions, conditions, and limitations on the use, encumbrance, conveyance, and closure of the St. Clair Regional Airport; **Pages H8897–98**

***James M. Carter and Judith N. Keep United States Courthouse Designation Act:*** H.R. 1378, amended, to designate the United States courthouse located at 333 West Broadway in San Diego, California, as the "James M. Carter and Judith N. Keep United States Courthouse"; and **Pages H8898–99**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: "To designate the United States Federal Judicial Center located at 333 West Broadway in San Diego, California, as the 'John Rhoades Federal Judicial Center' and to designate the United States courthouse located at 333 West Broadway in San Diego, California, as the 'James M. Carter and Judith N. Keep United States Courthouse'.". **Page H8899**

***Clay Hunt Suicide Prevention for American Veterans Act:*** H.R. 5059, amended, to direct the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide for the conduct of annual evaluations of mental health care and suicide prevention programs of the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs, to review the terms or characterization of the discharge or separation of certain individuals from the Armed Forces, to require a pilot program on loan repayment for psychiatrists who agree to serve in the Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

**Pages H8899–H8904**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read ''To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide for the conduct of annual evaluations of mental health care and suicide prevention programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to require a pilot program on loan repayment for psychiatrists who agree to serve in the Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.''. **Page H8904**

**California Emergency Drought Relief Act of 2014:** The House passed H.R. 5781, to provide short-term water supplies to drought-stricken California, by a recorded vote of 230 ayes to 182 noes, Roll No. 553. Consideration of the measure began yesterday, December 8. **Pages H8886–89**

Rejected the George Miller (CA) motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Natural Resources with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a yea-and-nay vote of 182 yeas to 228 nays, Roll No. 552.

**Page H8888**

H. Res. 770, amended, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 3979), (H.R. 5759), and (H.R. 5781), was agreed to on December 4.

**Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed:** The House debated the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

***John Muir National Historic Site Expansion Act:*** H.R. 5699, amended, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire approximately 44 acres of land in Martinez, California and **Pages H8880–81**

***Chesapeake Bay Accountability and Recovery Act of 2014:*** S. 1000, to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to prepare a crosscut budget for restoration activities in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. **Pages H8878–80**

**Senate Messages:** Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today and messages received from the Senate today appear on pages H8874–75, H8877 and H8882.

**Senate Referrals:** S. 2520, S. 2521, and S. 2142 were held at the desk. **Pages H8875, H8877 and H8882**

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** One yea-and-nay vote and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H8888 and H8888–89. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

# *Committee Meetings*

## SETTING FISCAL PRIORITIES

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled ''Setting Fiscal Priorities''. Testimony was heard from Mark Miller, Executive Director, Medicare Payment Advisory Commission; and public witnesses.

## EXAMINING OBAMACARE TRANSPARENCY FAILURES

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Examining ObamaCare Transparency Failures''. Testimony was heard from Marilyn Tavenner, Administrator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services; and public witnesses.

## TERRORISM RISK INSURANCE PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2014

*Committee on Rules:* Full Committee held a hearing on S. 2244, the ''Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2014''. The committee granted, by voice vote, a closed rule for H.R. 2244. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in the Rules Committee report shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one motion to commit with or without instructions. In section 2, the rule provides that it shall be in order at any time on the legislative day of December 11, 2014, for the Speaker to entertain motions that the House suspend the rules and that the Speaker or his designee shall consult with the Minority Leader or her designee on the designation of any matter for consideration pursuant to this section. In section 3, the rule provides that on any legislative day of the second session of the 113th Congress after December 11, 2014: the Journal of the proceedings of the previous day shall be considered as approved; and the Chair may at any time declare the House adjourned

to meet at a date and time to be announced by the Chair in declaring the adjournment. In section 4, the rule provides that the Speaker may appoint Members to perform the duties of the Chair for the duration of the period addressed by section 3 of the resolution. In section 5, the rule provides that each day during the period addressed by section 3 shall not constitute a calendar day for purposes of section 7 of the War Powers Resolution. In section 6, the rule provides that each day during the period addressed by section 3 of the resolution shall not constitute a legislative day for purposes of clause 7 of rule XIII (resolutions of inquiry). Testimony was heard from Chairman Hensarling, and Representatives Waters, and Carolyn Maloney of New York.

### TIMELESS HONOR: REVIEWING CURRENT OPERATIONS OF OUR NATIONAL CEMETERIES

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a hearing entitled ''Timeless Honor: Reviewing Current Operations of our National Cemeteries''. Testimony was heard from Ronald E. Walters, Acting Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs, National Cemetery Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; Patrick K. Hallinan, Executive Director, Army National Military Cemeteries, Department of the Army; Max Cleland, Secretary, American Battle Monuments Commission; and public witnesses.

## *Joint Meetings*

No joint committee meetings were held.

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2014

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

### Senate

*Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:* to hold hearings to examine the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, focusing on the effective enforcement and the future of derivatives regulation, 10 a.m., SR–328A.

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* to hold an oversight hearing to examine cybersecurity, focusing on enhancing coordination to protect the financial sector, 10 a.m., SD–538.

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety, and Security, to hold hearings to examine passenger rail, focusing on investing in our nation's future, 2:30 p.m., SR–253.

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* business meeting to consider the nomination of Colette Dodson Honorable, of Arkansas, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 10 a.m., SD–366.

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Subcommittee on African Affairs, to hold hearings to examine the Ebola epidemic, focusing on the keys to success for the international response, 10:30 a.m., SD–419.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Michelle K. Lee, of California, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, and Daniel Henry Marti, of Virginia, to be Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator, Executive Office of the President, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the President's executive action on immigration and the need to pass comprehensive reform, 2:30 p.m., SD–226.

### House

*Committee on Energy and Commerce,* Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled ''Examining FDA's Role in the Regulation of Genetically Modified Food Ingredients'', 10:15 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

*Committee on Foreign Affairs,* Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Countering ISIS: Are We Making Progress?'', 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade; and Subcommittee on Strategic Forces of the Committee on Armed Services, joint hearing entitled ''Russian Arms Control Cheating and the Administration's Responses'', 2 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia, and Emerging Threats, hearing entitled ''The United States as an Arctic Nation: Opportunities in the High North'', 2 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa; and the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, joint hearing entitled ''After the Withdrawal: The Way Forward in Afghanistan and Pakistan (Part III)'', 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

*Committee on the Judiciary,* Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security, hearing entitled ''The Impact on Local Communities of the Release of Unaccompanied Alien Minors and the Need for Consultation and Notification'', 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform,* Subcommittee on Energy Policy, Health Care and Entitlements, hearing entitled ''Examining EPA's Management of the Renewable Fuel Standard Program'', 9:30 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, U.S. Postal Service, and the Census, hearing entitled ''Addressing the Backlog in the Federal Employee Retirement Process'', 1:30 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology,* Subcommittee on Space, hearing entitled ''An Update on the Space Launch System and Orion: Monitoring the Development of the Nation's Deep Space Exploration Capabilities'', 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure,* Subcommittee on Aviation, hearing entitled ''U.S. Unmanned Aircraft Systems: Integration, Oversight, and Competitiveness'', 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

*Select Committee on Benghazi,* Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Hearing 2'', relating to reviewing efforts to secure U.S. diplomatic facilities and personnel, 10 a.m., HVC–210.

*Next Meeting of the* SENATE

9:30 a.m., Wednesday, December 10

Senate Chamber

**Program for Wednesday:** Senate will continue consideration of the motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to H.R. 3979, Carl Levin and Howard P. ''Buck'' McKeon National Defense Authorization Act.

*Next Meeting of the* HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, December 10

House Chamber

**Program for Wednesday:** Consideration of S. 2244—Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2014 (Subject to a Rule).

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