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Many of my colleagues have joined me in supporting this modest increase. As many are aware, the National Sea Grant College Program has a broad base of bipartisan support.

The 105th Congress passed reauthorization for the program without a single dissenting vote in either Chamber. I believe this is largely due to the fact this is a shoestring budget. Sea Grant continues to expand its capabilities in areas of national interest. The Sea Grant Program is looking to the sea to find new pharmaceuticals and medicines, and maybe even a cure for cancer. Sea Grant is on the cutting edge of marine science and aquaculture research.

As a member of the House Subcommittee on Fisheries, Conservation, Wildlife and Oceans, I have always been troubled by the fact that the U.S. has to import over \$9 billion worth of seafood and shellfish from foreign countries. I am convinced if we are committed to more resources to the National Sea Grant Program, we might be able to create new growth and economic development and become a world exporter rather than importer of seafood and shellfish. I am also convinced if we can find the means to devote billions of dollars to space, we can certainly find a way to add \$37 million a year to the National Sea Grant Program.

Mr. Speaker, if we can find a means now to go to Mars, and we believe what is beneath the ocean, I believe it is time to improve the Sea Grant Program.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1071—a bill to increase authorization for the National Sea Grant College Program. The idea of a Sea Grant College Program was originally suggested by Athelstan Spilhaus. In a 1964 editorial, he wrote:

Establishment of the land-grant colleges was one of the best investments this nation ever made. That same kind of imagination and foresight should be applied to exploitation of the sea.

In 1965, Senator Claiborne Pell of Rhode Island introduced legislation to establish Sea Grant Colleges on campuses nationwide as centers of excellence in marine and coastal studies. With the adoption in 1966 of the National Sea Grant College Grant Act, Congress established an academic/industry/government partnership intended to enhance the Nation's education, economy, and environment in the 21st century.

Today, more than 54 percent of our Nation's population lives along the coast. But funding for the National Sea Grant College Program is only about 3 percent of the equivalent federal funding for the Land Grant College Program.

Like many Members of Congress, I am fully supportive of the Land Grant College Program. But the point to be made is that Land Grant receives nearly \$900 million in federal funding per year. Sea Grant receives approximately \$60 million. Isn't it time for us to consider this disparity and increase funding for the National Sea Grant College Program?

Mr. Speaker, in support of increased funding, I ask my colleagues to consider these facts:

Since 1960, the square mileage of coastal urban lands has increased by over 130 percent;

Between 1996 and 2015, U.S. coastal population is expected to increase by the equivalent of 5 major new cities, or 25 million people;

Every day, approximately 1,300 acres of coastal lands are developed into urban lands;

Every week, there are more than 14,000 new housing starts in coastal areas; and

Every year, more than 180 million people visit the Nation's coasts, affecting coastal infrastructure and resources.

Simply put, the Nation's investment in coastal science has lagged behind coastal population and development. Simply put, the Federal Government cannot by itself meet the tremendous demand for environmental knowledge and services, nor can it maintain expensive in-house staff, facilities, or technologies. Universities are critical to the development of the scientific and human resource base needed to address coastal issues.

The National Sea Grant College Program engages the Nation's top universities through a network of 30 Sea Grant programs and 200 affiliated institutions located in coastal and Great Lake States and Puerto Rico. Sea Grant taps the talents of pre-eminent university scientists who conduct mission-critical research and development in state-of-the-art laboratories and facilities. Sea Grant utilizes a highly effective network of extension and communications professionals to transfer research results to users. Sea Grant has a 30-year track record of success and relevance. Sea Grant is nonregulatory and maintains a reputation for objectivity and credibility in its research and outreach.

There is no other Federal program that has the combination of university-based capabilities, outreach structure, flexibility, cost-effectiveness, and emphasis on coastal resource management. Given the importance of the coast to the Nation's economic and social well-being, I introduced H.R. 1071—a bill to increase authorization for the National Sea Grant College Program from \$63 million to \$100 million per year.

Many of my colleagues have joined with me in supporting this modest increase. As many are aware, the National Sea Grant College Program has a broad base of bipartisan support. The 105th Congress passed reauthorization for the program without a single dissenting vote in either Chamber.

I believe this is largely due to the fact that on a shoestring budget, Sea Grant continues to expand its capabilities in areas of national interest. Sea Grant is looking to the sea to find new pharmaceuticals and medicines—and maybe even a cure for cancer. Sea Grant is also on the cutting edge of marine science and aquaculture research.

As a member of the House Subcommittee on Fisheries Conservation, Wildlife and Oceans, I have always been troubled by the fact that the U.S. imports over 9 billion dollars' worth of seafood and shellfish per year. I am convinced that if we committed more resources to the National Sea Grant College Program, we might be able to create new growth and economic development and become a world exporter, rather than importer, of seafood and shellfish.

I am also convinced that if we can find the means to devote billions of dollars to space, we can certainly find a way to add \$37 million

a year to fund the National Sea Grant College Program. For now, Sea Grant funds on average less than \$2 million per State program. Due to limited resources, many geographic regions are not represented—including the Western Pacific—which alone has a huge Economic Exclusive Zone. Some States like Mississippi and Alabama share funding while other eligible States and territories like Pennsylvania, Vermont, and American Samoa have no institutional Sea Grant programs.

Mr. Speaker, I am convinced that it is time for Congress to address the issue of increased authorization for the National Sea Grant College Program. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1071.

DEFENSE SCIENCE BOARD REPORT ON REDUCING THE FUEL BURDEN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, as we begin debate this week on a comprehensive energy package, I want to bring to the attention of my colleagues a recently released report by the Defense Science Board entitled, "More Capable Warfighting Through Reduced Fuel Burden." The bill we bring on the House floor will talk about lots of conservation measures, but we should also look to the Federal Government, which has a large use of energy.

The bill we will be considering is an omnibus energy bill, H.R. 4, Securing America's Energy Future Act, and provides, among other things, incentives for the efficient use of energy and investments in new energy efficient technologies.

The Federal Government is beholden under this legislation to take the lead in reducing energy consumption. If they are asking the American people to reduce energy consumption, obviously the Federal Government should do so, too, and to realign its focus on using energy efficient technologies.

The report released by the Defense Science Board highlights the need for the Department of Defense to also realign its focus on using energy efficient technologies, too. This was quoted in the report: "Military fuel consumption for aircraft, ships, ground vehicles and facilities makes the Department of Defense the single largest consumer of petroleum in America, perhaps in the world."

The United States has deployed its forces more times during the entire Cold War period. As a result, our fuel requirements have also risen. The report goes on to quote that "the Naval force depends each day on million of gallons of fuel to operate around the globe. The Air Force... spends approximately 85 percent of its fuel budget to deliver, by airborne tankers, just 6 percent off its annual jet fuel usage."

Mr. Speaker, it is without a doubt that fuel cost is directly associated with our military readiness. As we struggle with Congress' current budget

allocations to provide the military with the funds needed to elevate our readiness levels, provide for pay increases, health care and housing, we would be remiss if we did not examine ways for the Department of Defense to increase its attention on energy efficiency.

By no means, however, should the Department of Defense sacrifice performance requirements just to save a few gallons of fuel. I doubt that any Member would propose such action. However, the DSB report recommends including energy efficiency as a requirement under DOD's procurement process and investing in new improvements through the science and technology community. It is a significant step in the direction of curtailing energy consumption in a responsible manner while maintaining the performance in overall military capability.

The report also notes that the Department of Defense Joint Vision 2010 and 2020 "explicitly recognize that improving platform and system level fuel efficiency improves agility, while concurrently reducing deployment times and support/logistic requirements." All of us must remember the buildup of our forces between Desert Shield and Desert Storm. Most would agree that never would an adversary allow such a cushion for the U.S. to position itself for battle. The DSB report states, "The largest element of the total fuel cost in DOD is the cost of delivery."

So naturally, improving on the daily use of fuel for both combat and support units could reduce the logistics need while allowing units to deploy and remain in the field for a sustained period of time. Though H.R. 4 allows for Federal agencies, including the Department of Defense, to acquire specific Energy Star products, I believe we should extend the focus to weapons platforms and logistic requirements. As we move to lighter, more mobile forces, it is imperative that we improve our logistics capability and reduce the logistics tail.

Finally, the report notes that "efficiency is a strong component of agility." I hope my colleagues will keep this in mind as we continue debate on energy policy and as it applies to all aspects of this country, including our Federal Government and the Department of Defense.

JO OBERSTAR: A TESTIMONIAL,
ST. BARTHOLOMEW CHURCH,
JULY 30, 1991

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, 10 years ago my wife Jo succumbed to breast cancer after an 8-year struggle with that disease. Today in her memory I deliver the eulogy testimonial I

offered in St. Bartholomew Church on this day.

Marshall Lynam, well known to Hill denizens, tells the story of Lyndon Johnson who, on learning that his secretary of many years had been diagnosed with breast cancer, called the chief executive officer of the Mayo Clinic and said, "I am sending my secretary out there, and I want you to cure her, hear?"

The awed and startled, to say the least, CEO responded: "We will be glad to treat her, Mr. President, but you have one of the greatest cancer research and treatment centers in the world, the M.D. Anderson Clinic, in Houston."

"You are right," said Lyndon. "I will send her there and make them cure her."

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Jo got the best care there was. But cure was not in the forecast. I want—as she wanted—her doctors to understand that, for the Christian, death is not defeat. The medical community is so focused on heroic efforts to extend life that sometimes we forget that death is a natural consequence of having lived. What matters is the quality of both life and death.

From the spiritual perspective, all of us were focused wrong: it wasn't the cancer that needed healing; it was our empty hearts, yearning for meaning, for purpose and love, which needed healing and filling.

Jo called us to that vocation of prayer, of love for each other, especially love for the least among us. Countless were those who said: "I don't pray very often or too well, but I will for you." And they did. They felt better for it and were healed where it counts most: in the spirit.

Jo had the roomiest heart I ever knew. She made space in it for everyone, concerned always and first for the well-being of others.

She found the good in everyone and expanded it, as in: "That dear sweet JOHN DINGELL" or, "Bob Roe is such a honey." (To which I muttered: "Yes, but you're not trying to get a bridge out of him.")

Why does a person die at the height of their powers, with seemingly so much life yet to live? Why a long, lingering illness with so much suffering?

If you die at 90, there is a sense of life fully lived and people reflect back on "a job well done." But when death comes to one so young and vibrant, there is a sense of promise unfulfilled, of life yet to be lived. Maybe the answer is that we appreciate more fully, more passionately, the contributions of that young life so untimely taken.

The other question persists just as stubbornly: what is the purpose of so long a suffering? I believe suffering can only be understood in the spiritual sense. We had the privilege of suffering with Jo; to be spiritually purified by that suffering, and the opportunity to heal ourselves. It also gave us time to say good-bye in real ways.

Two years ago, the Speaker appointed me to the President's Commission on Aviation Security and Terrorism, the Pan Am 103 Commission. Our inquiry took us to Lockerbie, Scotland, where the constable of Dumfries told the commission members of the many long hours he and his staff spent with family members responding patiently to their myriad questions about that senseless tragedy. When I asked why he felt it important to spend so much time with the family members, the constable replied: "They never got to say good-bye to their loved ones. Talking to us was a way for them to say good-bye."

Jo personified an inspiring, faith-centered humility. Whether it was a parking space suddenly opening up on a crowded street; or the sun breaking through a gloomy day; or one of her U.S.-Canada legislative change programs working out just right, her instinctive response was: "You see, God is good; glory be to God."

She knew more members of the Canadian Parliament than most Canadians and more members of the U.S. Congress than most Americans. Yet she always thought that they needed a two-page letter of invitation to the sessions and a full page thank-you letter afterward. She also remembered to thank the least store clerk for a kindness and the lab technician in the oncology unit for inserting the needle gently to draw blood. As my Grandmother Oberstar said: "She appreciates."

Last Thursday, a remarkable event occurred in the hospital room after a communion service with Father Bill George. Jo sat upright in bed, oxygen mask full on, and proceeded to what I can only call a commissioning. To son Ted: "I want you to clean up the database on my computer, clear out the unnecessary information, and these are the codes . . ." which she began reeling off rapid fire. "Ted, you're not writing this down; you won't remember it all." And then, "Ted, I want you to organize the liturgy for the Mass of Resurrection—and remember, Ted, I want it to be a Mass of celebration; I want trumpet music."

Then, turning to our eldest daughter: "Noelle, there are a lot of family photographs around the house that I have never been able to organize and to display. Please, see that they are mounted and arranged throughout the house to remember and celebrate our family. Be sure to finish your education, or I'll come back to haunt you—and that goes for Annie and Monica, as well."

"Jim, I want you to go through all those boxes of my various programs for the Centre. Send to Ottawa the program documents; throw out the unnecessary papers, and burn my personal notes, those spiral notebooks."

To which I responded: "Of course, I'll take care of all that, but I think I'll just take all those papers into the Hill where we have a good disposal system."

"Did you hear me? I said, burn the personal note!"

"Yes, dear!"