

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
OF H.R. 4241, DEFICIT REDUCTION
ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2005

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, we have heard a lot about the devastation we will cause by passing this small little act tonight. In fact, we are trying to further reform welfare and improve the system of delivery of the services and goods for those in our society who need them most.

Something that really surprises me, though, is there is really no plan from the other side. I have noticed in our hallways the Democrats' signs crying for action on the Federal deficit, but I have yet to see their plan to deal with the deficit.

Blue Dog Democrats have billboards in front of their offices declaring how much each family owes on the federal debt, but they have no plan to reduce it. There are more plans on the television show *West Wing* than the Democrats have here in the United States House of Representatives. There are more plans on the other political shows about how to deal with the problems of today, but we get no plans or help from the other side.

We need some Blue Dog Democrats that that will actually hunt. We need dogs with bite rather than a large bark. Right now all we hear is a lot of noise from the Blue Dogs, but there is no action and there is no plan. All we hear are complaints about trying to improve the system.

I will give you one quick example. In Kansas, Medicaid claims are only correct 3 out of 4 times. One out of 4 times the payment is inaccurate. We need to reform that system. You would not get on an airplane today if you had a 3 out of 4 chance of getting to your destination. You would not start a trip today if you had only a 3 out of 4 chance of getting to your destination. When we make a Medicaid payment in the State of Kansas, it is wrong 24 percent of the time. This legislation includes reform to help improve our Medicaid system, so those who are truly in need get the services they require.

But the other side doesn't want to do that. We need to pass this legislation, reform the welfare system, and do the right thing about the Federal budget.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 4434, "10,000
TEACHERS, 10 MILLION MINDS"
SCIENCE AND MATH SCHOLARSHIP
ACT AND H.R. 4435, AD-
VANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS
AGENCY—ENERGY ACT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2005

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing two pieces of legislation: H.R. 4434, the "10,000 Teachers, 10 Million Minds" Science and Math Scholarship Act and H.R. 4435, the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy, ARPA-E, Act. These two bills au-

thorize a set of recommendations from a committee of the National Academy of Sciences chaired by Mr. Norman Augustine. The recommendations of the committee's report, *Rising Above the Gathering Storm: Energizing and Employing America for a Brighter Economic Future*, reflect the consensus forged among nationally-recognized industry, academic and government experts.

The Augustine Committee's highest priority is to improve K-12 math and science education by enhancing the skills and qualifications of math and science teachers. The "10,000 Teachers, 10 Million Minds" Act establishes a National Science Foundation, NSF, program to award scholarships to science, math, and engineering students if they obtain their teaching certification and commit to becoming math and science teachers upon completing their degrees. The bill also authorizes NSF to establish a master's degree program for in-service science and math teachers and establish training programs for preparing science and math teachers to teach Advanced Placement, AP, and International Baccalaureate, IB, courses in science and math. In addition, legislation also authorizes summer teacher training institutes at NSF and the Department of Energy.

The Augustine Committee stressed the need to "sustain and strengthen the nation's traditional commitment to the long-term basic research that has the potential to be transformational to maintain the flow of new ideas that fuel the economy, provide security, and enhance the quality of life." One specific action recommended by the Augustine Committee is to create in the Department of Energy, DOE, an organization like the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, DARPA, at the Department of Defense. My second piece of legislation, the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy, ARPA-E, Act implements this key recommendation. It establishes within the DOE a new agency modeled after DoD's successful DARPA program. By supporting high-risk, potentially high-payoff research, ARPA-E will turn cutting-edge science and engineering into technologies for energy and environmental application with the goal of reducing the Nation's reliance of foreign energy sources by 20 percent during the next 10 years.

These two bills are a response to a serious challenge to our Nation's future economic prosperity. From the Augustine report, "This Nation must prepare with great urgency to preserve its strategic and economic security. Because other Nation's have, and probably will continue to have, the competitive advantage of a low-wage structure, the United States must compete by optimizing its knowledge-based resources, particularly in science and technology, and by sustaining the most fertile environment for new and revitalized industries and the well-paying jobs they bring. We have already seen that capital, factories, and laboratories readily move wherever they are thought to have the greatest return." I fully acknowledge that these two bills together would require a sizable amount of funds to implement fully. Given the stakes, I believe we must find a way to make this investment in our Nation's future. The authorization levels are based upon the National Academy of Sciences estimates of the funding levels required to implement the recommendations in its report.

The Augustine Report correctly identifies the challenges we face as a nation and has developed a series of specific recommendations to address these challenges. Today's *Washington Post*, includes the op-ed *Learning to Lose? Our Education System Isn't Ready for a World of Competition* by Mr. Norman Augustine which highlights the urgency of taking immediate actions and the consequences if we don't. I have included Mr. Augustine's op-ed in this statement.

My intent in introducing these two bills is to issue a call for action by the Congress and the administration. The conclusions and recommendations in this report are not new. The problem is that neither the administration nor Congress has made any real efforts to act. I hope the introduction of these two bills will begin a substantive discussion on the commitment and resources required to ensure our Nation's future economic competitiveness and that our children have access to well-paid, challenging jobs.

I am committed to working with the private-sector, Members of Congress and the administration in turning this legislation into funded programs.

[From the *Washington Post*, Dec. 6, 2005]

LEARNING TO LOSE? OUR EDUCATION SYSTEM
ISN'T READY FOR A WORLD OF COMPETITION

(By Norman R. Augustine)

In the five decades since I began working in the aerospace industry, I have never seen American business and academic leaders as concerned about this nation's future prosperity as they are today.

On the surface, these concerns may seem unwarranted. Two million jobs were created in the United States in the past year. Citizens of other nations continue to invest their savings in this country at a remarkable rate. Our nation still has the strongest scientific and technological enterprise—and the best research universities—in the world.

But deeper trends in this country and abroad are signs of a gathering storm. After the Cold War, nearly 3 billion potential new capitalists entered the job market. A substantial portion of our workforce now finds itself in direct competition for jobs with highly motivated and often well-educated people from around the world. Workers in virtually every economic sector now face competitors who live just a mouse click away in Ireland, Finland, India, China, Australia and dozens of other nations.

Soon the only jobs that will not be open to worldwide competition are those that require near physical contact between the parties to a transaction. Visitors to an office not far from the White House are greeted by a receptionist on a flat-screen display that controls access to the building and arranges contacts; she is in Pakistan. U.S. companies each morning receive software that was written in India overnight in time to be tested in the United States and returned to India for further refinement that same evening. Drawings for American architectural firms are produced in Brazil. Call-center employees in India are being taught to speak with a Midwestern accent.

This movement of U.S. jobs to other countries has few natural limits. Manufacturing jobs were the first to go, but jobs developing software and conducting various design activities soon followed. Administrative and support jobs are starting to move overseas, and even "high-end" jobs such as professional services, research and management are threatened.

Other nations will continue to have the advantage of lower wages, so the United States

must compete on the basis of its strengths. Throughout the 20th century, one of these strengths was our knowledge-based resources—particularly science and technology. But the scientific and technological foundations of our economic leadership are eroding at a time when many other nations are building their innovative capacity.

This nation's trade balance in high-technology goods swung from a positive flow of \$33 billion in 1990 to a negative flow of \$24 billion in 2003. Two years from now, for the first time ever, the most capable high-energy particle accelerator in the world will be outside the United States. Low-wage employers in this country, such as McDonald's and Wal-Mart, create many more jobs than do high-wage employers. In 2001 U.S. industry spent more on tort litigation and related costs than on research and development.

Today, high-technology firms have to be on the leading edge of scientific and technological progress to survive. Intel Corp. Chairman Craig Barrett has said that 90 percent of the products his company delivers on the final day of each year did not exist on the first day of the same year. To succeed in that kind of marketplace, U.S. firms need employees who are flexible, knowledgeable, and scientifically and mathematically literate.

But the U.S. educational system is failing in precisely those areas that underpin our competitiveness: science, engineering and mathematics. In a recent international test involving mathematical understanding, U.S. students finished 27th among the participating nations. In China and Japan, 59 percent and 66 percent, respectively, of undergraduates receive their degrees in science and engineering, compared with 32 percent in the United States.

I've recently had an opportunity to review these trends as chairman of a 20-member committee created by the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering and the Institute of Medicine. Congress asked the committee to examine the threats to America's future prosperity. The panel was a diverse group that included university presidents, Nobel laureates, heads of companies and former government officials. We agreed unanimously that the United States faces a serious and intensifying economic challenge from abroad—and that we appear to be on a losing path.

Our committee emphasized that the United States needs to focus on fundamentals. We recommended the recruitment of 10,000 new science and math teachers each year through the awarding of competitive scholarships. The skills of a quarter-million current teachers should be improved through enhanced training and education. We recommended establishing 25,000 competitive science, mathematics, engineering and technology undergraduate scholarships and 5,000 graduate fellowships.

To boost scientific and technological innovation, we recommended that the U.S. government increase research funding by 10 percent annually over the next several years, with primary attention devoted to the physical sciences, engineering, mathematics and information sciences. We urged the federal government to create an Advanced Research Projects Agency—Energy (ARPA-E), modeled after the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, which would support out-of-the-box, transformative research aimed at ending our crippling dependence on foreign sources of energy. We asked the government to provide permanent tax incentives for U.S.-based innovation.

The United States wants other nations to do well economically. Broadly based prosperity can make the world more stable and safer for all. What worries business leaders is

that the United States could easily fall behind as the rest of the world prospers.

WORLD DAY FOR PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2005

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the International Child Abuse Network. This wonderful organization works worldwide to break the cycle of violence that leads abused children to grow up to become abusers.

The International Child Abuse Network, also known as Yes ICAN, is a leading global provider of information and resources to deal with child abuse. Yes ICAN believes that child abuse would cease to exist if everyone had the capability to receive accurate, up-to-date information about abuse. Yes ICAN provides assistance and support to survivors who are too afraid or wounded to utilize traditional community resources. Through online forums, victims can heal together in a confidential, mutually supportive atmosphere.

In an effort to bring more awareness to the effects of child abuse on societies around the world, every November 19th Yes ICAN recognizes the World Day for Prevention of Child Abuse. This year's event featured a showcase of art and poetry submissions from schoolchildren. Participants and their teachers were honored during a reception at the Canoga Park Youth Arts Center in my district in California.

The International Child Abuse Network is making positive strides in the fight against child abuse. Their work to create a better future for all children is to be commended. I am proud to congratulate the International Child Abuse Network and thank them for their valuable contributions.

CONGRATULATING MR. DAVID L. BRANT

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2005

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a dedicated law enforcement official at the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, David L. Brant, who is retiring after 28 years of service with NCIS.

Mr. Brant graduated with a master's degree in criminology from Indiana State University in 1975. He began his law enforcement career as a police officer with the Dade County Metropolitan Public Safety Department in Miami, Florida. In 1977, he accepted an offer from the Naval Investigative Service and began his service as a Special Agent assigned to NISRA Norfolk, VA on January 31, 1977. During his 4 years in the Norfolk area, Director Brant served in 4 different NIS offices and also completed an assignment as Special Agent Afloat aboard the USS *Independence*.

Following his assignment as a Special Agent Afloat, Director Brant transferred to the Philippines to become the Special Operations

Squad Leader from 1981–1983. He then was assigned to the Headquarters Training Division as the Executive Assistant to the Director, and then was the Special Agent in Charge at NISRA Mayport. He returned to the Philippines in 1989 to serve as the Deputy Regional Director for the NCIS Southeast Asia Region. In 1991 he returned to NCIS Headquarters and holding various positions until he was appointed to the Senior Executive Service and was selected as the Assistant Director for Counterintelligence. Mr. Brant served in that capacity until he succeeded Roy D. Nedrow as Director in May 1997.

Mr. Brant has been widely recognized within the Department of the Navy, the Department of Defense, and the Federal law enforcement community for his innovative and transformational approaches to enhancing law enforcement and counterintelligence capabilities. He led NCIS in developing and implementing operational strategies, established the Counterterrorism Directorate, and built the Multiple Threat Alert Center (MTAC) to specifically enhance NCIS's ability to counter threats facing the Navy and Marine Corps.

During his career, Mr. Brant has been recognized as an outstanding leader by multiple organizations. His awards include the Department of Defense Presidential Rank Award and the Department of the Navy Distinguished Service Award. Additionally, in 2004 he was awarded the Hispanic American Police Command Officers Association (HAPCOA) Aquila Award for Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice and the Outstanding Advocate for Women in Federal Law Enforcement Award from the Women in Federal Law Enforcement (WIFLE).

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to congratulate Mr. David L. Brant for his service to our country. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding his past accomplishments and wishing him and his wife, Merri Jo, and children Emily and Andrew, the best of luck in all future endeavors.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE THAT DEPLOYMENT OF FORCES IN IRAQ BE TERMINATED IMMEDIATELY

SPEECH OF

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2005

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, earlier today, in the other body, the junior member from Massachusetts delivered compelling remarks about Congressman MURTHA. I believe that it would be to the benefit of all of my colleagues to hear Senator KERRY's comments.

Yesterday, Jack Murtha, a respected congressman on military matters, and former Marine Drill Sergeant and decorated Vietnam veteran, spoke out on our policy in Iraq. He didn't come to that moment lightly. He spoke his mind and spoke his heart out of love for his country and support for our troops. I am not going to stand for a swift boat attack strategy against Jack Murtha.

It disgusts me that a bunch of guys who have never put on the uniform of their country venomously turn their guns on a marine who served his country heroically in Vietnam and has been serving heroically in Congress ever since.