

confine these individuals. In addition, there are currently no beds available in our Administrative Maximum United States Penitentiary in Florence, Colorado, to confine any more Federal inmates, let alone any of the Guantanamo Bay detainees. If called upon to confine any of these detainees, we would most likely confine them in ADX Florence and in one or more high-security penitentiaries. Depending on the numbers, this might require us to transfer a sufficient number of inmates to other penitentiaries in order to create the necessary bed space. Such transfers would impose significant additional challenges on our agency." Clearly the transfer of these detainees to anywhere in America is dangerous and must be prohibited.

My second amendment would express the sense of Congress that active military personnel who live in or are stationed in Washington, DC, would be exempt from the District's firearms restrictions. On June 26, 2008, the Supreme Court of the United States in the case, *District of Columbia v. Heller*, held that the Second Amendment protects an individual's right to possess a firearm for traditionally lawful purposes, and thus, ruled that the District of Columbia's handgun ban and requirements that rifles and shotguns in the home be kept unloaded and disassembled or outfitted with a trigger lock to be unconstitutional. However, the D.C. City Council has circumvented the Supreme Court ruling by enacting the Firearms Control Emergency Amendment Act of 2008, making a waiver necessary to ensure that our military men and women—of which there are 40,000 in Washington and who have been trained in firearm use—are permitted to safely carry a firearm in the District.

A further amendment would prohibit DoD civilian employees from using official paid work time for union activities, ensuring that American taxpayers are not subsidizing labor organizations. DoD was one of the largest abusers of using "official time" for union activity. Its total number of official time hours in FY 2008 was 331,099 (a 5.1% increase from FY 2007). OPM estimated the official time wage cost for the DoD was \$12,141,699 for FY 2008, which is an \$855,694 increase from FY 2007. This is just one example of union activity being subsidized by taxpayer dollars on official time.

My final amendment would have provided the Secretary of Defense with a waiver from section 526 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 regarding the procurement of alternative fuels if the Secretary feels that a waiver is appropriate to enhance the readiness of the Armed Forces. Section 526 prohibits all federal agencies from contracting for alternative fuels that emit higher levels of greenhouse gas emissions than "conventional petroleum sources." DoD accounts for over 80% of all federal government fuel usage, and its annual fuel expense more than doubled between 2003 and 2007—from \$5.2 billion to \$12.6 billion. The Secretary of Defense needs a waiver from section 526 so that DoD's fuel costs can be kept low.

Mr. Chair, there is much to be proud of in this bill. I again commend Chairman SKELTON and Ranking Member MCKEON for their efforts to keep this bill focused on the needs of the war-fighter, a fact that I hope is not lost as we progress through the amendment process.

CELEBRATING FISH AND LOAVES
COMMUNITY PANTRY'S MIL-
LIONTH POUND SERVED

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2009

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge, honor, and celebrate the Fish and Loaves Community Pantry for serving its one millionth pound of food to people in need from across the Downriver area. Since its opening in 2007, Fish and Loaves continues to collaborate with churches, food banks, and hundreds of volunteers to provide cost-free, quality groceries to thousands of families and individuals.

Tough economic times have made acquiring even basic necessities difficult for many residents of Southeastern Michigan. Many of the people that Fish and Loaves serve are below the poverty line, lack medical coverage, and struggle to pay for essential services.

The organizers of the Fish and Loaves Community Pantry recognized this and, in response, churches and volunteers joined together in remarkable collaboration to construct a special kind of food pantry. The facility, located in Taylor, is arranged as a small grocery store in which individuals may select the items they need most, which include quality products like fresh produce, dairy products, frozen meat, and perishable items. Of course, everything is still provided at no cost to the client. The pantry serves the residents of Taylor, Romulus, Allen Park, Southgate, Dearborn Heights, and Brownstown.

Fish and Loaves provides assistance to those in need with both efficiency and dignity by providing a wide variety of foods and household products from which to choose. The hard work and dedication of the Board and volunteers is the source of its great success and support it gives to the thousands of individuals and families it helps to feed.

Madam Speaker, I ask that all of my colleagues join me in honoring the Fish and Loaves Community Food Pantry on its millionth pound of food served. It is an exemplary organization that continues to be an invaluable member of the Southeastern Michigan community and for which I, and thousands others, are truly grateful.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. BRIAN P. BILBRAY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2009

Mr. BILBRAY. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Requesting Member: Congressman BRIAN BILBRAY

Bill Number: H.R. 2996—Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010

Account: Environmental Protection Agency, State Tribal Assistance Grants

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Carlsbad, CA

Address: 1200 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad, CA 92008

Description of Request: I received an earmark of \$500,000 for the Vista-Carlsbad Inter-

ceptor project (VC4), consisting of wastewater pipeline improvements project, including the construction of a new 24-inch HDPE forcemain, the trenchless rehabilitation (lining) of the existing 24-inch forcemain and refurbishment of pipeline appurtenances. VC4 is one of a number of joint wastewater projects between the cities of Vista and Carlsbad. VC4 is one of two pipelines that convey all of the wastewater from the City of Vista to the Encina regional wastewater treatment facility. In April 2007, the 24-inch ductile iron pipeline ruptured creating a significant sewage spill into the Buena Vista Lagoon. The 2,400 foot long 24-inch diameter pipeline receives flow from the cities of Carlsbad, Oceanside and Vista. This is the only year of funding needed to complete this aspect of the project. The cities of Carlsbad and Vista will provide the remaining funds required for the project directly.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2009

Mr. AKIN. Madam Speaker, in accordance with House Republican Conference standards, and Clause 9 of rule XXI, I submit the following member requests regarding H.R. 2647, the National Defense Authorization Act of 2010.

Project: Air Filtrations Systems for Helicopters

Account: Department of Defense, Army, Aircraft Modifications

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Aerospace Filtration Systems, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 4 Research Park Dr, Suite 200, St Charles, MO, USA

Description of Request: To provide \$2,000,000 to install barrier filtration systems on National Guard aircraft. This request would allow the National Guard to obtain dramatic savings by reducing engine replacements and thus maintenance, keeping overall engine performance from being reduced due to erosion and Foreign Object damage (FOD), and increasing readiness rates of the ARNG fleet. The earmark will address a portion of the ARNG fleet to include: AH-64A APU Barrier Filter—32 Aircraft; AH-64D APU Barrier Filter—48 Aircraft; CH-47 APU Barrier Filter—80 Aircraft; OH-58A/C Engine Barrier Filter—50 Aircraft. AFS Barrier Filtration Systems capture 99% of the dirt and debris that would otherwise enter the engine or APU and cause a significant loss of performance. This prevents engines/APU's from being removed from the aircraft for costly maintenance or overhaul. Engine overhaul costs could cost as much as \$300,000 on one engine. By extending the life of the engine/APU up to 11 times, the savings from one installation kit could be as high as \$6.6M on one AH-64 helicopter alone. AFS barrier filters in use by the U.S. Army in the deserts of Iraq and Afghanistan have been proven extremely effective. These kits have allowed engines to reach TBO and have been a major part of unprecedented readiness rates for the aircraft fleets.

Project: Hyperspectral Imaging for Improved Force Protection (HYPER-IFP)

Account: Department of Defense, Army, RDT&E (CERDEC, NVESD, Special Projects)