

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Chair, I would like to call up my amendment, made in order under the rule, to shift \$50,000 from Office of the Chief Economist at USDA to the Economic Research Service (ERS).

The goal of this amendment is to have the Office of the Chief Economist work jointly with the Economic Research Service and the Foreign Agriculture Service to conduct a study on the potential growth in U.S. agriculture exports that would result from implementation of the pending trade promotion agreements with Colombia, Panama, and South Korea within 90 days of this legislation becoming law.

Additionally, USDA would also report on the potential impact on U.S. agriculture exports if these agreements are not implemented.

In each case, USDA would analyze the impacts of changes in exports on agriculture sector employment, wages, farm income, and commodity prices.

As I am sure you know, each of these countries has signed or is negotiating trade agreements with several countries that are major competitors for U.S. farmers and ranchers. I know we are all concerned about the potential loss of competitiveness the families and workers in our agriculture sector would face if the pending trade agreements are not implemented.

Previous studies by the International Trade Commission show the benefits of these agreements. Taken together, they could increase all U.S. exports by over \$12 billion. This new study would give us an opportunity to update this information and focus specifically on the U.S. agriculture sector.

In these difficult economic times, Congress, now more than ever, must pursue policies to enhance the competitiveness of America's farmers and ranchers. Since 95 percent of all consumers are outside of the United States, increasing exports are a vital component of that effort.

The analysis conducted as a result of my amendment would help Members of Congress understand the importance of leveling the playing field for America's farmers and ranchers by implementing the pending trade agreements.

HONORING THE LIFE OF HENRY
ARISTIDE "RED" BOUCHER

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Henry Aristide "Red" Boucher, 88, who died June 19, 2009. Mr. Boucher was a civic and political institution in his adopted home state of Alaska. He also was a dedicated family man with 12 children, 27 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. I became aware of Mr. Boucher through a family friendship with his daughter, Jennifer McNelly, and her family, who live in my district.

Mr. Boucher moved to Fairbanks, Alaska in 1958, after serving the United States Navy for 20 years. The New Hampshire native's move to Alaska was strongly influenced by a suggestion from a young Senator by the name of John F. Kennedy, for whom Mr. Boucher had campaigned. The future President told Mr.

Boucher, "There is great potential in the northern territory."

Just eight years after he arrived in Fairbanks, Mr. Boucher was elected mayor and held the position for four years. During his term, he guided the city through one of its greatest natural disasters, the flood of 1967. After his term as mayor, Mr. Boucher served as Alaska's lieutenant governor from 1970 to 1974 under Gov. Bill Egan. He also served as a representative in Alaska's state house from 1985 to 1990.

While his passion for politics will never be questioned, his legacy is likely to be the baseball team he founded in 1959, the Alaska Goldpanners of the Alaska Baseball League. The Goldpanners are well-known for carrying more than 200 future major league players on its rosters through the years.

Mr. Boucher also was a staunch supporter of telecommunications and led a campaign to increase Internet access in remote villages.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of this great American and extending our sympathies to his family and the people of Alaska.

HONORING THE METRO-EAST LUTHERAN
KNIGHTS BASEBALL
TEAM

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor one of the top high school baseball teams in Illinois.

The Metro-East Lutheran Knights of Edwardsville, Illinois, competed in the Illinois High School Association Class AA baseball state finals, and came away with a second place trophy. This year's appearance was the first visit to the state finals for the Knights in baseball, making our region proud. In the semifinals, the Knights beat a strong Morrison club, before falling in the championship to the defending state champions from Olympia.

As a former baseball coach for the Knights, I want to congratulate this year's head coach Scott Downing and assistant coaches Tom Hitt, Brian Brynildsen, Joel Rempfer and Brian Hipkiss on their great achievement. I especially want to congratulate the members of the 2009 Metro-East Lutheran Knights state runner-up squad: Brian Berry, Matt Brynildsen, TC Collins, Trevor Engelke, Nick Hoff, Chris Hoffman, Simon Hoffman, Conor Judge, Taylor Judge, Andrew Langendorf, Joe McCall, Alex Robinson, Josh Schelp, Andrew Scheumann, Isaac Schoeber, Dusty Shimkus and Jon Trampe.

These outstanding student-athletes have put together a season to be proud of, and I want to join with the other members of this House in congratulating them and wishing them well in all their endeavors, both on and off the field.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BEN RAY LUJÁN

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. LUJÁN. Madam Speaker, due to scheduling conflicts, I was unable to be present for

rollcall Vote No. 488. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

IN RECOGNITION OF THE KOREAN
WAR

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, as we recognize the fifty-ninth anniversary of the Korean War, it is fitting that we have a renewed appreciation for the courage of the American military. This was a conflict initiated by a surprise attack from North Korea mercilessly against the people of South Korea. Throughout the war, American servicemembers resisted North Korean attacks and provided security for the people of South Korea. This has enabled that nation to become one of the world's most successful economies with a dynamic democratic form of government. They are a model for our allies in Iraq and Afghanistan which shows that from the ashes of war a thriving civil society can emerge.

Poet Albert Carey Caswell, an appreciated Capitol tour guide, has authored the following poetic tribute to America's military:

THE KOREAN WAR

The Korean War . . .
Was but the one for sure . . .
One hell of a fight, all the more!
Where, brave hearts of America so for sure
. . .
Would so bring their light to insure . . .
That Communism could not endure . . .
A time when the world, would test that
dream . . .
Of the United Nation, as now it all so clearly
seems!
From all across America's shores . . .
As came such fine brave hearts, who would
somehow endure . . .
But, the very face of hell . . . whose fine
hearts so chose to swell . . .
All for our freedom to insure!
From The Frozen Chosen, to Pork Chop hill
. . .
Such brave hearts, of iron wills!
MacArthur's Men of Might, who but bore
that fight . . .
Who so heroically upon those deadly hills
burned bright!
As just when things looked far gone,
But came that surprising landing at Inchon!
For America had Seoul . . .
The kind that we must so teach our children,
in hearts to so hold!
All in hearts of honor which soar . . .
All in America's quest, to freedom to so in-
sure . . .
As all throughout the centuries,
Have such magnificents, so bought our
peace!
The one's who have so lived and died . . .
Whose loved ones were left behind to cry!
Who fought in one of the most bloodiest wars
. . .
Fine patriots, who so heroically headed
north!
With Communist on the march, as cried
these boys . . .
Men of honor, "not on my watch" were heard
their voices . . .
Cold is Cold, for there could be no colder
days in hell of course . . .
All in what this war would spell . . .
And 'Oh what heartache and misery . . .
For all of these finest of all souls, would be
. . .

And all those in that air war,
Sent them running back across those Yalu
shores . . .
For they too were the men of the hour,
For the air support gave us such power!
And all those on the high seas . . . dropping
b's . . .
Softening up those commies . . .
And all of those MIA's,
Whose loved ones their fine hearts still muse
this very day . . .
About where there loved ones now so lie . . .
For only now, their precious souls are seen
all in our lord's eyes!
And all of those who returned home, without
arms and legs . . .
Teaching us all what the word hero so con-
veys!
And eyes, who now so live without this day
. . .
For some call it the Forgotten War!
But not so in our Lord's eyes, for sure!
For of these, were the finest of all Men . . .
Who Live on this day . . .
All in America's greatest of all heroic lores!
As was, The Korean War . . .

ENHANCING SMALL BUSINESS RE-
SEARCH AND INNOVATION ACT
OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY SUTTON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 8, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2965) to amend the Small Business Act with respect to the Small Business Innovation Research Program and the Small Business Technology Transfer Program, and for other purposes:

Ms. SUTTON. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of the underlying legislation, H.R. 2965, the Enhancing Small Business Research and Innovation Act.

This bill will ensure that small businesses have access to federal research and development money so they can continue to be the engines of economic growth and innovation that our economy so desperately needs.

This bill also contains a number of important developments—including a focus on the commercialization of products developed with SBIR funding.

A focus on commercialization is also a focus on jobs as technologies and innovations created by this funding enter the marketplace.

I am also pleased that a number of provisions that I championed have been included in the manager's amendment and the underlying bill.

One of these provisions requires agencies that administer SBIR programs to give special consideration to vital transportation and infrastructure research activities when reviewing grant applications.

Investing in our nation's transportation and infrastructure through small business is essential to our long term success and growth.

I also worked to include a preference for veterans who have so honorably served this country.

This is the least we can do for the 26 million brave men and women who sacrificed years of their lives to protect our country—many who are small business owners.

This bill will also increase outreach to service-disabled veterans and other underrepresented groups.

As I have said before and I will say again, it is not enough to simply pay tribute to our veterans with our words; we must show our appreciation through our actions.

I also strongly support the provision of this bill that I worked on with Representative BOSWELL to require that priority be given to grant applicants from areas of the country that have lost a major source of employment.

Communities across this country, from Ohio to Iowa, are suffering as employers shut their doors. In Ohio, 83 of the 88 counties have experienced a mass layoff or plant closing since 2001.

Focusing funds in areas that have suffered the most and have endured major job losses will ensure that this money is helping people in the communities that need it most.

I urge a yes vote on the rule and the underlying bill.

IN HONOR OF THE BIG SUR
HEALTH CENTER

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 30th anniversary of the Big Sur Health Center, an independent, state-licensed, not-for-profit, community clinic, nestled in the heart of the beautiful Big Sur Valley. The Center is the only source of out-patient care for the 1,500 residents of the over 100 miles of remote and mountainous Big Sur coast. The Center also serves nearly 3,000,000 tourists who visit the Big Sur coast each year. It is crucial to the welfare of the Big Sur Community. As a Big Sur resident myself, I applaud the work of the health center staff and volunteers who do so much for their neighbors and visitors alike.

The Center grew out of a local, grass-roots effort in the late 1970s, to meet the needs of this rural community to provide quality comprehensive medical care to all in Big Sur regardless of a patient's ability to pay. At that time, I represented Big Sur as a Monterey County Supervisor. I had the great pleasure of working with Ray Sanborn, Dr. Saul Kunitz and other community leaders.

The Center finally opened its doors in September 1979. By 1985, it had become a 501(c)(3) corporation with a volunteer Board of Directors. That same year BSHC relocated from the Big Sur Grange Hall to its current location on the grounds of the All Saints Episcopal Church. In 2004, following a community-wide fundraising effort, the Center moved out of its old trailers into a new building at that site. Over the years the Center has developed into a busy family practice with over 2,600 patient visits annually. In the last few years the Center has also embarked on several important outreach initiatives. These included an oral health program emphasizing childhood dental care, a program to work with families and school districts to reverse growing rates of childhood obesity, and a multi year effort to reach out to the Big Sur coast's substantial Spanish speaking population.

This spirit of service and professionalism was apparent during the summer and fall of 2008 when the second largest wildfire in California's history besieged the Big Sur commu-

nity for the better part of two months. The Center staff worked hand in hand with the fire response authorities to help treat injured fire fighters so that they could return to their crews to continue their important work.

Looking to the future, the Center has fully embraced the move to electronic medical records championed by the Congress and President Obama. The Big Sur Health Center has developed and implemented an information technology system that provides practice management, electronic medical records and electronic health information exchange, and assures the protection of critical patient data in the event of a disaster that threatens or destroys the facility. In addition, this system allows for remote access to documents and facilitates patient management in the event of after-hours emergency room visits, or during a community disaster that closes the center. Retrieval of information for disease management in key populations, quality measures reporting, tracking of data and State-mandated annual clinic reporting is no longer the cumbersome and time consuming project of past times. Electronic retrieval and reactivation of patient health records is now done rapidly and accurately. The result is great savings to the Center and faster, better, more attentive care to the patient.

Madam Speaker, the Big Sur Health Center is a national treasure. It exemplifies a kind of dedicated grass-roots based health service that will be a key ingredient in a reformed American healthcare system—first rate medical care, cutting edge technology, in a community based setting. I know I speak for the whole House in extending our congratulations to the Center for a successful thirty years and our wishes for many more to come.

CONGRATULATING RALPH F.
KORTE

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ralph F. Korte for his 2008 induction in the Southern Illinois University of Edwardsville Alumni Association Hall of Fame.

Ralph Korte is the founder and chairman emeritus of the board of Korte Company. The company was established by Mr. Korte in 1958 after he returned from Korea, serving in the U.S. Army. He was asked to build a milking parlor by his neighbor and a few weeks later he created an innovative, state-of-the-art business structure that is still used today.

In 1959 Korte decided to go to college and utilized the financial aid of the G.I. Bill. He took two night classes a week for 5 years until his G.I. benefits ran out. Korte realized his business courses were helping him manage his company, so he stayed in college. After 4 more years of schooling, he graduated from SIUE School of Business. Korte attributes his success in business to the quality of education he received at SIUE.

By 2005 the Korte Company was operating in 37 states and by 2008 it celebrated its 50th anniversary. The company is a nationally recognized industry leader with more than 1,800 jobs completed across the country. "I'm proud to say that more than 80 percent of our business comes from returning customers," Korte