

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
. . .