

Iraq where she saved lives, cared for the wounded and served her country with great distinction.

Beyond her tours of duty, Wilson is devoted to educating and training our military personnel. She teaches life-saving skills to military personnel so they will be able to provide the best possible care when deployed and under wartime conditions.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing this outstanding Air Force Nurse Corps leader for serving our country and protecting the lives of fellow service men and women in combat.

SOLAR TECHNOLOGY ROADMAP ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 22, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 3585) to guide and provide for United States research, development, and demonstration of solar energy technologies, and for other purposes:

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong support of the Solar Technology Roadmap Act because I believe that a strong commitment to solar technology is essential if we're going to lead our country into a robust clean energy economy.

I want to commend my colleague from New York, Mr. HINCHEY, for his leadership and for partnering with me to ensure that there's a diverse regional balance in the Solar Technology Roadmap.

I'd especially like to thank Chairman GORDON for incorporating the Israel Amendment into his Manager's Amendment. This language requires the Solar Roadmap Committee to work with the Departments of Interior and Defense, the National Park Service, and the General Services Administration on the potential for solar demonstration projects on federal lands. We must be using all the resources we have to tap into renewable energy.

We have significant resources in the National Parks and on military bases around the country. Just last month, I was hiking in the Grand Canyon and realized the enormous potential for renewable energy on the roofs of visitors centers alone. This past spring I was at Fort Drum touring the expansive land available there for a robust solar installation that will contribute to an independent energy supply for the base. Our National Parks and federal lands should be landmarks for innovation, efficiency and renewable energy.

Currently, National Parks' renewable energy generation rates are only 1.5 percent of their total average need. The Park Service needs to install 5.8 MW of renewable energy sources between now and 2013 to meet current federal mandates. Just 50 of our 391 National Parks use 80 percent of the total energy consumed by the National Park Service. Solar demonstration projects in these high-use parks could tremendously reduce the energy consumption of the entire National Park system.

The DOD is the single largest energy user in the United States. Any marginal increases in efficiency or the use of renewable sources

could have significant impacts on civilian supply. According to DOD reports, the military consumes 1.2 percent of the energy required in the entire country. By 2013, the military must acquire 7.5 percent of its electricity from renewables. Energy is not just an economic and environmental issue, but this shows that it's a national security issue as well.

Again, I thank the gentleman for yielding and look forward to continuing to work with him to reform U.S. energy policy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 28, 2009

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, unfortunately on October 26, 2009, I was unable to cast my votes on H. Res. 368 and H. Res. 562 and wish the RECORD to reflect my intentions had I been able to vote.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 814 on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 368, Congratulating the University of Iowa Hawkeyes wrestling team on winning the 2009 NCAA Division I National Wrestling Championships, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 815 on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H. Res. 562, Congratulating Syracuse University for winning the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Mens Lacrosse Tournament, I would have voted "aye."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 28, 2009

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, on Monday, October 26 and Tuesday, October 27, 2009, I was unfortunately unable to be present for recorded votes while at home recovering from a collapsed lung.

Had I been present, I would have voted: "yes" on rollcall vote No. 814 (on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 368, as amended), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 815 (on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 562), "no" on rollcall vote No. 816 (on the motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 2996), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 817 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 2489, as amended), and "yes" on rollcall vote No. 818 (on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 854).

RECOGNIZING THE "SWEATS FOR VETS" INITIATIVE

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 28, 2009

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the "Sweats for Vets" initiative taking place in Virginia's 10th District, which I am honored to represent in Congress.

When I visited Walter Reed Army Medical Center during August recess, I learned about

an effort being undertaken by groups of veterans and other organizations across the United States to provide "pieces of home" to our wounded warriors in veterans' hospitals. Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1177, based in Leesburg, Virginia, is one of these groups. Their "Sweats for Vets" program has provided sweatpants, sweatshirts, and books to patients at the Martinsburg Veterans Hospital, as part of the hospital's support program. This gesture helps make a hospital more comfortable for our wounded soldiers.

The town of Purcellville, also located in the 10th District, has joined with VFW Post 1177 and American Legion Post 293 in collecting sweat sets for patients in local veterans' hospitals. The "Sweats for Vets" initiative has become a tremendous morale booster. I would like to recognize the Purcellville mayor, Bob Lazaro, for leading the initiative in the town. By undertaking this project, he is leading an important effort to help our wounded warriors and improve their stay in the hospital.

I salute the efforts of both VFW Post 1177 and the town of Purcellville, to help bring comfort to those service personnel recovering in veterans' hospitals.

HONORING HENRY GAWRONSKI

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 28, 2009

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Henry Gawronski, a lifelong resident of Bucks County and dedicated public servant. For 44 years, Henry has served his country and his community, whether through his time in the Navy, his positions on the school board, or as a Township Supervisor.

Henry graduated from Central Bucks High School in 1955, and shortly thereafter enlisted in the U.S. Navy. He retired from the Navy twenty years later in July of 1975 and devoted his time to his auto body business on a fulltime basis. He has five children and was deeply involved in the school board, serving as Treasurer, Vice-President, and President of the Palisades School Board during his six years of service beginning in 1980.

In 1983, Henry became one of the founding members of the Palisades Republican Club. He felt that the formation of the this club would help unite the Republicans in his rural area and encourage local, county, and state candidates to attend so community members could see, hear, and question what they had to say in person.

Henry became a Township Supervisor in January of 1988. During his eighteen year tenure, he has served as Vice-Chairman and Chairman. In 1989, he spearheaded the project to build an addition to the Nockamixon Township Building, and managed to fund it through donations of money and labor—at no cost to the township. Six years ago, he made his dream of a huge party for the township a reality by forming and helping coordinate an annual Nockamixon Township Community Day. Generous donations allow residents and guests to be treated to free entertainment, food, and door prizes.

Henry has devoted the better portion of his life to public service—20 years in the Navy, 6