I want to commend Representative Israel for introducing this important resolution, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DENNY REHBERG
OF MONTANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 2, 2009

Mr. REHBERG. Madam Speaker, on rollcall number 911, 912, and 913 I was unavoidably detained due to communications from Billings, MT to Washington, DC. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall 911, "yea" on rollcall 912, and "aye" on rollcall 913.

ENERGY AND WATER RESEARCH INTEGRATION ACT

SPEECH OF
HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, December 1, 2009

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today in support of H.R. 3598, "Energy and Water Research Integration Act". I would like thank my colleague, Rep. BART GORDON, for introducing this important legislation.

I support this legislation because our country faces immense challenges with increased demand on our energy and water resources. It is for that reason that this bill is a critical component of our country's energy strategy. According to the Department of Energy's National Energy Technology Laboratory, the thermolectric power sector accounts for 39 percent of total freshwater withdrawal in the United States, and 3.3 percent of total freshwater consumption.

Not only do we need vast quantities of water for energy production, but we also need energy to transport and treat water. Water resource problems are intensifying across all regions of the country. As demand for water continues to rise and supplies dwindle, it has become increasingly apparent that the federal government should create a comprehensive strategy for energy-water research and development of new technologies to ensure sustainable water and energy supplies.

This legislation takes the first steps toward tackling these problems by directing the Secretary, in carrying out energy research, development, and demonstration programs of the Department of Energy (DOE), to:
- seek to advance energy and energy efficiency technologies and practices that would minimize freshwater withdrawal and consumption, increase water use efficiency, and utilize non-traditional water sources with efforts to improve the quality of that water; consider the effects climate change may have on water supplies and quality for energy generation and fuel production; and improve understanding of the energy required to provide water supplies and the water required to provide reliable energy supplies throughout the United States.
- It further requires the Secretary to incorporate specified considerations, including: new advanced cooling technologies for energy generation and fuel production technologies; innovative water reuse, recovery, and treatment in energy generation and fuel production; and reduction of water resource impacts of fossil fuel resource development.

Finally, this bill directs the Secretary, in coordination with other agencies, to establish an Energy-Water Architecture Council to promote and enable improved energy and water resource data collection, reporting, and technological innovation.

This Council would be required to:
- adopt data collection and communication standards and protocols for the nation to provide water supplies and the water required to provide reliable energy supplies; make improvements to federal water use data to increase understanding of trends in power plant water use; integrate existing monitoring networks to provide nationally uniform water and energy use and infrastructure data; and conduct an annual technical workshop to facilitate information exchange among experts on technologies that encourage the conservation and efficient use of water energy.

With these first steps, our country will be far better informed about the challenges wrought by increasing demands for water and energy, and so will be better able to face them.

CONGRATULATING KIM JAKOVICS

HON. JOHN P. SARBAWES
OF MARYLAND
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 2, 2009

Mr. SARBAWES. Madam Speaker, I would like to commend Kim Jakovics, a social studies teacher at Annapolis High School in Maryland, for winning the Milken Educator Award. Since 1987, this prestigious award has been given annually to honor teachers who have distinguished themselves in their important and challenging field. Of the fifty-three teachers across the nation to be awarded this prize, she is the sole recipient from Maryland. Mrs. Jakovics was selected because of the immeasurable impact she has had on her students. Michael Milken, co-founder of the foundation, said of her instruction, "Students' self-image changed, their aspirations changed. Students were different after that experience."

For the past six years, Mrs. Jakovics' dedication to her students has made them feel more confident to aim for loftier goals. She has embraced the challenge of teaching diverse groups.

Because of teachers like Mrs. Jakovics, Annapolis High School has experienced a dramatic improvement in student results. For five years the school failed to meet state testing standards. Over the last two years, however, the school has met standards and been removed from Maryland's troubled schools watch list. The dedication of teachers like Mrs. Jakovics is what makes such a dramatic turnaround possible.

I hope Mrs. Jakovics will inspire other talented individuals to enter the field of teaching. Once again, I congratulate Mrs. Jakovics and wish her the best of luck.