Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Eli Warren, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1179, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Eli has been very active with his troop participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Eli has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Eli Warren for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR GREATER AWARENESS OF OVARIAN CANCER

SPEECH OF HON. MARY JO KILROY
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, December 1, 2009

Ms. KILROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 727, which supports the goals and ideals of National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.

We all know someone who has been diagnosed with cancer and understand the devastating impact that diagnosis can have on the patient and his or her family. Although we have made great strides in recent years in finding new treatments for those afflicted with cancer, ovarian cancer continues to be difficult to diagnose and when discovered in later stages, the survival rate is lower than 45 percent. Ovarian cancer silently spreads because we cannot reliably screen for it and because its symptoms are common with other diseases.

As an original cosponsor of H.R. 1816, the “Ovarian Cancer Biomarker Research Act,” introduced by my friend and colleague Representative BERMAN, I believe we should encourage collaboration between the federal government and private organizations conducting invaluable research on biomarkers for use in risk stratification for, and the early detection and screening of, ovarian cancer. These types of initiatives will ensure that the United States remains a leader in medical breakthroughs and innovations.

We must continue to support funding for research into ovarian cancer, so that we may one day find a cure. We also must devote the necessary resources into developing new screening technology for cancers like ovarian cancer which all too often are found late. Equally important, all women and men need to educate themselves about ovarian cancer so that we save our own lives or those of our loved ones.

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

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

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

Mr. REHBERG. Madam Speaker, on rolcall 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 rolcall 911, “yea” on rolcall 912, and “aye” on rolcall 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 thermoelectric 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 of Energy to establish an Energy-Water Architecture to coordinate with other relevant federal agencies, and the water required to provide reliable energy supplies; and 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

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

Mr. SARBANES. 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 incredibly important and challenging field.

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 become a leader in her classroom and has inspired hundreds of students at different skill levels and 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.