

gain in the lab and apply it in a true-fielded application at an affordable cost. The Hyper-IFP system will also be environmentally hardened to allow field deployment and allow integration with other FP sensors in the last quarter of 2009. Hyper-IFP is focused on the missions of Perimeter Security, Suicide Bomb Detection and Urban Route Recon. Utility will be demonstrated through an evaluation in both the Southwest border and contingency mission in Southwest Asia. This effort will require leveraging the current Force Protection sensor suite designs for the missions sites to maintain interoperability. In the end, this request focuses on both achieving data verification, and the delivery of sufficient hardware to validate the Technical Data package for re-procurement as well as demonstrate the system's ability to deploy to DoD/DHS users for the missions described. The Night Vision Electronic Sensors Directorate, Ft. Belvoir Virginia, is very supportive of this project.

HONORING THE TALL PINE  
COUNCIL

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2010*

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Tall Pine Council as they celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America. To mark the occasion an exhibition at the Alfred P. Sloan Museum in Flint, Michigan will begin on Monday, February 8th to honor the contributions of Boy Scouts and the Tall Pine Council.

W.D. Boyce incorporated the Boy Scouts of America on February 8, 1910 and a tradition of service, character development, citizenship and physical fitness began. The Boy Scouts of America spread and by 1912 there were troops in all states. Over the past 100 years the Boy Scouts of America has performed invaluable service to the people of our nation. They provided nationwide service during the 1918 influenza epidemic and collected over 1 million items of food and clothing to help the needy and suffering during the 1930s. Boy Scouts worked with the Office of Civil Defense Mobilization as messengers, emergency medical personnel and firefighters during World War II. This tradition of service continues today with the Boy Scouts of America partnering with the Salvation Army, the American Red Cross and Habitat for Humanity for the national Good Turn for America program to address the problems of hunger, homelessness and poor health. In addition, Boy Scouts are assisting with relief efforts for the victims of the earthquake in Haiti.

The first troop in the Flint area was formed in 1912 at the Oak Park Methodist Church. Troops operated independently until 1917 when the Flint Council was formed. Approximately 248 scouts participated in activities during this time. During the Council's first five years there were 63 units formed and 2,720 boys participated including spending time at the Boy Scout Camp on Lobdell Lake. The Flint Council quickly grew and eventually covered Genesee, Lapeer and Shiawassee Counties. In 1937 the Council was renamed the Tall

Pine Council. Currently the Tall Pine Council operates Camp Holaka near Lapeer and Camp Tapico near Kalkaska.

Over the past 100 years the Boy Scouts of the Tall Pine Council have joined their fellow scouts working for our nation by selling bonds during the two World Wars, distributing get-out-the-vote door hangers, collecting food and working on community beautification projects. They raise money through their annual popcorn sales to support their packs and troops. During 2009, the Tall Pine Council served over 11,000 youngsters, 77 boys earned the Eagle Scout distinction and 200 boys earned the Cub Scout's Arrow of Light Award. More than 3,000 adults serve as role models and mentors, I have served as a Boy Scout adult volunteer, and a member of my staff, Lucetia Manwaring, is currently a Cub Scout Den Mother.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me and applaud the achievements, perseverance and pride of the Tall Pine Council and the Boy Scouts of America. For 100 years they have helped youngsters grow into enthusiastic, caring men committed to community service, and preserving our natural resources. I commend them for the wonderful work they do and hope they will continue for many, many years to come.

ON THE RETIREMENT OF JOHN  
HOSKINS

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2010*

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, it has come to my attention that John Hoskins has recently retired as the Director of Missouri's Department of Conservation after a career in conservation that spans more than three decades. A steadfast steward of Missouri's beautiful natural resources, Mr. Hoskins has spent his life protecting our environment so that future generations may enjoy Missouri's God-given beauty.

A lifelong Missourian, Mr. Hoskins grew up on a small Ozark farm where he learned the value of a clean environment and the special connection we enjoy with our natural surroundings. After graduating with a bachelor's degree from Southeast Missouri State University in 1975, he went on to complete a Master of Public Administration degree at my alma mater, the University of Missouri.

Throughout his tenure with the department, Mr. Hoskins has balanced competing priorities with a fixed budget. Under his leadership, the department has expanded conservation education facilities across the state and created new school programs to teach young Missourians the importance of caring for our precious natural resources.

On a personal note, the magazine of the Department of Conservation, the Missouri Conservationist, has been a mainstay of my office for many years now. My fellow Missourians and I have long enjoyed the magazine's interesting articles and the beautiful pictures of Missouri's great outdoors.

Madam Speaker, I trust my fellow members of the House will join me in recognizing John

Hoskins, a man who has dedicated his life to the effective stewardship of Missouri's environment.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRANSPORTATION TRADES DEPARTMENT, AFL-CIO

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2010*

Mr. THOMPSON OF MISSISSIPPI. Madam Speaker, this year marks the 20th anniversary of the Transportation Trades Department of the AFL-CIO (TTD). It is my distinct pleasure to honor TTD, as it has firmly established itself as an effective advocate for American workers and is a well-respected leader in transportation policy debates.

The threats facing the United States in the 21st Century require all of us to be on the frontlines. Accordingly, TTD has brought workers together from across all sectors of the transportation industry. From aviation to surface transportation, threats to transportation security are broad and cross-cutting, and TTD has helped to bring diverse groups of workers together to speak with a clear, strong voice on issues of common concern.

As Chairman of the House Committee on Homeland Security, I know how important transportation workers are to the National homeland security mission. On September 11, 2001, transportation workers witnessed the destruction firsthand, and some workers' lives were, unfortunately, cut short. Since that day, under the leadership of TTD, these men and women have become educated and effective allies and advocates in improving our homeland security. TTD workers are on the front lines, working under stressful, rapidly-changing conditions. Under my leadership, the Committee has taken efforts to support these tireless and dedicated workers by providing them with the tools, training, and protections they deserve. To keep our homeland secure, transportation workers must be trained, prepared, and supported.

TTD has been a strong advocate for ensuring that workers have the training and tools they need to protect their passengers from harm, and their freight shipments from foul play. It has helped workers be free to identify security gaps in an appropriate manner without fear of retribution from their employer. TTD has also been a leading proponent for a strong federal investment in transportation security, one that recognizes that all modes must be fully secured. And it has been invaluable as background check and security credential programs are created for workers—making certain that we are improving security, not just making it more difficult for people to do their jobs.

We are continually reminded that our efforts to strengthen transportation security are far from complete. In these complicated times, the bold and effective voice of TTD is needed more than ever. I congratulate TTD on the important progress it has made on behalf of workers in its first 20 years, and look forward to working with them in the years ahead.