based and cost-effective, especially in the current fiscal environment. The immense public territory on which this cultivation could occur makes aerial surveillance akin to finding a needle in a haystack: it would involve great expense and a militaristic approach to policing vast public lands. Given the practical challenges and enormous resources that would be required to make a sizable dent in eradicating marijuana cultivation on public lands, the policy proposed by H. Res. 1540 is neither evidence-based nor cost-effective. If we are to devote more resources to reducing the supply of illegal drugs in the United States, domestic eradication programs are not the best use of taxpayer dollars.

As the Chair of the Domestic Policy Subcommittee of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, with oversight jurisdiction over the Office of National Drug Control Policy, I have held several hearings in the past year which have established that science and research support focusing our counterdrug dollars on drug treatment and evidence-based drug prevention programs. These hearings have also demonstrated that it is a more effective use of our resources to reduce and prevent the public health consequences of drug use such as HIV transmission and overdose deaths.

As Secretary of State Clinton has acknowledged, reducing U.S. consumption of drugs is one of the most effective ways we can help Mexico combat its drug trade. I urge my colleagues to oppose this resolution.

SUPPORTING THE REAUTHORIZATION OF THE CHILD NUTRITION ACT

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 17, 2010

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, as we close this year, I wish to voice my support for the advancements we made to the Child Nutrition Act this month. S. 3307, the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, which the President signed into law this month, will do much to reduce child hunger and obesity.

Poverty is a stark reality for far too many people in my Congressional District, in Chicago, and in Illinois. In my Congressional District, the poverty rate based on 2008 Census data was 22.6 percent—well above the national average. The child poverty rate in 2008 for my District was 34.1 percent, almost double the national average. There are three primary child nutrition programs that this bill improves: the National School Lunch Program; Women, Infants, and Children, WIC, Program; and the Child and Adult Care Food Program. In Illinois, there are over 1 million children who benefit from the school lunch program, 300,000 who benefit from WIC, and 124,000 who benefit from the Child Care Food program. These children will benefit from our improvements to the Child Nutrition Act, whether they attend child care or school. Further, the state of Illinois will receive approximately $11 million more dollars per year to help provide food for these children in need.

In addition to increasing federal reimbursements, I am proud that this bill will improve the nutritional quality of children's meals and reduce the availability of high-calorie junk food on school grounds. These steps will help tremendously to promote health and reduce obesity. I am very happy that this bill expands the after-school supper program, which is estimated to provide an additional 21 million meals to low-income children. I have had many people in Chicago tell me about the importance of these programs for children. There also are a number of enhancements to improve the programs' management and integrity. For example, in high poverty communities, the bill eliminates the requirement of paper applications and uses Census data to determine school-wide eligibility. It also establishes professional standards for food service providers and improves food safety requirements.

Given the deep need for improvements in the child nutrition law, I cast my vote in support of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010. This said, I wish to voice two disappointments I have with this bill. First, although we increased reimbursement rates per meal by 6 cents, these new resources are not sufficient to cover the local cost of providing the federal free and reduced-priced lunches and breakfasts. The U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates that school districts' costs of providing free lunches exceeds the federal reimbursement by over 30 cents per meal. In urban areas like Chicago, this loss is much closer to 75 cents per meal. Given that over 700,000 students in Illinois participate in the low-income school lunch program, the financial burden to my school district is great. Subsidizing food so that low-income children can eat healthy meals and learn is important; I believe that the federal government should provide a greater share of the cost for caring for its youngest and most vulnerable citizens.

Second, I am disappointed that one of the offsets for this bill sent to us by the Senate is a reduction in funding for poor families in need of federal aid to purchase food. Children and families who receive food assistance are some of our most vulnerable citizens. In 2009, 1.46 million Illinoisans in 677,000 households received food stamps with an average per month of about $136 for a total benefit value issued of $2.3 billion. There are many poor families in Chicago and Illinois who need the full amount of the food benefits. Even if the impact is a few years away, I am disappointed that my vote to provide much-needed improvements in our child nutrition laws occurs by reducing future benefits to the poor. I vow to work actively with my colleagues to replace this funding so that no reduction in food assistance comes to fruition.

DOMESTIC FUEL FOR ENHANCING NATIONAL SECURITY (D–FENS) ACT OF 2010

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 17, 2010

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, Admiral Mike Mullen, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff recently commented at the 2010 Energy Security Forum that "[the Department of Defense] is using 300,000 barrels of oil every day. The energy use per soldier creeps up every year. And our number-one import into Afghanistan is fossil fuel." Admiral Mullen understands how critical an energy supply is to a combat troop; but how safe are our troops if this oil comes from overseas? Our defense sector should adopt more sustainable fuels, which can be produced here in the United States; for the security of our troops.

As an initial step forward, the Secretary of the Navy, Ray Maybus, outlined five formal energy goals to lead the Navy toward a more energy secure fleet:

1. Evaluation of energy factors will be mandatory when awarding Department of the Navy contracts for systems and buildings.
2. Department of the Navy (DoN) will demonstrate a Green Strike Group in local operations by 2012 and sail it by 2016.
3. By 2015, DoN will reduce petroleum use in the commercial fleet by 50 percent.
4. By 2020, DoN will produce at least 50 percent of shore-based energy requirements from alternative sources; 50 percent of Navy and Marine Corps installations will be net-zero.
5. By 2020, 50 percent of total energy consumption will come from alternative sources.

To ultimately realize these goals we need to dramatically scale up advanced biofuel production in the U.S. One way to help scale this nascent industry is to allow government entities to engage in longer term contracts with fuel producers. These longer term contracts will provide additional market certainty and will ultimately help unlock private investment for construction and development of large advanced biofuel refineries.

That is why I introduced the Domestic Fuel for Enhancing National Security (D–FENS) Act 2010. This bill extends the multi-year contracting authority for advanced biofuels from 5 years to 15 years.

In the great state of Washington, interests from the private sector, universities, and major airports are already working to bring the first generation of biofuels to the market, and their efforts can be greatly enhanced by this legislation. These fuels are based on plants such as camelina, jatropha, and even algae; plants that can be grown right in the Pacific Northwest. In addition to being able to grow these feedstocks in our own backyard, research on the next generation of biofuels is also creating jobs at our highly regarded research institutions. These efforts will make sure that the U.S. secures its competitive edge in this field.

In closing, I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this bill, and hope that we can work together to move it toward passage as soon as possible.

PAUL KRUGMAN AND FACTS VS. REPUBLICAN MYTHS

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 17, 2010

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, in recent years Paul Krugman has been, in my view, the single-most incisive and accurate commentator on our economy. In the New York Times today, December 17, he rebuts very effectively the partisan effort to shift blame for our recent economic crisis away from the failures of deregulation and of financial irresponsibility in the private sector issued by the four Republican Members of the Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission. It is of course