

identified by the States to modernize and repair our aging systems.

The “Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act of 2011” is intended to close that gap. For decades, the SRFs have been the traditional mechanism for Federal wastewater infrastructure assistance. The bill renews the Federal commitment to addressing our Nation’s substantial needs for wastewater infrastructure by investing \$13.8 billion in the State Revolving Funds over the next five years.

Recognizing that significant additional resources will be necessary, the bill also establishes two complimentary new initiatives for the long-term, sustainable financing of wastewater infrastructure. The first is a direct loan and loan guarantee program and the second, a Clean Water Infrastructure Trust Fund. These proposals, when implemented in concert, would leverage billions of additional dollars to meet local wastewater infrastructure needs, create jobs, and protect our public health and environmental quality.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize that some may express concern with the overall cost of this legislation; however, when compared to the estimated \$300 to \$400 billion in documented wastewater infrastructure needs for our communities over the next 20 years, I would suggest that this authorization will help meet, but not entirely close, the water infrastructure gap. In addition, based on a preliminary estimate by the Congressional Budget Office, this legislation would have no negative impact on direct spending and revenues over the next ten years under pay-as-you-go rules.

Meeting the critical water infrastructure investment needs of our local communities should not be a partisan issue. As my colleagues on the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure often say, “There is no such thing as Republican or Democratic infrastructure projects.” These are investments that benefit our local constituents, the economies of our towns, cities, and States, and provide the added benefit of protecting public health and the overall condition of the environment. I am pleased that this legislation has garnered bipartisan support for introduction, and I plan to work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to see this Congress move on providing long-term, sustained investment in our nation’s wastewater infrastructure.

Again, this is a win-win proposal and as such, it has broad support from the Associated General Contractors of America, the National Assoc of Clean Water Agencies, Food and Water Watch, the Water Environment Federation, the National League of Cities, the Water Infrastructure Network, the American Society of Civil Engineers, the National Construction Alliance II, the American Public Works Association and many others.

In short, Mr. Speaker, this bill is good for America, for American workers and for the environment, and thus I urge my colleagues to join me and my fellow cosponsors in supporting this very important legislation that will help our economy recover.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL DAY OF
THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 11, 2011

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the National Day of the Republic of China. October 10, 1911 marked the day of the Wuchang Uprising, which served as the beginning to the Xinhai Revolution. The Xinhai Revolution established the present day Republic of China thus bringing an end to the Qing Dynasty.

Dr. Charles Ku is close friend of mine and the committee chair to the DFW Chinese Double Tenth Centennial Celebration Committee. I am a strong supporter of Dr. Ku and his activeness within our Chinese community. The DFW Chinese Double Tenth Centennial Celebration Committee sponsors the Dallas Chinese Community Center whose mission it is to promote Chinese culture and diversity through recreational programs and enrich the lives of Chinese immigrants.

As a result, the Dallas-Fort Worth area has a thriving Chinese culture. It is worth recognizing and commending the DFW Chinese Double Tenth Centennial Celebration Committee, the Dallas Chinese Community Center, Dr. Ku, and the entire Chinese community for standing by this county’s tradition and value of maintaining a diverse cultural presence. So, it is with great honor that I congratulate the Republic of China and the Chinese community on their 100th anniversary of the National Day of the Republic of China.

IN RECOGNITION OF NORTHERN
OHIO LEBANESE AMERICAN AS-
SOCIATION’S 6TH ANNUAL LEBANESE
AMERICAN HERITAGE
BALL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 11, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Northern Ohio Lebanese American Association’s 6th Annual Lebanese American Heritage Ball which will be honoring General John P. Abizaid, retired United States Army General and the former Commander of the United States Central Command.

The Northern Ohio Lebanese American Association (NOLAA) was founded in 1931 as a social and charitable organization. NOLAA’s original purpose was to promote an understanding and unity among its members, act as a resource to better the conditions of its members and to foster unity among Lebanese Americans and their families in Cleveland and neighboring cities. In 2005, the Lebanese American Christian Society (LACS) was established in conjunction with NOLAA. Today NOLAA and LACS are dedicated to preserving, enriching, and promoting Lebanese heritage and traditions through cultural, educational, humanitarian and social activities.

NOLAA’s Annual Lebanese Heritage Ball honors those who have made significant contributions to the community. This year’s celebration will honor General John P. Abizaid, a

retired U.S. Army General and the former Commander of the U.S. Central Command. General Abizaid rose to the rank of a four-star general during his 34 year long career with the U.S. Army. The Ball will also feature Tony Kiwan, a world renowned Lebanese singer.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing the Northern Ohio Lebanese American Association as they come together to celebrate their Annual Lebanese Heritage Ball and General John P. Abizaid.

RECOGNIZING DR. JACK VORONA’S
INDUCTION INTO THE DIA TORCH
BEARERS HALL

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 11, 2011

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Dr. Jack Vorona of Falls Church, Virginia for his induction into the Defense Intelligence Agency’s Torch Bearers Hall. DIA established Torch Bearers Hall this year to coincide with its 50th anniversary and to recognize former employees who have made exceptional contributions to its mission. Dr. Vorona’s invaluable leadership in developing scientific and technical intelligence programs during the height of the Cold War helped keep Americans safe and secured him a spot among the eight inaugural recipients of this honor.

During his 25-year career at DIA, Dr. Vorona developed many programs aimed at identifying foreign defense technologies that could threaten the U.S. and its allies, including nuclear technologies. As Deputy Director for Scientific and Technical Intelligence, he oversaw funding to address the most significant threats posed by massive Soviet investments in science, technology, and weapons programs. His work was vital in helping to ensure that the U.S. was never technologically surprised.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Vorona’s remarkable achievements and in thanking him for his dedicated service to the nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 11, 2011

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of “Domestic Violence Awareness Month.” The month of October is designated as a time to honor the unknown number of lives lost to domestic violence, recognize the survivors, and applaud the work of dedicated advocates, social workers, and counselors. By bringing awareness to this issue we can help to erase the stigma for survivors of domestic violence.

Domestic violence happens in every community. Domestic abuse takes the form of physical violence, sexual assaults, economic abuse, verbal manipulation, stalking, or psychological intimidation. It affects children, women, and men regardless of where they