

SEC. 7. WAIVERS.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—Notwithstanding sections 12112 and 12132 and chapter 551 of title 46, United States Code, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating may issue a certificate of documentation with a coastwise endorsement for each of the following vessels:

(1) *M/V GEYSIR* (United States official number 622178).

(2) *OCEAN VERITAS* (IMO number 7366805).

(3) *LUNA* (United States official number 280133).

(b) *DOCUMENTATION OF LNG TANKERS.*—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—Notwithstanding sections 12112 and 12132 and chapter 551 of title 46, United States Code, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating may issue a certificate of documentation with a coastwise endorsement for each of the following vessels:

(A) *LNG GEMINI* (United States official number 595752).

(B) *LNG LEO* (United States official number 595753).

(C) *LNG VIRGO* (United States official number 595755).

(2) *LIMITATION ON OPERATION.*—Coastwise trade authorized under paragraph (1) shall be limited to carriage of natural gas, as that term is defined in section 3(13) of the Deepwater Port Act of 1974 (33 U.S.C. 1502(13)).

(3) *TERMINATION OF EFFECTIVENESS OF ENDORSEMENTS.*—The coastwise endorsement issued under paragraph (1) for a vessel shall expire on the date of the sale of the vessel by the owner of the vessel on the date of enactment of this Act to a person who is not related by ownership or control to such owner.

(c) *OPERATION OF A DRY DOCK.*—A vessel transported in Dry Dock #2 (State of Alaska registration AIDEA FDD-2) is not merchandise for purposes of section 55102 of title 46, United States Code, if, during such transportation, Dry Dock #2 remains connected by a utility or other connecting line to pier-side moorage.

Mr. LOBIONDO (during the reading). Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the reading is dispensed with.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the original request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION

(Mr. DOLD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DOLD. Madam Speaker, as the largest manufacturing district in the country, and as part of a jobs plan that I think is important for our country, I'm focused on manufacturing throughout not only the country, but specifically Illinois' Tenth Congressional District. That's why I have been focused on science, technology, engineering and mathematics education, or STEM, so that those that are currently unemployed, or those students who will soon be entering the work force can learn new skills and go into a field with good, high-paying jobs.

In my district, I'm working with high schools and manufacturers on recruiting students to go into STEM fields. We're working on connecting students with manufacturers who are looking for employees.

I want to recognize the efforts of Medusa Consulting, Illinois Worknet and Manufacturing Careers, Incorporated for their leadership in bringing a manufacturing jobs fair to the District 214 Field House in Arlington Heights this upcoming December 5.

I want to encourage my colleagues to support STEM education and to work with their local businesses on hosting these important jobs fairs and manufacturing workshops. This is absolutely critical if we want to get America back to work.

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NORTH FOREST INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

(Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, one of the reasons that I rose to the floor of the House to oppose the balanced budget amendment—and I hope the American people and our colleagues can see the value of the vigorous debate, and I applaud the Rules Committee for allowing us the time to deliberate on the issue of the balanced budget amendment—is for the very good reason that my good friend and colleague just spoke about: our young people and opportunities for jobs.

I join him in finding pathways for young people to be transitioned into jobs and others into jobs, along with a college education.

The North Forest Independent School District, a small school district in Texas designated to be closed by Governor Perry's Texas Education Agency, is trying to do just that, to have job training, to have partnerships with the Houston Community College, and I congratulate Mr. Ivory Mayhorn for getting some 7,000-plus signatures to oppose the closing of this school district, a high school that is on the verge of training individuals in the trades and the skills of manufacturing and then bridging them on to community college and then on to college.

We've got to recognize that we've got to build the human resource—and a balanced budget amendment ignores the need to protect Medicare, Social Security, and Medicaid—investing in our children, providing them with the opportunity and the bridge to move on.

So I look forward to working, Mr. Speaker, with the North Forest Independent School District and working with this Congress to invest in human resources.

WELD COUNTY, COLORADO

(Mr. GARDNER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the 150th anniversary of Weld County, Colorado. Weld County takes its name from Lewis Ledyard Weld. Weld was appointed by President Lincoln as Colorado's first territorial secretary.

On November 1, 1861, the Colorado Territory's General Assembly officially organized Weld County. This November marks the 150-year anniversary.

As with most Western settlements during the 1860s, Weld County had an extremely sparse population. Today it's got over 250,000 people. From a humble start as an area based predominantly on coal mining, Weld County has flourished with a thriving business sector and strong agricultural economy. In fact, Weld County is the eighth-leading agricultural county in the entire United States and the only county outside of California ranked in the top 10.

From small businesses, great land for farming, Weld County is also home to the University of Northern Colorado and the Pawnee National Grasslands. It's home to over 19 different towns, each one with a unique identity that makes this area of Colorado distinctive. And it's home to thriving energy interests and some of the Nation's leading water pioneers.

One of my favorite events every year is the Fourth of July Greeley Stampede and Parade. It reminds me of what it means to call Colorado home.

Weld County embodies everything that is great about heading West, and I am proud to recognize their 150th anniversary.

SERVING FELLOW AMERICANS ON THANKSGIVING

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, with Thanksgiving approaching, let us think about our fellow Americans and ask ourselves the question, what can we do to serve them this coming week and into the future?

Average incomes for Americans, for the average family, have gone down about 6.7 percent, and we know poverty rates have risen 15 percent. For all of those listening today as we look across our country, think about what you can do this week and every week to help our food banks that are short on supplies across our country. Every class, every religious organization, every person can do something extra to help this week to give every American a good Thanksgiving.

Think about how you can help a local feeding kitchen. Think about how you might challenge your sports team to go glean in the fields and to collect, if you live in a part of the country where agriculture exists, the extra cabbage, the extra apples that are there and will be plowed under if you don't pick them.

Across our country this is a year when Americans can say to one another, Happy Thanksgiving, we believe