

against North Korea's continued desire to build nuclear weapons. I disagree.

Our military's extended nuclear deterrent capabilities are already sufficient to deal with the North Korean threat. The Kim Jung-un regime is aware that with our advanced submarine launch capabilities, our sophisticated stealth bombers, and our ICBM missiles, the United States military has the ability to cause devastating harm to North Korea.

Instead of acting as a deterrent to North Korea, placing tactical nuclear weapons on the Korean Peninsula will only embolden the Kim Jung-un regime to develop their nuclear capabilities faster, increasing the risk of development or testing mistakes that could harm innocent North Koreans in the process.

Placing tactical nuclear weapons on the Korean Peninsula without the support of the South Korean, Japanese, or Chinese governments could severely hamper the progress made during the six-party talks. The United States should not unilaterally decide to take a destabilizing action in this region of the world without close consultation with our allies in the region.

For these reasons I strongly urge my colleagues to support the Johnson amendment.

IN SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE OF
TIBET

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for the people of Tibet and to thank groups like Students for a Free Tibet for all the work they do to raise awareness on this issue. For too long, the Tibetan people have suffered numerous human rights violations at the hands of the People's Republic of China. In the fight for Tibetan freedom, 35 Tibetans have set fire to themselves since February 2009 to protest China's occupation of their land. At least 23 of them have died. Their sacrifice should not go unnoticed. They have given their lives to show the world the suffering the Tibetan people endure at the hands of Chinese government.

Additionally, there are numerous Tibetans who have been arrested for speaking out against the government and advocating for the freedom of Tibet. These political prisoners need to be set free. Their only crime is standing up for the rights of the Tibetan people. While China continues to enforce policies that encroach on the freedoms of Tibetans, the people continue to conduct peaceful demonstrations. It is our responsibility to support the Tibetan people both politically and financially.

As a body, we should carry on our support for the Tibetan people by continuing to fund areas such as development, refugee programs, and Radio Free Asia and Voice of America. By supporting programs such as these, we encourage Tibetan livelihood and culture. U.S. assistance has supported sustainable development, environmental conservation, and cultural preservation in Tibet since 2000. Let us continue this support to contribute to a better future for Tibet.

We should also continue to support the Dalai Lama's efforts to negotiate a peaceful

solution for Tibet with the Chinese government. The Tibetan people are a peaceful people and we should support their belief system in finding a peaceful solution to this problem. Let us lend our support to the people of Tibet so that they can continue their fight for freedom.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support the people of Tibet.

RECOGNIZING HIGH PERFORMANCE
BUILDING WEEK

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize America's engineers, architects, and skilled workforce who construct our new state-of-the-art new buildings and to speak in support of H.R. 2866, the Mechanical Insulation Installation Incentive Act.

Next week is High-Performance Building Week, and America's leading trade groups will come together to promote their efforts to design, build, and maintain buildings to a higher level of performance. Throughout the week, the High-Performance Building Congressional Caucus Coalition—a diverse group of building professionals—will hold a number of briefings on high-performance basics and new technological breakthroughs, conduct tours of local green roofs, and offer other outreach opportunities. These activities will remind attendees that these buildings are not only attainable, but can improve the quality of our lives.

High-performance buildings have eight specific attributes that ensure that the buildings are designed for the people they serve and the environment they impact. These buildings should be accessible, cost-effective, functional, productive, safe, sustainable, aesthetically pleasing, and mindful of historic preservation.

While all of the attributes of high-performance buildings are important, efficiency and cost-effectiveness are increasingly vital given the rising costs of energy. H.R. 2866, the Mechanical Insulation Installation Incentive Act, will help alleviate these rising costs, promoting the construction of truly high-performance buildings. H.R. 2866 will create tax incentives to encourage commercial and industrial entities to go beyond current minimum building requirements—as set by the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers—in new construction or retrofit projects, and to also keep up with regular and timely maintenance of their mechanical insulation systems.

Over a five-year period, these incentives have the potential to save American companies \$35 billion in energy costs and reduce our CO₂ emissions by 170 million metric tons. In addition, this bill will not only help building owners save money and use less resources, it will also create jobs. It is estimated that this initiative could support the development of more than 89,000 sustainable jobs for skilled craft personnel to install and maintain mechanical insulation systems.

H.R. 2866 is just one step this body can take to help achieve all these goals and make our country more competitive. During High-Performance Building Week, I encourage my

colleagues to learn more about the work of building professionals and join me in supporting this measure. Our residential, commercial and industrial buildings are more than just places where we live, work, and shop. They can inspire us and reflect our values, and be engines for energy independence and job creation.

ONE LAPTOP PER CHILD

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ketaki Desai, Elizabeth Cullinan, Tim Kelly, and Reginald Cox, four graduate students from Carnegie Mellon's Heinz School of Public Policy and Management, for their first place finish at the Hult Global Case Challenge.

Their innovative program, One Laptop Per Child, seeks to provide durable, low energy laptops for children in 3rd world countries with limited educational resources. This idea garnered the top prize at the Hult Challenge, where these CMU grad students were awarded \$333,000 to encourage and further their initiative.

The Hult Global Case Challenge, now in its third year, is focused on bringing some of the brightest minds in the world together to find ways to solve key social challenges. This year, the three categories—education, energy, and housing—had hundreds of entrants from over 130 countries around the world. Such luminaries as Muhammad Yunus, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize judged the final round; and President Bill Clinton handed out the top awards for each category. CMU's Ketaki Desai, Elizabeth Cullinan, Tim Kelly, and Reginald Cox won first place in the education category.

One Laptop Per Child seeks to provide greater educational resources for children ages 6 through 12 in impoverished areas of the world. OLPC has designed laptops with several key features geared towards helping these children. They cost significantly less to manufacture than the standard laptops we use here in the U.S.; they are pre-loaded with lots of educational software, and have wireless internet built in; they are low energy, ensuring that even children in communities without electricity can use them, then recharge the laptops using solar energy; the laptops' screens can be read in sunlight—an important feature because so many of these children go to school outside; and, perhaps most importantly, these laptops are extremely durable and rugged, because, let's face it, kids are going to be kids, no matter where they are in the world.

By providing children with these laptops, One Laptop Per Child hopes to broaden children's worldview, and enrich their educational experiences, because, as they see it, education is the foundation for the other solutions to problems like a lack of shelter or running water. Their goal is to donate and distribute 20 million laptops to poor children throughout the world over the next 5 years.

This is just one more example of the innovative work that's being done in Pittsburgh, and I am proud to be their representative.