

solar, wind, and other renewable resources will spur new jobs, new technological advancements, and grow our economy.

In order to ensure that we can compete and win in the global market to develop clean energy technologies, it is vital that we have a trained workforce ready to work. That's why this week I reintroduced the Community College Energy Training Act, legislation to support clean energy job-training programs in our community colleges. Community colleges play an integral role in training and retraining Americans who want to get ahead and learn the skills that will open up new opportunities.

By investing in training programs in the clean energy sector, we can lay the foundation for success in a field that holds such great potential and prepare our students for the good jobs of tomorrow.

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#### FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ESCAPE ARTISTS

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, there's a troubling pattern here in Washington. When wrongdoing occurs involving Federal Government employees, blame falls away from the White House and the wrong-doers get a pass. No one is held accountable.

Exhibit A: Fast and Furious. Government walks guns into Mexico. Two Americans and hundreds of Mexican nationals are killed. White House blames Bush and a low-level employee. Employee resigns; government gets a pass.

Exhibit B: Benghazi. Government denies request for support before and during the attack. Four Americans are killed. Investigation is bungled. Blame is placed on a YouTube video. One Federal employee placed on leave, but still getting a paycheck. Government gets a pass.

Exhibit C: IRS target list. IRS unlawfully targets conservative organizations. Blame is placed on low-level employee, and we're waiting for accountability.

Exhibit D: DOJ subpoenas reporters' phone records to silence a leak. Attorney General Holder recuses himself. We're waiting for who's responsible.

Mr. Speaker, this is a disturbing pattern. The so-called most transparent administration in history appears to be obstinately blocking the truth from the American public. America is tired of unaccountable escape artists in the Federal Government.

This ought not to be, but that's just the way it is.

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#### MILITARY MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY

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

Mr. PETERS of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Military Mental Health Awareness Day. Mental health issues continue to carry a significant stigma in our country, but it is time that we recognize the challenges that many current servicemembers and veterans are facing, and we work to address their needs.

Post-traumatic stress is all too prevalent in our servicemembers and veterans. As a country, beyond partisanship, we must come together to tackle this issue. Our men and women in uniform deserve our dedication, just as we ask them to dedicate their lives to our Nation's service.

In San Diego, nearly 5,000 veterans were treated for post-traumatic stress in 2011 according to the VA. We are fortunate in San Diego to have medical institutions that provide innovative models of care to our servicemembers and veterans; and it is my hope that with further attention to this issue, we can bring some of those standards of care to the rest of the country.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to help me bring attention to this issue by working with service providers, counselors, and military groups in their communities as we continue to honor the sacrifices these servicemembers make for us.

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#### FARRM ACT OF 2013

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today the House Agriculture Committee is marking up a 5-year farm bill reauthorization, the Federal Agriculture Reform and Risk Management Act of 2013, or FARRM Act.

The FARRM Act is a commonsense package of agriculture reforms that will save taxpayers nearly \$40 billion while strengthening the economic health of our family farms and small businesses. The bill is the product of a multiyear policy assessment designed to modernize Federal agriculture policy and achieve substantial deficit reduction.

The FARRM Act delivers on both fronts, while offering American agriculture the tools to grow and prosper. The bill reduces regulatory burden on small businesses and makes needed reforms to nutrition assistance programs. It will help protect our forests and better manage our lands.

Mr. Speaker, we can no longer allow partisan gridlock to prevent this reauthorization from becoming law. The bill is good for the economy. It promotes jobs and growth. It achieves deficit reduction. And it secures the ability of American agriculture to continue providing the safest and most abundant food supply in the world.

#### NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

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

Ms. GABBARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the brave men and women who serve in our police forces. Every day, police officers put their own lives in danger in order to keep our families safe. Many have made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.

This week, we celebrate our local heroes during National Police Week. In order to support the National Law Enforcement Memorial, my sister Davan, a deputy U.S. marshal, joined more than 1,800 officers last weekend in a 300-mile memorial bike ride from New Jersey to Washington, D.C. She honored the memory of three Hawaii officers killed in the line of duty last year: Eric Fontes, Chad Morimoto, and Garret Davis. They've been honored on the national memorial's wall; and in Hawaii, we're working to establish a local memorial, which will be the last State in the country to do so.

Today, I honor these everyday heroes and their families for their unwavering dedication to the safety and service of others.

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#### DEFENSE AND VETERANS APPROPRIATIONS

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

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, America wants Congress to get things done, and lately that's been pretty tough. A deep philosophical divide often separates us, but there are certain things that have to get done. The military has to protect our country, and America has to care for her veterans.

While Congress is stuck in many areas, both parties this morning took a unified step forward in defense of our country and in service to our veterans. Mr. Speaker, in a small hearing room right below here, the Military Construction and Veterans Appropriations Committee said "yes" in a bipartisan manner to meet our Defense Department infrastructure needs and to properly care for our veterans.

The bill spends a little less than the President asked for and a little more than last year. Projects not justified are removed, others are properly funded. The bill also compels both the Department of Defense and Veterans Affairs to use a single integrated electronic health record, ensuring a seamless transition of care for our warfighters leaving service.

Mr. Speaker, this morning we got to a "yes" on that which is essential and right.

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#### CONGRESSIONAL BLAME GAMES

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