

Congressional funding—despite a growing problem of toxic contamination throughout the River Basin.

Toxics are present throughout the Columbia River Basin, and are harmful to humans, fish, and wildlife. These contaminants make their way into fish tissues, which, when consumed, can be harmful for human health. Some of these toxics are known to cause cancer, and have been linked with neurological, developmental and reproductive problems, including birth defects and learning disabilities. This concern is particularly pressing for tribal populations, who consume local fish in large quantities.

Last year, the States of Oregon and Washington issued fish advisories warning the public to protect itself against mercury and PCB contamination by limiting consumption of resident fish species living in the 150 mile stretch of river between Bonneville and McNary Dams.

This bill would authorize the EPA to establish a voluntary, competitive Columbia River Basin grants program for projects that assist in eliminating or reducing pollution, improving water quality, monitoring, and promoting citizen engagement. Eligible entities may include States, Indian tribes, local governments, nonprofits, and private landowners. The legislation authorizes \$50 million per year for five years for this effort, which are estimated to create between 700 and 1,000 family wage jobs per year in the region.

This bill is supported by a diverse group of stakeholders including the Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, Pacific Northwest Waterways Association, and Salmon-Safe. Now is the time to clean up the Columbia River and improve water quality and river health for generations to come.

CHILD TAX CREDIT IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2014

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4935, the Child Tax Credit Improvement Act. Under current law, the child tax credit is not indexed for inflation. The bill before us today would index the child tax credit for inflation, as well as achieve the important step of abolishing the so-called “marriage penalty” in current tax code.

Importantly, the Child Tax Credit Improvement Act also contains a provision to require those filers claiming the refundable portion of the tax credit to provide a Social Security Number. This seems like pure common sense, but right now, the IRS accepts the use of the Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) to get this credit. An ITIN number demonstrates only that someone has taxable income, not that they are in the country legally. In fact, a 2011 Treasury Inspector General report found that \$4.2 billion in refundable tax credits were issued to individuals not authorized to work in the United States.

In this Congress and in the 112th Congress, I cosponsored legislation to require the inclusion of a Social Security Number on a tax re-

turn as a prerequisite to receiving the refundable portion of the child tax credit, and I am glad to see the inclusion of that language in the bill before us today.

Mr. Speaker, while we must take steps to reduce the burden on hardworking parents in this nation, I also believe that we must work to ensure that people do not abuse our tax system to receive tax credits for which they are not eligible. The legislation before us today accomplishes both of those goals.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE GRADUATION OF JANICE JENNINGS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 28, 2014

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask for the House’s attention today to recognize Janice Jennings who is graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from the Capstone College of Nursing at the University of Alabama.

Mrs. Jennings was born in Anniston, Alabama. She graduated from Saks High School and went on to attend Gadsden State University, where she got her degree in Nursing. In 1983, Jan married her husband Jeff and soon after in 1987, her only daughter, Jessica, was born. Jan went on to receive her Business degree from Jacksonville State University in 1989. Perhaps most notably, Jan welcomed another addition into the Jennings’ household in 2010: a labradoodle named Tully.

Although she lives in North Carolina now, Jan remains a dedicated fan of the University of Alabama. This dedication to her beloved Crimson Tide has led her to pursue a degree from the University. Through hard work and dedication, she will be achieving a lifelong goal on August 2, when she walks across the stage in Coleman Coliseum to receive her degree.

Mr. Speaker, we join her family and friends in celebrating Jan’s accomplishments and congratulating her with a hearty Roll Tide.

TRIBUTE TO DR. ALEKSEY BOLOTNIKOV, AND DR. RALPH JAMES OF BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 28, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Brookhaven National Laboratory, located in my congressional district and recognized by R&D Magazine for developing a novel radiation detection technology.

Often referred to as the “Oscars of Innovation,” the annual R&D 100 Awards are given to the top 100 most technologically significant products each year from around the world. I am proud that this prestigious honor has been bestowed upon Long Island’s own Brookhaven National Laboratory, which is jointly managed by Stony Brook University and Battelle for the Department of Energy (DOE).

A team of scientists led by Dr. Aleksey Bolotnikov and Dr. Ralph James at Brookhaven developed GammaScout, a compact hand-held high-resolution radiation detector, as well as the electronics and software to make it functional. This project was funded by the National Nuclear Security Administration’s Office of Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation research and development program.

The GammaScout technology will be especially useful in tracking the movement of radioactive materials and the imaging of radiopharmaceuticals in oncology and cardiology. Its application could also be used in real-time dosimeters, x-ray radiography, mineral exploration, and materials sorting and recycling. As a result, this new technology has the potential to improve our homeland and national security, protect first responders and the environment, and even make it easier to diagnose disease and save lives.

This detector technology works at room temperature, making it particularly unique and useful in the field. Previous technologies had to be cryogenically cooled for the same high-resolution radiation detection, thus confining critical work to a laboratory setting.

I am very proud to recognize Dr. Bolotnikov, Dr. James and their team of scientists, which also included colleagues from Korea University for winning one of only 32 R&D 100 Awards given to DOE laboratories. This speaks volumes about the value of these labs and the importance of their contributions to the nation, economy, and national security.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of New York’s First Congressional District, I congratulate the scientists and laboratory leadership for this well-deserved award. It is a timely reminder that Brookhaven National Laboratory remains a valuable asset to Long Island, New York, and our nation.

TRIBUTE TO RALPH FROEHLICH

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 28, 2014

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me as I rise to pay tribute to Union County Sheriff Ralph Froehlich, posthumously, and the many contributions he has made as a dedicated public servant in Union County and a beloved leader in the State of New Jersey.

Sheriff Froehlich was a great man and an incredible public servant. Following his eight year service in the United States Marine Corp, he had sought a career in law enforcement. He had faithfully served as Sheriff of Union County since 1977 and was in his thirteenth term.

Sheriff Froehlich was a pioneer in law enforcement, starting many programs to protect the county, including gun safety programs for children and teens; ‘Union County’s Most Wanted’ television program, which led to the apprehension of over 80 Union County murderers and felons; the Missing Persons Unit and Domestic Violence Unit; and a K-9 Search and Rescue Unit. In an effort to share services with other law enforcement agencies, Sheriff Froehlich implemented a Municipal Transportation Program to assist local police departments. He also vociferously spoke out in favor of more regulations on guns.

From his time in the U.S. Marines to becoming the longest-serving County Sheriff in New Jersey history, Ralph has for decades set the standard for what it means to defend and protect. He will be remembered for his commitment to keeping the people and families of Union County safe and for always working toward the betterment of the community. On behalf of the people of New Jersey and certainly the people of Union County, we are grateful.

My thoughts and prayers go out to Sheriff Froehlich's family, to the Union County Sheriff's Department, to the people of Union County, and to all the people who loved and respected Ralph. His leadership will truly be missed.

Mr. Speaker, I know my fellow Members of the House of Representatives agree that Union County Sheriff Ralph Froehlich deserves to be recognized for a job well done and his many years of service to the people of the State of New Jersey. This tribute recognizes his life's work, namely a stellar career and a personal commitment to protecting our community.

RESTORING THE DOCTORS OF OUR COUNTRY THROUGH SCHOLARSHIPS VETERANS AFFAIRS ACT OF 2014

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 28, 2014

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation that will address the shortage of physicians at medical facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs. As we have learned from recent events, long wait times at VA facilities are, in part, a consequence of understaffing and a doctor shortage. The lack of primary care physicians in VA facilities is particularly troubling. Recently, the VA estimated that it had about 400 unfilled vacancies for primary care doctors.

Through the Health Professionals Educational Assistance Program, the VA currently provides for loan repayment and scholarships that fund the education and training of a range of health providers. Unfortunately, Educational Assistance Program benefits are limited and, as currently designed, the program does little to encourage primary care physicians to work at the VA. Furthermore, recent proposals to reform the VA do not go far enough to emphasize training VA doctors who are committed to the practice of primary care medicine.

That is why I am introducing the RDOCS-VA Act, legislation that will strengthen the Educational Assistance Program. Modeled after the successful ROTC program, RDOCS-VA will provide scholarships and stipends covering the full cost of attending medical school, in exchange for a five-year commitment to service as primary care doctors at the VA. RDOCS-VA is designed to directly address the VA's needs by requiring the creation of a minimum of 400 RDOCS-VA scholarships, with flexibility to award even more scholarships in the future.

Once fully implemented, the RDOCS-VA program will be an important tool to ensure that our veterans have access to primary care. As part of future efforts, Congress must build upon this program by expanding graduate

medical education and creating additional residency slots at VA facilities. This will allow us to train primary care doctors who are fully prepared to serve our veterans for years to come.

66 REPS, TO BE THE BEST . . . A TRIBUTE TO ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER AND THE AMERICAN DREAM ON HIS 66TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JEFF DUNCAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 28, 2014

Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of former Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and The American Dream on his 66th birthday. This world renowned Championship body builder, turned Movie Star Icon, to Governor of California is the antifascist of The American Dream. He is a champion for physical fitness and children's causes. He is living proof that hard work and believing in yourself has no limits in America. I ask that this poem penned in honor of his 66th birthday by Albert Carey Caswell be placed in the RECORD.

66 REPS, TO BE THE BEST . . .

66 Reps!
To Be The Best!
Will we LEAD, or will we rest?
Do we BUILD on our success?
But To Be The Best!
Will we fall,
or will we CREST?
Do we follow,
or will we LEAD?
Showing our world,
what it is that she so NEEDS!
Do we make our lives FULL,
or shallow?
DO WE LIVE LARGE NOT NARROW?
DO WE WORK OUT, AND DO IT NOW?
Do we CRUSH IT?
To find VICTORY as such it!
Only by living the GOLDEN RULE,
will we so SHINE like a jewel!
While, PUMPING UP our world so full!
All to BLESS HER,
as Arnold has done oh so yes sir!
What will we give all in our time?
To this our world ALL IN OUR LIVES!
Do we TERMINATE doubt,
when that's all people talk about?
And what do we so create,
with each new rep that we so take?
And say, "GET OUT!"
In each brand new shining day!
Do we BEEF IT?
DO WE FEEL THE BURN?
AND FOR GREATNESS SO YEARN!
And are we NOT AFRAID to fail!
Because that's the only way TO VICTORY
NAIL!
And will you give ALL OF your HEART and SOUL?
For that's the only way TO TURN YOUR DREAMS INTO GOLD!
STRETCHING OURSELVES,
so beyond belief out on our life's road!
As we GROW,
and to this world convey!
Saying HASTA LA VISTA BABY,
to those who NO say!
And "GET OUT" of my way!
All in what our LIVES'S so have to say!
Leaving DYNAMIC GAINS all in our wake's!
So all in our HEARTS what we CREATE!
All in what WE GIVE and TAKE!
And what is The True Measure of a Man?

The ONE who before us now so stands?
For LIFE is so very short!
So then what is it that we HOPE to sport?
All in the days of our LIVES report!
And who do we LIFT UP?
When in tough times BELIEVING and NEVER GIVING UP?

To make all of our lives so BUFF!
All in our life's REP'S as such!
Do we dare to PUSH THE ENVELOPE?
TO MAKE DYNAMIC GAINS all in our approach!

Giving to all such HOPE!
All in what our HEART'S INVOKE!
For we only have so many REP'S!
For this our world to so BLESS!
All TO BE THE BEST!
For WE MUST BE BOLD,
For WE MUST BE STRONG!
For WE MUST WORK HARD, all night and day long!

If we are to WRITE our life's song!
And as the years progress!
SOME of us shall not grow old!
Men like Arnold NEVER DO SO!
Whose HEART'S never run cold!
For his is THE HEART of a CHILD yo!
Who see's the GOOD IN ALL HE BEHOLD'S!
Whose SMILE TO ALL HEART'S CALL'S SO!

Who NEVER STOP'S BELIEVING,
as new DREAMS he's CONCEIVING!
For he knows not the word DEFEAT even!
And FAILURE is not an option CONCEIVING!

All in his Austrian-American HEART which is BEATING!

Is a HEART of a CHILD,
who against all odds is COMPETING!
As he let's his DREAMS run wild!
With his greatest of all SMILES,
and CHAMPIONSHIP SMILE!
And if you want to get TO THE MOUNTAIN TOP?

You've got to CLIMB STRAIGHT UP!
66 REP'S, but there's a lot more left!
In this American Hero be assured!
Maybe, SIXTY-SIX MORE?
WORK OUT, DO IT NOW!
66 REP'S TO BE THE BEST!
Happy 66th Birthday Arnold!

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, July 29, 2014 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.