

and rural education. Providing the resources low-income families need to increase their academic success is one of my highest priorities, and this legislation is a first step in the right direction.

Furthermore, Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), and other minority serving institutions are set to receive an additional \$40 million in funding. HBCUs have created and fostered a generation of African-American professionals, and still play a vital role in educating our youth. My district is home to some of the most prominent HBCUs in the Country, and as a Vice Chair of the Bipartisan Congressional HBCU Caucus, securing adequate funding for these institutions is critically important to me.

I am also pleased that this bill provides funding through the Department of the Interior that will be used to preserve historic civil sites. The struggle for civil and voting rights is an integral part of American history. Our district is known as the civil rights district, and we have the potential to benefit from this competitive grant process. I fought to secure two amendments that made this funding possible in order to preserve important civil rights sites for future generations.

The bill includes many increases in programs that are critical to improving access to quality health care and innovative medical research. I am particularly pleased to see a much needed increase in funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Science Foundation (NSF). These investments in research are essential to providing long-term stability for our research communities in Birmingham and across the state. The package recognizes that HIV and Hepatitis should be a priority by reinvesting in the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). As the mental health crisis becomes more urgent, the deal's increased funding for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Agency (SAMHSA) is a welcome sign of progress for the mental health community.

There is an urgent need to address racial health disparities in Alabama's 7th Congressional District, and I am pleased this bill recognizes that need. By funding Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH), Congress has made an investment to help eliminate health disparities across a range of diseases, including heart disease, diabetes, and obesity.

This is not a perfect bill, but I am proud that both sides of the aisle were able to work out a compromise that benefits our nation, and helps us continue to grow.

RECOGNIZING STAN SOLOWAY ON HIS TENURE AS PRESIDENT/CEO OF THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES COUNCIL

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 18, 2015

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize my friend, Mr. Stan Soloway, as he prepares to step down from his 15 year tenure as president and CEO of the Professional Services Council (PSC.)

PSC was founded in 1972 by a group of industry leaders who recognized the emergence and growing vitality of the professional services sector. Prior to 1972, this sector was virtually unaccounted for as a part of the U.S. economy even though it was thriving and growing at twice the rate of the rest of the economy. PSC organized the various businesses and service providers so that they could become more effective in supporting the growth of the businesses while delivering better and more cost-effective services to the federal government.

In January, 2001, Stan assumed the presidency of PSC. His knowledge and expertise in public policy, public affairs, and acquisition reform have been instrumental in shaping PSC into an essential partner with the federal government. Following the merger of PSC and the Contract Services Association of America, PSC became a single, unified voice representing the range and diversity of the government services sector. PSC currently has nearly 400 member companies that provide federal agencies with services in a multitude of areas including information technology, engineering, logistics, facilities management, operations and maintenance, consulting, international development, scientific, social, environmental services, and others. Together, the trade association's members employ hundreds of thousands of Americans in all 50 states.

Before joining PSC, Stan served as the deputy undersecretary of Defense, and concurrently as the director of Secretary of Defense William Cohen's Defense Reform Initiative. In recognition of his expertise and leadership, he was awarded the Secretary of Defense Medals for Outstanding and Distinguished Public Service. In addition, Stan was confirmed by the United States Senate in 2007 to serve a 5 year term on the board of directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service, the federal agency that oversees national service programs including Americorps and VISTA. Stan is a principal of the Partnership for Public Service, and a member of the Executive Advisory Board of the National Contract Management Association, where he is also a fellow.

A nationally recognized expert, Stan writes regular columns for Washington Technology magazine and the Washington Business Journal. In addition, he has been a contributing author for books published by Harvard Law School, the University of Pennsylvania, Cambridge University, and the IMB Center for the Business of Government. Stan was also a producer of the critically acclaimed PBS series "Great Confrontations at the Oxford Union."

Stan has received numerous awards and accolades in recognition of his talents and accomplishments. These honors include the 2013 Herbert Roback Award, being named the 2013 Industry Executive of the Year by Government Computer News and 1105 Media. In addition, the Washington Business Journal named Stan to its Power 100 as one of the most influential business leaders in Washington in 2012 and 2013, and he was named one of the most influential leaders in U.S. defense by Defense News and Gannett Media. He is also a two time winner of the Federal 100 award.

Northern Virginia is a vibrant region where so many are genuinely experts in technology, government services, and public policy. Among this group of esteemed professionals,

Stan Soloway stands out. He has been a pioneering force in changing and modernizing the way that the federal government does business, and we have all benefited from his exceptional abilities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Stan on his remarkable tenure as president and CEO of PSC. We wish him well in the next chapter of his life and thank him for his tireless efforts on behalf of the federal government and the professional services industry.

HONORING FORT OSAGE HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 18, 2015

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize the Fort Osage High School football team. This is a group of very special young men who have exemplified the finest qualities of teamwork, devotion and sportsmanship by taking an active part in the classroom and on the field. These Indians relentlessly pursued their goal and were rewarded with their first state football title in school history.

The Fort Osage Indians defeated Chaminade 63–28 in the Missouri Class 5 Championship. Senior Skylar Thompson managed to score an astounding seven times. This capped an outstanding season for Thompson, who was awarded the Thomas A. Simone Award as the best high school football player in the Kansas City area. The work and effort these young men have persevered through over the years has not only earned them numerous honors on and off the field, but also the respect of their families, classmates, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending the Fort Osage High School football team for their accomplishments on the field and for their efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Missouri Class Five state champions.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2016

SPEECH OF

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 17, 2015

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this tax bill, which is unpaid for and adds more than \$600 billion to the deficit, primarily to benefit corporations at the expense of working families. In the future, to address the revenue loss in this bill will require reduced funding for education, health care, and job training programs essential to improving the lives of hardworking Americans. This is completely unacceptable.

While there are some positive elements in this bill, including making the Child Tax Credit and the Earned Income Tax Credit permanent, the bill does not allow the Child Tax Credit to