

Description of Request: Provide \$3,000,000 to develop a blast-on-vehicle test device for use in evaluating survivability-based military vehicle designs. This program will provide a cost-effective and time-efficient alternative to full-scale live-fire testing. It will provide a test capability in support of the Joint Light Tactical Vehicle (JLTV) program and future military vehicle development programs.

With the introduction of survivability-based design criteria in light tactical vehicles, the test and evaluation requirements of new vehicle designs are more extensive. Therefore, the objective of this program is to design a test structure analogous to the civilian automotive safety community's Heidelberg sled tests. Whereas the Heidelberg sled tests simulate the loading conditions of a vehicle crash, the blast-on-vehicle test device will simulate the loading conditions of road-side or under-carriage explosion.

Requesting Member: Congressman K. MICHAEL CONAWAY.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Navy, RDT&E.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Angelo State University.

Address of Requesting Entity: 2601 W. Avenue N., San Angelo, Texas 76909.

Description of Request: Provide \$1,000,000 for Angelo State University and Texas State University Systems' Center for Hetero-Functional Materials (CHM). CHM will help meet the need within the Department of Defense for the development of new materials to create "single-chip-devices" as conventional semiconductor manufacturing technology is reaching its maturity and its rate of innovation has saturated. These new devices require many types of built-in hetero-functionality, simply not available or achievable using conventional semiconductor/materials technology. The CHM provides the infrastructure and resources required for research and development of new materials and processes that will be required for the fabrication of next generation devices. These hetero-functional materials and structures will allow devices to be built on a single chip, thereby reducing costs and size while enabling more versatility than is currently achievable. The Office of Naval Research (ONR) deemed the CHM as critical to developing next generation devices for the military. CHM received support and funding in Fiscal Year 2008.

HONORING CONGRESSIONAL CERTIFICATE OF MERIT RECIPIENT
NICHOLAS JAMES SHELBURNE

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2008

Mr. CARTER. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the successes and achievements of Nicholas Shelburne, who has received the Congressional Certificate of Merit award at Belton High School in Belton, Texas. Nicholas has shown exceptional leadership qualities through his involvement in numerous activities which makes him a great candidate for this award.

Integrity and energy for leading in a positive direction are trademarks of Nicholas. A natural leader, he is the ultimate role model for others and he excels in everything that he is involved in. Nicholas' work ethic and diligence set him apart from others.

I congratulate Nicholas Shelburne for his achievements in school and in his community and am proud to represent such talented and dedicated people in the 31st District of Texas.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2008

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, for the information of our colleagues and my constituents, I want the RECORD to reflect how I would have voted on the following votes I missed this session.

On rollcall 134, to pass S. 2733, to temporarily extend the programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall 154, on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 1605, providing for the consideration of H.R. 5501, the Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde United States Global Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Reauthorization Act, I would have voted "no."

I would have done so because defeating the previous question would have allowed the House to consider an amendment dealing with the appropriations earmark process. I support reforming that process and think that the House should at least debate changes to it, although I reserve judgment on whether I would have supported the specific language of the amendment since it was not debated.

On rollcall 158, passage of H.R. 5501, Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde United States Global Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Reauthorization Act of 2008, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall 162, passage of H.R. 2464, The Wakefield Act—I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall 163, passage of S. 793, Reauthorization of the Traumatic Brain Injury Act—I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall 182, on the Flake amendment to H.R. 2537, to bar use of funds provided under that bill for Congressional earmarks, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall 183, to suspend the rules and pass H. Res. 886, Expressing sympathy to the victims and families of the tragic acts of violence in Colorado Springs, Colorado and Arvada, Colorado, as a cosponsor of the resolution I would have voted "yes."

As the resolution reminds us all, on Sunday, December 9, 2007, a troubled individual was responsible for killing several innocent people and injuring others at, first, the Youth With a Mission facility in Arvada and, a few hours later, at the New Life Church in the Colorado Springs area—where he was fatally shot by Jeanne Assam, a volunteer private security guard.

The resolution rightly commends Ms. Assam and the quick response of local first respond-

ers in the city of Arvada and in Jefferson County as well as those in El Paso County and Colorado Springs who, assisted by Federal authorities and medical professionals limited the danger to the church and local community. And it offers the heartfelt condolences of the House of Representatives to the victims and families of these tragic acts of violence in Colorado and conveys our gratitude to Jeanne Assam, city and county officials, as well as the police, fire, sheriff, Federal authorities, and emergency medical teams whose quick response saved lives.

On rollcall number 185, to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3548, as amended, the Plain Language in Government Communications Act, as a cosponsor of that measure I would have voted "yes."

H.R. 3548 requires Federal agencies to use plain language in Government documents related to obtaining a service or a benefit. It responds to the fact that Government documents often are complex and difficult to understand, particularly when they are not written clearly. To address this problem, President Clinton in 1998 issued a memorandum that, in part, required Federal agencies to use plain language in all documents that explain how to obtain a benefit or service. However, while a few agencies still maintain plain language programs, efforts to promote plain language have waned. H.R. 3548 defines plain language and requires agencies to use plain language in any new document that explains how to obtain a service or a benefit or that is relevant to obtaining a service or a benefit. The bill ensures that many of the letters, forms, and other documents that people receive from the Government will be written in a clear, understandable way. Under this bill, for example, the Social Security Administration would be required to use plain language in letters that provide beneficiaries information about Social Security.

I joined in cosponsoring the bill because I think it is important for those of us in Government to do more to communicate clearly with our employers, the American people, and I hope that the Senate will join the House in giving prompt approval to the legislation.

On rollcall number 331, to pass H.R. 6081, the Heroes Earnings Assistance and Relief Tax Act, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall number 332, to pass H.R. 6074, the Gas Price Relief for Consumers Act, I would have voted "yes."

IN HONOR OF BRIAN FOSS

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2008

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Brian Foss in his retirement as the Port Director of the Santa Cruz Port District. Brian served the Port District for 34 years, managing Santa Cruz Harbor, as well as the Santa Cruz Port.

After graduating from the University of Southern California in 1964, Brian spent the next 22 years serving as a pilot for the United States Coast Guard, and as a Lieutenant Colonel Combat Rescue Pilot for the California

Air National Guard Rescue. During his time working as a rescue pilot, Brian earned two air medals and one Coast Guard Commendation medal.

In 1977, Brian ended his career as a pilot, and moved to Santa Cruz to work as Harbormaster for the Santa Cruz Port District. Brian's upbeat attitude and friendliness with coworkers gained him many friends, and 2 years later, Foss worked his way up to Port Director for the Santa Cruz Port District. For the next 31 years, Foss continued his tenure as Port Director, serving as the Chief Executive Officer for the District.

Outside of work, Brian was, and still is, a passionate and active supporter of ocean preservation. Brian was the former Chairman of the California Marine Affairs and Navigation Conference, a 35-year-old California port and harbor advocacy association. Today, he is a member of the Bay Planning Coalition, the California Marine Parks and Harbors Association, and he is a harbor representative for Santa Cruz County Inter-Agency Task Force on economic development relevant to the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary.

But Brian's enthusiasm is not limited to the oceans, but extends into his personal life as well. As a devoted father, Brian founded the 129th for Kids fund, a benefit program for military children who have lost parents in service.

His dedication to the harbor and passion for life also extended to his employees. His coworkers described him as a fun, considerate, and polite guy to hang around, who made a difference in the lives of others; he always made sure to let everyone feel welcome and to have a say in decisions. Additionally, Brian taught many of his workers how to effectively work in public service, and always made sure to try to do the right thing for everyone.

Madam Speaker, I would like to extend our Nation's deep gratitude for Brian's service to the United States and his local community. I know I speak for every Member of Congress in expressing my bittersweet feelings towards his retirement, and our thankfulness for his contributions to our Nation. Though Brian Foss may be retiring, he will not be leaving the hearts of all whom he has touched.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF MR. ROD COOK

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2008

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge Mr. Rod Cook, the City Manager of South Lyon, upon his retirement from a prominent 25-year career in public service.

Mr. Cook accepted the position of City Manager in October of 1983, and led the citizens of South Lyon with confidence and pride for over two decades. Rod was known for his stern, quiet demeanor and his ability to listen intently and make superior decisions. Mr. Cook took on the challenge of city manager at a time when the population was only 5,200 people. Rod was able to establish growth within the city; more than doubling the population

before his retirement. During his career, Mr. Cook also spearheaded road improvements throughout the area; launched the identity of South Lyon; assisted with the creation of the Rail Trail; and played an essential role in the revitalization of the downtown area.

Rod Cook, through his proactive measures, made South Lyon one of the fastest growing small communities in the nation during his career. As Mr. Cook enters the next phase of his life after his retirement on March 11, 2008, Mr. Cook looks forward to spending time with his wife, Sydney. Constantly showing his love for the city, Mr. Cook will continue to contribute his services, after retirement, until a new manager is hired.

Madam Speaker, for 25 years Mr. Rod Cook has successfully served the citizens of South Lyon, Michigan. As Mr. Cook resigns from his position of City Manager, he leaves behind a long-standing legacy of trust, dedication, and achievement. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Rod Cook upon his retirement and recognizing his years of loyal service to the community and our country.

HONORING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE EXETER AMBULANCE
ASSOCIATION

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2008

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and offer congratulations to the Exeter Ambulance Association, located in Exeter Township, Pennsylvania, for celebrating its 40th Anniversary this year. Association members will be acknowledging this great milestone on May 31, 2008 at an event to be held at Association headquarters.

The Exeter Ambulance Association was formed 40 years ago to provide outstanding emergency ambulance service for Exeter Township and St. Lawrence, Pennsylvania. The group was formed as a non-profit organization and started as an all-volunteer service. Over the years, it has grown and expanded its services and now provides Advanced Life Support (ALS), Basic Life Support (BLS), and other emergency and non-emergency ambulance services. In addition, the Exeter Ambulance Association operates a community training center and, in 2007, trained over 2500 people in CPR and put 30 Automatic Defibrillators (AEDs) into service in the community. Today, the Association employs over 50 medical transportation professionals, operates four ambulances, two wheelchair-vans, and responds to over 4,000 calls for help each year.

Its mission is "to provide quality pre-hospital emergency medical care in both emergency and non-emergency settings, and perform all services related to emergency medical service and emergency management." As anyone who has received assistance from the Exeter Ambulance Association will tell you, it has performed its mission in an exemplary fashion and consistently surpasses its own standards.

At the 40th year celebration on May 31, the Association will be joined by representatives of

the Exeter Police K-9 unit, Drive 25-Stay Alive program, Reiffton and Stonersville Fire Departments, The PennStar Helicopter and flight team, Berks County Humane Society, American Red Cross and Aquabilities of Birdsboro, PA. In addition, St Joseph's Hospital will provide blood pressure checks, cholesterol screening, and bone density screening and the Reading Phillies mascot "Screwball" will make an appearance. It will be a fitting celebration to recognize all of the members' great work.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in praising the courageous work, dedication and service of the men and women that make up the Exeter Ambulance Association. The employees and volunteers continue to protect their community with steadfast determination, and ensure that when one is in trouble, they will be there to help.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

May 22, 2008

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, because of my commitment to a family event on May 20, 2008, I missed rollcall votes 331-337. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote 331, "yes" on rollcall vote 332, "yes" on rollcall vote 333, "no" on rollcall vote 334, "yes" on rollcall vote 335, "yes" on rollcall vote 336, and "yes" on rollcall vote 337.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JOHN R. "RANDY" KUHL, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2008

Mr. KUHL of New York. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Requesting Member: Representative JOHN R. "RANDY" KUHL, JR.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Army Aircraft Procurement, Utility Helicopter Mods.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Elmira/Corning Regional Airport.

Address of Requesting Entity: 1250 Schweizer Road, Horseheads, NY 14845.

Description of Request: Provides a total of \$5,000,000 to upgrade UH-60A Black Hawk helicopters to the UH-60L configuration. Most of the funding will be used to procure and install the upgrades required to increase performance of this aircraft, and a small portion will be used for salaries in support of this effort. The UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter is an essential capability of the Army National Guard. It provides units in every state with a multi-mission aircraft for search and rescue, utility lift, disaster relief and medical evacuation. Funding the UH-60A to L upgrade will significantly improve the Black Hawk fleet and ensure that National Guard units are ready for deployment to protect our national interests at home and abroad.