

It is my fervent hope that this bill will help ensure funding for the Fairfax County Water Authority next year.

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. BOEHLERT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3178, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to authorize the Environmental Protection Agency to provide funding to support research and development projects for the security of water infrastructure."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed with an amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a concurrent resolution of the House of the following title:

H. Con. Res. 289. Concurrent resolution directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make technical corrections in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 1.

The message also announced that the Senate agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1) "An Act to close the achievement gap with accountability, flexibility, and choice, so that no child is left behind."

TRUE AMERICAN HEROES ACT

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3054) to award congressional gold medals on behalf of the officers, emergency workers, and other employees of the Federal Government and any State or local government, including any interstate governmental entity, who responded to the attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City and perished in the tragic events of September 11, 2001, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3054

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "True American Heroes Act".

SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDALS FOR GOVERNMENT WORKERS WHO RESPONDED TO THE ATTACKS ON THE WORLD TRADE CENTER AND PERISHED.

(a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—In recognition of the bravery and self-sacrifice of offi-

cers, emergency workers, and other employees of State and local government agencies, including the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, and of the United States Government, who responded to the attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City, and perished in the tragic events of September 11, 2001 (including those who are missing and presumed dead), the President is authorized to present, on behalf of the Congress, a gold medal of appropriate design for each such officer, emergency worker, or employee of each such officer, emergency worker, or employee.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For purposes of the presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury shall strike gold medals with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions to be determined by the Secretary to be emblematic of the valor and heroism of the men and women honored.

(c) DETERMINATION OF RECIPIENTS.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall determine the number of medals to be presented under this section and the appropriate recipients of the medals after consulting with appropriate representatives of Federal, State, and local officers and agencies and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

(d) PRESENTMENT CEREMONY.—The President shall consult with the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the majority leader and the minority leader of the House of Representatives, and the majority leader and the minority leader of the Senate with regard to the ceremony for presenting the gold medals under subsection (a).

(e) DUPLICATIVE GOLD MEDALS FOR DEPARTMENTS AND DUTY STATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall strike duplicates in gold of the gold medals struck pursuant to subsection (a) for presentation to each of the following:

(A) The Governor of the State of New York.

(B) The Mayor of the City of New York.

(C) The Commissioner of the New York Police Department, the Commissioner of the New York Fire Department, the head of emergency medical services for the City of New York, and the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

(D) Each precinct house, fire house, emergency response station, or other duty station or place of employment to which each person referred to in subsection (a) was assigned on September 11, 2001, for display in each such place in a manner befitting the memory of such persons.

(f) DETERMINATION OF RECIPIENTS.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall determine the number of medals to be presented under subsection (e) and the appropriate recipients of the medals after consulting with appropriate representatives of Federal, State, and local officers and agencies and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

(g) DUPLICATE BRONZE MEDALS.—The Secretary of the Treasury may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to subsection (a) under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, at a price of \$50 per medal.

(h) PROCEEDS OF SALE.—Amounts received from the sales of duplicate bronze medals under subsection (g) shall be deposited in a fund to be used to erect a memorial for the fallen emergency responders.

(i) USE OF THE UNITED STATES MINT AT WEST POINT, NEW YORK.—It is the sense of the Congress that the medals authorized under this section should—

(1) be designed, struck, and presented not more than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(2) be struck at the United States Mint at West Point, New York, to the greatest extent possible.

SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDALS FOR PEOPLE ABOARD UNITED AIRLINES FLIGHT 93 WHO HELPED RESIST THE HIJACKERS AND CAUSED THE PLANE TO CRASH.

(a) CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS.—The Congress finds as follows:

(1) On September 11, 2001, United Airlines Flight 93, piloted by Captain James Dahl, departed from Newark International Airport at 8:01 a.m. on its scheduled route to San Francisco, California, with 7 crew members and 38 passengers on board.

(2) Shortly after departure, United Airlines Flight 93 was hijacked by terrorists.

(3) At 10:37 a.m. United Airlines Flight 93 crashed near Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

(4) Evidence indicates that people aboard United Airlines Flight 93 learned that other hijacked planes had been used to attack the World Trade Center in New York City and resisted the actions of the hijackers on board.

(5) The effort to resist the hijackers aboard United Airlines Flight 93 appears to have caused the plane to crash prematurely, potentially saving hundreds or thousands of lives and preventing the destruction of the White House, the Capitol, or another important symbol of freedom and democracy.

(6) The leaders of the resistance aboard United Airlines Flight 93 demonstrated exceptional bravery, valor, and patriotism, and are worthy of the appreciation of the people of the United States.

(b) PRESENTATION OF CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDALS AUTHORIZED.—The President is authorized to award posthumously, on behalf of Congress and in recognition of heroic service to the Nation, gold medals of appropriate design to any passengers or crew members on board United Airlines Flight 93 who are identified by the Attorney General as having aided in the effort to resist the hijackers on board the plane.

(c) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purpose of the presentation referred to in subsection (b), the Secretary of the Treasury shall strike gold medals of a single design with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

(d) DUPLICATE MEDALS.—Under such regulations as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe, the Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medals struck under subsection (b) at a price sufficient to cover the cost of the bronze medals (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses) and the cost of the gold medals.

SEC. 4. NATIONAL MEDALS.

The medals struck under this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING) and the gentleman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 3054, and to include extraneous material on the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, today's legislation will award the Congressional Gold Medal to the brave heroes of September 11, 2001. These are the brave men and women who entered the World Trade Center in New York, and also those brave people on United Airlines Flight 93 who brought down the plane and saved countless lives.

Mr. Speaker, let me commend the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY), the ranking member, for the tremendous cooperation the gentlewoman has given me on this bill, and also for the incredible amount of time and effort she has put into it. The gentlewoman must have taken 20 years off her life going around and getting signatures and making phone calls. It is an example of her dedication to the men and women who laid down their lives on September 11. I also thank the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDO), who is responsible for the language that is going in as an amendment regarding United Airlines Flight 93; and I thank the gentleman for his efforts.

Mr. Speaker, today's bill commemorates and honors in the most significant way that Congress can those men and women who laid down their lives on September 11. In New York at the World Trade Center, we had more than 300 New York City firefighters, New York City police officers, Port Authority police officers, we had emergency service workers, we had court officers, numerous government employees who went into that building that day and were responsible for the greatest, most significant rescue operation in the history of this country. Estimates are that 25,000 people were saved that day because of the heroic efforts of men and women who above and beyond the call of duty ran into a burning building while others were escaping. It was their duty to escape, and it was the duty of the firefighters and police officers to go into that building and rescue as many people as they did. In going in there, they faced almost certain death.

I think it is important to note, Mr. Speaker, that our country has responded very dramatically to the events of September 11. I firmly believe that one of the reasons why the country has responded the way it has is because of the example that was set on September 11 when the eyes of the Nation and the eyes of the world saw those people running in to save lives, saw them meeting their death. They saw nobody wavered in the face of those fires and those falling buildings. They just did what they were trained to do and what it takes incredible courage to do.

Those of us from New York, we know many who died that day. In my own district, there was the chief of the department, Peter Ganci, who had escaped from the first building and went into the second building, and was killed when that came down.

Father Judge, the chaplain to the fire department, was killed administering last rites on September 11.

Personal friends, Michael Boyle and David Arce, worked on my political campaigns. They were good friends, and they also went into that building. They were friends together, and they died together.

Neighbors of mine, the Haskell brothers, both firefighters, Tim Haskell and Tom Haskell, both of whom died that day.

Another neighbor, John Perry, a New York City police officer, who actually was at headquarters submitting his retirement papers that morning. He was retiring from the New York City Police Department that day. He was at police headquarters. He saw what happened, and he ran from the headquarters to the World Trade Center and died in the rescue operation.

So these are all heroic people, and we can multiply that by hundreds. There is nobody in the New York area who was not impacted by the death of one of those brave people.

I must say on a note of bipartisanship, just as Michael Boyle and David Arce worked for my campaigns, John Perry's mother and father were active members of the Democratic Party; and one of the most encouraging notes I have seen is that John's mother, Pat Perry, who is a Democratic Party leader in my area, is once again calling my office to tell me when she thinks I voted wrong. To me, that is what democracy is all about. I wish Pat and Jim Perry the very best, as I do the families of all who died.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot begin to give the credit to these people that they deserve, but this is one thing we can do. I strongly support this legislation, and I also want to emphasize that while we are singling out the uniformed services for the work they did and for being heroes, for every person that died in the World Trade Center, their families consider them to be heroes, and there are many acts of heroism that have not been recorded.

I think it is important to note that everyone who died in the World Trade Center is a hero. By commemorating the firefighters, police officers, emergency service workers, the court employees, and the brave people who brought down Flight 93, we are honoring the most visible aspects of that heroism. They are all heroes. The entire country is heroic in the great response we have had in carrying out this war against terrorism.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise with the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING) and congratulate him on his leadership and hard work in drafting this legislation and working to secure the proper signatures and the support of the leadership of this body.

I rise with strong support for the True American Heroes Act. This legislation honors the over 300 men and

women, firefighters, EMTs and rescue workers, dozens of police officers from both the city and Port Authority, and other Federal, State and local emergency workers who charged into the World Trade Center Towers on September 11, and perished as they attempted to save the lives of workers in the building.

From the moment the planes struck the towers from all over the city and surrounding area, rescuers poured out of fire houses and precinct houses and ran into the burning towers without regard for their own personal safety.

They were men and women, cops, firefighters, EMTs, and public servants like FBI Special Agent Lenny Hatton. This legislation lets us honor those who died so others could live.

At Ground Zero on September 12, I heard estimates from people in authority from the State and city, and they estimated that as many as 20,000 people had been killed in the World Trade Center. We know now that thanks to the heroic work of the rescue workers the death toll was closer to 3,000. This rescue effort has been called the largest and most successful in our history, and it resulted in saving roughly 25,000 lives.

Thousands of families are in mourning this holiday season. But perhaps the best reason to pass this bill is that tens of thousands of families are not in mourning. They have traumatic memories of a narrow escape, but they have their whole lives ahead of them. The people died on September 11, but they did not die in vain. As New York and the world watched in horror as the planes struck and the towers were engulfed, these individuals thrust themselves towards danger.

To those with hearts of gold, we award medals of gold. They are true American heroes and heroines. The Congressional Gold Medal honors contributions to America by outstanding individuals and groups. What could anyone do that is more outstanding than saving the lives of innocent people, people who merely showed up for work. The True American Heroes Act will award Congressional Gold Medals to families and next of kin to these brave rescuers who perished in the attack. What better way to pay tribute than to award these families the most distinguished honor bestowed by Congress?

This legislation also designates that the individual station houses and fire houses that lost people in the attack will receive copies of the gold medal. One example in the district that I represent is the Roosevelt Island-based Special-ops unit of the New York Fire Department, which lost 10 people. The loss was so great because at this particular facility there was a duty change in progress. Men who would and could have gone home, grabbed their equipment and headed to the scene. As a result, the loss was twice as high as it might otherwise have been.

As we pass the fire houses and precinct houses where flowers fill the sidewalks in New York City, the emotion of the tragedy is still overpowering. This legislation will ensure that we will forever have public displays around the city to preserve the memory of these rescuers who made the ultimate sacrifice.

The offices of the Mayor and the Governor of New York and the head of the Port Authority will also be awarded copies of medals. As we all know, the head of the Port Authority, my friend, Neil Levin, was lost in the attack. Neil was serving as the executive director of the Port Authority, the agency that ran the World Trade Center for the past 28 years. He was last seen helping people get out of the building. Neil died in the brave tradition of the captain going down with the ship. It is fitting that a copy of the gold medal will be given to the Port Authority.

Mayor Giuliani himself rushed to the scene of the attack so quickly, that for a time his own safety was at risk. The copies of the medals given to the Port Authority, Mayor, and Governor are a highly appropriate honor for leaders who responded so quickly. In addition to the gold medals, the United States Mint will make bronze reproductions of the medals available to the general public. The proceeds from these sales will go toward building a memorial at Ground Zero that will serve as a lasting tribute to the fallen heroes and heroines. All around America, our citizens can purchase these medals and demonstrate their solidarity with the fallen heroes and heroines of New York.

Finally, the bill awards medals to the exceptional brave passengers who battled the hijackers of Flight 93.

□ 1515

They saved an untold number of lives and quite possibly the very building in which we are standing.

I thank my colleague and counterpart on the Subcommittee on Domestic Monetary Policy, Technology, and Economic Growth, Chairman KING, for working with me on this legislation. I would also like to acknowledge Chairman OXLEY and Ranking Member LAFALCE from the Committee on Financial Services for moving this bill to the floor so quickly. Chairman OXLEY and Ranking Member LAFALCE have shown bipartisan leadership in the immediate wake of the attacks. Working together, they worked to produce a number of important bipartisan initiatives which responded to the new threats to our financial system. New York City is thankful to them and all the Members of this House who have responded to the city in its time of greatest need.

This was an attack on our country, and New York is a symbol of our country. All New Yorkers join me in thanking my colleagues, and especially Chairman KING for his leadership on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA).

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding the time to me on this important issue and for his leadership in crafting a resolution and as chairman of the committee. I also thank the ranking member, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY), for her work on this issue. Indeed, as New Yorkers, they grieve deeply, but we all do.

We are all devastated by the scope of the tragedy on September 11, but the courage and valor shown by so many reaffirmed our belief about the character of this great Nation. For this reason, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3054, the True American Heroes Act. The bill authorizes the President to present, on behalf of the Congress, congressional gold medals to officers, emergency workers and other employees of Federal, State and local governments who responded to the attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City and perished in the tragic events of September 11. In addition, medals would be given to the families of those individuals aboard United Flight 93 who resisted the hijackers and foiled their attempts at further destruction. Unfortunately, there is no medal or plaque that can truly convey our appreciation for the heroism demonstrated by so many on September 11, but it is important for Congress to show to the rest of this country and the world how we value their bravery.

George William Curtis, the noted 19th century intellectual, stated, "Man's country is not a certain area of land, of mountains, rivers and woods, but it is a principle; and patriotism is loyalty to that principle." I repeat his words today because it is clear that all those individuals who sacrificed their lives loved this country and what it stood for. The actions of those heroes on Flight 93 was patriotism exactly as Curtis defines it, and their heroism on that flight demonstrated to the world how strongly Americans believe in the principles of this Nation.

I salute their valor and the courage of all who lost their lives, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I know that the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDO) intended to speak today. He cannot make it. He has been detained. I would again like to state for the record the tremendous job that he has done in working with myself and with the gentlewoman from New York.

I want to, again, thank the gentlewoman from New York for really being such a stalwart fighter on this bill and for being there and for making sure that I kept working as hard as I should have. I thank the gentlewoman from New York very much.

Also, Mr. Speaker, I would just like to conclude in following up on what the gentlewoman from New York said about the leadership that has been shown on this issue really throughout the chain of command, from President Bush, to the leadership in the Congress, in New York to Governor Pataki, Mayor Giuliani, Police Commissioner Kerik, Emergency Services Commissioner Richie Sheirer, and also the late Neil Levin, who was the chairman of the Port Authority and was killed on that day.

They provided the leadership, the men and women on the ground provided the courage and the dedication which brought about, again, the rescue of 25,000 people. To think of it is really still mind-boggling to realize the effort that went into that. That is the type of courage and they are the type of people that we are honoring with this legislation today.

I would also like to say to my friend Jimmy Boyle who is watching this and whose son Michael died on September 11, I promised Jimmy I would get the bill through. We are going to get it through.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3054, legislation that would authorize Congressional Gold Medals be struck for those government workers who perished in the September 11 attacks at the Pentagon and World Trade Center, and also for the brave passengers on United Flight 93. This is an appropriated honor and entirely deserving of our support.

This legislation says that in recognition of the bravery and self-sacrifice of officers, emergency workers, and other employees of State and local government agencies, including the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, and of the United States Government, who responded to the attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City, and perished in the tragic events of September 11, 2001, the President is authorized to present, on behalf of the Congress, a gold medal of appropriate design for each such officer, emergency worker, or employee to the next of kin or other representative of each such officer, emergency worker, or employee. The bill also makes this honor available to the passengers of Flight 93.

Earlier in the year, I joined with Representative TANCREDO and others in introducing a similar bill to authorize a Congressional Gold Medal for the brave passengers of United Flight 93, who perished fighting the terrorists and denying them their mission.

There were so many heroes on September 11. I am particularly pleased to honor Todd Beamer, the New Jerseyan who gave his life on hijacked United Airlines Flight 93 fighting the hijackers. All Americans mourn the loss of Todd Beamer and the others on that flight. Our hearts and prayers go out to Lisa Beamer, their children, and to all the other families of the people on that plane.

So many Americans perished on that day. Many central New Jerseyans were working in the World Trade Center on September 11th when it was attacked by terrorists. Others were on board the hijacked airplanes. Since then, numerous fire, rescue, EMT and medical personnel from our area have been on the scene in New York, caring for victims and their

families. I have personally toured the sites of the attacks in New York and in Washington, and words cannot adequately capture the horror of those scenes.

This is an appropriate honor for a number of very brave Americans. I urge my colleagues to join with me in supporting this bill.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 3054. At the same time, I rise in great respect for the courage and compassion shown by those who gave their lives attempting to rescue their fellow citizens in the aftermath of the World Trade Center attacks. I also rise in admiration and gratitude to the passengers of Flight 93 who knowingly sacrificed their lives to prevent another terrorist attack. However, I do not believe that an unconstitutional authorization for Congressional Gold Medals is in the true spirit of these American heroes. After all, this legislation purports to honor personal sacrifices and acts of heroism by forcing others to pay for these gold medals.

Mr. Speaker, money appropriated for gold medals, or any other unconstitutional purpose, is, in the words of Davy Crockett, "Not Yours to Give." It is my pleasure to attach a copy of Davy Crockett's "Not Yours to Give" speech for the record. I hope my colleagues will carefully consider its' message before voting to take money from American workers and families to spend on unconstitutional programs and projects.

Instead of abusing the taxing and spending power, I urge my colleagues to undertake to raise the money for these medals among ourselves. I would gladly donate to a Congressional Gold Medal fund whose proceeds would be used to purchase and award gold medals to those selected by Congress for this honor. Congress should also reduce the federal tax burdened on the families of those who lost their lives helping their fellow citizens on September 11. Mr. Speaker, reducing the tax burden on these Americans would be a real sacrifice for many in Washington since any reduction in taxes represents a loss of real and potential power for the federal government.

H.R. 3054 violates fundamental principles of fiscal responsibility by giving the Secretary of the Treasury almost unquestioned authority to determine who can and cannot receive a gold medal. Official estimates are that implementation of this bill will cost approximately 3.9 million dollars, however the terms of the bill suggest that the costs incurred by the United States taxpayer could be much higher. Furthermore, unlike previous legislation authorizing gold medals, H.R. 3054 does not instruct the Secretary of the Treasury to use profits generated by marketing bronze duplicates of the medal to reimburse the taxpayer for the costs of producing the medal. Unfortunately, because this bill was moved to the suspension calendar without hearings or a mark-up there was no opportunity for members of the Financial Services Committee such as myself to examine these questions.

Because of my continuing and uncompromising opposition to appropriations not authorized within the enumerated powers of the Constitution, I must remain consistent in my defense of a limited government whose powers are explicitly delimited under the enumerated powers of the Constitution—a Constitution which each Member of Congress swore to uphold. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I must oppose this legislation and respectfully suggest

that perhaps we should begin a debate among us on more appropriate processes by which we spend other people's money. Honorary medals and commemorative coins, under the current process, come from other people's money. It is, of course, easier to be generous with other people's money, but using our own funds to finance these gold medal is true to the spirit of the heroes of September 11.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3054, the True American Heroes Act, authorizing the President, on behalf of the Congress, to present Congressional Gold Medals to police officers, emergency workers, and other employees of federal, state, and local governments, who lost their lives in responding to the attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City on September 11, 2001.

This measure also authorizes the President to award medals to those people on board United Airlines Flight 93 who resisted their hijackers and caused the plane to crash, preventing an additional tragedy in Washington.

On that horrible day in September, our nation witnessed the best and the worst of humanity. The despicable and cowardly terrorist acts were valiantly countered with the incredible heroism and courage of our firefighters, law enforcement officers, emergency personnel, and our fellow citizens.

Accordingly, it is incumbent upon our nation to honor those heroes who selflessly gave their lives in saving others. Bestowing the Congressional Gold Medal on those deserving men and women will be a fitting tribute to their memory and their contribution to our nation's freedom. Accordingly, I urge my fellow colleagues to support this important measure.

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3054, the True American Heroes Act and want to thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING), the gentlelady from New York (Mrs. MALONEY), and the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDO) for their efforts in bringing this important legislation to the floor today.

Because there was no report filed by the Committee on Financial Services on this bill, I am including for the RECORD the CBO estimate for the legislation.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, December 12, 2001.

Hon. MICHAEL G. OXLEY,
Chairman, Committee on Financial Services,
U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: As you requested, the Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 3054, the True American Heroes Act.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Matthew Pickford. Sincerely,

BARRY B. ANDERSON
(For Dan L. Crippen, Director).

Enclosure.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST
ESTIMATE

H.R. 3054—True American Heroes Act

H.R. 3054 would authorize the President to present a Congressional gold medal to the families of public safety officers, emergency workers, and other employees of state and local government agencies who perished while responding to the attacks on September 11, 2001, at the World Trade Center.

The bill also would authorize duplicate medals to be presented to various officials of New York, as well as each precinct house, fire station, or other duty station that had a member perish in the attacks. H.R. 3054 would authorize the U.S. Mint to sell bronze duplicates of the medal, and allow the proceeds from those sales to be used to erect a memorial for the fallen emergency workers who responded to the attacks.

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 3054 would cost approximately \$3.8 million in 2002, mostly for the cost of gold to produce about 550 medals. CBO estimates that the first gold medal would cost about \$35,500 to produce, including around \$5,500 for the cost of the gold and around \$30,000 for the costs to design, engrave, and manufacture the medal. Funds collected from the sale of bronze duplicate medals would be available for the cost of a memorial to emergency workers killed in the attacks. CBO estimates that \$1 million to \$2 million would be collected and later spent as a result of such sales. Over a few years the net budget impact would be insignificant.

Because the bill would affect direct spending, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply. H.R. 3054 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact is Matthew Pickford. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director of Budget Analysis.

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the True American Heroes Act. The men and women who died on September 11th serving our country by saving lives deserve not only our immense gratitude, but also the highest of honors.

Out of tragedy, our nation has emerged stronger and prouder than ever. Our spirit is inspired by the stories of brave men and women from that day—true American heroes.

In our darkest hours on September 11, the heroes in our midst shined brighter than ever. We know some heroic endeavors that were undertaken from stories about cell phone calls and from eyewitness accounts.

On United Airlines Flight #93 passengers called loved ones alerting them that their plane had been hijacked. One of my constituents, Jeremy Glick, called his wife Lyzbeth from that flight. Jeremy was part of the fearless effort to stop the terrorists from taking the plane into the heart of Washington, D.C.

From his cell phone conversation, we know that Jeremy along with other passengers and crew chose to fight the terrorists who had commandeered the plane. At 10:37 a.m., United Flight #93 crashed in Pennsylvania, just minutes after the White House and the Capitol Building had been evacuated.

Always a hero to his wife, his family and his friends, Jeremy Glick became a hero to the nation on September 11th, 2001.

Mr. Speaker, days after the September 11 attacks, I introduced H.R. 2921 to authorize the President to award posthumously the Congressional Gold Medal to Jeremy Glick for his bravery, courage and service to his nation. We must honor all the heroes of the United Flight 93. Today, this House formally recognizes his contribution and all the heroes of that fateful day.

So, too, do we recognize the bravery of many Americans who died in Lower Manhattan.

Some were our neighbors.

Dana Hannon of Wyckoff, New Jersey was a 29-year old, newly-engaged member of the New York City Engine Company #28, who responded to the reports of a plane crash at the north and south towers of the World Trade Center.

Paul Laszczynski of Paramus was a Port Authority police officer who was honored for his action during the first attack on the World Trade Center. He and a colleague carried a wheelchair-bound victim down 77 floors to safety after the bombing in 1993.

Joe Navas of Paramus was a 44-year old Port Authority police officer. In his hometown of Paramus he volunteered as a Little League Coach for his two boys. His wife and family had to learn about his earlier heroic exploits by reading it in the Bergen Record.

The example set by Joe Navas is not unique. Our fire departments and emergency services are the first on the scene to fires, motor vehicle accidents, natural disasters, hazardous waste spills, and, yes, even terrorist attacks.

And they never draw attention to themselves. In their minds, they are "just doing their jobs . . ."

That Tuesday, their work and their courage brought them into the building lobbies as people flooded out into the streets. These men and women ran up the stairs while instructing people to immediately get down those same stairs and outside. They ran to help as others ran to safety. Their efforts will never be forgotten, especially by those who were saved.

Someday we may hear the story of the lives these men and women saved or the comfort they provided. But for now, we can be proud: proud of the job they were doing, proud of the heroism they showed that day, and proud of the courage they have always shown. New Jersey lost a tragic number of officers and emergency workers in lower Manhattan that day. As we wait for stories about New Jersey's finest, we will continue to share the memories of their everyday heroism and spirit.

Mr. Speaker, the men and women that we honor today died on their own terms—fighting selflessly against those who hate all that our country stands for. Our tenacious American spirit will prevail. As President Reagan said in his first Inaugural Address, "we must realize that no arsenal, or no weapon in the arsenals of the world, is so formidable as the will and moral courage of free men and women. It is a weapon our adversaries in today's world do not have. It is a weapon that we as Americans do have."

On behalf of Congress, let us now recognize the men and women who served us in our most horrific hours by awarding these heroes Congressional Gold Medals. I strongly urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

This action today is another way of saying God Bless America. Truly we are "one Nation under God."

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3054, a bill to award the Congressional Gold Medal to the heroes of September 11. I hope that this small token of appreciation will symbolize America's appreciation for the endless bravery that was shown on that day.

There are some, for whom there is no sacrifice too great when the call to duty sounds. There are some, in a world wrapped in a shroud of self-promotion, who see beyond the "me", the "my", the "mine" and the "I". There

are some that so regard their brothers and sisters that they disregard their own safety, their own well being, and even their own lives, to lend a hand. There are some, which in a split second make a decision to forget themselves and do what it takes to save others; they are heroes.

For heroes, there is no room to think or to rationalize. It is never practical to endanger one's existence in the hope of promoting the survival of others, but they do. It goes beyond what is logical. The hero possesses an innate and instinctive ability to respond to extreme situations with others in mind. By nature, the hero defies the basic human impulse for self-preservation. The hero is selfless.

On September 11, many Americans heeded the call to action. On a beautiful morning, ordinary people awakened to start the day, to go about their normal routines with smiles, frowns, traffic, and cups of coffee. The Pentagon was still an impenetrable fortress and the skyline of New York was still intact; the morning proceeded as usual. In the moments to follow, shocked and horrified, firefighters, police officers, servicemen and women, and everyday people sprang into situations that were simply incomprehensible; they fought to save lives. They saved lives and returned to save more, and in an instant, the courageous fire that burned in their hearts was extinguished.

Above the mayhem, Flight 93 swam the skies to reach the West Coast. Aboard this flight the passengers eagerly awaited landing, waiting to meet their loved ones miles away. Nonetheless, with angry shouts the silence was broken and the passengers realized that terror's arm had reached yet another flight. The terrorists made their move and fought to carry out this horrible act. They were headed to Washington, DC to destroy the very symbols that shine as beacons for freedom throughout the world. The terrorists were trained and prepared to destroy lives and break the spirit of America. However, they were never trained to defeat the spirit of heroism.

The passengers of Flight 93, after talking to their courageous and heroic family members and learning of the attacks, decided that there would be no more death and destruction. They decided that America had suffered enough for one morning. They decided that they would trade their lives to save hundreds, maybe thousands more, quite possibly my own. For them, heroism was not the goal. They did not seek a grand prize or recognition. They sought only to prevent the destruction that was sure to come absent their intervention.

For heroes, there is no reward other than the satisfaction of knowing that their sacrifice may allow the life of others to continue. Since September 11, America has received so many lessons in heroism. We have been schooled in selflessness and courage. We have learned what it means to sacrifice. We can only honor and thank them for these lessons and for the lives that they saved, and the lives they gave.

The Congressional Gold Medal is the nation's highest civilian award. The medal recognizes outstanding achievements and unusual acts of valor and courage. Be it over a lifetime or in one instance, it recognizes that its recipients have—in their own way—changed the world for the better. The heroes of 9–11 have shown a courage that is rare to modern times. They fought the hatred and the malice of that ter-

rible day with love, compassion, courage and selflessness. And they changed the world.

It is difficult to find good in such a tragic event. However, we can look to the many men and women who worked tirelessly and who died courageously to save life, and know that even in the face of death and terror, the good in humanity prevails. The Congressional Gold Medal is but a small token, but I hope it will symbolize the immeasurable thanks that we pay to these heroes. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3054, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

ENERGY POLICY ACT OF 1992 AMENDMENTS

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3343) to amend title X of the Energy Policy Act of 1992, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3343

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. REAUTHORIZATION OF THORIUM REIMBURSEMENT.

(a) PAYMENTS TO LICENSEES.—Section 1001(b)(2)(C) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 2296a(b)(2)(C)) is amended—

(1) by striking "\$140,000,000" and inserting "\$365,000,000"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following: "Such payments shall not exceed the following amounts:

"(i) \$90,000,000 in fiscal year 2002.

"(ii) \$55,000,000 in fiscal year 2003.

"(iii) \$20,000,000 in fiscal year 2004.

"(iv) \$20,000,000 in fiscal year 2005.

"(v) \$20,000,000 in fiscal year 2006.

"(vi) \$20,000,000 in fiscal year 2007.

Any amounts authorized to be paid in a fiscal year under this subparagraph that are not paid in that fiscal year may be paid in subsequent fiscal years."

(b) AUTHORIZATION.—Section 1003(a) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 2296a–2(a)) is amended by striking "\$490,000,000" and inserting "\$715,000,000".

(c) DEPOSITS.—Section 1802(a) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2297g–1(a)) is amended by striking "\$488,333,333" and inserting "\$518,233,333" and by inserting after "inflation" the phrase "beginning on the date of the enactment of the Energy Policy Act of 1992".