

These are big steps backward. So is the provision that would allow geothermal-energy leases to be in effect converted into claims under the Mining Law of 1872.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, we need a well-designed policy to meet the challenges of our time, not a policy that will diminish our energy security. With the Middle East—the world's main oil-producing region—in turmoil, we must question the predictability of future foreign oil supplies. Fully 30 percent of the world's oil supply comes from the volatile and politically unstable Persian Gulf region. Yet with only 3 percent of the world's known oil reserves, we are not in a position to solve our energy vulnerability by drilling at home.

This bill does nothing to tackle this fundamental problem. I only wish my colleagues in the House could understand that a vision of a clean energy future is not radical science fiction but is instead based on science and technology that exists today.

In much the same way that America set about unlocking the secrets of the atom with the "Manhattan Project" or placing a man on the moon with the Apollo program, we can surely put more public investment behind new energy sources that will free us from our dependence on oil.

This bill would continue our addiction to finite and politically unstable energy resources, while undermining public health, the environment, and ultimately our national security itself. It should be rejected.

SUPPORT OF THE CONFERENCE
AGREEMENT ON THE DEFENSE
AUTHORIZATION ACT (H.R. 1588)

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 7, 2003

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Conference Agreement on the Defense Authorization Act (H.R. 1588), and in support of our armed forces and the service men and women who defend our great country, and their families.

Unlike the Iraq War Supplemental, which I opposed, the FY04 Defense Authorization bill is not a "blank check" for the Administration. Rather, this bill was carefully drafted to address many of our military's most pressing needs. This legislation provides a substantial pay raise for service members, boosts military special pay and extends enlisted and reenlistment bonuses. Additionally, this legislation extends the military's TRICARE health coverage to National Guard and Reservists and their families if such service members have been called to active duty. We need to assure our military that as we continue to support their readiness capabilities, we remember the personal well being of the men and women in uniform as well as their families.

The FY04 Defense Authorization bill also addresses the disabled veterans tax, or "concurrent receipt", by ensuring a significant number of disabled veterans will no longer be subjected to this unjust tax. As a cosponsor of H.R. 303, the Retired Pay and Restoration Act, I would have preferred the Defense Authorization bill include full concurrent receipt for all disabled veterans. However, this compromise is an important step forward and will allow the House to continue working toward the full elimination of the disabled veterans tax.

While I am supporting passage of this authorization, there are several provisions of this legislation that I oppose. The first regards civil service protections for civilian employees at the Department of Defense (DOD). H.R. 1588 gives the DOD broad authority to strip almost 700,000 civilian employees of fundamental rights relating to due process, appeal and collective bargaining rights. This means the DOD will be able to fire employees with no notice and no opportunity to respond, prevent discrimination actions from being heard by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, strip employees of their right to join a union and repeal the laws preventing nepotism. Civil service employees at DOD have defended our nation bravely and made enormous sacrifices to support the military effort in Iraq. DOD should not be given unlimited authority to trample on their basic rights.

H.R. 1588 also unnecessarily weakens long-standing environmental protections at our military facilities by lowering the accountability standard DOD must follow when recovering imperiled species under the Endangered Species Act. The new standard fails to ensure the DOD's conservation plans are actually effective in assisting the recovery of imperiled species. H.R. 1588 also creates a far less protective definition of "harassment" of marine life by military activities under the Marine Mammal Protection Act. This new definition allows DOD to avoid ensuring its activities are conducted in a manner to minimize harm to marine life such as whales, dolphins, and sea lions.

Although I fully appreciate the importance of military training and readiness, the DOD has not made the case that exemptions to important and long-standing environmental laws are necessary or that training is greatly impaired because of those laws. Furthermore, the President already has the authority to waive environmental laws if he deems it a matter of national security, and not once has a waiver requested by the President been turned down. Until our national security is at stake, no government agency—including the DOD—should be above laws that preserve our air and water and sustain America's wildlife.

This measure also authorizes \$9.1 billion for the unproven and untested National Missile Defense system. This costly program fails to address the rising threat of a chemical or biological weapons attack by terrorists and will divert precious resources away from the very real human investments needed to keep our military, intelligence agencies and domestic security agencies strong. I have voted time again to remove funding for the National Missile Defense system, but the Republican Majority defeated each attempt. It is a mistake to fund this unproven program while our citizens at home are without the appropriate resources they need to respond to a terrorist attack on American soil.

I have met with National Guard members, Reservists and regular military personnel who have chosen to put their lives on the line to protect our freedoms. They have sacrificed a tremendous amount, even when their service means putting their family's financial solvency at risk. We owe them our support and our gratitude.

As I stated above, this is not a "blank check" for the President. Rather, this legislation will go a long way toward helping our troops in their time of need.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL MICHAEL
VACCA

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2003

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute today to one of our Nation's finest young men who demonstrated exceptional courage and concern for our troops. Colonel Michael Vacca of the United States Marine Corps is to be commended for his actions, and I applaud him for his dedication to the American spirit.

On the morning of August 26, 2003, one of the many brave soldiers from my district, Private First Class Daniel Humphreys, was injured while riding in a two-vehicle convoy heading north to Baghdad. When an Improvised Explosive Device hit the rear vehicle of this mission, the vehicle's tires were blown out, the engine and steering systems were destroyed, and Private First Class Humphreys was severely wounded along with other Marines. Private First Class Humphreys and his fellow Marines were taken to hospitals in Germany and Iraq for treatment, and Colonel Michael Vacca showed a tremendous amount of support for his Corpsmen that extended beyond the call of duty.

Not only did Colonel Vacca make regular visits to the hospital, he also notified the wounded soldiers' loved ones and kept them informed of their progress. When a soldier was unable to send word home, Colonel Michael Vacca did so with hope, enthusiasm and pride.

The men and women of our armed forces have been away from their families and friends defending democracy and freedom. Colonel Michael Vacca has not only put his life on the line for his country, he has also brought the spirit of his fellow Marines back home to their families.

Mr. Speaker, Colonel Michael Vacca is a true American hero, and this Congress should celebrate his outstanding service and loyalty to the Marine Corps and the United States of America.

CLEAN WATER ACT ROLLBACKS

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2003

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to efforts by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to rollback the Clean Water Act.

Several days ago, in the Los Angeles Times and other newspapers, an internal EPA memo was quoted saying that the EPA is preparing a rule that would eliminate Clean Water Act protections for, "Streams that flow for less than six months a year . . ." State and federal officials have estimated that up to 20 million acres of wetlands would be lost.

This preliminary rule would devastate the Southwest where many streams flow only seasonally or after rain or snowmelts. In Los Angeles County, our rivers are often only a trickle, since our community gets an average of 15 inches of rainfall a year. And we are not alone.

Interior Secretary Gale Norton notes that, "The American West is facing a serious crisis. In the long run, we will not have enough water to meet the fast-growing needs of city residents, farmers, ranchers, Native Americans, and wildlife. The demand is increasing; the supply is not." Unfortunately, the EPA must have not gotten that memo because if our limited water supply is jeopardized, no one's needs will be met.

I encourage the Bush Administration to throw this rule draft away and start fresh with guidelines that will protect our water supplies so that our families are not left out to dry.

CONDEMNING THE RISE OF HIGH-TECH ANTI-SEMITISM

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2003

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of the House an issue that this House bravely stood against earlier this year, the rise of anti-Semitism. While we understand the danger of anti-Semitism, I rise today to remind the House of the possible consequences of anti-Semitism in the developing world.

Last month the House unanimously passed House Resolution 409, condemning the anti-Semitic remarks of the former Prime Minister of Malaysia, Doctor Mahathir Mohamad. This House joined international condemnation of the hate-speech and stereotypes contained in Doctor Mahathir's speech. It seemed inconceivable that a man of such education and leadership could sink to so low a level.

Little noticed amid the well-earned condemnation of Dr. Mahathir's comments was the rest of his speech. It surprised many to see that the remainder of the speech was a call for advanced technical research, social and political modernization, and the development of first-rate communications in the Islamic world. These things are the very things that our country has been urging as a means of integrating these countries into the international community. How can Dr. Mahathir share the means and yet call for such a different end?

Since the end of the Second World War, anti-Semitism has not been seen as a disease that modern countries are susceptible to. Many have forgotten how scientifically advanced Hitler's Germany was, and how increases in knowledge were used to increase the murdering power of hate. Despite our hopes to the contrary, science proved to be values free, and the minds that could improve the lot of all mankind were put to the work of killing as many defenseless people as possible.

For 50 years after the end of the war, we kept close watch on the spread of technology, and trained scientists on how not to become a tool for evil. Science has brought the world closer together than ever, and technology has allowed the flowering of commerce and the arts. Yet the lesson remains, that this is because we make it so, not because of any moral value in technology itself.

While our Nation prides itself on the great advances being made in developing countries, and the ease with which technophobia around

the world is dispelled, we cannot rest comfortably. Every invention, every improvement, can be used for evil when held by men with hate-filled minds. The periodic table and computer code do not contain hidden lessons on rooting out anti-Semitism and murder. New ministries and parliaments can be elected as fairly, and corrupted as easily, as the Reichstag that brought Hitler to power.

This Nation, and every nation of goodwill, must not be satisfied with spreading democracy and development. Without a commitment to fighting anti-Semitism, bringing murderers to justice, refusing to collaborate with evil, and speaking out for the truth, true peace and freedom in the Islamic world, and the rest of this planet, cannot be obtained.

TRIBUTE TO DR. EDWARD ROZEK

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2003

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great American, Dr. Edward Rozek, for his years of dedicated service to the cause of freedom and democracy as a soldier, scholar, author, and college professor.

Edward Rozek was 18 years old when Adolf Hitler conquered Poland. He decided to join the Allied forces in the west and escaped through Slovakia to Hungary, where he was captured by the Nazis and spent several months in a slave labor camp.

Upon escaping from the Nazi camp, Rozek made his way to England, where he joined the First Polish Armored Division. He became a tank officer in the Armored Division's Reconnaissance Regiment and fought from Normandy through Belgium. Achieving the rank of Major, Rozek was wounded four times and received four Purple Hearts, three Crosses of Valor, as well as numerous other decorations.

In 1948 Dr. Rozek arrived in the United States without family, money, or profession. He was admitted to Harvard after earning money to pay tuition by working on a dairy farm and then at a gasoline station. In 7 years, he earned a Bachelor of Arts, Magna cum Laude and Phi Beta Kappa, Master of Arts, and his Doctorate of Philosophy.

After leaving Harvard, Dr. Rozek became a Professor of Comparative Governments at the University of Colorado. He was Director of Slavic Studies for 25 years and Deputy Editor for one of the most prestigious publications on Eastern Europe in the world, *Journal of Central European Affairs*. His best-known book is *Allied Wartime Diplomacy*, for which he received the National Foundation Book Award. The students at the University of Colorado selected him as Professor of the Year and Distinguished Faculty Member.

During the 1980 Presidential campaign, Rozek was a member of Ronald Reagan's Advisory Council on Defense and Foreign Policy and is currently a member of the Reagan Associates. He is an honorary member of Solidarity, and received Knighthood in the Venerable Order of St. John from Queen Elizabeth.

Presently, Dr. Rozek holds the Endowed Garnsey-Rozek Professorship in Economic and Political Freedom at the University of Northern Colorado. He will retire at the end of this year. Dr. Rozek is married to Elizabeth and has two sons and four grandchildren.

On behalf of the countless number of students, citizens, and legislators he has touched, I want to thank Dr. Rozek for his years of dedicated service to liberty through classical liberal education. As the famous philosopher Sidney Hook said of Dr. Rozek in the dedication to his book, *Academic Freedom and Academic Anarchy*, Ed is truly an "embattled fighter for free men, free society, and a free university against fascism, communism, and totalitarian liberalism."

May God bless Dr. Edward Rozek and his epic legacy of service to free people everywhere.

EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH FOR ITS SUPPORT OF STRONG ANTI-DRUG POLICIES

HON. MARK E. SOUDER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2003

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my deep thanks and appreciation to Pope John Paul II and the Roman Catholic Church for their unwavering support of a strong and balanced anti-drug strategy. Last month, at a European Union conference held in Dublin, Ireland, the Holy See submitted a statement outlining the Catholic Church's approach to drug policy. As chairman of the Government Reform Committee's Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Drug Policy and Human Resources, I have long supported a vigorous but multipronged approach to reducing the scourge of drug abuse, emphasizing tough law enforcement, effective prevention, and treatment that works. I am submitting the Holy See's statement for the RECORD, as I believe it provides an eloquent and timely defense of those policies.

As the Vatican's statement makes clear, the problem of drug abuse is deeply rooted in the spiritual crisis that has gripped much of modern society. We live in a culture that often finds itself incapable of educating our young people in the values that give them an alternative to drugs. "One of the most important factors leading to drug abuse," warns the statement, "is the lack of clear motivation, the absence of values, the conviction that life is not worth living." We must ensure that our children are raised with the knowledge both of their own self-worth and of their responsibility to work for a better world. That knowledge is the best bulwark against drug abuse and other self-destructive behavior, and prevention efforts in our schools and communities must be grounded in such an approach.

But we must also make sure that we don't send the wrong message to young people by suggesting that governments tolerate the use of drugs. I strongly agree with the Catholic Church in its rejection of drug legalization. Legalizing the use of even the so called "lighter" drugs will only lead to the greater use of stronger drugs. Nor can we afford to condone drug abuse in a misguided attempt at "harm reduction." As the Vatican's statement notes, "The State should not assist its more vulnerable citizens to alienate themselves from society and ruin their lives."

Mr. Speaker, the problem of drug abuse is one of the most difficult facing lawmakers and