

the water system. The city has no alternative water source.

In addition, representatives from TECO/Union Power Station; Union County Water Board, El Dorado Chemical/Great Lakes Chemical/Lion Oil; International Paper; and the City of Monroe, LA presented oral or written testimony expressing their concerns about the effects to their businesses or cities if the navigation pools on the Ouachita River were not available for use.

EXPECTED RESULTS OF LOSS OF POOLS ON OUACHITA/BLACK RIVER NAVIGATION SYSTEM

Increased depletion of the Sparta Aquifer resulting in ground water restrictions for areas of south Arkansas and resulting economic impact of those restrictions.

The loss of millions of dollars already invested to develop the river as a water source for El Dorado and Union County and increased expenses to treat water being returned to river by industrial users to meet EPA and ADEQ standards.

Potential closure of three electric power plants serving the area along with increased costs to area consumers for electrical power.

Potential closure of seven paper products facilities located on the Ouachita River and elimination of as many as 3,200 jobs.

Potential loss of water supply for the city of Camden, AR and resulting undetermined costs of studying and developing an alternative water source.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND RECREATIONAL LOSSES

The precise dollar value of changes to the environmental and recreational climate of to south Arkansas if the Ouachita/Black River Navigation System is closed are difficult to calculate.

The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission believes the loss of the navigation pool on the Ouachita River would have far reaching environmental and recreational impacts. The river has a high recreational value and attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors each year for fishing, boating, hunting and other recreational activities. These visitors pour millions of recreation dollars into the local economy.

In Arkansas alone, there are 37 public access areas constructed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission and other groups on the Ouachita and Saline Rivers. Changes in the operation of the lock and dam system would make many of the rivers' boat launching sites unusable. These changes will also affect the environmental characteristics of the river and associated wetlands and overflow areas.

The Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism reports that in 2003, travelers in the five Arkansas Counties in the Lower Ouachita River Valley spent more than \$118 million, generating more than \$9 million in tax revenue to state and local governments.

SUMMARY

Closure of the Ouachita/Black River Navigation System would have a profound, far-reaching effect on the economy and environment of south Arkansas and northeast Louisiana. Although the system was built as a navigation project, its economic benefit has gone far beyond its value as a navigation system. The river has become the very lifeblood of many cities, industries and recreational pursuits. Its value to the environment and as a water resource supporting the continued growth and economic vitality of south Arkansas and northeast Louisiana is beyond measure. Operation of the navigation project should not be closed, nor should it be changed, without a comprehensive study of the consequences of such actions.

TRIBUTE TO DR. DOUGLAS P. ZIPES, M.D.

HON. BARON P. HILL

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Douglas P. Zipes, M.D., Distinguished Professor of Medicine and of Pharmacology and Toxicology at the Indiana University School of Medicine. Dr. Zipes is retiring as Director of the Division of Cardiology and Director of the Krannert Institute of Cardiology at the Indiana University School of Medicine on June 30, 2004. Though not a native Hoosier, Dr. Zipes is a credit to his adopted state of Indiana and the institution to which he has devoted his professional life, Indiana University.

Dr. Zipes began his academic career at Indiana University School of Medicine in 1970. Despite many offers over the years to move to higher academic positions at other prestigious institutions, Dr. Zipes remained at Indiana University. There he developed the premier program dedicated to discovering the causes and treatments of heart rhythm disturbances, a leading cause of death in the United States and around the world.

The name Doug Zipes is known in every hospital and school of medicine in the world that deals with cardiovascular medicine. His research into heart rhythm disturbances has been prodigious. His publications of seminal original research in this area number in the hundreds. His breadth of knowledge in this arena, based on personal investigation and original research, is unsurpassed. His basic scientific evaluations have lead to clinical studies which have, in turn, been translated by Dr. Zipes into everyday therapies in clinical medicine. His work has saved the lives of countless individuals around the world.

Dr. Zipes has been honored across the globe for his contributions to cardiovascular medicine. He has delivered the most prestigious lectures, chaired the most important committees, edited the most-read and most authoritative textbook, advised governments and trained scores of physicians who now have assumed positions of authority in cardiovascular medicine.

Through all this, Doug Zipes remains a local physician, engaged in the community through his leadership in the Indianapolis Opera Company and other civic affairs.

He remains a physician most of all because, despite his debilitating schedule of publication deadlines, national and international travel, lectures, committee attendance, administrative details and the like, he regularly insists on attending to patients for whom he has cared for decades.

Dr. Zipes is a national and international treasure for whom the country and the world should rise and applaud. I speak for all Hoosiers when I wish him the best in his future endeavors and thank him for his contributions to the art and science of medicine, the State of Indiana and the world.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, June 1, 2004, I was necessarily and unavoidably unable to cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall 210—House Con. Res. 295, congratulating the Focus: HOPE organization, "yes."

Rollcall 211—House Con. Res. 612 recognizing and honoring those fighting the March 26, 2004, fire in Richmond, VA, "yes."

Rollcall 212—House Con. Res. 147 honoring the Tuskegee Airmen, "yes."

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH REISER

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to rise and pay tribute today to Joseph Reiser of Arvada, Colorado. A true American patriot, Joe is a decorated veteran of World War II. The service and dedication that Joe has displayed in his commitment to our nation is truly remarkable, and it is my honor to recognize his achievements here today.

A native of Pennsylvania, Joe entered the Army in 1943, and with a background in maintenance, served as an automotive mechanic. In 1944 Joe was sent to Normandy and served in the European Theatre until the end of the war. His courageous service earned him numerous awards and citations, including the Purple Heart, Good Conduct Medal, and European African Middle Eastern Service Medal with five Bronze Stars. After Joe returned from the war, he took a position with the United States Postal Service, becoming Postal Supervisor for the Wyoming Valley Post Office Maintenance Garage.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to the service and dedication of Joseph Reiser before this body of Congress and this nation. The freedoms we enjoy today are a direct result of the sacrifices made by veterans throughout our nation. I sincerely thank him for his dedication, and wish him and his wife Clara all the best.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM DeLAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, Memorial Day this year has new, sharp meaning for us, as we remember the deaths of the American soldiers who have so recently given their lives for our freedom. By the grace of God, no soldier from my district has died in Iraq or Afghanistan, but I join the whole Nation in mourning the men and women who have given their lives in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring

Freedom. These service men and women join the ranks of those we remember this Memorial Day—those who have died defending America, who have “fallen in the cause of the free” since the founding of our Nation.

These heroes were lowly privates and bemedaled generals. They were green volunteers and gray veterans. They were minute men and Navy seals. But the men who died at Lexington and Concord are the same as the men who died at Kandahar and Fallujah—men of dauntless courage, united in their love of country and their supreme self-denial.

Uniforms and weapons change; valor does not.

The men and women who have died defending America have kept our homes and our liberties secure for the past 228 years. More than that, they have held out to the whole world the promise that a nation conceived in liberty and dedicated to the equality of all men can indeed endure. They have preserved the fire of liberty not just for America, but for all men. We owe them a debt we cannot hope to pay, least of all with mere words.

Memorial Day is set aside for us to remember. But this day should not just be a day of remembrance, but a day of resolve. The memory of their sacrifice should inspire in us a firm purpose to live our lives in a way that will honor the heroes who have died for us—to emulate their courage in defense of the right and their devotion to the cause of liberty. We cannot honor the memory of our heroes with words alone; rather, we must honor them with actions worthy of their memory.

Today we offer our gratitude to the men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces who have fallen defending our nation. We thank them for protecting us, but most of all we thank them for reminding us, in the midst of a world torn by ugliness and war and pain, of the highest things—of duty, honor, courage, sacrifice, and love. We thank them for reminding us, even when “the machinations of tyranny” stare us in the face, “that a man can stand up.”

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, on March 11, 2004, Charlotte, NC, lost a hero, Chris Hill. Chris was originally from California, but located to Charlotte in recent years. He had already served four years in the Army when he decided to re-enlist. His wife, Cheryl Hill, said Chris was determined to go to Iraq last year: “He just couldn’t stand the fact that this was going on and he wasn’t doing anything about it,” she said. “He wanted to help.”

Chris re-enlisted in April and went to Iraq in the fall. He was assigned to the 1st Infantry Division based in Ft. Riley, Kansas. Chris’ friends and family will remember a man who was outgoing and fun and loved to sing. He even had his own karaoke machine, and he never turned down a chance to imitate Elvis Presley.

After moving to North Carolina to be near his wife’s family, Chris was saved in a Baptist church. His brother-in-law, Rick Cope, a Christian songwriter, has written a song for his

niece called “Praying for You: Cierra’s Song.” Rick said, “(We) wanted his daughter to know that he’s there when she rides her bike. He’s there when she gets married. He’s there in spirit.”

Christopher Kenneth Hill was buried with full military honors. He was awarded a Purple Heart and Bronze Star for bravery. He was survived by his wife, and his daughter Cierra who is 14 months old.

Chris will be missed, but we will never forget his sacrifice for our freedoms.

TRIBUTE TO FAYETTEVILLE-MANLIUS HIGH SCHOOL’S SCIENCE OLYMPIAD TEAM

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Fayetteville-Manlius High School’s Science Olympiad Team which won first place in the national Science Olympiad Tournament.

The team won the regional and the New York State competitions to qualify for the national level where they competed against 53 other teams from the United States. At the tournament, there were 23 events related to science with medals given to the top five winners in each event. The Fayetteville-Manlius team brought home four Gold medals, five Silvers, one Bronze, one 4th place and two 5th places from the national competition, a truly exceptional accomplishment.

The Fayetteville-Manlius team is comprised of 15 members and coached by Jamie Cucinotta. Team captain Jeff Izant led Brian Bayes, Christine Chin, Mary Collins, Grayson Fahrner, Leyla Isik, David Marsh, Jordan Mandel, Samiksha Nayak, Shridha Nayak, Sarah Rahaman, Zaki Rahaman, Brian Stoeckel, Bianca Verma, and Nora Ward in representing Fayetteville-Manlius so successfully at the tournament.

I would like to express my congratulations to the team for such an outstanding achievement and wish them luck in all their future endeavors.

HEALTH, SAFETY, AND SECURITY OF PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD an exchange of letters between Chairman DAVIS and me concerning committee jurisdiction with regards to the bill H.R. 4060.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM,
Washington, DC, May 10, 2004.

Hon. HENRY J. HYDE,
Chairman, Committee on International Relations,
Rayburn House Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: On March 31, 2004, the Committee on International Relations ordered reported H.R. 4060, the “Health, Safe-

ty, and Security of Peace Corps Volunteers Act of 2004.” As you know, the Committee on Government Reform was granted an additional referral upon the bill’s introduction pursuant to the Committee’s jurisdiction under Rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

Because of your willingness to consult with this Committee, and because of your desire to move this legislation expeditiously as an individual bill, I will waive consideration of the bill by this Committee. By agreeing to waive its consideration of the bill, the Committee does not waive its jurisdiction over H.R. 4060. In addition, the Committee reserves its authority to seek conferees on any provisions of the bill that are within its jurisdiction during any House-Senate conference that may be convened on this legislation. I ask your commitment to support any request for conferees by the Committee on H.R. 4060 or related legislation.

I request that you include this letter and your response in the Congressional Record during consideration of the legislation on the House floor.

Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Sincerely,

TOM DAVIS,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS,

Washington, DC, May 11, 2004.

Hon. TOM DAVIS,
Chairman, Committee on Government Reform,
Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR TOM: On March 31, 2004, the Committee on International Relations ordered reported legislation to promote the improved safety and security of Peace Corps volunteers.

H.R. 4060, the “Health, Safety and Security of Peace Corps Volunteers Act of 2004,” will make a number of important reforms related to volunteer safety and security through amendments to the Peace Corps Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2506) and the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.). As you are aware, amendments to the latter are under rule X of your Committee’s jurisdiction, X jurisdiction, and accordingly, H.R. 4060 was additionally referred to your Committee by the Speaker.

By this letter, I request you permit this legislation to go to the floor without the necessity of your Committee’s marking it up. I understand that by waiving your Committee’s consideration of H.R. 4060 in order to allow it to proceed to the floor vote without delay, you do not waive jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in the bill, and I will urge the Speaker to name Members of your Committee to any conference committee which may be convened on this legislation.

I appreciate the cooperative manner in which our Committees have worked on this matter.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

HENRY J. HYDE,
Chairman.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JAY LOFING

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Jay