

(b) **APPROVAL OF DESIGN AND SITE.**—The Secretary of the Army, in consultation with Secretary of Veterans Affairs, shall approve an appropriate design and site within Arlington National Cemetery for the memorial marker provided for under subsection (a).

(c) **USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS.**—Federal funds shall not be required or permitted to be used for the design and construction of the memorial marker provided for under subsection (a).

(d) **AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT DONATIONS.**—(1) The Secretary of the Army may accept gifts and donations of services, money, and property (including personal, tangible, or intangible property) for the design and construction of the memorial marker provided for under subsection (a).

(2) The authority of the Secretary of the Army to accept gifts and donations under paragraph (1) shall expire on the date that is five years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

AMENDMENT NO. 30

Page 479, in the table following line 9—

(1) in the item for Robins Air Force Base, strike “\$15,000,000” and insert “\$21,570,000”; and

(2) in the total at the bottom of the table, strike “\$398,714,000” and insert “\$405,284,000”.

Page 483, line 2, strike “\$2,493,679,000” and insert “\$2,500,249,000”.

Page 483, line 5, strike “\$398,714,000” and insert “\$405,284,000”.

Page 492, line 7, strike “\$114,090,000” and insert “\$107,520,000”.

AMENDMENT NO. 31

At the end of title I (page 27, after line 10), insert the following new section:

SEC. ____ . TRANSFER OF CERTAIN ARMY PROCUREMENT FUNDS.

(a) **INCREASE FOR CERTAIN HELICOPTER ITEMS.**—The amount provided in section 101(1) for procurement of aircraft for the Army is hereby increased by \$4,000,000, of which—

(1) \$2,000,000 shall be available for procurement of the Aircraft Wireless Intercom System; and

(2) \$2,000,000 shall be available for procurement of blade-fold kits for Apache Helicopters.

(b) **OFFSET.**—The amount provided in section 101(5) for Other Procurement, Army, is hereby reduced by \$4,000,000, to be derived from amounts for Information Systems.

AMENDMENT NO. 32

At the end of subtitle F of title V (page 172, after line 9), insert the following new section:

SEC. 5 ____ . ESTABLISHMENT OF COLLEGE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA NATIONAL GUARD.

(a) **AUTHORITY.**—Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary concerned may, in recognition of the unique position of the District of Columbia in the Federal system, provide financial assistance to eligible members of the National Guard of the District of Columbia for expenses of such a member while enrolled in an approved institution of higher education in a degree, certificate, or other program (including a program of study abroad approved for credit by the institution of higher education) leading to a recognized educational credential at the institution of higher education. Any such assistance may be provided only during the program applicability period specified in subsection (i).

(b) **AUTHORITY SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—The authority provided in subsection (a) is subject to the availability of appropriations for that purpose.

(c) **ELIGIBILITY.**—To be eligible for financial assistance under this section, a member

of the National Guard of the District of Columbia must—

(1) be a member of the National Guard of the District of Columbia for not less than the 12 consecutive months preceding the commencement of the tuition assistance and continue to be such a member while receiving such assistance;

(2) agree to serve one year in the National Guard of the District of Columbia for each academic year of assistance provided;

(3) be enrolled or accepted for enrollment in a program of education referred to in subsection (a) at an institution of higher education; and

(4) if already enrolled, maintain satisfactory progress in the course of study the member is pursuing in accordance with section 484(c) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1091(c)).

(d) **COVERED EXPENSES.**—Expenses for which financial assistance may be provided under this section are the following:

(1) Tuition and fees charged by an approved institution of higher education involved.

(2) The cost of books.

(3) Laboratory expenses.

(e) **AMOUNT.**—(1) The amount of financial assistance provided to a member of the National Guard of the District of Columbia under this section shall be prescribed by the Secretary concerned, but may not exceed \$2,500 for any academic year. The Secretary concerned shall prorate assistance under this section for members who pursue a program of education on less than a full-time basis.

(2) A member may not receive more than \$12,500 under this section.

(f) **CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this section shall be construed to require an institution of higher education to alter the institution's admissions policies or standards in any manner to enable a member of the National Guard of the District of Columbia to enroll in the institution.

(g) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) The term “approved institution of higher education” means an institution of higher education (as defined in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)) that—

(A) is eligible to participate in the student financial assistance programs under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070 et seq.); and

(B) has entered into an agreement with the Secretary concerned containing such conditions as the Secretary may specify, including a requirement that the institution use the funds made available under this section to supplement and not supplant assistance that otherwise would be provided to eligible students from the District of Columbia National Guard.

(2) **SECRETARY CONCERNED.**—The term “Secretary concerned” means—

(A) the Secretary of the Army, in the case of the Army National Guard of the District of Columbia; and

(B) the Secretary of the Air Force, in the case of the Air National Guard of the District of Columbia.

(h) **ANNUAL REPORT.**—At the close of each year during which the program under this section is in effect, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report on the effectiveness of the program in improving recruiting and retention for the District of Columbia National Guard. Each such report shall include such recommendations for changes in law or policy as the Secretary considers appropriate. In the first such report, the Secretary shall include an analysis of means for improving the effectiveness as a recruitment and retention incentive of any program providing tuition assistance for members of the District of Columbia National Guard in existence as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

(i) **PROGRAM APPLICABILITY PERIOD.**—Financial assistance may be provided under this section to eligible members of the National Guard of the District of Columbia for periods of instruction that begin during the three-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act.

AMENDMENT NO. 13, AS MODIFIED

At the end of title XXXI (page 556, after line 10), insert the following new section:

SEC. 31 ____ . ADDITIONAL AMOUNT FOR DEFENSE SITE ACCELERATION COMPLETION.

(a) **ADDITIONAL AMOUNT.**—The amount in section 3102 is hereby increased by \$50,000,000, to be available under section 3102(1) for defense site acceleration completion.

(b) **OFFSET.**—The amount in section 301(4), operation and maintenance, Air Force, is hereby reduced by \$50,000,000, to be derived from the transportation capital fund.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3 of House Resolution 649, the managers on the part of the House on H.R. 2660 are discharged and the bill is laid upon the table.

TRIBUTE TO TWO FALLEN VIRGINIA SOLDIERS

(Mr. GOODE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. Speaker, as we approach Memorial Day 2004, I rise today to salute two members of the military from the Fifth District of Virginia who gave their lives in service to the United States in the war on terrorism.

Lieutenant Colonel William R. Watkins III, lived in Halifax County; and Sergeant Michael Dooley lived in Bedford County. Both of these men loved this Nation and served bravely in Iraq in the war on terrorism. Their untimely death in the spring of 2003 came as they defended the freedoms that we cherish.

Because Lieutenant Colonel Watkins and Sergeant Dooley joined their fellow soldiers in removing the Taliban and Saddam Hussein from power, the terrorists no longer have Afghanistan and no longer have Iraq from which they can operate with impunity and with state-sponsored support to plot, plan, and mastermind another event like September 11 in our country.

Because of the bravery of Lieutenant Colonel Watkins, Sergeant Dooley, and the other hundreds of men and women who have given their lives, the United States and much of the world is safer. And we thank you.

□ 2130

BUSH RHETORIC DOES NOT MATCH RECORD

(Mr. BROWN of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, it has happened again. The Timken Company of Canton, Ohio, owned by one of

the President's biggest fund-raisers, a place where the President a year ago said his tax cut policies were working, look at the prosperity of this company, the Timken Corporation closed its doors in Canton, Ohio, laying off 1,300 people.

The Bush economic record in Ohio: One out of six manufacturing jobs has disappeared, 177,000 manufacturing jobs in the State are gone, 200 jobs a day have been lost since President Bush took office.

The Timken Company sent out a press release 3 weeks ago, bragging about its quarterly sales of \$1.1 billion, saying it set some kind of record.

The Bush administration economic record over the last 4 years has been to ship jobs overseas, give tax cuts to large corporations; those large corporations have huge profits, then they lay off American workers. It is the same old story.

This economic policy is not working for my State of Ohio. It is not working for manufacturing. It is not working for working Americans. It is not working for our communities.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FEENEY). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. HOYER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

ORDER OF BUSINESS

MR. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take my Special Order at this time.

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

There was no objection.

TIME FOR ACTION ON PRESCRIPTION DRUG IMPORTATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, it is time for Congress to act on legislation to permit prescription drug importation.

Drug companies are the most profitable businesses in America. The drug companies earn profit margins of over 18 percent. That is three times the average of Fortune 500 firms.

These companies are huge multinational juggernauts. In 2001, the 10 biggest U.S. drug companies reported profits of \$37 billion. That is more than the Federal Government spends each year on VA health care. It is more than the entire U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development budget. It is a full billion dollars more than the combined gross domestic product of Lebanon, Panama, and Yemen. That is not total revenue of the drug company; that is its profits.

So how is it the drug companies are able to do so well, even as other manufacturers and companies around this country are having trouble in many cases with staying afloat? By gouging American consumers, that is how.

Drug companies routinely charge American consumers, two, three, four, five, sometimes even ten times what they charge their customers in Canada and other wealthy countries. Medicine sold in Canada is the same safe, effective medicine, same manufacturer, same packaging, same drug, the same ones that our constituents buy at a neighborhood grocery store or drugstore in Elyria, Ohio, but it costs a fraction of the price.

Price data collected last fall by the Alliance for Retired Americans tells the story. Drugmakers charged Americans \$89 for Celebrex, an arthritis medicine; Canadians paid \$44. The drug industry charged Americans \$108 for the cholesterol medicine Lipitor, which happens to be made in Ireland; Canadians paid \$61 for Lipitor. Drug companies charged American women \$246 for Tamoxifen, the breast cancer drug; Canadian women paid \$44.

Our constituents paid 500 percent more for cancer medicine than Canadians paid, same manufacturer, same drug, same dosage. In fact, U.S. taxpayers helped develop that drug. But because the U.S. Government allows drug companies to charge any price they want for essential medicine, that is why these drugs cost so much more.

The best response would be for the American Government to stand up to the drug industry, but Republican leadership and President Bush have already rejected that common-sense policy. In fact, the Medicare prescription drug bill, written by the drug companies for the drug companies, and enacted last year and signed by the President, explicitly prohibits the Federal Government from negotiating on behalf of American consumers for fair prices for prescription drugs.

Think about that. Forty million Medicare beneficiaries ought to be able to get a great price because of the number of people that Medicare represents. Yet the Congress has prohibited negotiated prices. Since this Congress, the Republican leadership, will not allow the government to stand up

to the drug industry, we should at least allow our constituents to benefit from the tough stance taken by other nations.

A bipartisan majority in this House on this, both sides of the aisle, solidly supported legislation last year that would give our constituents access to prescription drugs imported from Canada and other nations. That vote was a declaration of independence from the powerful drug lobby and a real step forward for our constituents.

Two big drugstore chains in America have announced their support for importation of safe, effective drugs and affordable medicine. They see the tough choices that their customers in this country make every day. We should heed that call. Four States have already established drug importation Web sites, five local governments have set up importation programs, 20 additional States are considering importation as a way to respond to their constituents.

These public officials, Democrats and Republicans alike, are doing what they can because Republican leadership in this body and President Bush have failed to act, and continue to do the bidding of the drug companies.

Seniors in Ohio and throughout the country continue to go to Canada for a better deal on prescription drugs. They know a full deck of discount cards does not offer a discount comparable to the fair prices charged to our neighbor country to the north. Their continued grass-roots fight against the drug companies is a cry for help.

We should answer that call. This Congress should send to the President's desk a responsible, bipartisan drug importation bill before the Fourth of July recess. The President should wean himself of drug company money and influence and sign that bill. America needs a declaration of independence from the drug companies. Let us get it to the President's desk before July 4.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HENSARLING) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. HENSARLING addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BLUMENAUER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PEARCE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)