

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND
SPACE ADMINISTRATION AU-
THORIZATION ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2008

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 6063) to authorize the programs of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and for other purposes:

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Chairman, I rise today in support of the NASA Authorization Act of 2008. It authorizes \$20.2 billion for NASA in FY 09, including \$1 billion to speed development of the Crew Exploration Vehicle and Crew Launch Vehicle.

This bill authorizes increased funding for vital aeronautics research after several years of cuts. In fact, it authorizes \$853 million for aeronautics research, a \$341 million dollar increase over FY 07 levels.

This includes continued funding for the next-generation air transportation system initiative—a collaborative federal effort to design a new air traffic control system that can accommodate increased air traffic, which is expected to double or even triple by 2025. This important work being conducted by engineers and scientists at NASA Langley will lay the groundwork for a more efficient, safer, and environmentally-friendly air traffic system that will reduce delays and allow our Nation to move more people and goods around the United States and around the world.

Madam Chairman, we know that investing in aeronautics research pays off. The aviation industry is the number one positive contributor to the U.S. balance of trade, with a net contribution to this balance of more than \$60 billion in 2007. This is directly attributable to our past investment in aeronautics research. EVERY aircraft, worldwide, uses NASA technology. And NASA Langley Research Center located in Hampton, Virginia has been at the forefront of developing many of these cutting edge technologies.

Engineering principles developed from past research at Langley have contributed to overall aircraft safety and efficiency through advances in wing design, noise abatement, structural integrity, and fuel efficiency. And it is important to remember that these principles were developed 5, 10, 20, or even 30 years before they led to improvements in the commercial aircraft we see today. Though we may not see the benefits of today's investments in research for several decades, if we fail to make these investments today, we will regret that decision 20 or 30 years from now. Our Nation's leadership position in aeronautics is made more secure by the commitments we make today.

Madam Chairman, this bill recognizes that aeronautics has been an essential part of NASA's mission since the Agency's founding 50 years ago. NASA's aeronautics research and development efforts, including the work done by the workers at Langley Research Center in Virginia, have made the United States the world leader in the aeronautics industry.

I commend Chairman GORDON and the Members of the Science and Technology

Committee for their hard work on this bill and for bringing it to the full House, and I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

CONGRATULATING LARRY S.
KEISER, ESQ., OUTGOING PRESI-
DENT OF TEMPLE ISRAEL

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2008

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Attorney Larry S. Keiser, outgoing president of Temple Israel in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

Attorney Keiser is engaged in the practice of civil litigation since 1971, focusing his professional time on commercial disputes, personal injury claims, workers' compensation and unemployment matters.

A graduate of E.L. Meyers High School in Wilkes-Barre, Attorney Keiser graduated from Pennsylvania State University and Temple University School of Law. At Temple Law, he was a member of the Law Review, the Legal Aid Society and was named the Sylvan Balder Memorial Scholar.

Attorney Keiser is a former examiner for the Pennsylvania Board of Law Examiners, where he wrote and graded Bar Examination questions in the areas of torts and evidence.

He currently serves the Luzerne County Bar Association as Continuing Legal Education Chairman, an office he has held continuously since 1991. Attorney Keiser is also frequently called upon to serve as a neutral arbitrator and he has been a lecturer in programs run by the Pennsylvania Bar Institute and the Luzerne County Bar Association.

Attorney Keiser is solicitor for the Jackson Township Planning Commission and he is listed in the Martindale-Hubbell Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers.

In addition to having served as a Temple Israel board member and officer, Attorney Keiser has served terms on the boards of the Jewish Community Center, the Jewish Federation of Greater Wilkes-Barre and the Jewish Family Service. He has served several terms on the Federation Allocation Committee and is a past president of the United Hebrew Institute and the S.J. Strauss Lodge No. 139 of B'nai B'rith.

Attorney Keiser is married to the former Lynn Kaufman, who is the owner/chef of Supreme Cuisine catering. They are the parents of Jonathan, OBM; Lauren, an implementation manager for a software development company and Daniel, a student at Connecticut College in New London, Connecticut.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Attorney Keiser on this auspicious occasion. His leadership and commitment to Temple Israel has been an inspiration to all whose lives he has touched.

HONORING DAN MEYER RECEIVING
THE "LEADERS IN LEARNING"
AWARD

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2008

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, tonight, Dan Meyer, a high school teacher from Mt. Hermon, California, will be honored with an annual Cable's Leader in Learning Award at a ceremony in the Library of Congress.

Dan Meyer, who teaches at San Lorenzo Valley Unified School District, is one of just ten educators in the country receiving this prestigious award—and the only teacher to receive the award in his category, "Pushing the Envelope." Awardees in this category are recognized for the inventive and creative incorporation of video media to achieve greater learning and growth in the classroom.

As an algebra teacher, Meyer began producing short videos to demonstrate algebra equations to his students. The result of his pioneering technique was profound—Meyer reports students began picking up the algebra with shocking speed. When Meyer posted his instructional videos online, thousands of teachers began downloading the videos to take advantage of Meyer's innovative approach.

Education is one of the world's noblest professions. And Meyer reminds us all that education is not an act but a process—a process that thrives on the passion and innovation of those trusted with this great responsibility.

And so I am thrilled today to recognize Dan Meyer for his important achievement. As America continues its march into the 21st century I know that our future is secure so long as we have people like those being honored tonight to help educate our next generation of leaders.

TRIBUTE TO MR. RAFAEL ANGEL
RIVERA COLLAZO

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2008

Mr. SERRANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Rafael Angel Rivera Collazo for his contributions to photojournalism.

Mr. Rivera, a native of Puerto Rico, displayed a passion for photography early in life. Coming from a humble background, Mr. Rivera sold newspapers during high school and cleaned shoes to help support his family. It was during this time that Mr. Rivera met Mr. Millo Seijo, a well-known photographer, and his son, Mr. Bey Seijo. These individuals introduced Mr. Rivera to the world of photography. Soon after, local newspapers such as "El Mundo" and "El Imparcial" published Mr. Rivera's first photographs as a collaborator.

Mr. Rivera's increasing involvement in photography was temporarily halted when he voluntarily joined the United States Army in 1966. He was eventually sent to Vietnam in 1967, where he served with distinction in the Ninth Infantry Division, and earned various recognitions, including two Purple Hearts.

Well respected among his peers, Mr. Rivera has displayed as much valor and courage in photojournalism as he once did in combat. His 1980 photograph capturing a store owner and an assailant under fire earned him the widely acclaimed international award for photography from the Agencia E.F.E. of Spain, becoming the first Puerto Rican to do so. This award was presented to Mr. Rivera by King Juan Carlos I and Queen Sofia of Spain. His photograph was also shown at the "Expo 92" in Seville.

Mr. Rivera's latest photographic accomplishment is "Motín en el Capitolio," where he captures commotion in the Rotunda of the Puerto Rican Capitol. Mr. Rivera won an award from the Photojournalist Association of Puerto Rico for this photograph.

He has also received numerous awards from other organizations; such as the Madín Rodríguez Award sponsored by the Puerto Rican House of Representatives and the Cultural Institute of Puerto Rico; and recognitions from the Puerto Rican Senate, the Rotary Club and the Lions Club. In 2006, he was selected by the Governor of Puerto Rico's Office of Veteran Affairs as one of the most accomplished and outstanding Puerto Rican veterans.

Mr. Rivera has also been actively involved with the community I represent in Congress. He has served as ambassador to the Bronx Puerto Rican Parade and provided press coverage to the Puerto Rican Day Parade in New York City for the past 18 years. His vivid photographs bring our communities together by capturing the rich Puerto Rican culture in New York.

Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to honor Mr. Rivera, who currently resides in Bayamón, Puerto Rico. His service to our Nation is commendable. His contribution to photojournalism is invaluable. Mr. Rafael Angel Rivera epitomizes professional excellence and is an inspiration to us all.

IN SUPPORT OF HOMELAND SECURITY BILLS

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2008

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to express my strong support for these six bills brought forth by the Committee on Homeland Security. I would like to commend Chairman THOMPSON and Ranking Member KING for their continued efforts and leadership on presenting legislation to enhance and strengthen our Nation's security. I would also like to congratulate my colleagues on the committee who authored these bills—Chairman THOMPSON, Congresswoman CLARKE, Congresswoman LOWEY, Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON-LEE, Congressman DENT and Congressman LANGEVIN.

The enactment of H.R. 1, The Implementing 9/11 Commission Recommendations Act, was a major milestone for this Congress and I was proud to be a conferee to H.R. 1. With the passage of H.R. 1, Congress took the lead in making America more secure. H.R. 1 was a comprehensive measure to enhance our Nation's homeland security capabilities in profound ways.

The Homeland Security Committee has conducted numerous hearings to investigate the many areas covered by H.R. 1 and has worked diligently at developing legislation that focuses on specific areas of homeland security that require fine tuning in order to make H.R. 1 as effective as possible.

The bills being considered today will do everything from providing redress to Americans misidentified against the terror watch lists to enhancing DHS' capability to address the threat of improvised-explosive devices to ensuring the integrity of aviation security covert tests.

H.R. 4179, the Fast Redress Act of 2008, would enhance information sharing at DHS and between DHS and other Federal agencies that use the terrorist watch list or database. The bill also includes measures that would make the redress process more efficient and protect the civil rights of individuals on TSA's "Cleared List" and "No Fly" or "Selectee" lists.

H.R. 5909 is vitally important given the Committee's knowledge of at least three incidents that compromised the integrity of covert tests at TSA's screening checkpoints. It provides for security measures that would prevent disclosures that will jeopardize covert testing. H.R. 5982 will also enhance airport security by requiring information sharing on best practices for using biometrics to improve airport security. H. Res. 1150 recognizes the continued importance of rail security and ensuring that it is given equal importance in our national transportation security plans.

Bombing prevention is an integral part of our national security and requires that we provide the necessary resources for this purpose. H.R. 4749 does this by increasing funding and the capabilities of the Office of Bombing Prevention. Along similar lines, The Nuclear Forensics Attribution Act authorizes programs within DHS to develop an international framework to identify and intercept nuclear materials further reducing the possibilities of nuclear threat worldwide.

Lastly, I support H.R. 1333 which calls for both GAO and the DHS Secretary to examine and prepare a report on how the Civil Air Patrol can be integrated in our efforts to enhance national security and our war against terrorism. This is a positive effort in using local resources in supporting our homeland security mission.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support these bipartisan bills that have been thoughtfully crafted to enhance national security measures that are important to the implementation of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007.

FAREWELL TO ROC AMBASSADOR WU

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2008

Ms. BERKLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my best wishes to Dr. Joseph Jaushieh Wu and his family. After representing the Republic of China (Taiwan) for 1 year and 2 months, the Wu's will be leaving Washington this month.

Ambassador Wu graduated from National Chengchi University in Taiwan and earned his

Ph.D. in political science from Ohio State University. He taught briefly at Ohio State and later at his alma mater, National Chengchi University. In 2002, he began his government career as Deputy Secretary-General to President Chen Shui-bian. From 2004 to April 2007, he was the chairman of Taiwan's Mainland Affairs Council. He is the author of a number of publications, most notably, Taiwan's Democratization, published by Oxford University Press. In April 2007, he was appointed Taiwan's Representative to the United States.

As we all know, Taiwan has been undergoing profound political changes in recent years. With his strong communication skills, Ambassador Wu has given countless briefings to administration officials, senators, representatives and the media about Taiwan's internal politics, while at the same time, deftly highlighting Taiwan's willingness to negotiate with the People's Republic without pre-conditions. He has rightly emphasized Taiwan's strong political and cultural ties to the U.S., its trade relations with us, and its cooperation in combating global terrorism.

Today our government maintains a robust relationship with Taiwan because of leaders like Dr. Wu. We consider Taiwan a democratic ally and a strong trading partner. Nevertheless, due to the lack of official diplomatic relations between our two countries, it has not been always easy for Ambassador Wu to serve as interlocutor between our two governments. Despite all the challenges, Ambassador Wu has served his country with distinction and helped to strengthen the U.S.-Taiwan relationship.

I wish Ambassador Wu and his family the very best.

2008 CONGRESSIONAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2008

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 2008 Congressional Award recipients, honoring our Nation's young people who have achieved personal goals in the areas of volunteer public service, personal development, physical fitness, and exploration/development.

As public service volunteers, this year's recipients shared their time and talents for the benefit of others. Through selfless acts, they have demonstrated their devotion to community, displaying dedication, perseverance, and compassion.

In the area of personal development, recipient of the Congressional Award have gained life skills and knowledge as they developed a particular interest. While striving to achieve a personal goal of improvement, recipients exhibited immense personal growth.

As balanced individuals, recipients of the Congressional Award also strive for personal improvement in physical fitness as an effort to improve their quality of life, understanding the need to lead a healthy lifestyle.

The process of exploration/development presented recipients with the opportunity to gain a sense of independence as they became engaged in the world around, whether