

development across the country and I am so pleased that CELCP is able to make such a valuable contribution to the protection of coastal and estuarine lands, which are considered important for their ecological, conservation, recreational, historical and aesthetic value.

This program provides badly needed federal funds for the purchase and protection of sensitive coastal ecosystems with the goal of better ensuring the ecological and economic health of our coastal communities—this is critical in light of the fact that 60 percent of Americans will live along the coast by 2010.

I have been privileged to work with Representative Saxton and applaud his dedication to formally authorizing this program that Congress has funded since 2003. By establishing a plan for the preservation of our coastal areas, authorizing CELCP will build on the successful Coastal Zone Management Act, and it will continue to encourage partnership programs among federal government, state agencies, local governments, private landowners and non-profits.

CELCP has certainly provided the backbone for strong partnerships in Delaware, through the Nature Conservancy, and DNREC, and NOAA—and I look forward to the continued success of the program.

As we all know too well, protecting open space is particularly important in Delaware, where rapid development is underway. Delaware's CELCP funding totals around \$10 million; most recently it has helped ensure that Blackbird Creek, with wetlands, forest, and important species, remains ecologically valuable today and in the future.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in supporting H.R. 1907.

HONORABLE STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES COLLEGE FIRE PREVENTION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 22, 2008

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, as a cosponsor of this legislation, I would like to thank my colleagues and the Education and Labor Committee for allowing this legislation to be considered today. Additionally, I would like to recognize Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones, who during her five terms in Congress, worked to advance fire safety, particularly on college campuses.

Mr. Speaker, far too many of our nation's young people have been lost to senseless fire tragedies at places where they are supposed to be encouraged to grow and kept safe—their own college campuses. According to the Center for Campus Fire Safety, 94 people have been killed in student housing fires since January of 2000. Sadly, many of these deaths may have been preventable with the help of proper fire safety technology.

This legislation will establish a demonstration incentive program within the Department of Education to promote the installation of fire sprinkler systems, or other fire suppression or prevention technologies. This program is vital to helping ensure that our students are provided the most technologically advanced fire

safety equipment. I am confident that this will not only help make colleges safer across the country, but will also save lives.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bipartisan and important piece of legislation.

TRAIL OF TEARS DOCUMENTATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 22, 2008

Mr. COLE of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, I come here in support of H.R. 5335, which would amend the National Trails System Act to provide for the inclusion of new trail segments, land components, and campgrounds associated with the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. First, I would like to thank my colleague from Tennessee, Congressman WAMP, for sponsoring this important legislation. As an Oklahoman, this legislation is significant to my district, where many of my constituents are descendants of those who survived the Trail of Tears. However, as the only Native American currently serving in Congress this bill is also personally important to me, as my ancestors were forcibly relocated from Mississippi to Oklahoma through the Trail of Tears, though not one of the routes originally documented in the original Historic Trail. Of the dozens of tribes that call Oklahoma home today, very few are originally from the area. Virtually all of the tribes in Oklahoma experienced the tragedy of the forced relocation process.

Mr. Chairman, when the Trail of Tears Historic Trail was created by Congress in 1987, it designated two main routes taken by the Cherokee during the removal process. Historically, many routes used during removal were not well documented at the time and were not included in the designation. Since that time, researchers have identified other routes taken by Native Americans during the relocation process. A feasibility study, ordered by Congress and released in September 2007, did find additional trail segments. This bill, pursuant to the feasibility study, adds additional land components, round up routes and water routes to the Trail of Tears Historic Trail. I am happy to be an original co-sponsor of this legislation.

Not only will these additional designations help to raise awareness about this tragic chapter of our Nation's history, but will provide many across Indian country with better access to their past and collective history. The Trail of Tears crystallized the idea of race as a determining factor in American public policy and documents the first federally legislated forced removal of Native people from traditional homelands. The physical route of the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail and historic sites associated with the Trail and removal reflect the lifestyles of Native people at the time of removal, the harshness of the journey West and their remarkable adaptation to new surroundings. Thousands of Native Americans in Oklahoma and elsewhere will be able to visit these sites and identify with their ancestors' desperate journey westward.

Madam Speaker, though this bill calls awareness to one of the most tragic events in

our Nation's history, it also is ultimately a story of survival. The tribes that were relocated have once again established themselves and remain strong. This achievement only helps exemplify the astonishing fortitude of American Indians.

Again, I thank Congressman WAMP for introducing this crucial legislation. As the only Native American currently serving in Congress, I am proud to support the intention of this bill and I urge Members to vote for its passage.

COMMENDING THE HONOR FLIGHT NETWORK

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 22, 2008

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1287.

Several of my colleagues and I have had the honor in recent years of joining former Senator Bob Dole to greet groups of World War II veterans arriving at the World War II Memorial for the first time through a grassroots, nonprofit organization called Honor Flight.

I introduced House Resolution 1287 earlier this year to express our country's appreciation to the Honor Flight Network, its founders Earl Morse of Ohio and Jeff Miller of North Carolina, its volunteers and its donors across the country who make this moving experience possible for our Nation's World War II veterans. By introducing this resolution, I also seek to call attention to this worthy organization in the hope that more of my colleagues as well as those watching and reading at home will support Honor Flight in their communities.

Many World War II veterans are in their 80s and 90s and are unable, physically or financially, to visit our Nation's capital and see the World War II Memorial, which is a beautiful tribute to their service, sacrifice and victory over 60 years ago. We are losing these veterans at a rate of 900 each day. Working against time to say "thank you," Honor Flight uses chartered or commercial flights to enable World War II veterans to see the Memorial created in their honor.

Today, we commend the Honor Flight Network, its volunteers and donors now operating in over 30 States who honor World War II veterans by making it possible for them to experience our Nation's gratitude for their service.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I have received authorization in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 for two projects in California's 44th Congressional District which are described as follows:

Requesting Member: Congressman KEN CALVERT.

Bill Number: S. 3001.

Account: Standards Development—Research, Development, Test & Evaluation, NAVY.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Naval Surface Warfare Center, Corona Division.

Address of Requesting Entity: Naval Surface Warfare Center Corona Division, 2300 Fifth St., Norco, CA 92860.

Description of Request: I have received congressional authorization in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 (NDAA FY09) for a requested project in the amount of \$2,000,000. The authorization is for a project which would continue work in the areas of Primary and Depot Maintenance calibration standards. Specifically the work will be done in the technology areas of Nuclear, Biological and Chemical (NBC), electro-optics, and physical-mechanical. The purpose of the work is to ensure measurement accuracy in support and maintenance of new advanced technology weapon systems, current weapon systems and associated support equipment. Specifically, the funding also continues efforts of calibration standards (hardware) in support of Nanoscale Dimensional Standards using Atomic Force Microscopy (AFM). Standards developed through this ongoing program provides continued measurement support and capability to ensure that our nation's advanced weapon systems operate as designed and detectors accurately recognize threats.

Requesting Member: Congressman KEN CALVERT.

Bill Number: S. 3001.

Account: Defense Wide—Research, Development, Test & Evaluation.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Center for Nanoscale Science and Engineering, University of California, Riverside.

Address of Requesting Entity: 900 University Avenue, Riverside, California 92521.

Description of Request: I have received congressional authorization in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 (NDAA FY09) for a requested project in the amount of \$3,000,000 for 3D-electronics technology. This project aims to take advantage of recent advances in nanomaterials and nanodevices to begin to address the issue necessary to take the electronics industry beyond the two-dimensional silicon based devices and wiring and to develop high density, 3D-electronics technology together with associated packaging, protable power sources and heat dissipation solutions. UC Riverside has substantial expertise in the development of nanomaterials that offer extraordinary properties when properly engineered for these applications. The proposed effort will fund technology development studies in the following five areas: 3D integration of RF and Digital technologies; materials development for thermal management; materials development for 3D wiring; materials development for multi-technology isolation; and development of process equipment for advanced 3D processes and materials manufacturing. The availability of new approaches to very high density electronics and compact power sources that are built from the new generation of nanomaterials will greatly aid the DoD mission in providing advanced electronics and power in the battlefield.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of S. 3001, the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act:

Requesting Member: Representative GUS M. BILIRAKIS.

Bill Number: S. 3001.

Account: Aircraft Procurement Army.

Names and Addresses of Requesting Entities: Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation, 6900 Main Street, Stratford, CT 06615; Pall Aeropower Corporation, 10540 Ridge Road, New Port Richey, FL 34654.

Description of Request: This earmark provides an additional \$5,000,000 to modernize the National Guard H-60 Black Hawk helicopter fleet. The UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter is an essential capability of the National Guard. It provides units in every State with a multi-mission aircraft for search & rescue, utility lift, disaster relief and medical evacuation. The Army National Guard (ARNG) is authorized 782 Black Hawk aircraft but is short of this authorization by almost 100 aircraft. This shortage requires ARNG units to loan or transfer Black Hawks in support deployments, training or state missions, resulting in a higher usage rate of available airframes. Additionally, more than 500 of the 782 National Guard aircraft are older UH-60A models, with an average age of approximately 25 years.

The Army is procuring over 1,200 UH-60M Black Hawks for utility, special operations and MEDEVAC missions to replace the aging UH-60A from operational units by 2016. The Army acquired 33 UH-60M Black Hawks by the end of FY07, and from FY09 to FY13, the Army plans to procure an additional 300 UH-60M Black Hawks (70 of those aircraft are programmed for ARNG units). However, without an accelerated procurement of the UH-60M, the Army National Guard will be operating more than 400 UH-60A helicopters beyond 2020.

The ARNG and the Active Army developed a program to support the continued modernization of the ARNG Black Hawk fleet. Unfortunately, this program is not fully funded. The ARNG plan is to accelerate the fielding of UH-60M Black Hawks by 10 aircraft per year. Although the Active Army has programmed UH-60A recapitalization for the ARNG with Operations and Maintenance (O&M) funds, which includes an airframe life extension, fleet-wide product improvements, and the replacement of components, the UH-60A to L upgrade is not funded.

The UH-60L Black Hawk is more economical to operate and has 1000 lbs of additional lift than the UH-60A. The desired rate of UH-60A to L upgrades is 38 per year. Funding the UH-60A to L upgrade will significantly improve the Black Hawk fleet and assure that ARNG units are ready, deployable, and available to protect our national interests both abroad and at home.

This ARNG aviation initiative has been identified by the Chief of the National Guard Bureau (CNGB) as a FY09 Essential 10—Top 25 unfunded priorities.

Requesting Member: Representative GUS M. BILIRAKIS.

Bill Number: S. 3001

DOMESTIC PRODUCTION OF POLYCRYSTALLINE LASER GAIN MATERIALS

Account: Defense Production Act Purchases.

Names and address of Requesting Entity: VLOC Incorporated, 7826 Photonics Drive, New Port Richey, FL 34655.

Description of Request: This earmark provides \$5,200,000 for the domestic production of transparent polycrystalline laser gain materials for defense critical materials required for the Department of Defense's next-generation tactical laser systems. The Department of Defense is funding the development of laser platforms that generate 100 kilowatts of output power in an all-solid-state design with field testing starting within the next 12 months. In order to generate this level of operational power, new and unique laser materials must be produced domestically in commercial quantities. Recent laser demonstrations utilizing polycrystalline materials manufactured exclusively overseas indicate that transparent polycrystalline laser gain materials, that use nano-particle powders, do in fact allow laser designers to demonstrate these higher levels of output power (the DoD/JTO-mandated 100 kW). Under previous forward-leaning research funded by the AFRL, U.S. industry was able to research and test innovative growth technologies, infrastructure improvements, and advanced materials analysis of these new ceramic laser gain materials. By leveraging this previous R&D funding, it is expected that full domestic production with volumes to meet all of the current DoD needs will be completed within 36 months.

These funds will be used for infrastructure improvements, labor and overhead, nano-powder testing and production, production hardening of the domestic manufacturing of the polycrystalline laser gain materials, fabrication, characterization and dielectric coatings of the laser gain slabs.

INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY PROGRAM

Account: Procurement

Names and address of Requesting Entity: Green Hills Software, 34125 US Hwy 19 North, Suite 100, Palm Harbor, FL 34684.

Description of Request: This earmark provides \$2,000,000 for the Information Systems Security Program which would be spent over the course of the fiscal year. As the Department of Defense moves to full deployment of the Global Information Grid (GIG), the need for High Assurance Secure capabilities becomes more critical and more pervasive. Simply put, increased sharing increases network vulnerabilities; and compromise of US or coalition resources could have serious consequences to our nation's security. This project would implement high assurance software to achieve more security with higher levels of access control across security domains from Unclassified to Top Secret. Without this capability, the Global Information Grid's functions cannot be fully exploited. In addition, creating an architecture that allows classified and unclassified resources to be combined will result in a significant cost savings to the government as redundant classified and unclassified systems are eliminated.

OPTIC BAND CONTROL PROGRAM:

Account: Materials.