

and instead has put forward a responsible plan to give states the option to decide if portions of the Outer Continental Shelf no closer than 50 miles off our shores will be opened to oil drilling—and it requires oil companies to drill on their existing leases or lose them. I am gratified that the legislation will incorporate environmental safeguards by permanently withdrawing national marine monuments and national marine sanctuaries from leasing eligibility.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation to protect our shores from the lifting of the offshore drilling moratorium and as a first step away from dependence on foreign oil and toward critical investments in renewable energy technology. This legislation provides the foundation for a long-term strategy to move the Nation on the road to energy independence.

HONORING ALLEN EUGENE
MYERS, JR.

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Allen Eugene Myers, Jr., of Gladstone, MO. Allen is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1260, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Allen has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Allen has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Allen Eugene Myers, Jr., for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I wish to make the following disclosure in accordance with the new Republican Earmark Transparency Standards requiring Members to place a statement in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD prior to a floor vote on a bill that includes earmarks they have requested, describing how the funds will be spent and justifying the use of federal taxpayer funds.

Requesting Member: Congressman TOM LATHAM.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638, the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009. Division C—Department of Defense Appropriations Act.

Account: Aircraft Procurement, Army Project Name: UH-60 Improved Communications (ARC 220) for the ARNG.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Rockwell Collins, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 400 Collins Rd., NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52498.

Description of Request: To date, the Army National Guard has received 141 UH-60L helicopters from the regular Army without the ARC-220 radio system. The National Guard currently has funding of \$3.9 million to outfit 85 of the 141 UH-60 helicopters that are missing the ARC-220 radio system, and the \$1.6 million appropriation included in this bill will help outfit the remaining National Guard Helicopters. Mission and threat changes, as well as responding to emergencies and/or immediate medical evacuation calls, require the crew to have ability to communicate immediately and effectively over long distances (200 vs. the current 20 miles). The ARC-220 radio system is a formal Army Program of Record (POR) that is combat proven and currently being utilized by the U.S. Army in their AH-64s, UH-60s and CH-47s in combat. The ARC-220 is an essential combat-multiplier for long range voice, data and situational awareness to the flight crews and operational commanders. This lack of long-range communications reduces mission flexibility and increases risk to both the aircrew and soldiers being supported. Additionally, situations involving precautionary landings executed outside the current range of communications leave the aircrew with no immediate, effective means to communicate this situation with higher or adjacent forces for immediate assistance. Failing to fund long range communication will inhibit mission flexibility, decrease threat knowledge and limit emergency communications.

Requesting Member: Congressman TOM LATHAM.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638, the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009. Division C—Department of Defense Appropriations Act.

Account: Research, Development, Test And Evaluation, Army.

Project Name: Advanced Live, Virtual, and Constructive (LVC) Training Systems.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Iowa State University.

Address of Requesting Entity: 1750 Beardshear Hall, Ames, IA, 50010.

Description of Request: The Virtual Reality Applications Center (VRAC) located at Iowa State University, will develop three advanced software prototypes for LVC training that dramatically enhance the ability of a training officer to create efficient and effective training programs. Keeping up with the unique demands of urban combat and the ever-changing tactics of the insurgency in Iraq requires flexible and adaptive training systems that can be modified rapidly and deployed reliably and effectively in the field. The VRAC at Iowa State University has a scientific team leading research in the development of immersive virtual training environments. 50% of the funding will be used for equipment, 25% for salaries and benefits, and the remaining 25% will be used for software licenses, student tuition and other expenses.

Requesting Member: Congressman TOM LATHAM.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638, the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009. Division C—Department of Defense Appropriations Act.

Account: Research, Development, Test And Evaluation, Army.

Project Name: Battlefield Plastic Biodiesel.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Renewable Energy Group and General Atomics.

Address of Requesting Entity: Renewable Energy Group, 416 South Bell Avenue, Ames, IA 50010. General Atomics, 3550 General Atomics Ct. San Diego, CA 92121.

Description of Request: \$1.6 million is provided in the bill to continue a 3-year partnership with the U.S. Army to develop a technology providing a cost effective way to recycle military plastic waste into a useable biodiesel fuel with enhanced energy yield, for use in field power generation and other applications. This technology has the potential to save taxpayers millions per month in military waste disposal costs, and enhance the viability of increased use of biodiesel by both the military and civilian sectors to achieve greater energy independence. The \$1.6 million FY09 appropriation is needed to complete the development phase of this multi-year project and demonstrate the technology.

Requesting Member: Congressman TOM LATHAM.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638, the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009. Division C—Department of Defense Appropriations Act.

Account: Research, Development, Test And Evaluation, Army.

Project Name: New Vaccines to Fight Respiratory Infection.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Iowa State University.

Address of Requesting Entity: 1750 Beardshear Hall, Ames, IA, 50010.

Description of Request: A team of researchers at Iowa State University and the University of Nebraska Medical Center with expertise in biotechnology, bacterial genetics, pathogenomics, immunology and polymer chemistry has been formed to work on this project for the U.S. Army, in order to develop unique vaccine delivery vehicles that can be employed to combat a wide variety of respiratory pathogens threatening our military personnel. Such strategies also can be effective in combating agro-terrorism by protecting animals from airborne diseases. The project addresses needs identified in the President's Interagency Research and Development priorities related to Homeland Security and National Defense. \$4 million is provided in the bill for FY09. 38% of the funding will be used for equipment, 25% for personnel costs, and the remaining funding is for laboratory studies and the necessary materials and supplies.

Requesting Member: Congressman TOM LATHAM.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638, the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009. Division C—Department of Defense Appropriations Act.

Account: Research, Development, Test And Evaluation, Army.

Project Name: Wireless Medical Monitoring System (WiMed).

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Athena GTX.

Address of Requesting Entity: 3630 SW 61st Street, Suite 395. Des Moines, IA 50321.

Description of Request: This WiMed project has gained extensive support from both U.S. and foreign military services since 2006. The U.S. Army and the National Trauma Institute are planning comprehensive clinical trials evaluation in 2008 and 2009 across numerous Level 1 Trauma Centers with core funding using this system. The purpose of the project

is to greatly improve casualty care in combat situations, where medics are unable to effectively monitor injured soldiers' conditions. Current medical triage monitors and vital signs data tracking tools are complex, heavy, and have numerous wires with bulky connections. WiMed prototypes have successfully demonstrated a comprehensive leap ahead in critical care by linking all patient care within the same wireless systems and platforms already in service. The \$1.6 million provided in FY09 funding will accelerate comprehensive clinical evaluations and speed deployment to the troops. Once placed with a patient, WiMed can be kept on patients throughout triage and subsequent care. The self-contained WiMed works with standard blood pressure cuffs and a simple highly mobile forehead stick-on sensor, integrating pulse oximetry, blood pressure, temperature, skin humidity, and electrocardiograms into a single unit. The patient's condition is also broadcast via Wi-Fi technology using common Windows-based software. 25% of the funding will be used for software and equipment upgrades, 20% for production design, 25% for certification testing, and the remaining 30% for manufacturing start-up.

Requesting Member: Congressman TOM LATHAM.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638, the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009. Division C—Department of Defense Appropriations Act.

Account: Research, Development, Test And Evaluation, Defense-Wide.

Project Name: HyperAcute Vaccine Development.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Bio-Protection Systems Corporation.

Address of Requesting Entity: 2901 South Loop Drive, Suite 3360. Ames, IA 50010.

Description of Request: It is generally recognized and accepted by the Congress, the Administration and the Intelligence Community that Chemical/Biological attacks on The United States are not only possible, but likely. Although millions of dollars have been spent on Biological Defense over the past several years, only a handful of vaccines/medications have been developed to counter known threats. Unfortunately, most have proven to be weak and impractical to administer because they require multiple doses for protection or treatment. Importantly, these vaccines would not protect against genetically engineered biological weapons, which are relatively easy to produce. BioProtection Systems Corporation will utilize its HyperAcute technology to (1) enhance current vaccines, making them more effective and practical for use, (2) generate vaccines for known threats where a vaccine does not exist, and (3) develop a vaccine platform for unknown agents. FY09 funding will continue the development program for a HyperAcute vaccine candidate selected by the Department of Defense to satisfy existing military requirements. The \$2.4 million appropriation funds the second year in a three-year development plan. 50% of the funding will be used to improve existing HyperAccute vaccine technology through BSL-4 level pre-clinical testing to meet FDA efficacy standards for bio-defense vaccines. The remaining funding will be used to develop and test new vaccines based on this technology.

Requesting Member: Congressman TOM LATHAM.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638, the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009. Division C—Department of Defense Appropriations Act.

Account: Research, Development, Test And Evaluation, Defense-Wide. Project Name: Portable Rapid Bacterial Warfare Detection Unit.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Advanced Analytical Technologies, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 2901 S. Loop Drive, Suite 3300, Ames, IA 50010.

Description of Request: Bacterial warfare agents present a real and immediate threat to our deployed troops. The introduction of a pathogenic contaminant into a military base water supply poses a catastrophic, yet highly preventable scenario. The project objective is to develop a fast, portable detection device to identify these contaminants and prevent or limit exposure. FY06 and FY07 project funding was used to establish a rapid and reliable method for detecting single bacterial cells. FY08 funding will be used to optimize and streamline the DNA profiling system used in the device. This funding will also be used to build a library that houses profiling sequences of target DNA that correlate to Biological Warfare (BW) agents such as anthrax. This will allow rapid identification of any threatening water contaminants. The BW organisms are classified as BSL-3 agents or higher and require manipulation in a certified containment facility like that at Aberdeen Proving Ground. FY09 funds will be used to re-engineer the system to a miniaturized, portable instrument better suited for field deployment. This system will be deployable and easy to operate, providing a tool for protecting our troops.

Requesting Member: Congressman TOM LATHAM.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638, the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009. Division C—Department of Defense Appropriations Act.

Account: Research, Development, Test And Evaluation, Navy.

Project Name: Galfenol Energy Harvesting.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: ETREMA Products, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 2500 North Loop Drive. Ames, IA 50010.

Description of Request: The U.S. Navy has a goal of reducing the crew sizes of its various vessels. The chief strategy is the use of remote sensors to monitor areas normally covered by personnel standing watch. Remote sensors would communicate information to a central processing station using a wireless network and thereby avoid adding the weight and complexity of additional wiring. The challenge is that each of these sensors requires a battery to operate, which adds to the maintenance demand and cost. Galfenol, a new smart-materials technology being developed by the U.S. Navy and ETREMA Products of Ames beginning in FY08, has the potential ability to be the solution by generating electricity directly from energy produced by vibrations of a ship's hull during the course of normal operations. FY09 research and development funding will be used to advance the capability of Galfenol material fabrication and the design of small, efficient energy harvesting electronics that can harness the material's capability.

COMPREHENSIVE AMERICAN ENERGY SECURITY AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2008

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the Comprehensive American Energy Security and Consumer Protection Act increases regulation and continues to limit production of abundant American energy resources. This legislation follows the Majority's typical path of runaway spending, higher taxes, and more red tape for domestic energy production:

This legislation deepens our dependence on foreign oil by permanently banning production of 97 percent of the 10.5 billion barrels off the coast of California, and over 85 percent of American's energy resources.

It contains no revenue sharing provision, thus giving states a major disincentive to agree to off-shore drilling. It also prohibits drilling in areas where experts say most of the energy resources is known to be found.

H.R. 6899 imposes a massive tax increase of \$17.7 billion over 10 years on companies engaged in domestic energy production. At this time of economic uncertainty, increasing taxes does nothing but threaten millions of American jobs. By raising costs on domestic production, consumers can expect the higher taxes to be passed down to them. This measure would limit efforts to expand American energy supplies, which ensures further dependence on Hugo Chavez and unstable Middle Eastern nations for their sources of oil.

I cannot support a bill that says no to clean coal, no to nuclear and no to new refineries.

Energy is the critical issue of our time, and this Democratic Congress refuses to let the House engage in and debate a real, meaningful energy bill that actually produces energy. We need a vigorous energy policy that relies on American resources for American energy while growing our economy and creating countless new jobs.

The American people expect and deserve better. This country needs a serious, aggressive, all-of-the-above energy plan that will lead us to energy independence, not a hoax of an energy bill.

COMPREHENSIVE AMERICAN ENERGY SECURITY AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2008

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 6049, the Renewable Energy and Job Creation Tax Act of 2008. This legislation is a timely, necessary, and comprehensive approach to addressing our energy crisis. I support efforts to extend the expiring business tax provisions. Opponents of H.R. 6049 are concerned that the House Amendment to the Senate Amendment to this bill would permanently increase taxes