

requirement and protocol in place it is very likely these soldiers would be identified, aware of their situation, and able to seek the appropriate care they need.

We're within days of sending 3,000 of Oregon's finest to the Middle East. This amendment provides them with added security and protection they need, and frankly deserve. I'd like to thank Chairman SKELTON and Ranking Member MCHUGH for their support to address this critical issue that has impacted so many of Oregon's citizen soldiers, and I urge my colleagues to support the adoption of this important amendment.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 26, 2009

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, in accordance with the policies and standards put forth by the House Appropriations Committee and the GOP Leadership, I would like to list the congressionally-directed projects I requested in my home state of Idaho that are contained in the report of H.R. 2996, the FY2010 Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill.

Project Name: City of Buhl Wastewater System Improvements

Amount: \$500,000

Account: EPA/STAG

Recipient: City of Buhl

Recipient's Address: 203 North Broadway, Buhl, ID 83316

Description: The city is periodically exceeding the NPDES limitations under the Clean Water Act and was recently fined by EPA for non-compliance of their pH, Total Suspended Solids (TSS), and Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) limitations. IDEQ and EPA have mandated that the city build a new wastewater treatment center. Buhl, a town of less than 5,000 residents, recently passed a bond election for \$15 million to help pay for the required improvements to their water system. The loan funds will be a burden to the residents—many of whom are elderly (19% of the community) and the majority of whom are low to moderate income—and will increase monthly water bills by over \$100, but even this will be unsustainable without additional assistance. Funding for this project will enable the city build a new wastewater treatment center that would meet the Federal and State mandates imposed on the community.

Project Name: Historic Old Pen Site Stabilization Project

Amount: \$150,000

Account: National Park Service/Save America's Treasures

Recipient: Idaho State Historical Society

Recipient's Address: 2205 Old Penitentiary Road, Boise, ID 83712

Description: This project will provide stabilization to the Old Idaho State Penitentiary historic site, which is operated by the Idaho State Historical Society. The Old Pen is one of the West's most significant prison sites and one of the most visited cultural facilities in Idaho. It thus plays a key role in the economic vitality of Boise and the Treasure Valley. Funding would be used for work needed immediately to stabilize the site. In addition,

funding would be used for a historic structures report to help better anticipate future maintenance and repair needs before they become emergency situations.

Project Name: Idaho Sage-Grouse Management Plan

Amount: \$500,000

Account: Fish and Wildlife Service/ESA Resource Management

Recipient: Idaho Governor's Office of Species Conservation

Recipient's Address: 300 N. 6th Street, Boise, ID 83702

Description: Sage-grouse are on the verge of being listed under the Endangered Species Act, with a decision on listing expected this spring. Idaho is taking proactive steps to recover this species before a listing is required. The management plan, which is a partnership with private landowners, is an attempt to be wise stewards of the nation's wildlife without being compelled to do so by law.

Project Name: Piva Parcel Land Acquisition

Amount: \$400,000

Account: USFS/Land Acquisition

Recipient: U.S. Forest Service, Sawtooth National Recreation Area

Recipient's Address: 5 North Fork Canyon Road, Ketchum, ID 83340

Description: Funds will be used to enable the Forest Service to acquire the 160-acre Piva parcel from a willing seller so that it can be used for public recreation and access to the Redfish Lake recreation area from the town of Stanley. The Forest Service currently has a conservation easement on the property, but acquiring the land is necessary to carry out planned improvements.

Project Name: SNRA Trail Maintenance and Improvements

Amount: \$1,200,000

Account: Capital Improvements and Maintenance (Trail Construction)

Recipient: U.S. Forest Service, Sawtooth National Recreation Area

Recipient's Address: 5 North Fork Canyon Road, Ketchum, ID 83340

Description: Funds will be used for trail construction, maintenance, and improvement in the Sawtooth National Recreation Area. Of the funds appropriated for trail maintenance and improvement in the Sawtooth National Recreation Area, \$500,000 is for trail improvements; \$500,000 is for maintenance of existing motorized trails and areas; and \$200,000 is for the improvement of two existing trails to provide primitive wheelchair access at Murdock Creek and Phyllis Lake.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide a list of congressionally-directed projects in my district that have received funding in the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for FY2010 and provide an explanation of my support for them.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. SCOTT F. LARGE

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 26, 2009

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man of great integrity, intelligence and insight, Mr. Scott F. Large, on the occasion of his retirement after 23 years of

distinguished service to the Intelligence Community.

I have had the pleasure of working with Mr. Large throughout his tenure as the Director of the National Reconnaissance Office. When he assumed this role in 2007, the organization was undertaking significant transformation that he helped initiate in earlier leadership roles. He carefully guided changes to strengthen his organization's role as the nation's primary source of space reconnaissance for military and intelligence forces.

Mr. Large's prior assignments prepared him well for this leadership role. He served as the Principal Deputy Director of the National Reconnaissance Office from April, 2007 until his appointment as Director later that year. He also served as Director of the Imagery Systems Operations and Acquisition Directorate from 2003 to 2006, during a period of significant technological and programmatic challenges.

Mr. Large has carried out leadership assignments in two other intelligence community organizations. He was Director of the Source Operations and Management Directorate at the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency. He also served in the Central Intelligence Agency's Directorate of Operations and as Associate Director of the Science and Technology Directorate, leading technology development programs. Mr. Large made fundamental contributions to these programs and helped establish them as some of the nation's premier intelligence efforts.

Mr. Large's determination to lead fundamental changes in his organization, his willingness to assume leadership roles in other intelligence organizations, and his ability to facilitate collaborative partnerships with other elements of the Intelligence Community are testament to the quality of his leadership.

In announcing that he was stepping down as Director of the National Reconnaissance Office, Mr. Large reminded his workforce of the critical role of space reconnaissance to the nation: For nearly 50 years the NRO has provided this nation with an undeniable intelligence and operational advantage. Today the NRO continues to provide mission critical information to all of our end users. We are clearly on the verge of taking our mission to the next level and have set in motion strategic initiatives which will clearly demonstrate the importance of what you do.

The nation's space reconnaissance workforce and systems are better positioned to contribute to the nation's defenses as a result of the leadership of this public servant. For this, we thank Mr. Large and wish him continued success in all of his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 26, 2009

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Madam Speaker, I regret that I missed rollcall vote No. 297, 389, 392, 394 and 405. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all rollcall votes No. 297, 392, and 394. I would have voted "nay" on rollcall votes No. 389 and 405.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2996) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Chair, I rise in support of this FY 10 Interior-Environment Appropriations bill for the investments it makes in our infrastructure, natural resources and cultural life—as well as its commitment to tackling the ongoing challenge of global climate change.

This legislation provides \$10.46 billion for the Environmental Protection Agency to safeguard our nation's land, air and water. Of that amount, \$2.3 billion will go to the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and \$1.4 billion will go to the Drinking Water State revolving fund to help over 1500 communities improve their wastewater and drinking water systems. One and a half billion dollars will go to clean up hazardous and toxic waste, including \$605 million for our nation's most toxic Superfund sites and \$100 million for brownfields cleanup and redevelopment. And \$601 million is provided at President Obama's request to enable the EPA to enforce our nation's environmental laws.

Our national parks receive \$2.7 billion, which includes \$100 million to support the park service's 10-year initiative to upgrade park facilities before the National Park System's Centennial Anniversary in 2016. Our national wildlife refuge system is provided \$503 million for its conservation efforts. And the U.S. Forest service is allocated \$2.77 billion to manage of (Air federal forests—including targeted support for the Legacy Road and Trail Remediation program protecting streams and water systems from damaged forest roads, as well as the Forest Legacy Land Conservation Program to help protect environmentally important, privately owned forest lands.

To support our nation's cultural heritage, this legislation invests \$340 million, split evenly between the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities. And the Smithsonian will receive \$774 million for reducing its backlog of deferred maintenance and the planning and design of the new National Museum of African American History and Culture.

Finally, this bill provides a total of \$420 million on climate change related initiatives—including \$50 million for the EPA's Energy Star program, \$17 million for the development of a Greenhouse Gas Registry necessary for monitoring greenhouse gases and \$10 million for new grants to empower local communities to find innovative ways to cut their, greenhouse gas emissions.

Madam Chair, I commend Chairman DICKS, Ranking Member SIMPSON and the rest of the subcommittee for developing this thoughtful bill, and I urge my colleagues' support.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE TENTH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE
OLMSTEAD DECISION SUP-
PORTING CIVIL RIGHTS FOR
PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 26, 2009

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I want to take this moment to recognize the tenth anniversary of a monumental United States Supreme Court decision that represented a great advance in our contemporary civil rights struggle. On June 22, 1999, the United States Supreme Court asserted the right of individuals with disabilities to reside in their community via a 6–3 ruling. The Olmstead v. L.C. decision stated that making services for disabled individuals available only in institutions, thereby forcing them out of their homes, went against the Americans with Disabilities Act. Essentially, the Olmstead decision clarified the fact that the Americans with Disabilities Act gives individuals with disabilities the right to choose to receive their care in the community rather than in an institutional setting. Provision of care within one's community via personal care assistants is cost-effective and improves the quality of life of persons with disabilities. Studies show the cost of providing services in the community is much lower than in institutionalized settings, thereby allowing more individuals to receive services for the same cost. In addition, the ability to receive community based services and supports improves the ability of persons with disabilities to lead independent lives, work, and participate in their communities.

The federal government bears the responsibility of restructuring our current health care system. The inequities that exist in our health care system are profoundly disturbing. It is essential that we take the steps necessary to create an overhaul of the health care system that is both moral and practical. As Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., once said: "Of all the forms of inequality injustice, health care is the most shocking and inhumane." In this spirit, I urge concerned citizens to mobilize to help us create a system that best serves those in our society who have limited resources.

As a policymaker who is adamant about improving health care for persons with disabilities, I believe it is imperative that the health care reform legislation that Congress intends to enact this year take a substantial step forward in requiring that all Medicaid-eligible individuals with disabilities have a choice between receiving care at home or in an institution. The option to receive care in one's community is critical to conforming to the goal of the Americans with Disabilities Act and with the Olmstead decision.

The Olmstead decision was a great step forward in allowing persons with disabilities the option to receive care in their own community. The tenth anniversary of the Olmstead decision symbolizes the struggle to create more options in our current health care system. We must strive to include the tenets of the Olmstead decision in our health care reform plans. Including provisions that provide choice in location of care to Medicaid-eligible persons with disabilities in comprehensive health care reform legislation would be a wonderful way to

mark the tenth anniversary of the Olmstead decision.

INTRODUCTION OF THE COM-
PREHENSIVE COMPARATIVE
STUDY OF VACCINATED AND
UNVACCINATED POPULATIONS
ACT OF 2009

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 26, 2009

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, today, I am reintroducing bipartisan legislation that I hope will resolve the question of whether there is any link between the increased incidence of neurological disorders, including autism, and the use of certain vaccines and/or multiple vaccine schedules. Vaccines have been instrumental in reducing the incidence of many once-common diseases. However, there continue to be questions raised in numerous media reports, and by medical professionals, regarding the safety of vaccines and multiple vaccine schedules while there have been no comprehensive studies comparing the health outcomes between vaccinated and unvaccinated populations.

We owe it to parents and children to study and resolve the question of a possible link between vaccines and neurological disorders. The comprehensive national study comparing outcomes between vaccinated and unvaccinated children mandated by this legislation would help resolve this controversy once and for all. As the most scientifically advanced country in the world, we should be jumping at the chance to conduct a comprehensive national study and help ensure absolute trust in our nation's vaccine program. Parents deserve answers, and children deserve no less than absolute certainty and safety when it comes to their health, which is why I am pleased to reintroduce this legislation today.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SE-
CURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT
2010

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 2892) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes:

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Chair, I rise in support of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act of 2009 and the employees of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The service and dedication of the men and women that work to ensure the safety of our country is admirable.

This bill responds to the public safety needs of our communities in a time of hardship by providing \$800 million in grants to fire departments, of which \$380 million is provided for the Assistance for Firefighters Grants program used to train, hire and retain our local firemen