

The Corps' expertise in dredging and sediment management is valuable for the planning and designing of contaminated sediment cleanups. State and local agencies from 25 RAPs in Indiana (Grand Calumet River), Ohio (Black, Maumee and Cuyahoga Rivers), New York (Buffalo River, Eighteen Mile Creek, Rochester Embayment and St. Lawrence River), Michigan (Deer Lake, Torch Lake, Muskegon Lake and White Lake; River Raisin, Rouge, Saginaw, St. Marys, St. Clair, Detroit, and Clinton Rivers), Minnesota (St. Louis River), Wisconsin (Milwaukee Bay, Menominee, Sheboygan, and Fox Rivers), and Pennsylvania (Presque Isle Bay) have requested funding.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 519

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2009

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I would like to begin by thanking Congressman BART STUPAK, for introducing this legislation. Every year on July 1st, I look forward to officially celebrating the establishment of Canada and all of her wonderful accomplishments. Canada has proven to be one of this nation's most trusted allies and as a member of the Homeland Security Committee, I personally work closely with Canadian officials to ensure the 5,500-mile border that we share remains secure. In this era of heightened security, the United States and Canada have renewed cooperative efforts to safeguard the movement of people and goods, improve information-sharing, and strengthen border infrastructure and technology across the border.

In a world in which too many nations still choose conflict over cooperation, and erect barriers instead of bridges, the U.S.-Canadian partnership has been and must ever be a model for others, and the foundation on which to build a common future. Indeed, our relationship is centered on a shared continent, shared values, shared aspirations, and real respect for our differences.

Over the years, our nations have forged the most comprehensive ties of any two nations on Earth. They bind not only our governments, but also our economies, our cultures, and our people. From NORAD to NAFTA, Canadians and Americans have seized opportunities to provide for our common security and prosperity. We've tackled tough problems from acid rain and water pollution to differences over beer and grain in the spirit of friendship and in pragmatism.

Addressing the Canadian parliament 50 years ago, President Truman declared that the success of the U.S.-Canadian relationship was due to "one part proximity, and nine parts good will and common sense." Good will and common sense remain the foundation of our friendship.

In Texas, the territory of the Consulate General in Dallas and the Canadian Consulate in Houston encompasses five states with over 36 million people. Bilateral trade with the region is over \$30 billion each year; therefore I am very aware of how important a strong trade relationship is for both countries.

Specifically the cities of Alberta and Houston share a number of distinguishing features

which make them sister cities. Over the past 10 years Alberta has had the strongest economy in Canada, with an average rate of growth of 3.7 per cent per year, while Houston continues to thrive as the energy capital of the United States. Canada is the U.S. most important trading partner, with over \$570 billion dollars in goods and services being traded between the two countries in 2006. Canada and the U.S. enjoy an interdependent energy relationship, trading oil, natural gas, coal, and electricity. Canada has a reported 178.8 billion barrels of oil reserves as of 2006, second only to Saudi Arabia. Over 95% of these reserves are in oil sands deposits in Alberta. Moreover, Canadian oil sands in Alberta have made Canada the largest exporter of oil to the U.S. and have helped alleviate our dependence on foreign sources of oil from parts of the world which geopolitically face much more risks than our neighbor to the north. Recent proposals by Canadian companies such as Enbridge and Altex to build oil pipelines from Alberta to Houston seem very promising, and I look forward to the progress they make. These 2,000 mile pipelines, which are targeted to be in service by 2010, will send over 500,000 barrels of oil per day.

I would like to congratulate Canada on its many accomplishments over the years and remain appreciative to the people and Government of Canada for their long history of friendship and cooperation with the people and Government of the United States.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON KLEIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2009

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to submit a record of how I would have voted on July 10, 2009 when I was unavoidably detained.

Had I voted, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall No. 526; "yes" on rollcall No. 527; "no" on rollcall No. 528; "yes" on rollcall No. 529.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2009

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on July 9, 2009, I was unavoidably detained and was not able to record my vote for rollcall No. 506 and No. 511.

Had I been present I would have voted: rollcall No. 506—no—Flake of Arizona Part D Amendment No. 4; rollcall No. 511—yes—Table Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 10, 2009

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3082, FY 2010 Military Con-

struction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act.

As we welcome our returning valiant soldiers from abroad and near, let us not forget what they so desperately need.

Their fight is not over once they return home.

Congress has a responsibility to provide for our sons and daughters that we send overseas.

Today, this bill will provide for much needed funding assistance for our soldiers who continue to struggle with PTSD and other mental health illnesses.

We will fund 28 new Vet Centers and 30 new Community Based Outpatient Centers to provide readjustment aid to those returning veterans and their families, because we must fight for them like they have fought for us.

This bill will help house those homeless and low-income veterans, who may otherwise be left in the cold and in the streets.

I am especially pleased with the funding to add 1,200 necessary personnel to streamline the process of veterans' claims to ensure that all our men and women are properly taken care of.

I urge my colleagues to vote for the passage of H.R. 3082, and recognize that veteran care must and should be a priority.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2009

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support of H. Con. Res. 127, which recognizes the significance of National Caribbean-American Heritage Month.

As a child of Jamaican parents, I understand the importance of recognizing the influence Caribbean cultures continues to have on all facets of these United States. Growing up, my parents, who hail from Jamaica, instilled in me a strong appreciation for their Caribbean values. As a result of my upbringing, I have adopted a strong work ethic and tremendous pride in my heritage. As a parent, I have passed on these same values to my own children, so they will develop a sense of pride in their Caribbean heritage and acknowledge the many roles Caribbean people play in shaping this nation. I whole-heartedly support this resolution that commemorates Caribbean heritage, history, culture and contributions to the United States.

In her 1970 autobiography, Shirley Chismol, the first black woman elected to Congress, credited her success to the education she received while attending school in Barbados. She wrote, "Years later I would know what an important gift my parents had given me by seeing to it that I had my early education in the strict, traditional, British-style schools of Barbados. If I speak and write easily now, that early education is the main reason."

This is a nation built by immigrants. From as early as the 17th century there have been individuals from the Caribbean Islands, working here in the United States as indentured servants in the colony of Jamestown, Virginia.

They worked in fields picking cotton, tobacco and crops just as the slaves.

Caribbean immigrants have been contributing to the well-being of American society since its founding. Alexander Hamilton, the First Secretary of the Treasury was from the Caribbean island of St. Kitts. We count among our famous sons and daughters, Secretary of State Colin Powell, Cicely Tyson, W.E.B. Dubois, James Weldon Johnson, Harry Belafonte and Sidney Poitier to name a few.

H. Con. Res. 127 recognizes the significance of Caribbean people and their descendants in the history and culture of the United States. Our nation would not be what it is today without these significant contributions of the Caribbean people and we should honor these accomplishments with the passing of this legislation. The contributions of Caribbean-Americans are a significant part of the history, progress, and heritage of the United States and play an important role in shaping the ethnic and racial diversity of the United States, which ultimately enriches and strengthens our nation.

By passing this legislation we continue to honor the friendship between the United States and Caribbean countries. We are united by our common values and shared history, and we should celebrate the rich Caribbean Heritage and the many ways in which Caribbean Americans have helped shape this nation.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution to pay tribute to the common culture and bonds of friendship that unite the United States and the Caribbean countries.

AMERICAN CLEAN ENERGY AND
SECURITY ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 26, 2009

Mr. WAXMAN. Madam Speaker, today, as we discuss comprehensive energy and climate legislation, our focus is on how we can lower the carbon footprint of electricity generation.

As we move to a clean energy future, however, the country still needs to make progress in reducing sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, and mercury emissions, air pollutants that cause acid rain, ground-level ozone, particulate matter pollution, and mercury contamination.

In developing their strategies to reduce carbon dioxide, electricity generators will still need to take into account the need to reduce emissions of these conventional air pollutants.

For many years, Congressman McHUGH has worked to tackle the problems created by emissions of such pollutants. In particular, he has shown great leadership in his work to address acid rain and mercury pollution from power plants, as demonstrated by his bill H.R. 1841, the findings of which persuasively demonstrate the case for a strong control program for sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides and mercury emissions from power plants.

Putting in place strategies to reduce carbon dioxide emissions will also help address these problems. Mr. McHUGH's amendment to the American Clean Energy and Security Act does important work by making this link explicit.

It directs EPA to study what effects strategies and technologies that will reduce emis-

sions of carbon dioxide will have on emissions of conventional pollutants like SO_x, NO_x, and mercury.

Further understanding of this interaction between carbon control strategies and the reduction of criteria pollutants will be of clear benefit to policymakers, air quality planners, and the power sector.

Adopting approaches that reduce both types of pollutants would represent a major step forward towards cleaner coal use, and Mr. McHUGH's amendment will result in important information on what we know now, and what steps should be taken next, in order to achieve this objective.

I also wish to address the purpose of the intellectual property protection provisions in Title IV, Subtitle D, which are to ensure that funding for international climate change mitigation promotes robust compliance with and enforcement of intellectual property rights for clean technology. The intent of the provisions is to safeguard intellectual property rights in order to support investment in the research and development necessary to design and deploy new technologies. For the purposes of this section, clean technologies are any technologies or services relating to the qualifying activities enumerated in section 445.

Section 446 would prohibit bilateral assistance for the benefit of qualifying activities that would undermine compliance with and enforcement of intellectual property rights for clean technology as provided in the World Trade Organization's Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) and applicable bilateral Free Trade Agreements. With regard to multilateral assistance, the provision directs the President to seek to ensure that any climate change mitigation assistance disbursed through a multilateral framework not be permitted for any activity that on its own or in connection to a related activity would undermine intellectual property rights for clean technology, as provided in TRIPS. The objective is to prevent funds from being spent to support the export of a technology where the underlying patent or other intellectual property rights would be undermined as a result of the project. The objective is also to ensure that decisions about individual projects also scrutinize whether related activities have undermined intellectual property rights for clean technology. For example, a funding decision for a project involving the export of wind technology should take into account whether there is a history of intellectual property violations in similar projects involving solar energy technology or technology to support capture and sequestration of carbon dioxide emissions.

An annual assessment of compliance with and enforcement of intellectual property rights would be made by the interagency group established in section 443.

Madam Speaker, I also wish to address some unwarranted concerns that have been raised by misreadings of provisions in H.R. 2454.

In new Section 811 of the Clean Air Act, the Administrator is required to publish an inventory of categories of stationary sources that includes each source category that is responsible for at least 10 percent of the uncapped methane emissions in 2005. The provision goes on to provide that the inventory shall not include sources of enteric fermentation. Thus, emissions from enteric fermentation shall be

included in the calculation of uncapped methane emissions in 2005, but enteric fermentation shall be not listed as a source category on the inventory.

I would also like to clear up some confusion on the covered entity definition in new section 700(13)(C) of the Clean Air Act. Under this provision, an entity that produces or imports any of the specified greenhouse gases for sale or distribution in interstate commerce in the specified amount is a covered entity. It has been suggested that somehow this provision might be interpreted so that beef producers would be covered because they produce beef for sale or distribution in interstate commerce because, in the production of beef, they produce manure as a byproduct that is not intended for sale or distribution in interstate commerce. This would be an impermissible reading of section 700(13)(C).

In addition, I would like to clarify that, contrary to claims made by the opponents of the building efficiency provisions, the building labeling provisions of Section 204 establish a voluntary program and are not mandatory requirements. This program is voluntary for the states to choose to implement once EPA produces a prototype label, and it is voluntary for building owners to utilize subject to state policy. Its sole purpose is to provide information to consumers about building energy performance. It is also limited to new construction. There is nothing in the bill, and never has been, that would provide a basis for assertions that homeowners would be required to pay for an expensive audit and upgrades to a home before being allowed to sell it.

I know that those outdoor lighting manufacturers, efficiency groups, and lighting consumer interests who are involved in the ongoing negotiations to reach new consensus efficiency standards for outdoor lighting may be concerned about amendments to the bill's language with regard to those standards. Their efforts provided the basis for the outdoor lighting provisions in the legislation as introduced, and I remain supportive of their ongoing negotiations. It's my hope and expectation that their process will yield a negotiated standard with as much consensus as possible that will deliver substantial energy savings from outdoor lighting products on a realistic schedule. Such a result could be very influential as Congress continues to consider this matter.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT,
H.R. 2647

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2009

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Chair, amendment 106 to the Defense Authorization Act, H.R. 2647, requires a justification for the use of factors other than cost or price as predominant factors in evaluating competitive proposals for defense procurement contracts. The intent of this provision is to mandate that officials of the Department of Defense weight cost or price as the predominant factor in solicitations for defense procurement contracts, with only occasional and well-justified exceptions.

This amendment requires quantification of the relative weight of evaluation factors in the evaluation scheme, insofar as this is necessary to ensure compliance with the amendment.