

value of money, but even the official numbers, which are massaged downwards, are only on the order of 4 percent per year. Sales taxes in many states can take away 8 percent or more on every single transaction in which consumers wish to convert their Federal Reserve Notes into gold or silver.

In conclusion, Madam Speaker, allowing for competing currencies will allow market participants to choose a currency that suits their needs, rather than the needs of the government. The prospect of American citizens turning away from the dollar towards alternate currencies will provide the necessary impetus to the U.S. Government to regain control of the dollar and halt its downward spiral. Restoring soundness to the dollar will remove the government's ability and incentive to inflate the currency, and keep us from launching unconstitutional wars that burden our economy to excess. With a sound currency, everyone is better off, not just those who control the monetary system. I urge my colleagues to consider the redevelopment of a system of competing currencies and cosponsor the Free Competition in Currency Act.

OPPOSITION TO THE STUPAK AMENDMENT

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I have witnessed the horror of the choice between a back alley abortion and a forced marriage to avoid disgrace.

These were the realities women faced prior to 1973. My fear is that if this harmful Stupak/Pitts language is signed into law, we will revert back to those dark times.

Critical to this debate is to break down the facts. The opposition claims that the Stupak/Pitts amendment codifies current law. This is grossly incorrect.

Stupak-Pitts goes far beyond current law by placing unprecedented restrictions on individuals' use of their own private dollars. The Hyde amendment does not apply to private funding nor does it apply to administrative costs. It has only placed limits on direct Federal appropriations being used to fund abortion benefits. The Stupak amendment expands the Hyde prohibitions on the use of federal funds for an abortion benefit to include "any part of the costs of any health plan that includes coverage of abortion."

The opposition claims that this amendment will not change current insurance plans for women. This is blatantly wrong.

A report by health policy experts at the George Washington University School of Public Health concludes that the Stupak amendment "will have an industry-wide effect, eliminating coverage of medically indicated abortions over time for all women, not only those whose coverage is derived through a health insurance exchange."

The opposition claims that the segregation of funding under the House bill is an accounting sham. This is blatantly false.

In the Capps amendment, the segregation of funding piece is based on the current model the Federal Government uses to pay for abortions permitted in Medicaid.

I am afraid that we are driving young women, poor women, back to the dark alley, and I dread to see that day.

EXPRESSING CONGRATULATIONS TO GLENVILLE HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM ON HISTORIC 2009 SEASON

HON. MARCIA L. FUDGE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Ms. FUDGE. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Glenville High School football team on its historic season. This Division I team became the first Cleveland Public School to compete for the state championship last Saturday.

While track icon Jesse Owens and the creators of Superman were products of Glenville, it has never had a state football champion.

This year's players are champions in every sense of the word. They play football at Glenville High School for the structure that football provides and the mentorship of their coach, Ted Ginn, Sr.

More than 100 of Ginn's players have earned athletic scholarships. Five play in the NFL.

Glenville played valiantly in the state championship, but lost by one point.

Again, I congratulate the Glenville High football team, students, Coach Ginn, his assistant coaches, our supportive community, and Glenville Principal Jacqueline Bell on an amazing season. Next year they will bring home the trophy!

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$12,091,292,877,094.86. We have increased the national debt \$5,120,762,726.63 since just yesterday.

On January 6, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$1,452,867,130,801.06 so far this year.

According to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office, the forecast deficit for this year is \$1.6 trillion. That means that so far this year, we borrowed and spent \$4.4 billion a day more than we have collected, passing that debt and its interest payments to our children and all future Americans.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican leadership standards

on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks my district received as part of H.R. 3288—Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010.

Requesting Member: Congressman KEVIN BRADY, Texas 8th Congressional District
Bill Number: H.R. 3288—Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010

Project: 1-69 Texas Environmental Studies, TX

Account: Interstate Maintenance Discretionary, Federal Highway Administration

Requesting Entity: Alliance for I-69 Texas, Texas Department of Transportation

Address of Requesting Entity: 1200 Smith, Suite 700, Houston, TX 77002

The original I-69 project began in 1991 and involves long-planned upgrades of US 59, 277 and 281 to interstate standards to increase motorist safety and mobility in the Houston and East Texas region. It is, thankfully, no longer included in the ill-fated Trans Texas Corridor. The original project enjoys the support of a broad collaboration of mayors, county judges, economic development groups, chambers of commerce and transportation officials from dozens of Texas communities, including several in the Eighth Congressional District. The \$500,000 I requested on behalf of the Texas leaders of the I-69 coalition will provide the Texas Department of Transportation funding to complete the necessary environmental studies to begin construction on these much needed upgrades.

This bill also credits me, four of my colleagues in the House and our two distinguished Senators as requesting an additional \$1.5 million under the Interstate Maintenance Discretionary and the Surface Transportation Priorities accounts. I appreciate the support of my colleagues and the Committee for this important project. I know the additional funds are greatly needed. However, in all honesty, the other members deserve credit for these funds since I submitted only the original \$500,000 funding for the environmental studies.

Requesting Member: Congressman KEVIN BRADY, Texas 8th Congressional District

Bill Number: H.R. 3288—Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010

Project: The District Capital Cost of Contracting, Montgomery County, TX

Account: Buses and Bus Facilities, Federal Transit Administration

Requesting Entity: The Brazos Transit District (The District)

Address of Requesting Entity: 1759 N. Earl Rudder Freeway, Bryan, Texas 77803

This request helps provide an important transportation service to over 700,000 Montgomery County commuters each year through four Park-and-Ride facilities. It also helps provide regular van service for East Texas veterans to VA facilities in the region. Through these services, the funding also helps reduce congestion along Interstate 45 and helps the region meet its clear air goals.

The \$1,000,000 included in this bill reduces the equipment costs of providing these transportation services.

Requesting Member: Congressman KEVIN BRADY, Texas 8th Congressional District

Bill Number: H.R. 3288—Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010

Project: Pulmonary Hypertension Awareness Program

Account: Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Requesting Entity: Pulmonary Hypertension Association

Address of Requesting Entity: 801 Roeder Rd., Suite 400, Silver Spring, MD 20910

I have supported strengthening Pulmonary Hypertension (PH) education for over ten years; and for this reason and for the third year in a row, I have requested funding to strengthen and continue a successful partnership between the non-profit Pulmonary Hypertension Association and the Centers for Disease Control. PH is a serious and often fatal condition where the blood pressure in the lungs rises to dangerously high levels. In PH patients the walls of the arteries that take blood from the right side of the heart to the lungs thicken and constrict. As a result, the right side of the heart has to pump harder to move blood into the lungs, causing it to enlarge and ultimately fail.

This request will allow the partners to continue to develop a pulmonary hypertension awareness program to better educate the medical community and the public about the disease, and lead to earlier diagnosis and longer life spans.

The \$250,000 included in this bill for this project will be allocated to continue two components in the fight against pulmonary hypertension: the PHA Online University, a curriculum-based website for medical professionals, and a significant expansion of PHAware, a grassroots media campaign.

I also appreciate the Committee's support through report language encouraging further collaboration and research efforts on pulmonary hypertension within government agencies. The efforts of these organizations on issues including lung transplantation, the establishment of a PH Clinical Research Network and the increase in pulmonary hypertension diagnoses related to the abuse of methamphetamine will further our understanding of this disease.

Requesting Member: Congressman KEVIN BRADY, Texas 8th Congressional District

Bill Number: H.R. 3288—Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010

Project: SHSU Regional Crime Lab

Account: Office of Justice Programs, Byrne Discretionary Grants

Requesting Entity: Sam Houston State University

Address of Requesting Entity: 1803 Avenue I, Huntsville, TX 77341

Law enforcement agencies in rural communities experience long waits and backlogs when requesting services from major cities like Houston. This request allows Sam Houston State University—one of the nation's foremost criminal justice universities—to use its expertise in forensic science to begin operations of the Regional Crime Laboratory started with funding I previously secured. This lab will provide important forensics services to local law enforcement such as identification of controlled substances, toxicology screening and fingerprint matching. The lab will be able to service communities in a 75-mile wide area.

The \$1,000,000 included in this bill for this project will be allocated to staff the SHSU Regional Crime Lab and make it operational for serving regional law enforcement agencies. Specific budget items include: capital outlays (54%); salaries and benefits for laboratory staff (37%); lab supplies (8%); and sub-contracts for staff training (1%).

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. CRENSHAW. Madam Speaker, I rise today to submit documentation consistent with the Republican earmark standards.

Requesting Member: Congressman ANDER CRENSHAW

Bill Number: H.R. 3288—Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2010

Account: Employment and Training Administration (ETA)—Training and Employment Services

Legal Name of Receiving Entity: Florida Manufacturing Extension Partnership (Florida MEP)

Address of Receiving Entity: 1180 Celebration Blvd., Suite 103, Celebration, FL 34747

Description of Request: I have secured \$100,000 in funding in H.R. 3228, in the Employment and Training Administration (ETA)—Training and Employment Services account for Florida Manufacturing Extension Partnership in Celebration, FL.

The purpose of this funding is to deploy the proven Mobile Outreach Skills Training (M.O.S.T.) program in Florida. The program is a three-phase rapid training and job placement initiative in which nearly 100 percent of trainees who successfully complete the 2-week Phase I receive job offers from the participating manufacturers.

This is a valuable use of taxpayer funding because the program provides skills to veterans, the disadvantaged, and TANF families that lead to jobs and medical coverage, a capability that does not exist in current training programs.

There are no matching funds required or allowed for this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman ANDER CRENSHAW

Bill Number: H.R. 3288—Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2010

Account: HRSA—Health Facilities Construction and Equipment

Legal Name of Receiving Entity: Shands HealthCare

Address of Receiving Entity: 720 SW 2nd Avenue, Suite 360A, Gainesville, FL 32601

Description of Request: I have secured \$100,000 in funding in H.R. 3228, in the Health Facilities Construction and Equipment account for the purchase of equipment.

The purpose of this funding is to purchase a biplane angiography system at Shands Jacksonville to continue to maintain the expert quality of care for its Level One trauma center and its JCAHO Accredited Stroke Service. This biplane angiography system will improve patient care, enhance operational efficiency, and replace outdated equipment.

This is a valuable use of taxpayer funding because funding will help purchase a biplane angiography system that will allow physicians to accurately visualize clots or other vascular abnormalities. This will reduce diagnostic and procedure time while helping to avoid more invasive procedures.

There are no matching funds required or allowed for this project.

HONORING ROBERT G. KIGGANS

HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Robert G. Kiggans of Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina, and fellow alumnus of the Citadel, for a lifetime of distinguished leadership and service to the citizens of our State and our country. From his early days as a cadet at the Citadel to his current position as chief operating officer and president of the South Carolina Research Authority's, SCRA, Federal Sector, Bob has led an exemplary life and maintained a steadfast work ethic. His contributions to South Carolina and the United States in the fields of advanced computer and data technologies, program and technical management, manufacturing technologies, and command and control systems is recognized internationally. He is the embodiment of what makes America strong.

After receiving his undergraduate degree from the Citadel—where he excelled in both academics and athletics, achieving All-Time Letterman status as a member of the men's basketball team—Bob earned his master's degree from the Air Force Institute of Technology. Upon graduation, Bob served his country as a navigator on B-52 model aircraft with the United States Air Force, operating from bases in Southeast Asia. He also directed advanced computer technology programs for the Air Force Strategic Command, SAC, including the development of a multi-million dollar automated executive information system, as well as other assignments. Having served his country with distinction, Bob retired from the Air Force as a lieutenant colonel. After his military experience, Bob served as the deputy director of the Information Science and Technology Office at the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, DARPA, assistant for program integration with the Department of Defense Joint Program Management Office. In addition to the foregoing achievements, Bob was appointed by the Department of Commerce to serve as head of the U.S. Delegation to the international Intelligent Manufacturing Systems Steering Committee and worked as a research fellow with the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

After serving his country in both a uniform and civilian capacity, Bob entered the private sector where he has worked for a variety of companies and nonprofit corporations including Cincinnati Electronics and the first president of the Advanced Technology Institute, ATI, a world leader in distributed technology management and affiliate of his current employer, the South Carolina Research Authority. Since its establishment in 1983, SCRA has fostered entrepreneurial development, introduced technological advancements, and supported countless industry leaders and small businesses throughout South Carolina and the Nation.

Through hard work and dedication, Bob has made significant contributions to our country's information technology and manufacturing technologies. His distinguished leadership and service has been invaluable, and for this I applaud him. His dedication to his family, friends,