

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 2010 GRECIAN FESTIVAL IN WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 28, 2010

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the St. Spyridon Grecian Festival, to be held June 4th, 5th and 6th in Worcester, Massachusetts. The Festival has been held biennially in Worcester since 1976, and has served as a wonderful exhibition of Greek culture, customs, faith and food.

The St. Spyridon Grecian Festival was founded by Father George Stephanides. Upon his arrival in Worcester in 1974, his idea for a large Greek festival was met with skepticism. To prove that such an event would be viable, Father George organized a small food fair in 1975. With its success, the stage was set for the first ethnic festival of its kind in New England. With over twenty thousand visitors in the festival's first year, there was no doubt that the Grecian Festival would become a mainstay in the community for years to come. To this day, the Festival remains one of the largest in New England, with over 25,000 attendees.

For three days in early June, the St. Spyridon Grecian Festival will once again open its doors to the community to enjoy the best of Grecian cuisine and hospitality. From the abundance of Greek food and homemade pastry, to the art exhibits, dance performances, music and cultural displays, the Grecian Festival provides the entire community, both young and old, an opportunity to experience and interact with Greek culture on all levels.

Madam Speaker, I invite the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the St. Spyridon Grecian Festival for the important role it has played over the past thirty-four years in sharing the wonders of Greek culture with our community.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5136) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2011 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Chair, I would like to submit the following exchange of letters:

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

AND LABOR,

Washington, DC, May 21, 2010.

Re Corrected Bill Number.

Hon. IKE SKELTON,

Chairman, Committee on Armed Services, House of Representatives, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN SKELTON: I am writing to you concerning the jurisdictional interest of the Committee on Education and Labor in

matters being considered in H.R. 5136, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011.

Our committee recognizes the importance of H.R. 5136 and the need for the legislation to move expeditiously. Therefore, while we have a valid claim to jurisdiction over the bill, I do not intend to request a sequential referral. This, of course, is conditional on our mutual understanding that nothing in this legislation or my decision to forego a sequential referral waives, reduces or otherwise affects the jurisdiction of the Committee on Education and Labor, and that a copy of this letter and your response acknowledging our jurisdictional interest will be included in the Committee Report and as part of the Congressional Record during consideration of this bill by the House.

The Committee on Education and Labor also asks that you support our request to be conferees on the provisions over which we have jurisdiction during any House-Senate conference.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

GEORGE MILLER,

Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, May 21, 2010.

Hon. GEORGE MILLER,

Chairman, Committee on Education and Labor, House of Representatives, Rayburn Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 5136, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011. I agree that the Committee on Education and Labor has valid jurisdictional claims to certain provisions in this important legislation, and I am most appreciative of your decision not to schedule a mark-up of this bill in the interest of expediting consideration. I agree that by agreeing to waive consideration of certain provisions of the bill, the Committee on Education and Labor is not waiving its jurisdiction over these matters. Should this bill or similar legislation be the subject of a House-Senate conference, I will support the appointment of conferees from the Committee on Education and Labor.

This exchange of letters will be included in the committee report on the bill.

Very truly yours,

IKE SKELTON,

Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, May 21, 2010.

Hon. IKE SKELTON,

Chairman, Committee on Armed Services, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN SKELTON: I am writing regarding H.R. 5136, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011. As you know, the Committee on Energy and Commerce has jurisdictional interest in a number of provisions of this bill.

In light of the interest in moving this bill forward promptly, I do not intend to exercise the jurisdiction of the Committee on Energy and Commerce by seeking sequential referral of H.R. 5136. I do this, however, only with the understanding that forgoing consideration of H.R. 5136 at this time will not be construed as prejudicing this Committee's jurisdictional interests and prerogatives on the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation. In addition, we reserve the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference named to consider such provisions.

I would appreciate your including this letter in the Congressional Record during consideration of the bill on the House floor. Thank you for your cooperation on this matter.

Sincerely,

HENRY A. WAXMAN,

Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, May 21, 2010.

Hon. HENRY A. WAXMAN,

Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce, House of Representatives, Rayburn Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 5136, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011. I agree that the Committee on Energy and Commerce has valid jurisdictional claims to certain provisions in this important legislation, and I am most appreciative of your decision not to schedule a mark-up of this bill in the interest of expediting consideration. I agree that by agreeing to waive consideration of certain provisions of the bill, the Committee on Energy and Commerce is not waiving its jurisdiction over these matters. Should this bill or similar legislation be the subject of a House-Senate conference, I will support the appointment of conferees from the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

This exchange of letters will be included in the committee report on the bill.

Very truly yours,

IKE SKELTON,

Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES,

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, May 21, 2010.

Hon. IKE SKELTON,

Chairman, Committee on Armed Services, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN SKELTON: I write to confirm our mutual understanding regarding H.R. 5136, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011. While this legislation as reported contains subject matter within the jurisdiction of Committee on Financial Services, the committee waives consideration of the bill in order to expedite floor consideration of this important legislation.

The Committee on Financial Services takes this action only with the understanding that the committee's jurisdictional interests over this and similar legislation are in no way diminished or altered.

The Committee also reserves the right to seek appointment to any House-Senate conference on this legislation and requests your support if such a request is made. Finally, I would appreciate your including this letter in the committee report or in the Congressional Record during consideration of H.R. 5136 on the House Floor. Thank you for your attention to these matters.

BARNEY FRANK,

Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, May 21, 2010.

Hon. BARNEY FRANK,

Chairman, Committee on Financial Services, House of Representatives, Rayburn Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 5136, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011. I agree that the Committee on Financial Services has valid jurisdictional claims to certain provisions in this important legislation, and I am most appreciative of your decision not to schedule a mark-up of this bill

in the interest of expediting consideration. I agree that by agreeing to waive consideration of certain provisions of the bill, the Committee on Financial Services is not waiving its jurisdiction over these matters. Should this bill or similar legislation be the subject of a House-Senate conference, I will support the appointment of conferees from the Committee on Financial Services.

This exchange of letters will be included in the committee report on the bill.

Very truly yours,

IKE SKELTON,
Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 21, 2010.

Hon. IKE SKELTON,
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services, Rayburn House Office Bldg., Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am writing to you concerning H.R. 5136, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011.

This bill contains provisions within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on Foreign Affairs. In the interest of permitting your Committee to proceed expeditiously to floor consideration of this important bill, I am willing to waive this Committee's right to mark up this bill. I do so with the understanding that by waiving consideration of the bill, the Committee on Foreign Affairs does not waive any future jurisdictional claim over the subject matters contained in the bill which fall within its Rule X jurisdiction.

Further, I request your support for the appointment of Foreign Affairs Committee conferees during any House-Senate conference convened on this legislation.

Please include a copy of this letter and your response in the Congressional Record during consideration of the measure on the House floor.

Sincerely,

HOWARD L. BERMAN,
Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 21, 2010.

Hon. HOWARD BERMAN,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs, House of Representatives, Rayburn Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 5136, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011. I agree that the Committee on Foreign Affairs has valid jurisdictional claims to certain provisions in this important legislation, and I am most appreciative of your decision not to schedule a mark-up of this bill in the interest of expediting consideration. I agree that by agreeing to waive consideration of certain provisions of the bill, the Committee on Foreign Affairs is not waiving its jurisdiction over these matters. Should this bill or similar legislation be the subject of a House-Senate conference, I will support the appointment of conferees from the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

This exchange of letters will be included in the committee report on the bill.

Very truly yours,

IKE SKELTON,
Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 20, 2010.

Hon. IKE SKELTON,
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services, Rayburn House Office Building, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN SKELTON: I write to you regarding H.R. 5136, the "National Defense Au-

thorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011," introduced on April 26, 2010.

H.R. 5136 contains provisions that fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Homeland Security. I recognize and appreciate your desire to bring this legislation before the House in an expeditious manner and, accordingly, I will not seek a sequential referral of the bill. However, agreeing to waive consideration of this bill should not be construed as the Committee on Homeland Security waiving, altering, or otherwise affecting its jurisdiction over subject matters contained in the bill which fall within its Rule X jurisdiction.

Further, I request your support for the appointment of Homeland Security conferees during any House-Senate conference convened on this or similar legislation. I also ask that a copy of this letter and your response be placed in the Committee Report accompanying the legislation and the Congressional Record during floor consideration of this bill.

I look forward to working with you on this legislation and other matters of great importance to this nation.

Sincerely,

BENNIE G. THOMPSON,
Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 21, 2010.

Hon. BENNIE G. THOMPSON,
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security, House of Representatives, Ford Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 5136, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011. I agree that the Committee on Homeland Security has valid jurisdictional claims to certain provisions in this important legislation, and I am most appreciative of your decision not to schedule a mark-up of this bill in the interest of expediting consideration. I agree that by agreeing to waive consideration of certain provisions of the bill, the Committee on Homeland Security is not waiving its jurisdiction over these matters. Should this bill or similar legislation be the subject of a House-Senate conference, I will support the appointment of conferees from the Committee on Homeland Security.

This exchange of letters will be included in the committee report on the bill.

Very truly yours,

IKE SKELTON,
Chairman.

RECOGNIZING DR. JUDY BENSE

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 28, 2010

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Judy Bense upon being inducted into the Orden de Isabel la Catlica. Dr. Bense is a dedicated archeologist and received this award due to her research strengthening the ties between Northwest Florida and Spain. Madam Speaker, Dr. Bense's commitment to her work is truly remarkable. For that reason, it gives me much pleasure to recognize her on this day.

The Royal Order of Isabella the Catholic is one of Spain's highest civil honors granted in recognition of services that benefit Spain. The

Order was created on March 14, 1815 by King Ferdinand of Aragon in honor of his ancestress, Queen Isabella I, with the intent of rewarding the firm allegiance to Spain and the merits of Spanish citizens and foreigners in good standing to the nation.

Dr. Bense was inducted into the Order by Spanish King Juan Carlos for her hard work to defend the shared legacy and strengthening the relationship between Florida and Spain. Just like the Order's namesake, Dr. Bense is an extremely accomplished and distinguished woman. With a career in archeology that has spanned more than three decades; she has been at the forefront of studying Spanish roots in Pensacola, Florida. Currently serving as the President of the University of West Florida, I am certain that her experience and commitment to education will provide the needed leadership to guide the university in its pursuit of academic excellence.

Madam Speaker, Dr. Judy Bense is a leader that I am proud to have serving in the Northwest Florida community. On behalf of the United States Congress and a grateful community, I congratulate Dr. Bense on her significant historical accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO NATHAN DAVID KEHREIN

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 28, 2010

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the outstanding young men of my community who unfortunately is no longer with us. I also take this opportunity to express condolences to his family as they negotiate their way through this period of transition.

Nathan Kehrein was born the same year that I was first elected to public office and that is around the time that I first got to know his parents, Glen and Lonnie.

Nathan grew up in the Austin Community, as a matter of fact a couple of blocks where I and my family live. He had a normal and exciting childhood, actively involved in youth activities organized and provided by the Rock of our Salvation Church and the Circle Urban Ministries both of which his family were founders of and are actively involved with.

Nathan was a good student and a good athlete. He attended Lane Technical High School and was an All City Football Player. After high school Nathan enlisted in the Armed Services and after a tour of duty, was honorably discharged from the United States Air force.

After Nathan returned home from his military experience he became ill and suffered from bouts with depression; but continued to live as normal a life as he could.

Nathan's life was a journey of experiences; his family lived comprehensively and was intimately associated with many different kinds of people. Nathan's life was a reflection of this upbringing; therefore, one could say that he was an ambassador of goodwill.

I salute Nathan for being the man that he was, thank him for the service he gave to our community and to his country and may his soul rest in peace.