

Increases family separation allowance for troops who are deployed away from their families.

Increases hostile fire and imminent danger pay for the first time since 2004.

Expands college loan repayment benefits.

Includes the most comprehensive legislative package to ever address sexual assault in the military, including 28 provisions to implement into law many of the recommendations of the Defense Task Force on Sexual Assault.

Establishes a pilot program to offer an alternative career path to military officers, providing a broader range of experiences over a longer career.

Establishes a pilot program to help military spouses take advantage of their personal skill sets to identify and obtain desirable and portable careers.

Authorizes an additional special one-time payment to seriously wounded servicemembers to pay for the relocation costs of their caregivers;

Provides \$1.2 billion with broad authorities for projects in Afghanistan to allow our commanders on the ground to immediately respond to military construction needs in theater.

In closing, I hope my colleagues will join me in support of H.R. 5136. I believe we are all on one accord that without reservation we support our men and women of the United States military. I support this bill and I ask my colleagues to support my proposed amendments and H.R. 5136.

HONORING THE NANTAHALA SCHOOL BASKETBALL TEAM OF MACON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the basketball team of the Nantahala School in Macon County, North Carolina. The team had an exceptional season, finishing with a record of 23–7 and an appearance in the regional semi-final game.

Their season would be considered impressive for a team from any school, but this team comes from remarkable circumstances. There are only 36 students in the school, 18 of which are men. Over half the eligible students play on the basketball team. From one of the smallest schools in the State of North Carolina, this group of young men was able to hold their own against teams from much larger schools.

Making their success less probable, the school graduated some excellent basketball players last year, retiring three jerseys. The class of 2009 accounted for over 3,000 career points. Fortunately, this year's seniors—Jordan West, Wesley Holden, Josh Griffith, Jerrod Crosby, and Woody Passmore—were equally impressive in fulfilling their leadership roles.

The team's final game against Hendersonville High School in the regional semifinals was a testament to their perseverance. Trailing at one point by 16 points, it seemed the odds were against them. Still, the team played with everything they had. With 43 seconds remaining, Jordan West gave Nantahala the

lead. Hendersonville managed to pull back ahead, but Nantahala fell only three points short of playing in the regional finals for a spot in the North Carolina State championship game.

Some of the team achieved special recognition for their outstanding seasons. Wesley Holden averaged 13 points per game and was selected to play in the Blue-White all-star game. Josh Griffith, averaging 18 points per game, was selected to play in the Blue-White all-star game and the regional all-tournament team. Coach Josh Taylor and Assistant Coach Tom Dillard have created a strong program, and I doubt this is the last we have heard from this small school in the mountains.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the impressive Nantahala School basketball team for their accomplishments and wishing them continued success in future years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, May 19, 2010 and Monday, May 24, 2010 through Friday, May 28, 2010 I was unable to be in Washington, DC due to a family emergency and thus missed several rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Nos. 276, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 320, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 333, 335 and "nay" on Nos. 277, 306, 307, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 332, 334, 336.

RECOGNIZING THE "STAR OF LIFE" AWARD RECIPIENT FRANCISCO "CISCO" PRECIADO

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Francisco "Cisco" Preciado, to whom the "Star of Life" medal, a national award which recognizes the country's most outstanding Paramedics and Emergency Medical Technicians, was re-presented.

Previously a member of the U.S. Navy and U.S. Coastguard, Mr. Preciado started his career as a paramedic in 2005. His efforts established him as a dependable worker who was one of the best and brightest in his field. In 2009, his hard work under Southwest Ambulance was recognized in the form of the prestigious "Star of Life" medal. Preciado gave away his medal earlier this year, in a touching tribute to a friend and co-worker—EMT Mark Vernick—who was killed in a motorcycle collision. In what he thought was a private tribute, Preciado placed his medal in Vernick's casket.

I extended this honor again not only to commend his performance as a paramedic, but to pay tribute to the quality of his character. Mr. Preciado unselfishly placed his original medal inside the casket of his friend and co-worker,

Mark Vernick. This action speaks to the strength of his integrity. It is for this reason that I offered Mr. Preciado a replacement "Star of Life" medal.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the presentation of the "Star of Life" medal to Mr. Francisco Preciado.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF INNOVATOR AND PHILANTHROPIST JOHN SOTO

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a self-made man and former New England Businessman of the Year, and one who has given of himself time and again to improve our Connecticut community—John Soto.

After a boyhood in Puerto Rico and some apprenticeship in the business and mechanical arts as a machinist in Manhattan, John founded Space-Craft Manufacturing, Inc. in Milford, Connecticut in 1970. Starting with just four employees, Space-Craft has, thanks to John's eye for innovation and business savvy, grown to become an industry leader in aircraft engine and airframe components over the past four decades, even earning the National Supplier of the Year award from the U.S. Air Force in 2001.

These entrepreneurial and engineering accomplishments have been matched by John's passion for community service and a strong commitment to public investment. So that others may follow in his footsteps, John has founded several scholarships for Latino students and been a continual presence in Connecticut inner-city schools. He has also contributed generously to Youth at Risk, Junior Achievement, New Haven's Latino Youth Development Program, and other very worthwhile organizations aimed at helping Connecticut's underprivileged and least fortunate.

In both his company's success and his dedication to public service, John has been an embodiment of the American dream. From modest beginnings, he has contributed mightily to his community, his state, and to the United States military. I congratulate him and his wife Gladys on this long career of personal success and public service, and I know that they will continue to be a credit to our district for years to come.

HONORING CRAIG BIEGEL

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Mrs. McCarthy of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Craig Biegel, the Award of Merit Winner for the 4th Congressional District's high school art competition, "An Artistic Discovery." An Artistic Discovery recognizes and encourages the artistic talent in the nation, as well as in each congressional district. The Congressional Art Competition began in 1982 to provide an opportunity for Members of Congress to encourage and recognize the artistic talents of their

young constituents. Since then, over 650,000 high school students have been involved with the nationwide competition.

Craig Biegel, a resident of the 4th Congressional District, is currently a senior at Lynbrook High School in Lynbrook, New York. Mr. Biegel offered his piece, "Angioplasty", which was an acrylic on canvas painting depicting a close-up view of the inside of the heart with a catheter in the aorta, leading to a stent insertion in the right coronary artery. Craig's attention to detail in this piece is certainly a testament to his achievement.

The contest in the 4th Congressional District continues to flourish and I owe it to all of the talented students like Craig Biegel from our high schools that submitted their art to be displayed in this distinguished contest. It is essential for art programs and curricula to remain in our schools and communities. I believe that having a forum for our young people to express themselves in a creative way is extraordinarily important and I will continue to work in Congress to ensure that the arts are preserved.

The future of this country depends on the hopes and dreams of its children. Our community, and our nation, is enhanced by the contributions of students like Craig Biegel. Additionally, I would like to recognize the work of the teachers and administrators at Lynbrook High School who dedicate their lives to their students. The staff is the backbone of the students' success and I thank them for all that they do on a daily basis.

Madam Speaker, it is with pride and admiration that I offer my thanks and recognition to Craig Biegel.

INVESTING INCOME AT HOME ACT OF 2010

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Investing Income at Home Act of 2010." This legislation would increase investment in the U.S. economy by allowing "closely held" companies that earn money abroad to create American jobs by investing overseas profits here at home. This would be accomplished by updating an outdated relic of the Tax Code, the personal holding company, or "PHC," tax structure.

Under current law, a personal holding company's undistributed income is taxed at 15 percent. This rate is scheduled to return to the highest individual tax rate of 39.6 percent in 2011 when the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts expire. Unfortunately the personal holding company tax has not evolved to keep up with modern business realities. Family-run companies can be subject to this tax—which they would not pay if they were publicly owned.

The Investing Income at Home Act will modify the definition of "PHC income" to exclude dividends received from foreign affiliates if those dividends are reinvested in the United States. Importantly, these dividends brought back into the United States could not be used by any company to pay executive salaries or benefits.

This bill will ensure closely held corporations impacted by the PHC tax regime would pay

the same level of corporate tax as similarly situated publicly traded corporations. This would free them to invest dividends from foreign sources into the U.S. economy helping to create much-needed jobs here in America.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

RECOGNIZING FOUNTAIN HILLS HIGH SCHOOL'S UNOFFICIAL GUINNESS WORLD RECORD IN POTATO LAUNCHING

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding group of chemistry students from Fountain Hills High School, who unofficially broke the Guinness World Record for most potatoes launched in three minutes.

The students in AP chemistry and honors-chemistry classes used savvy, creativity and teamwork to break an existing Guinness World Record. Although Guinness has yet to officially acknowledge the record, I am confident that the evidence is sufficient and that approval will be received shortly. One student, Fountain Hills junior Kyle Link, nearly doubled the previous record of potatoes launched in three minutes.

In all, seven different teams broke the record, demonstrating tactfulness in assembling their launchers. The students used applied lessons in engineering, technology, and chemical gas laws while constructing these devices.

I would also like to recognize Dr. Paul McElligott, head of the science department at Fountain Hills High School, for his leadership and instruction in the record-breaking feat. Along with breaking world records, Dr. McElligott is in contention to receive a prestigious Lemelson-MIT Grant worth \$10,000 to fund his proposal regarding safety devices for handicapped patients. His dedication will inspire these students to aim to achieve greatness in their current and future endeavors. We need more fine educators like this man in our country.

I am honored to call Dr. McElligott and his students at Fountain Hills High my constituents. Madame Speaker, please join me in congratulating them on their World Record.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$13,052,204,878,286.76.

On January 6th, 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 \$ 2,413,779,131,992.90 so far this Congress.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

HONORING CECIL GROVES FOR HIS SERVICE TO SOUTHWESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Cecil Groves for his 40 years of service in higher education and to congratulate him on his retirement after 13 years as president of Southwestern Community College in Sylva, North Carolina. Under his leadership, Southwestern experienced significant expansion, serving as a catalyst for further growth throughout the region.

Dr. Groves received his Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration from the University of Texas. His first job was as the president of Delgado College in New Orleans, Louisiana. Dr. Groves was able to lead Delgado College to national accreditation in the midst of the turmoil of desegregation. Seven years later, he became President of Austin Community College in Austin, Texas. In a city dominated by a major research university, Dr. Groves created a model of the community college as a stepping stone to enrollment at a four-year university. He grew Austin Community College into a 16,000 student campus, creating jobs and allowing students a pathway to achieve their dreams.

After working at Pikes Peak Community College in Colorado Springs, Colorado and serving as Provost of Texas State Technical Colleges System, Dr. Groves moved to the mountains of Western North Carolina to become the president of Southwestern Community College. He would transform this small school with a strong sense of community into one of the best community colleges in the nation.

During his tenure, Southwestern Community College opened a new campus in Macon County, North Carolina and graduated the largest class in its history. Dr. Groves instituted a new technology platform for delivering education to students, offering Internet learning without sacrificing a sense of community. He encouraged teachers who found their most effective teaching method to continue to succeed, and he pushed those who struggled to continue to work toward becoming better teachers. Most importantly, he was widely loved by the faculty, staff, and students.

Even those in Western North Carolina who are not directly a part of the Southwestern Community College family benefited from Dr. Groves' tenure. One of his biggest contributions to the region was the creation of the Balsam West FiberNET. After an attempt to convert the school's Interactive Television system to digital proved too costly, Dr. Groves began investigating a regional broadband system. Southwestern Community College helped bring together Drake Enterprises and the Eastern Band of the Cherokee to form Balsam West FiberNET. This private, for-profit partnership constructed a 300-mile broadband ring, benefiting both Southwestern Community College and the entire mountain community.

Outside of his duties as president, Dr. Groves has taken an active interest in community development—on a regional, state, and national level. He served as an appointed advisor to governors in two states and testified in