

HONORING THE LIFE OF FRANK  
PELLEGRINI

**HON. STEVE ISRAEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 14, 2010*

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Frank Pellegrini, who passed away on March 25, 2010.

Frank touched the lives of people all over Long Island and he will be remembered as a man who showed grace and humility in all aspects of his life. For 40 years, he worked at Farmingdale State College where he served thousands of students and teachers through his roles as an Organic Chemistry teacher and then the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Frank also served for 35 years as the Chief and Commissioner of the Dix Hills Fire Department where his heroic efforts touched the lives of countless members of the community. Frank possessed extreme bravery and a passion for helping others.

Frank Pellegrini will be remembered by all who were fortunate enough to know him and his memory will remain a fixture in both institutions where he served for so long.

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:

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

Hon. JOHN CONYERS JR.,  
*Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, 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 the Judiciary 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 the Judiciary 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 the Judiciary.

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

IKE SKELTON,  
*Chairman.*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,  
*Washington, DC, May 21, 2010.*

Hon. IKE SKELTON,  
*Chairman, Committee on Armed Services, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN SKELTON: This is to advise you that, as a result of your having consulted with us on provisions in H.R. 5136, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011, that fall within the rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on the Judiciary, we are able to agree to waive seeking a formal referral of the bill, in order that it may proceed without delay to the House floor for consideration.

The Judiciary Committee takes this action with our mutual understanding that by foregoing consideration of H.R. 5136 at this time, we do not waive any jurisdiction over subject matter contained in this or similar legislation, and that our Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as the bill or similar legislation moves forward, so that we may address any remaining issues in its jurisdiction. Our Committee also reserves the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this or similar legislation, and requests your support for any such request.

I would appreciate your including this letter in the Congressional Record during consideration of the bill on the House floor. Thank you for your attention to this request, and for the cooperative relationship between our two committees.

Sincerely,

JOHN CONYERS, JR.,  
*Chairman.*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES,  
*Washington, DC, May 20, 2010.*

Hon. IKE SKELTON,  
*Chairman, Committee on Armed Services, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for the opportunity to review the text of H.R. 5136, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011, for provisions which are within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Natural Resources. Among these provisions are those dealing with compensation and benefits for the NOAA Corps, as well as a report on civilian infrastructure needs for Guam in light of the upcoming military realignment in the Pacific.

Because of the continued cooperation and consideration that you have afforded me and my staff in developing these provisions, I will not seek a sequential referral of H.R. 5136 based on their inclusion in the bill. Of course, this waiver is not intended to prejudice any future jurisdictional claims over these provisions or similar language. I also reserve the right to seek to have conferees named from the Committee on Natural Resources on these provisions, and request your support if such a request is made.

Please place this letter into the committee report on H.R. 5136 and the Congressional Record during consideration of the measure on the House floor. Thank you for the cooperative spirit in which you have worked regarding this matter and others between our respective committees.

With warm regards, I am  
Sincerely,

NICK J. RAHALL, II,  
*Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources.*

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

Hon. NICK J. RAHALL II,  
*Committee on Natural Resources, House of Representatives, Longworth 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 Natural Resources 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 Natural Resources 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 Natural Resources.

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

Very truly yours,

IKE SKELTON,  
*Chairman.*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM,  
*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 about H.R. 5136, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011. I appreciate your efforts to consult with the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform regarding those provisions of H.R. 5136 that fall within the Oversight Committee's jurisdiction. These provisions involve the federal civil service and federal acquisition policies, among other things.

In the interest of expediting consideration of H.R. 5136, the Oversight Committee will not request a sequential referral of this bill. I would, however, request your support for the appointment of conferees from the Oversight Committee should H.R. 5136 or a similar Senate bill be considered in conference with the Senate. Moreover, this letter should not be construed as a waiver of the Oversight Committee's legislative jurisdiction over subjects addressed in H.R. 5136 that fall within the jurisdiction of the Oversight Committee.

Finally, I request that you include our exchange of letters on this matter in the Committee Report on H.R. 5136 and in the Congressional Record during consideration of this legislation on the House floor. Again, I appreciate your willingness to consult the Committee on these matters.

Sincerely,

EDOLPHUS TOWNS,  
*Chairman.*

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

Hon. EDOLPHUS TOWNS,  
*Chairman, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, 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 Oversight and Government Reform 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 Oversight and Government Reform 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 Oversight and Government Reform.

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

Very truly yours,

IKE SKELTON,  
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE,

Washington, DC, May 21, 2010.

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

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I write concerning the jurisdictional interest of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence in matters being considered in H.R. 5136, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011.

The Committee recognizes the importance of H.R. 5136 and the need for the legislation to move expeditiously. Therefore, while the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence has valid claim to jurisdiction over the bill, I do not intend to request a sequential referral. My decision to waive further consideration of H.R. 5136 is conditional on the mutual understanding that no part of this legislation waives, reduces, or otherwise affects the jurisdiction of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

I respectfully request that a copy of this letter and your response acknowledging this Committee's 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 Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence also asks that you support my request to include conferees on the provisions over which we have jurisdiction during any conference between the House and the Senate.

I thank you for your continued leadership.

Sincerely,

SILVESTRE REYES,  
Chairman.

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

Hon. SILVESTRE REYES,  
Chairman, Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, House of Representatives, The Capitol, 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 Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence 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 Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence 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 Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

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

Very truly yours,

IKE SKELTON,  
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY,

Washington, DC, May 19, 2010.

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 Science and Technology 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 Science and Technology, 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 Science and Technology 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,

BART GORDON,  
Chairman.

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

Hon. BART GORDON,  
Chairman, Committee on Science and Technology, 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 Science and Technology 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 Science and Technology 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 Science and Technology.

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

Very truly yours,

IKE SKELTON,  
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE,  
Washington, DC, May 21, 2010.

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

DEAR CHAIRMAN SKELTON: I write to you regarding H.R. 5136, the "National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011".

H.R. 5136 contains provisions that fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. 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, I agree to waive consideration of this bill with the mutual understanding that my decision to forgo a sequential referral of the bill does not waive, reduce, or otherwise affect the jurisdiction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure over H.R. 5136.

Further, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure reserves the right to seek the appointment of conferees during any House-Senate conference convened on this legislation on provisions of the bill that are within the Committee's jurisdiction. I ask for your commitment to support any request by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure for the appointment of conferees on H.R. 5136 or similar legislation.

Please place a copy of this letter and your response acknowledging the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure's jurisdictional interest in the Committee Report on H.R. 5136 and in the Congressional Record during consideration of the measure in the House.

I look forward to working with you as we prepare to pass this important legislation.

Sincerely,

JAMES L. OBERSTAR, M.C.,  
Chairman.

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

Hon. JAMES L. OBERSTAR,  
Chairman, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, 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 Transportation and Infrastructure 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 Transportation and Infrastructure 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 Transportation and Infrastructure.

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

Very truly yours,

IKE SKELTON,  
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS,  
Washington, DC, May 20, 2010.

Hon. IKE SKELTON,  
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services, Rayburn Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN SKELTON: I am writing to you concerning H.R. 5136, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011. There are certain provisions in the legislation which fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

In the interest of permitting your Committee to proceed expeditiously to floor consideration of this important bill, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs agrees not to request a sequential referral. By waiving consideration of H.R. 5136, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs does not waive any future jurisdictional claim over any subject matter contained in the bill which falls within its jurisdiction. The Committee on Veterans' Affairs reserves its right to seek conferees on any provisions within its jurisdiction which are considered in a House-Senate conference,

and requests your support if such a request is made.

Please place this letter into the committee report on H.R. 5136 and into the Congressional Record during consideration of the measure on the House floor. Thank you for the cooperative spirit in which you have worked with the Committee on Veterans' Affairs regarding this matter and others between our respective committees.

Sincerely,

BOB FILNER,  
*Chairman.*

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

Hon. BOB FILNER,  
*Chairman, Committee on Veterans' Affairs,*  
*House of Representatives, Cannon 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 Veterans' 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 Veterans' 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 Veterans' Affairs.

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

Very truly yours,

IKE SKELTON,  
*Chairman.*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,  
Washington, DC, May 20, 2010.

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

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am writing to you concerning the jurisdictional interest of the Committee on Ways and Means 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 valid claims 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 Ways and Means, 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.

I also wish to commend you for including in H.R. 5136, a requirement that the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the U.S. Trade Representative, consider the effect that other countries' trade policies have on the ability of the United States to obtain rare earth minerals. Not only are those minerals critically important for many defense applications, they are also critical for many other high-tech applications such as wind turbine and hybrid gasoline-electric automobiles—and, as a result, to U.S. manufacturing competitiveness.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

SANDER M. LEVIN,  
*Chairman.*

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

Hon. SANDER M. LEVIN,  
*Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,*  
*House of Representatives, Longworth 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 Ways and Means 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 Ways and Means 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 Ways and Means.

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

Very truly yours,

IKE SKELTON,  
*Chairman.*

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2010

MR. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, June 10, I was not present in order to attend my son's high school graduation ceremony. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall 353, final passage of the FHA Reform Act of 2010, and "yes" on rollcall 354, passage of amendments to the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 to authorize advances from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund for the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2010

MS. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I was not present during rollcall vote Nos. 347–354 on June 10th. I would have voted as follows: On rollcall vote No. 347 I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall vote No. 348 I would have voted "no"; on rollcall vote No. 349 I would have voted "no"; on rollcall vote No. 350 I would have voted "no"; on rollcall vote No. 351 I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall vote No. 352 I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall vote No. 353 I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall vote No. 354 I would have voted "yes."

HONORING MS. ELLA COHEN

#### HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2010

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Ella Cohen and Rye Neck High School for her winning the Stephen J. Wemiel Best Oralist Award 2010 in the "We The Students" National High School Moot Court Competition in March.

This competition brings high school students from around the world together to compete and showcase their oral advocacy skills. Students are tested on their understanding of cutting edge legal questions and the applicability of current legal issues to the high school setting. Crucial to this competition is the understanding of the Constitution and our complex judiciary system. Ella demonstrated sharp legal reasoning, addressing difficult questions about the first amendment.

Ella's award as "Best Respondent" in this competition is a testament to the quality education she has received at Rye Neck High school and her commitment to her studies.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Ella and recognizing the teachers, the administrators and her family who have contributed to her academic success.

HONORING THE LIFE OF WALTER HESSLING

#### HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2010

MR. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Walter Hessling who passed away on November 27, 2009.

Walter was one of many courageous men who chose to serve his community as a firefighter. He was a Captain of the Dix Hills Volunteer Fire Department and served his community valiantly for 32 years.

To all of those who knew and loved him, his untimely death will forever be a reminder of his selflessness. His last heroic moment in the line of duty saved the lives of others who he never met. As time passes, the pain will fade, but the memory of Walter will always remain a shining example of truth and goodness to all of those whose lives he touched.

It is at this time we remember Walter Hessling for his bravery and kindness and for his dedication and service to the Dix Hills Fire Department.

IN MEMORY OF ZIA RAHMAN, BELOVED LEADER AND INTER-FAITH DIALOGUE ADVOCATE

#### HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2010

MR. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of Zia Rahman of Voorhees, who passed away on June 1st, 2010 at the age of 65. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Zahida, two