

This is Ms. Martinez' final year as National Youth President, but I look forward to her continued service to New Mexico and to our nation. If our nation is to continue thriving in the 21st Century, we will need young leaders like Jessica Martinez to help meet our greatest challenges.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PHIL HARE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 14, 2010

Mr. HARE. Madam Speaker, on July 13, 2010, I was unavoidably detained in Illinois due to a family medical emergency. I would like the RECORD to reflect that had I been present, I would have voted as follows: on rollcall No. 434, On Motion To Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 4514, the Colonel Charles Young Home Study Act, I would have voted "aye"; on rollcall No. 435, On Motion To Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 4438, the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park Leasing and Boundary Expansion Act of 2010, I would have voted "aye"; and on rollcall No. 436, On Motion To Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 4773, the Fort Pulaski National Monument Lease Authorization Act, I would have voted "aye."

H.R. 5730, THE "SURFACE TRANSPORTATION EARMARK RESCISSION, SAVINGS, AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT"

HON. BETSY MARKEY

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 14, 2010

Ms. MARKEY of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today I rise to introduce the "Surface Transportation Earmark Rescission, Savings, and Accountability Act." This bill will eliminate a total of \$713 million in unobligated funding for 309 Member-designated projects contained in previous surface transportation authorizations.

The "Surface Transportation Earmark Rescission, Savings, and Accountability Act" will clear the books of projects that will not go forward and save taxpayer money.

This bill will rescind all remaining earmarks from the Surface Transportation and Uniform Relocation Assistance Act, STURAA, which was signed into law in 1987, and the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act, ISTEA, which was signed into law in 1991. This rescission would be effective on December 31, 2010, and would eliminate 156 projects for a total of \$264 million in savings.

This bill will also rescind High Priority Project, HPP, designations contained in the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century, TEA 21, that have 90 percent of the original project amount remaining unobligated 12 years after this bill was signed into law in 1998. This rescission will become effective September 30, 2011, and would eliminate 152 projects totaling \$441 million.

In addition to eliminating these earmarks, this bill will rescind \$8.2 million in HPP program funds authorized under the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation

Equity Act: A Legacy for Users, SAFETEA-LU, that were not allocated for any specific projects.

Madam Speaker, many of these unobligated balances are tied to projects that are either no longer viable, have not received the necessary matching funds from State or local entities, or projects that have been completed yet still contain funding balances that are no longer needed for the designated project.

Going forward, this bill requires the Secretary of Transportation to submit to the Congress an annual report identifying each project authorized under TEA 21 and SAFETEA-LU that contains inactive funding or that has been completed in the previous year. This will allow Congress to identify projects that are either already completed and have additional funding left over, or that are unlikely to move forward.

Eliminating excess funds that have remained unused by States for nearly 20 years is a commonsense approach toward improving the management of federal funds.

As we confront rising budget deficits, reduced revenues caused by the recession, and an ongoing investment gap in transportation infrastructure, it is imperative that we take every step we can to more efficiently and effectively manage taxpayer dollars and stretch funding as far as possible.

Madam Speaker, the "Surface Transportation Earmark Rescission, Savings, and Accountability Act" accomplishes just that by eliminating funding for earmarks that is not being utilized. I look forward to debating this important effort to pass fiscally responsible legislation.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF
MR. GERALD "GERRY" TRAFIS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 14, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Mr. Gerald "Gerry" Trafis, a devoted father to Matthew and Brian, friend, and community leader on the occasion of his 60th birthday.

Early in his life, Mr. Trafis learned the importance of faith, family, and hard work. He grew up in the Slavic Village neighborhood of Cleveland, and graduated from St. Peter Chanel High School. He then enrolled and graduated from the University of Dayton and earned his CPA license shortly thereafter. As a longtime resident of Seven Hills, Ohio, Mr. Trafis continues to dedicate his time and focus toward improving the community.

From 1991 to 1995, Mr. Trafis served as Director of Finance for the City of Seven Hills. In 1995, he was elected to serve as Mayor, where he served for nearly ten years until 2003. He then served one term as a Council Representative in Seven Hills until 2005. Mr. Trafis also served as the CFO for Creativity for Kids and Megas Beauty Care. He was entrusted to serve as the Chairman of the Board of the Regional Income Tax Agency and is founder and president of Pleasant Valley Estates Association. Mr. Trafis is an active member and leader within many organizations, including the Seven Hills Democratic Club, St. Columbkille Holy Name Society, St. Peter Chanel High School Hall of Fame, and the Pu-

laski Franciscan Community Development Corporation.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Mr. Gerald Trafis, on the occasion of his 60th birthday. His dedication to family, friends and community continues to uplift the lives of many throughout the Cleveland area. I wish my good friend Gerry a very happy birthday and health, peace and happiness in the coming years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 14, 2010

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I missed rollcall vote Nos. 434–436 on July 13, 2010.

If present, I would have voted: Rollcall vote No. 434, Colonel Charles Young Home Study Act, "aye."

Rollcall vote No. 435, San Antonio Missions National Historical Park Boundary Expansion Act of 2010, "nay."

Rollcall vote No. 436, Fort Pulaski National Monument Lease Authorization Act, "aye."

HONORING THE CITY OF LAKE
OSWEGO'S CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

HON. KURT SCHRADER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 14, 2010

Mr. SCHRADER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the City of Lake Oswego, Oregon on the occasion of their 100th anniversary. From its humble beginnings as an iron industry town to its role today as a cornerstone of the State's economic engine, Lake Oswego has proven itself to be an adaptable and resilient community with a rich history.

The town of Oswego was founded in 1847, shortly after iron ore was discovered in the Tualatin Valley. The iron industry proved to be the driving economic force of the small town and many early settlers hoped to build upon the foundations of the industry and turn the area into an industrial center, the "Pittsburg of the West." While the city was never able to meet these grand expectations, the Oregon Iron & Steel Company helped create a prosperous society and a growing community on the banks of Oswego Lake.

But the iron industry started to decline in Oswego at the beginning of the 20th century. With this downturn, Oregon Iron & Steel turned their focus to residential land development, selling large tracts of land to developers.

In 1910, the Oswego community was officially incorporated as the City of Oswego. The first land developers aspired to create a city where both work and leisure were integral components of the city's success. The City of Oswego was promoted as a place to "live where you play."

By the 1920s and 1930s, high-speed and clean electrified trains stimulated residential development in the city. The next three decades brought increased growth in the community and in 1960, the City of Oswego annexed

part of nearby Lake Grove and the city changed its name to Lake Oswego.

Today, Lake Oswego continues to be an outstanding community to live, work and play. The city has a nationally ranked library, an award winning senior center and a plethora of arts, culture and recreation opportunities available to residents. The city, in partnership with local businesses, has made a priority of economic development and transportation planning that will ensure a bright and sustainable future for the community for years to come. And the Lake Oswego School District is responsible for a public education system that is one of the best in the country, benefitting from widespread community support.

Madam Speaker, 100 years have now passed since the city was officially recognized and I am honored to be the representative for this beloved community. I congratulate Lake Oswego on their centennial celebration and hope the city enjoys another 100 years of growth and prosperity.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE
MILITARY SERVICE OF MAJOR
ALBERT F. CORCHUELO

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 14, 2010

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the military service of Major Albert F. Corchuelo on the occasion of his retirement from the United States Marine Corps. I commend Major Corchuelo's career and offer my sincerest thanks for his more than 20 years of dedicated service in protecting our nation.

Beginning his career with an appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy, Major Corchuelo's graduation was followed by his commissioning as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps. His first assignment included serving as an Air Defense Control Officer in Cherry Point, North Carolina and was subsequently hand selected to apply his skills as a Spanish linguist as a liaison in support of counter-narcotics operations in Barranquilla, Columbia.

In 1992, Major Corchuelo was selected to train and was designated as a Naval Aviator in Pensacola, Florida where he was promoted to Captain during flight training. Upon receiving his Naval Aviator wings, he was assigned to HMT-302 in Tustin, California, followed by HMH-462 where he deployed with 15th and 13th MEU. During his tour he served as Pilot Training Officer, Assistant Logistics Officer, Tactics Officer, Administration Officer, and Legal Officer. Throughout the course of these numerous duties, Major Corchuelo also participated in Exercise Hunter Warrior as part of the Commandant's Advanced Warfighting Experiment.

In 1998, Major Corchuelo graduated from Amphibious Warfare School and served as the Executive Officer (XO) for the Training and Education Company at Headquarters and Service Battalion. Soon after this term, Major Corchuelo joined the Selected Marine Corps Reserve in 2001. Just one year later he accepted orders to the Active Reserves as the Assistant Operations Officer which deployed shortly thereafter.

With distinguished tours of duty in Kosovo, Djibouti, and the Persian Gulf for Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, Major Corchuelo's tenure in the Marine Corps is certainly worthy of commendation. In 2004 he transitioned to Camp Pendleton where he served as the Officer-in-Charge (OIC), then as the Reserve Officer Recruiter for the West Coast for the next three years. In 2008 he operated as the OIC for Prior Service Recruiting while earning a Master of Science Degree in Information and Telecommunications Systems Management. On July 9, 2010, Major Corchuelo finished out his extensive military career as the Executive Officer for Reserve Site Support Del Mar at Camp Pendleton, California.

Major Corchuelo distinguished himself by extraordinary acts of leadership time and again. Among his many accomplishments, Major Corchuelo's decorations include the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (2), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Presidential Unit Citation, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Navy Unit Citation (5), Meritorious Unit Citation (3), National Defense Medal (2), Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (3), Kosovo Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, Recruiting Ribbon, Armed Forces Reserve Medal and the NATO Kosovo Medal.

These recognitions are a true testament, among other things, of Major Corchuelo's great dedication, leadership and commitment to our country.

I offer Major Corchuelo my warmest congratulations and may he enjoy a rich and rewarding retirement with his wife Peggy and his two children, Daniel and Brian.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to please join me in honoring all the brave men and women who have served in the United States Armed Forces, and the admirable service of Major Albert Corchuelo.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 14, 2010

Mr. AKIN. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 436, H.R. 4773, Fort Pulaski National Monument Lease Authorization Act, had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

RECOGNIZING PFC EDWIN "EDDIE"
WOOD

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 14, 2010

Mr. TERRY. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise to pay tribute to a young man from Omaha who was killed recently in Afghanistan, in the service of our country.

PFC Edwin "Eddie" Wood, a scout with the Army's 10th Mountain Division, was on patrol

when an IED exploded and killed him and another soldier and wounded three others. He is the first soldier from Omaha to die in Afghanistan. He had been in the Army for less than a year and had not even reached his 19th birthday.

Private First Class Wood was a graduate of Omaha North High School, where he was involved in Boy Scouts, drama, and was a member of the ROTC all 4 years. He also participated in early American re-enactor events with his father.

Scouting was a big part of Eddie's life. He started as member of Cub Scout Pack No. 5 and then moved up to Boy Scout Troop No. 20, earning all the ranks up to Life Scout—just below Eagle Scout. He earned and was awarded 32 merit badges. In 2006, I wrote a letter to Eddie, helping him to earn his Citizenship in the Nation badge. His love for Scouting continued even after he enlisted in the Army. He was listed as an active member of the Boy Scouts Mid-America Council.

Madam Speaker, it is times like this when we truly realize the sacrifices that are being made every day by the young men and women who serve in our armed forces. It also brings home the sacrifices that families make in watching their children go off to war. We are so grateful to them.

Today, I join my colleagues in extending our thoughts and prayers to military families, especially the Wood family during this difficult time.

IN RECOGNITION OF COLONEL
SHERRY B. KELLER'S SERVICE
TO THE ANNISTON ARMY DEPOT

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 14, 2010

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I would like to request the House's attention today to pay recognition to Colonel Sherry B. Keller's service in the United States Army.

Colonel Keller is a Virginia native who began her service by enlisting in the United States Army Reserve. She received her commission through the Reserves Officers Training Corps at Hampton University. Her career in the U.S. Army has taken her across the world from Fort Stewart, Georgia to Germany, and to Korea.

Currently, Colonel Keller serves as Commander of the Anniston Army Depot. The Anniston Army Depot is the designated Center of Industrial and Technical Excellence for combat vehicles, artillery, bridging systems, and small caliber weapons. Its over 4,000 employees provide critical maintenance support at the Depot and serve in direct support overseas. Her leadership continues to allow the Depot to be proudly known as the Pit Crew for the American War Fighter.

I greatly appreciate Colonel Keller for her service to our Nation, the Anniston Army Depot and our community. Her loyalty to duty, honor, and selfless service are in the highest traditions of the Army. I wish her all the best in her next endeavors.