

CYBERSECURITY ENHANCEMENT
ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4061) to advance cybersecurity research, development, and technical standards, and for other purposes:

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Madam Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 4061, The Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2009. This legislation both addresses immediate national needs, and invests in the future. It will help protect the networks that power the nation's defense, underlie the nation's economy, and strengthen the connections of families across the nation. This legislation also helps develop our workforce for the jobs of the future, supporting Scholarships for Service to develop the next generation of network defenders.

I have the honor and pleasure of representing both Fort Bragg and Pope Air Force Base, and I understand that our national defense requires secure networks. Trustworthy networking can be a matter of life and death for soldiers in the field and our intelligence at home.

Beyond securing military networks, this bill moves forward to protect all the critical information on the nation's networks. Our family photos, our children's grades, our life histories, our credit histories, and our retirement accounts all deserve a trustworthy network. Cybersecurity is not just a national security issue, it is an economic issue. The initiatives in this legislation will help those who participate in social networks, ecommerce, and online investments to better protect their virtual selves, their very real money, and even their children's digital domains.

Cybersecurity is also about American competitiveness and creating and preserving American jobs. As the former school superintendent in North Carolina, I know that education is the key to the future, both for students and our nation. This bill prioritizes funding for scholarships and training, so that today's students can fill tomorrow's jobs. I am pleased that the manager's amendment expanded funding for undergraduate scholarships in cybersecurity to support needed training to meet our national needs. I also applaud the expansion of Scholarships for Service. This initiative offers Americans who want to expand their skills a fair bargain: for every day we help pay for your education; you commit a day to defending the Federal networks.

This legislation will enhance our national understanding of the threats to public and private networks, and help develop the tools to address those threats. It will also enhance the ongoing efforts of the National Science Foundation and National Institute of Science and Technology to secure our digital lives.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 4061 will help protect our nation's infrastructure, and our nation's future. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 4061.

IN TRIBUTE THE LOS PADRES
COUNCIL, BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2010

Mr. GALLEGLY. Madam Speaker, I rise in tribute the Los Padres Council, Boy Scouts of America, as the Boy Scouts celebrate 100 years on February 8, 2010.

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

Today's Boy Scouts are tomorrow's leaders, as evidenced by the fact that more than 200 members of the 111th Congress were Boy Scouts or adult leaders, including myself. Boy Scouts alumni also include 179 U.S. astronauts, 35.5 percent of the United States Military Academy cadets, 30.5 percent of United States Air Force Academy cadets and 25 percent of United States Naval Academy midshipmen.

In 2005, the Boy Scouts of America and the Youth and Family Research Center produced a report on the "Values of Americans, A Study of Ethics and Character." The report found:

"Compared with men who were never Scouts, men who were Scouts five or more years as youth are more satisfied with their present lives and occupations, have sustained lifelong friendships, and place a higher value on family relationships. Men who were Scouts also earn higher incomes, achieve higher levels of education, and attend religious services more often than men who were never Scouts.

"Boys who are or were Scouts also agree that Scouting is a positive influence in their life. Scouting has helped them gain self-confidence, leadership skills, determination, and social interaction skills. Scouting has also impacted their academic skills. Scouting activities have helped Scouts improve their reading, science, engineering, physical fitness, and emergency preparedness skills. In addition, boys who are Scouts report earning higher grades than do boys who were never Scouts."

Furthermore, the report also found that, "Scouts are also more likely to make the most ethical decisions, not the easiest. Scouts are more likely to volunteer to be a leader, practice responsible recycling procedures, and take part in community service. They are also more likely to report a classmate with a gun and are less likely than non-Scouts to drink alcohol."

It is clear that the Boy Scouts of America has had a positive impact on our youth for a century. The Los Padres Council, which reaches across Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties, is at the forefront of training tomorrow's leaders by serving more than 9,000 Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Venturers.

Madam Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in paying tribute to the Boy Scouts of America and the Los Padres Council for their dedication to molding our youth into responsible and high-achieving citizens.

CONGRATULATING WHITE RIVER
VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

HON. BRAD ELLSWORTH

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2010

Mr. ELLSWORTH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate White River Valley High School in Switz City, Indiana for being recognized as one of the top high schools in the nation by U.S. News & World Report.

White River Valley High School has developed a well-deserved reputation of academic excellence in Greene County and beyond. Students have maintained a 90.7 percent average on state tests and nearly 96 percent of them graduate. With success like this, it is no surprise that White River Valley High School is one of only 30 high schools in Indiana to be recognized this year.

The students sitting in classrooms today will be the scientists, engineers, teachers and leaders of tomorrow. The quality of education they receive has a direct impact on the strength of our economy, our communities, and our country in the future. If their success so far is any indication, I think that future looks bright.

White River Valley High School is preparing students in Greene County to go out and make a difference in our world. I am proud of their accomplishments and grateful for their continued contributions to the Switz City community.

ON 17TH ANNIVERSARY OF ENACTMENT OF THE FAMILY AND
MEDICAL LEAVE ACT

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2010

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, tomorrow is the 17th anniversary of the enactment of the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA). This landmark legislation, signed by President Clinton, established for the first time a minimum labor protection to help families balance their work and family lives. Under the law today, covered workers are entitled to up to twelve weeks of job-protected unpaid leave for the birth or adoption of a child, or to care for themselves or for a seriously ill family member.

Recently, legislation authored by Senator CHRISTOPHER DODD and myself to provide FMLA for military families has been signed into law. These are the only changes to the FMLA in its history, but as a result covered workers are entitled to up to twenty-six weeks of unpaid leave to care for seriously injured or ill family members in the armed services. In addition, workers are also entitled to up to twelve weeks of leave for matters relating to the deployment of a family member. And in 2009, President Barack Obama signed into law provisions Senator DODD and I had introduced in this Congress entitling family members of wounded or ill veterans the same twenty-six weeks of leave accorded active servicemembers.

More than hundred million job-protected leaves have been taken as a result of the

FMLA. However, only a small percentage of those workers entitled to the leave actually utilize it, and the number one reason why is that it is unpaid.

We lag far behind other countries in providing “family friendly” policies, such as paid leave, to our workers. That’s why in successive Congresses I have introduced H.R. 3047, The Balancing Act, which establishes a host of supports families need to balance their work and family lives.

President Obama recognizes the need for “family-friendly” supports, and I was also pleased to learn that his budget for Fiscal Year 2011 proposes \$50 million for a State Paid Leave Fund that will provide competitive grants to help states launch paid-leave programs. In May 2009, I introduced H.R. 2339, the Family Income to Respond to Significant Transitions (FIRST) Act, which provides \$1.5 billion to states to start or improve paid-leave programs.

On this anniversary of the FMLA, it’s good to reflect on how far we have come. But with half of women in the workplace, we need to move forward and enact legislation that provides paid leave and other supports to working families.

“YOU CAN’T SUCCEED AT DEFICIT REDUCTION WITHOUT REALLY TRYING”

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2010

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, there is wide agreement that we should be taking tough measures to reduce the budget deficit. There appears at present to be a powerful myth that this can be done without attacking the biggest single area of increase in the federal budget in recent years, the military budget.

The transition from the Clinton to the Bush administration, which meant a transition from a surplus to a deficit situation, had as its single most important cause a decision by President Bush to fight two wars with five tax cuts. While President Obama has not repeated that same pattern, his announcement that he is going to begin deficit reduction, while exempting the ever-increasing military budget from the same scrutiny that goes to other Federal expenditures, means either that deficit reduction in both the near and long term is either doomed to failure, or that devastating cuts will occur in virtually every Federal program that aims at improving the quality of our lives.

I intend to work with many others to make the case that over the next 10 years we can save substantial amounts of money—a trillion or more of currently proposed expenditures—by reexamining some of the fundamental premises of American military policy. Some of those are based on Cold War assumptions—the need for three separate delivery systems for several nuclear weapons, which was designed in an era of confrontation with the Soviet Union. We also must suggest the notion that America can be the world’s pacifier, policemen etc. Our security interest must be pro-

tected, and there are beleaguered nations threatened with hostile, foreign assaults where our support is justified. But our range of commitments goes far beyond that and must be scaled back.

There are also obviously places where the current military budget can be cut, even before we begin to reduce the level of commitments. In the very useful publication Congress Daily for Monday, February 1st a thoughtful and experienced journalist, who is an expert on the military budget, George C. Wilson, cogently rebuts the President’s assertion that military requirements mean that we cannot subject the huge and growing Pentagon budget to the kind of scrutiny that goes elsewhere. Note that Mr. Wilson is talking primarily about a budget aimed at the current level commitments. A serious review of those commitments, which should result in a reduction in their scope, would allow us to go much further in reduction, reaching the magnitude of savings that are needed for us to be able to have the military budget make a substantial contribution to deficit reduction.

Madam Speaker, no issue before us is more important than the need for people to include a realistic assessment of military spending in any effort to reduce the deficit much less this year, or over the next ten. I ask that George C. Wilson’s extremely well-argued article, which makes such an essential contribution in this debate, be printed here.

[From the Forward Observer, Feb. 1, 2010]

FATTEST LADY SINGING

(By George C. Wilson)

In declaring in his State of the Union address that he won’t cut the Pentagon budget, President Obama is like a trainer telling the fattest lady in his class that she need not do her exercises. Why didn’t Obama order the fat Defense Department to join the government-wide effort to reduce the deficit by killing off weapons that no longer make sense?

Two-thirds of our casualties in the Iraq War were inflicted by hidden bombs that the bad guys set off by cell phones or other simple devices available at Radio Shack. Neither our new aircraft carriers costing \$12 billion apiece nor our new F-22 fighter aircraft costing \$350 million a plane can keep our troops from being killed or wounded by cheap improvised explosive devices.

This doesn’t mean that deficit cutters should cancel such super weapons willy nilly. More conventional wars than the ones in Iraq and Afghanistan may well be in America’s future. But Obama and Congress should at least order Defense Secretary Gates and his deputies to justify every major weapon by explaining what red-hot threat out there justifies spending fresh billions on it.

The GAO drew a good road map for conducting such a review last year in its devastating report on Pentagon cost overruns. Entitled “Defense Acquisitions: Assessments of Selected Weapon Programs; the GAO studied 96 major weapons in 2008 and discovered that the contractors’ original price tag had nothing to do with reality.

The cost overruns on the weapons studied totaled \$296.4 billion. Just making the contractors, not the taxpayers, eat their own cost overruns would reduce the deficit by almost \$300 billion.

Instead of making such a demand, Obama last Wednesday gave defense contractors, their overseers in the Pentagon and Congress a pass: “Starting in 2011 we are prepared to

freeze government spending for three years. Spending related to our national security, Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security will not be affected. But all other discretionary government programs will.”

Where is Congress in this supposed war against the deficit that Obama just declared? The Founding Fathers in Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution gave Congress the power to “provide for the common defense,” not the president.

When are the lawmakers going to start cutting Pentagon programs like outrageously expensive warships, planes that soar over the price tags contractors originally put on them and missile defenses that have a lot bigger flaws than Toyota’s stuck gas pedals?

“Never,” is the answer I get from some of the walking wounded who fought in past battles of the Pentagon budget. They say any weapons, whether justified by today’s threats or not, get protected by lawmakers as long as they provide jobs back home.

Congress, these vets contend, to reassert its constitutional right to provide for the common defense, should deny money to produce any weapon before it is thoroughly tested; forbid congressional add-ons to the Pentagon budget unless CBO and GAO have determined what the pet project would cost and, if deemed worthy, conduct an open competition to build it; forbid any congressional staffer from vaulting to a job in the Pentagon or defense industry.

Obama did take one step toward making congressional wheeling and dealing on add-ons more transparent by declaring in his address that “I’m calling on Congress to publish all earmark requests on a single Web site before there’s a vote so that the American people can see how their money is being spent.” That might help some but not much. Voters in the lawmaker’s district or state might not object to getting earmarked for goodies.

As one who has studied the military-industrial-political-intelligence complex for almost 50 years now from the front row seat a defense reporter gets, I think the deficit, unemployment, cost overruns on weapons that don’t work and/or have nothing to do with winning the war against terrorists—along with voter disgust with Washington’s spending binge—will eventually force the president and Congress to rein in their spending on dubious weapons.

The overseers will realize that real national security means fixing the national economy, not letting the Defense secretary and Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps continue to drive the taxpayers to the poor house in Cadillac.

As one who spent seven and a half months on an aircraft carrier, let me fuel the eventual battle of the Pentagon budget by asking right here and now whether it makes sense in these economic times to build all three of the new carriers of the class named after the late President Gerald R. Ford.

In its latest Selected Acquisition Report, the Pentagon projects that three of these Ford class carriers will cost a total of \$35 billion, or almost \$12 billion each. A pilot who really knows carriers from taking off and landing on them thousands of times told me that the bad guys could disable the carrier flight deck with comparatively cheap missiles or do what our own Navy frogmen have already done: Sneak aboard a carrier at night undetected by climbing up its steel sides on magnetic shoes. “They can make it rain longer than we can swim; the pilot said of those bent on dethroning the queen of the Navy fleet.