

Address of Receiving Entity: 4901-D Corporate Drive, Huntsville, AL 35806

Description of Request: Provide \$3,120,001 for the Enhanced Rapid Tactical Integration for Fielding of Systems (ERTIFS). Funding will leverage and evolve ERTIFS developed Aviation and Missile interoperability technologies and systems. Funding will be used for engineering and development of the Army Battle Command System—Brigade Architecture (ABCS-BA), procurement, integration and testing of the ABCS-BA hardware, and ABCS-BA project to support four additional types of required interoperability Tests: 1) Individual System, 2) System of Systems (e.g., Software Blocking), 3) Backwards Compatibility—Interoperability and 4) Regression Testing.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL
WEAR RED DAY TO PROMOTE
WOMEN'S HEART HEALTH AND
HEALTH PARITY

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2010

Mr. PETERS. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me as I recognize National Wear Red Day this Friday, February 5, to raise awareness of and support women's heart health.

Heart disease is the number one killer of women. In Michigan, more than 43 women die each day from heart disease and stroke. In fact, since 1984, more women than men die of heart disease each year and the gap between men and women's survival continues to widen.

These deaths are largely preventable. For too long, medical professionals and the public at large have viewed heart disease as a "man's disease." This attitude is still manifested today. Women comprise only 24 percent of participants in all heart-related studies. Women wait longer than men to go to an emergency room when having a heart attack and physicians are slower to recognize the presence of heart attacks in women because "characteristic" patterns of chest pain and EKG changes are less frequently present. After heart attack, women are less likely than men to receive beta blockers, ACE inhibitors and aspirin—therapies known to improve survival. This contributes to a higher rate of complications after heart attacks in women, even after adjusting for age. Consequently, 38 percent of women, compared to 25 percent of men, will die within one year of a first recognized heart attack.

Heart health is just one area of the health care disparities between men and women, so the Wear Red Campaign is critical to leveling that playing field. But along with heart health, we must do more to ensure health parity for women in all aspects of health care. So, I am so proud today to stand with the American Heart Association and the hundreds of thousands of women and men who support this important cause and I am proud to continue to fight in Congress and support health parity for women in all aspects of health care.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2010

Mr. NADLER of New York. Madam Speaker, due to other business, I missed one vote on February 3, 2010. Had I been able to, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote No. 34, an amendment offered by Mr. HASTINGS (D-FL) to the Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2009 (H.R. 4016).

INNOVATIVE EFFORT TO IN-
CREASE EMPLOYMENT OF PEOP-
LE WITH DISABILITIES

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2010

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I would like to draw my colleagues' attention to a new and extremely innovative campaign to encourage businesses to employ workers with disabilities. I also want to congratulate Health and Disability Advocates for overseeing the campaign. Health and Disability Advocates, a non-profit organization located in Chicago, is a leading voice on disability issues and, under the talented leadership of Barbara Otto, has been a valuable resource for Illinois and the nation.

As of December 2008, 54.4 million people in the United States—18.7 percent of our population, or nearly one in five Americans—reported some level of disability. Official figures show that unemployment among persons with a disability was 13.8 percent this past November, compared to 9.5 percent among non-disabled people, but this doesn't include many people who are too discouraged to even look for work. When disabled persons are employed, promotion opportunities may be scarce.

The cost of employing a person with a disability is minimal, averaging only \$313 in 2007. Employees with disabilities had nearly identical job performance ratings to those without disabilities according to a 2007 study by DePaul University researchers. Employers say that employing a disabled person is well worth the expense, finding these individuals to be loyal, reliable, and hard-working, serving long tenures with low absenteeism rates. Additionally, hiring disabled employees serves to diversify the work environment, which has an overall positive impact.

Health and Disability Advocates has undertaken a campaign to highlight the importance of hiring people with disabilities that is imaginative and persuasive. I hope that my colleagues will take an opportunity to read the following article that ran in the New York Times on January 29 to read about it.

USING HUMOR IN A CAMPAIGN SUPPORTING
DISABLED PEOPLE

A national effort to encourage businesses to employ workers with disabilities is not your father's hire the handicapped campaign.

One difference is that the new ads are paid rather than pro bono, with an estimated budget of \$4 million for the first two quarters of 2010. The ads will appear on tele-

vision, in print, online and outdoors; there is also a sponsorship deal with NPR.

The ads are being financed largely by agencies in 30 states that provide employment services as well as health and human services to their citizens who are disabled. The agencies have set a goal of raising \$10 million for the campaign's budget for the full year.

Typically, ads that seek to make a case for employing people with disabilities run as public service announcements. That makes them dependent on the kindness of media outlets to place them prominently on television, in print or online.

"We'll never have enough money to oversaturate the media," said Barbara Otto, executive director at Health and Disability Advocates in Chicago, which is overseeing the campaign, "but we wanted to do something different, something that didn't look like a P.S.A."

To that end, the campaign takes a light-hearted tack rather than a sober or earnest tone. The ads try to challenge conventional wisdom about workers with disabilities by offering humorous examples of people with "differences" already employed.

For instance, in a television commercial, a worker in a wheelchair points out her colleagues who "you could label as 'different.'" Among them are a woman dressed in a night-mare wardrobe of clashing patterns, who is "fashion deficient"; a klutzy young man at the copier, who is "copy incapable"; and a shouting man who suffers from "volume control syndrome."

The punch line of the commercial is that the worker in the wheelchair is different, too: Her skills at a basic office function are so bad that she is labeled "coffee-making impaired."

Print ads introduce employers to a man in a suit whose awkward dance moves make him "rhythm impaired" and an awkward man who is hard to understand because he is "jargon prone."

The text of the ads elaborates on the point the campaign strives to make.

The ad with the worker who is rhythm impaired declares: "Just because someone moves a little differently doesn't mean they can't help move your business forward. The same goes for people with disabilities."

The ad with the jargon-spouting worker reads: "Just because someone talks differently doesn't mean they don't bring something of value to the conversation. The same goes for people with disabilities."

The tongue-in-cheek differences in each ad appear as Dymo-style labels across the faces of the employees, to set up the theme of the campaign, "Think beyond the label." The theme is repeated in the address of a microsite, or special Web site (thinkbeyondthelabel.com), where additional information is available about, as the home page puts it, "just how silly labels can be."

The concept was tested, Ms. Otto, said "to get that employment decision-maker thinking that everyone in the workplace is different," but not so much that it would make anyone—with disabilities or otherwise—feel uncomfortable.

"We knew it needed to be disruptive," Ms. Otto said, "but we wanted it to be tasteful." In the research, "people said they liked the funny and human tone," she added.

The tenor of the campaign was endorsed by the actor in the wheelchair, Alana Wallace, who is an advocate for people with disabilities as well as a performer.

"I knew I needed to be a part of this campaign," Ms. Wallace said, because "there were enough of the pity-party approaches" to the subject.

The commercial "speaks to our similarities in that we all have a label someone

could put on us," she added. "We never use the word 'disability' throughout the entire ad."

Among those collaborating on the campaign are Wirestone; Kelly, Scott & Madison; and Fuor Digital, a unit of Kelly, Scott & Madison, all based in Chicago.

"People go through life labeling other people: 'the funny guy,' 'the bald guy,' 'the girl with the glasses,'" said Brian Addison, director for brand strategy at Wirestone. "The labels can go from harmless to hurtful."

"We're saying, before you label someone, think twice whether it correlates to productivity in the workplace," he added.

In developing the creative approach, "we wanted it to be on that fine line of provocative but not polarizing," Mr. Addison said, adding that he believed the campaign accomplished being "human instead of being overly serious."

The ads are being concentrated in media outlets preferred by the intended audience of people who ought to, as the campaign suggests, "evolve your work force," those who influence hiring decisions at small, midsize or large companies. They include senior managers, executives and staff members of human resources departments and hiring managers.

The commercial is to run during Sunday morning news programs on ABC, CBS and NBC and on cable channels like BBC America, CNN, ESPN and HLN.

The print ads are to appear in publications like Fast Company, HR Magazine, Inc., Time, The Wall Street Journal and The Week.

Among the Web sites scheduled to run the digital ads are CNN.com, ESPN.com and WSJ.com. There will also be search-engine marketing tied to keywords on Web sites like Google.

THANKING THE YOUTH OF ARNOLD, NEBRASKA, FOR DONATIONS TO HAITI

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, I would like to take a few moments today to acknowledge a great group of Nebraska students who have graciously put forth efforts to aid the people of Haiti in their time of need.

After the destructive earthquake which hit the island of Haiti, many are surviving without basic necessities. A third-grade class in Arnold, Nebraska had been studying citizenship when the crisis in Haiti occurred. When a student suggested the class aid in the efforts to help Haiti recover from the earthquake, the rest of the class sprung into action.

The students gathered as many clothes, blankets, medical supplies and shoes as they could and teamed up with the Grain Train, an

organization which has been sending supplies to the Haiti orphanages for years.

Their efforts should not go unnoticed, and I am grateful to have such outstanding students doing what they can to extend Nebraska's "Good Life" worldwide.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM COELHO FOR HIS OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2010

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join the community of Milford, Connecticut as they gather to pay tribute to William "Bill" Coelho—an outstanding individual who has dedicated countless hours to enriching the lives of others and making his community a better place to live, work, and grow.

Bill is an extraordinary man whose generosity, compassion, and commitment to public service has touched the lives of many. He, like so many of us, learned about the importance of community service and caring for others from his parents, Rose and Julio Coelho. Bill has taken those lessons and dedicated a lifetime to improving the quality of life for friends, neighbors, and strangers alike. He is a reflection of the very best of our community.

Bill is a legend in Milford—particularly in the sports community. He was an All-State tackle and Heavyweight Division State Champion at Milford High School where the gymnasium would be packed to witness his next conquest. As an adult, raising his own family in Milford, Bill organized the Milford Raiders Football Program and started a Wrestling Clinic for young athletes. Through these programs, Bill has helped to instill in hundreds of our young people the value of team work, practice, camaraderie, sportsmanship, and commitment to excellence—skills that will serve these young people well as they begin to leave their own mark on the world.

The difference that Bill has made in the lives of others is immeasurable. However, what he means to this community is reflected in the faces of all of those who have gathered this evening to pay him tribute and support him in his time of need. Bill has been struggling with lung cancer for some eighteen months now. I have no doubt that Bill will win his battle—if nothing else, Bill is a fighter, determined to regain his health and to continue his work in our community.

For the many invaluable contributions he has made and his lifetime of service to the community, I am proud to stand today and extend my deepest thanks and appreciation to

William "Bill" Coelho. My very best wishes to Bill, his wife, Deb, and his son, Zachary as they share this very special evening of friendship and support.

JANUARY, 2010: NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2010

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, today I rise in support of National Mentoring Month. On the 26 of January, this House passed a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Mentoring Month, which we recognize each January. Last year I honored an organization that operates in and around the Eighth Congressional District that truly exemplified the spirit of selflessness and community that we look for in our Nation. This year, I've selected another honorable organization to highlight.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Puget Sound is a wonderful organization. Despite rough economic times they have persevered and continue working to match boys and girls in Western Washington with willing and energetic mentors to build relationships that sometimes last a lifetime. In 2009 alone, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Puget Sound made and funded more than 2,000 matches in Western Washington. "Bigs" head to their "littles" schools or neighborhoods to study or play. "Bigs" in Western Washington may go to Safeco Field with their "little" to watch the Mariners play, or board a ferry to get an up-close glimpse of the beautiful Puget Sound.

It is during difficult economic times that wonderful organizations such as Big Brothers Big Sister can "slip under the radar" and struggle mightily—and silently—while trying to achieve their goals. I encourage everyone to support your local chapter of Big Brothers Big Sisters, and any other businesses, or nonprofit, religious or civic organizations who put the youngest among us first. We all know the devastating stories of young people whose futures are derailed because of poor decision-making, violence, or apathy. Mentoring holds a remedy. Mentoring is proven to change lives—the lives of "bigs" and "littles" alike.

In 2009, Patrick D'Amelio took over for Tina Podlowski as President and CEO of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Puget Sound. I look forward to working with Patrick on issues of mentoring and education, and I wish him all the best in the coming year. Again, I encourage this body to support mentoring across our great Nation, because the work done by our mentors is invaluable and lasting.