

Not only did the students at Fairview South raise an impressive number of pennies, but I hope that this program has also turned them into lifetime philanthropists. By participating in Pennies for Peace, students were able to help children in Pakistan and Afghanistan while also learning the invaluable lesson that even a small amount of money can make a big difference.

Again, I would like to thank the students and their teacher for their work with Pennies for Peace.

AMERICA COMPETES
REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5116) to invest in innovation through research and development, to improve the competitiveness of the United States, and for other purposes:

Mr. COSTELLO. Madam Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 5116, the Reauthorization of the America COMPETES Act of 2010.

I commend Chairman GORDON for his leadership in developing this important legislation and bringing it to the floor.

In the three years since the America COMPETES Act was signed into law, we have made great strides in innovation, education, and technology. H.R. 5116 makes strong investments in science and education to strengthen U.S. competitiveness, support businesses, and create jobs.

H.R. 5116 builds upon the recommendations of the 2005 report, *Rising Above the Gathering Storm*, and prioritizes science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education at all levels.

Since coming to Congress, I have been a strong supporter of STEM education at every age from pre-school through adult education. These investments ensure we prepare the next generation of scientists and engineers and maintain the most innovative, competitive workforce in the world.

Specifically, investment in STEM education is especially important at the K–12 level, when students are first exposed to STEM curricula. It is vitally important to engage the interest of K–12 students in STEM and to attract and retain highly skilled teachers in the STEM field.

It is my hope that teacher retraining and K–12 STEM education provisions included in the 2007 COMPETES bill will be reauthorized, and I look forward to working with my colleagues in the House Education and Labor Committee to achieve this goal.

In addition, I am pleased the bill supports STEM education programs at community colleges and 2-year institutions and links community colleges with Manufacturing Extension Partnerships, other institutions of higher education, research institutions, and regional innovation hubs. This connection ensures that students will have the job training necessary to secure good-paying jobs in their communities and manufacturers have a workforce with the right skill set to promote innovation.

I appreciate Chairman GORDON's willingness to work with me to include language in the bill

that ensures that DOE's STEM education programs mirror the important research being conducted by the agency on carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) science. CCS represents a major advancement in the use of coal, the nation's most abundant and affordable energy source.

The President's Fiscal Year 2011 budget invests over \$400 million in CCS research at DOE, and universities such as the Southern Illinois University-Carbondale engage in cutting-edge clean coal research. Including CCS in DOE's STEM education programming will ensure we continue to expand research, development, and deployment of this important technology and train a new generation of CCS scientists.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5116.

AMERICA COMPETES
REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5116) to invest in innovation through research and development, to improve the competitiveness of the United States, and for other purposes:

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 5116, the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010. This multi-year reauthorization allows for urgently-needed investments to improve science, technology, engineering and math education, foster innovation and create jobs in the short, mid and long term. This bipartisan legislation will go a long way towards reversing the downward trend in domestic science and technological development, and will allow America to educate a new and highly skilled workforce, create new jobs in cutting-edge fields, and compete more aggressively in the global marketplace.

The COMPETES Act will strengthen STEM education programs—the building blocks of scientific and technological advances—through a number of important initiatives at all levels. The Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program will provide funding to train highly competent secondary school teachers. And as our students progress, H.R. 5116 will afford them the opportunity to continue studying science and technology through grants designed to attract and retain undergraduate students in STEM fields.

The key to continued technological advances is innovative thinking. The COMPETES Act will create Regional Innovation Clusters, allowing businesses to collaborate and communicate more effectively on work and development in a number of fields. Additionally, through the reauthorization of the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Energy, we will continue investing in potentially high-reward energy technology development. Along with the establishment of Energy Innovation Hubs, which support the advancement of energy technologies through research, development, and commercial application, we will be working towards achieving our nation's energy goals.

I am also very pleased that the COMPETES Act takes steps towards helping our domestic

small and medium-sized manufacturers through federal loan guarantees. This will allow them to access the capital they need to remain competitive in the global market. Additionally, through increased federal investment in the Manufacturing Extension Partnership at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, we will enable them to continue their important work during these difficult economic times.

This legislation will encourage and support the STEM students of today and tomorrow, reward innovative thinking, invest in promising technological advances, and aid struggling American manufacturers. Madam Speaker, this measure will have short and long-term benefits for our economy and allow the United States to remain competitive in an increasingly interconnected global economy. I am proud to support this bill today, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

AMERICA COMPETES
REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5116) to invest in innovation through research and development, to improve the competitiveness of the United States, and for other purposes:

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Chair, today I rise in support of H.R. 5116, to reauthorize the America COMPETES Act. This bill continues the commitment we made to science and innovation from the first COMPETES Act, passed in 2007.

As a Member representing Silicon Valley, I have seen firsthand what innovation and research can do to keep us competitive and economically strong. H.R. 5116 will foster research by reauthorizing the Department of Energy's Office of Science, the National Science Foundation, and the National Institute of Standards and Technology, and keep them on a path that will double their authorized funding over 10 years, based on 2007 appropriated levels. This funding will support basic research in labs across the country. The Act also includes loan guarantee programs for small- and medium-sized manufacturers to bring their new and innovative products beyond the prototype stage and into production.

Madam Chair, the bill fosters STEM education and will help ensure that today's children are prepared to be tomorrow's competitive workforce. H.R. 5116 provides greater coordination of STEM education programs across federal agencies and aligns the programs at all levels of education—from K–12 through doctoral degrees. Once students are interested in STEM fields, we need to foster their growth and ensure that they have the right tools and support to stay within the STEM pipeline.

The COMPETES Reauthorization Act also encourages innovative thinking and solutions by reauthorizing the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Energy (ARPA-E) to perform high-risk, high-reward energy research that could lead to the game-changing technology we need to wean ourselves off of polluting fossil fuels.

I would like to note one concern I have with this legislation. Section 123 establishes a working group to coordinate the policies of various agencies regarding public access to the results of federally-funded research. I agree that coordination could improve technical uniformity in the dissemination of data, boosting interoperability across agencies and disciplines. However, the working group should not extend its mandate to demand uniformity in all public access policies, such as those for scientific publications. In particular, it should not interfere with the policy of the National Institutes of Health, which requires free public access to the published results of research funded by NIH. This legislation should not be interpreted to restrict existing open access to scientific knowledge, or to prevent its expansion.

This issue aside, I am pleased of the commitment we are making to science and innovation today, and I strongly urge my colleagues to support this bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2010

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, due to being unavoidably delayed, I missed the vote on the passage of H.R. 5014, to clarify the health care provided by the Secretary of Veteran Affairs that constitutes minimum essential coverage (roll No. 260). I would have voted in favor of this bill, which passed overwhelmingly by a margin of 417-0 had I been present to record my vote.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE BIRMINGHAM GROVES HIGH SCHOOL FALCONS' BOYS SWIM TEAM FOR WINNING THEIR SIXTH STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2010

Mr. PETERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Birmingham Wiley E. Groves High School Falcons' boys swimming and diving team, its coaches Matt Watson, Dave Eichenhorn, Seena Karapetian and Virginia Naegly, Birmingham Schools Superintendent David Larson, Groves Principal Fred Procter and Athletic Director Tom Flynn on the team's 2010 MHSAA Division 2 State championship. As a Member of Congress it is both my honor and privilege to recognize the team and its outstanding coaches on this hard fought and impressive victory.

Established in 1959, in the Village of Beverly Hills, Birmingham Groves High School has developed a rich history of academic and athletic excellence. This victory at the 2010 Division 2 MHSAA State swim meet caps off an incredible year for the Falcons, who had a nearly perfect season in their run up to the State championship. This championship victory also marks the team's fourth State championship in the last ten years and sixth State championship in school history. For this year's

seniors, the championship victory represents the culmination of their high school athletic careers. Four years in the making, it is a vindication of the team's hard fought and close second place finish at last year's State championship and a testament to the spirit of the team.

This year's Division 2 State championship meet began as it would end, with victories for the Falcons. The team set the tone for the event by finishing first in the opening 200 meter medley relay, followed by first place finishes in the 100 meter backstroke and the 400 meter freestyle relay. In addition to its terrific wins, the Falcons finished in the top four spots in half of the twelve events at the championship meet.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the Birmingham Groves High School's boys swim team and its coaches on this great achievement. This victory was truly a team effort, made possible by countless hours of practice by the team, the guidance of the team's coaches, the support of the team's dedicated parents and the commitment of the school's administration. The Falcons' determination to succeed and their commitment to excellence are most exemplary virtues. I wish the team and its coaches many more successes and championships in the coming years ahead.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF CYNTHIA DELORES TUCKER

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2010

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1094, which honors the tremendous accomplishments of the late Cynthia Delores Tucker. Ms. Tucker dedicated her life to advancing the interests of women and minorities in the United States. Raised in Philadelphia during the Great Depression, Ms. Tucker overcame great hardships to become one of our Nation's leaders in both the Civil Rights Movement and the fight for women's rights. After a life full of achievements and milestones, Ms. Tucker passed away in 2005 at the age of 78. We owe our national gratitude to Ms. Tucker, an American hero who made the United States a more fair and tolerant country.

I thank Chairman CONYERS for his leadership in bringing this bill to the floor. I also thank the sponsor of this legislation, Congresswoman WATSON, for her commitment to ensuring that the legacy of Cynthia Delores Tucker always shines as a beacon of social progress.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Tucker became politically active in 1950, when she worked to register African American voters during Philadelphia's mayoral campaign. She went on to play a central role in the Civil Rights Movement and marched with the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. from Selma to Montgomery in support of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. In January of 1971, Governor Milton Shapp appointed Ms. Tucker as Pennsylvania's secretary of state, making her the first African American female secretary of state in the country. While serving as secretary of state, Ms. Tucker was a leader in the successful effort to add an Equal Rights

Amendment to Pennsylvania's State constitution, guaranteeing equal rights for women under State law. She also oversaw the lowering of the Pennsylvania voting age from 21 to 18 years old.

In 1984, Ms. Tucker founded the National Political Congress of Black Women, an organization dedicated to supporting the interests and well-being of African American women and their families. Ms. Tucker was also the first African American president of the National Federation of Democratic Women and founded the Philadelphia Martin Luther King, Jr. Association for Non-Violence. Additionally, she founded the Bethune-Dubois Institute in an effort to promote the cultural and educational development of African American youth.

In her later years, Ms. Tucker spearheaded a campaign against gangster rap music containing lyrics glamorizing criminal lifestyles and disrespect of women. In this effort to combat the negativity in gangster rap music, Ms. Tucker initiated a boycott of companies that produced such music and spoke out in objection to the NAACP honoring rapper Tupac Shakur with its Image Award.

William Tucker, Ms. Tucker's husband of more than forty years, once described her as "one of the most fearless individuals I have ever known. She will take on anyone, anything, if that is what she thinks is right. . . . I tell her there are times you have to compromise, but she is not one who will readily entertain the idea of compromise about anything." It was this dedication to social progress and unwillingness to settle for anything short of equality for all that makes Ms. Tucker a national hero.

I salute the dedication and resilience that characterized Ms. Tucker's work throughout her life. I am truly grateful for her efforts to help women and minorities achieve equality and justice.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 1094.

RECOGNIZING MARK SPENCER

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2010

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mark Spencer as he retires from teaching with the Flint Community Schools. A celebration will be held on May 21st in his honor.

As part of a long line of educators, Mark began his career teaching with the Swartz Creek School District in 1978. He taught in Swartz Creek Schools for 7 years and then moved to Flint Community Schools working first as a Community School Director then as a school teacher. Over 25 years, Mark worked at Doyle Ryder, Potter, McKinley, Whittier, Cody, and Neithercut Schools. He holds a Master of Arts degree from Central Michigan University and is considered a master teacher by Flint Community Schools.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Mark Spencer as he retires from Flint Community Schools. I commend him for his work developing the talents of children and wish him the best as he starts the next phase of his life.