

Nationally, the Section 45G tax credit generates 3,305 full-time jobs nationwide each year. This does not include the tens of thousands of jobs in the American steel and timber industries that produce the raw materials necessary to make the track improvements. It is imperative that the House and the Senate come to an agreement so that we can get railroad employees back to work and make sure that the St. Lawrence and Atlantic Railroad continues to operate smoothly.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the extension of the Section 45G Short Line Railroad Tax Credit.

IN RECOGNITION OF THOMAS
TESHARA

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Tom Teshara, a San Francisco native who has been responsible for mentoring and recruiting hundreds of women and men for admission to the United States Naval Academy. Starting in 1966 as a volunteer Tom personally recruited 82 young men who were accepted by the Academy during a 4-year period. In 1972 the Academy's Candidate Guidance Office established a West Coast branch office and named Tom as its first director with responsibility for ten Western states. At one time there were 1,049 Midshipmen enrolled at the Academy from these ten Western States. Before his recent retirement Tom led a network of 125 Academy Information Officers who counseled about 6,000 candidates annually.

Tom Teshara's work involved many evenings and weekends where he represented the Academy at area school events. He founded the USNA Parents Club and coordinated all club activities. When midshipmen returned home for the holidays, it was Tom who arranged for new candidates and their parents to sit down and discuss the Academy experience with the midshipmen. It is commonly accepted that no other person in the country has recruited more candidates for the Naval Academy than Tom Teshara.

Tom, born in 1927, was drafted out of high school by the U.S. Army where he served for 13 months before another draft of sorts—he signed a baseball contract with the San Francisco Seals where he played second base in the minor league system. His interest in sports has continued through the years. He founded the PeeWee Training League in the South San Francisco/San Bruno area and was athletic director at St. Veronica's School for nine years while playing semipro baseball.

Tom Teshara and his wife, Jeannine, were married in October 1949. They have a son, Steve, and a daughter, Debra, and two granddaughters. Madam Speaker, Tom's family has every right to be proud of his efforts of the past 50 years to bring the best and the brightest young women and men into service for our country. He deserves a big salute from all of us.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably delayed for votes in the House chamber yesterday, May 18, 2010. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote 273.

THE ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF
THE END OF THE SRI LANKAN
CIVIL WAR

HON. BRAD MILLER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Mr. MILLER of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, today marks the one-year anniversary of the end of the civil war in Sri Lanka, which is a reason to be hopeful about the future of Sri Lanka. However, I also rise to voice my concern for a community at risk. The viability of a traditionally Tamil region in Sri Lanka is under threat. Since the beginning of the war, one third of the Tamil population was driven off the island and many more were displaced. A large area in the north central part of the island that was a predominantly Tamil area is now almost devoid of Tamils. According to the United Nations, more than 60 percent of homes in the north have been seriously damaged by the fighting. To make matters worse, many Sinhalese families moved into traditional Tamil areas while Tamil inhabitants were kept in detention camps following the end of the war. Finally, Tamil homes, churches, temples and cemeteries were destroyed during the war with no assurance from the Sri Lankan Government that they will be rebuilt. Sri Lanka's Tamil population is in danger of losing their identity and their traditional homeland. The United Nations has warned that "donor fatigue" in Sri Lanka has resulted in the United Nations receiving only 24 percent of the donor funds it needs to help displaced Tamils. Madam Speaker, I urge the international community to renew their efforts and take action so the Tamil culture and history is not lost.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, on May 18, 2010, I was unavoidably unable to cast my votes for Rollcall 273, Rollcall 274 and Rollcall 275. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

H.R. 24, TO REDESIGNATE THE DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY AS THE DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

HON. CHRISTOPHER P. CARNEY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Mr. CARNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 24, a bill to redesignate the Department of the Navy as the Department of the Navy and Marine Corps. This legislation was passed out of this chamber on a voice vote yesterday. Had a recorded vote been requested on the bill, I would like the RECORD to reflect that I would have cast a vote in opposition.

I have been a member of the United States Navy for more than 15 years and I am proud to be one of three Members of Congress still serving in the Navy Reserve.

Not a day goes by that I don't recognize the sacrifices the brave men and women of the Marine Corps have made in service to our country. Frankly, there isn't a sight that brings more fear to our enemy than that of an approaching line of determined Marines with a mission to execute.

Past, present and future Marines should certainly be proud of the Corps, but also of the Department of the Navy. The Marine Corps was, is, and should remain, part of the Navy, both in name and in mission. A name change at the Department level will do nothing but foster animosity in the ranks of the Navy and Marine Corps. We should focus instead on the fight at hand and not worry about a change in nomenclature. Unfortunately, the spirit of H.R. 24 is counter to that notion.

Changing the name of the Department of Navy would cast away over 200 years of tradition. Our founding fathers created the Department of the Navy in 1798. Passing legislation by voice vote that simply does away with the name "United States Department of the Navy" is a disservice to the history of the Department and its various components. Millions of sailors and Marines have been killed or maimed in service to our Nation as part of the Department of the Navy. That name meant something to them and it should to all of us as well.

As the esteemed body on the other side of this building considers this bill, I hope that it will examine all potential repercussions. Namely, they should consider the traditions the United States Navy holds dear.

I encourage my fellow statesmen to speak both with Navy leadership and Navy veterans in their district before casting a vote in support of this legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I missed the following recorded votes on the House floor on Wednesday, March 24, 2010.

For Wednesday, March 24, 2010, had I been present I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote No. 183, on motion to suspend the

rules and agree to H.R. 4098, “aye” on rollcall vote No. 184, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 1879, “no” on rollcall vote No. 185, on motion to table the appeal of the ruling of the chair, “no” on rollcall vote No. 186, on passage of H.R. 4899.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$12,984,666,665,110.57.

On January 6, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$2,346,240,918,816.77 so far this Congress.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

HONORING ASIAN PACIFIC
AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

One hundred sixty-seven years ago this May, the first Japanese immigrants arrived in the United States in search of a promise of freedom and in pursuit of their own American dreams. Since that time, Asian Pacific Americans have contributed to the unique fabric of American culture in countless ways, becoming leaders in business, government, arts, and entertainment. It is entirely fitting that we have chosen May to commemorate these significant contributions, and to honor the 15.2 million Asian Pacific Americans who continue the legacy that their ancestors began in the 1840s.

During the past several decades, Congress has recognized the importance of the Asian Pacific American community to our nation's history. In 1977, Representatives Frank Horton and Norman Mineta introduced legislation to establish the first ten days of May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Week. After similar legislation was introduced and passed in the Senate, President Jimmy Carter signed into law a joint resolution to establish this annual commemoration. Later, in 1990, we celebrated the first Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. Since that time, May has officially become a yearly tribute to the Asian Pacific American community.

While it is important that we continue recognizing these important dates—which have raised awareness of the many critical contributions of the Asian Pacific American community—we must also look to the work being done each day to make certain that the interests of Asian Pacific Americans are being considered. Members of the House of Representatives and the Senate consistently honor the

heritage of this important community. The Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus—known as CAPAC—advocates for all Asian Pacific Americans, working to ensure their voices are heard at the federal level. Additionally, the Presidential Cabinet includes three Asian American dignitaries: Energy Secretary Steven Chu, Commerce Secretary Gary Locke and Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric Shinseki.

Building on this active involvement of Asian Pacific Americans in the workings of our national government, President Obama has also stepped up his own efforts to restore the broad mission of the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. This vital initiative—which I helped to establish while serving in the administration of President Bill Clinton—has been successful in increasing the participation of Asian Pacific Americans in federal programs. By doing so, the Initiative has helped make dramatic improvements in the quality of life of underserved Asian Pacific Americans.

Madam Speaker, in recognizing the countless contributions Asian Pacific Americans have made to our nation and to our history, I join my colleagues this May in celebrating Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE I.C.
NORCOM BOYS' BASKETBALL
TEAM

HON. ROBERT C. “BOBBY” SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise with great pride to call attention to a group of young students who have distinguished themselves, their school, their community, and the city of Portsmouth, Virginia.

The I.C. Norcom Greyhounds boys' basketball team had a remarkable season and I believe the Greyhounds deserve formal recognition for their accomplishments. On March 12, 2010, the I.C. Norcom Greyhounds won the Group AAA boys' state basketball championship. The Greyhounds completed their 2010 season with an impressive 25–4 record.

I.C. Norcom won the championship in memorable fashion. Down ten points with 7:48 left in the game, the team rallied back to trail 54–53 with a minute left to play. A buzzer-beating shot by Shelton Haskins with 1.5 seconds left sealed the 55–54 victory over a previously unbeaten team from Petersburg High School.

I.C. Norcom made history throughout the tournament. They were the first Portsmouth team to ever reach a semifinal game. In a similar comeback victory against Chantilly High, Norcom advanced to the AAA Championship, again the first team from Portsmouth to do so. The win gives the school and the city of Portsmouth its first Group AAA state basketball title.

I.C. Norcom was founded in 1913 as the High Street School, the first public high school for black students in Portsmouth. It was renamed in 1953 in honor of its first supervising principal, Israel Charles Norcom, a pioneering educator, civic leader and businessman. Now, more than 50 years and three locations later, I.C. Norcom High School is still an innovating and inspiring place for Portsmouth students.

In addition to excelling on the basketball court, the Greyhounds are also doing great things in the classroom. I.C. Norcom houses a Center of Excellence in Math and Science, which provides students with additional classes in science, math, and technology. Fifty seniors this year will be receiving their Center of Excellence Diplomas which require five science course credits, one more than required under the advanced diploma. In addition 23 I.C. Norcom seniors have been participating in the First College program—attending Tidewater Community College this semester and taking up to 14 college credits before they graduate. I.C. Norcom is doing a great job cultivating excellence both on and off the athletic field.

I would like to extend my enthusiastic congratulations to the I.C. Norcom players, their families, principal Lynn Briley, coach Leon Goolsby and the rest of his coaching staff, on the occasion of this historic Boy's basketball championship. On behalf of the people of the Third Congressional district of Virginia, I.C. Norcom alumni, and the entire city of Portsmouth, I commend them for this historic win and wish the program years of success in the future.

HONORING DR. THOMAS CROW

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Thomas Crow upon his retirement as the Chancellor of State Center Community College District (SCCCD). After serving over 20 years with the college district, Dr. Crow will be honored by the State Center Community College District Board of Trustees and Foundation Board of Directors on Friday, May 7, 2010.

Dr. Thomas Crow earned a Bachelor of Arts degree and a Master of Arts degree in Physical Education from California State University, Fresno. Later, he attended Arizona State University, where he earned a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Education. Dr. Crow has a long history in education which includes a broad spectrum of experience in kindergarten through twelfth grade; including his service as Superintendent of Fowler Unified School District.

Prior to his appointment as Chancellor, Dr. Crow served as President of Reedley College for 7 years. While with SCCC he also served as Vice Chancellor, External Operations and Assistant to the Chancellor.

Outside of SCCC, Dr. Crow is active in the community. He is the past president of the Reedley Rotary Club. He is also an active member of the Fresno Business Council, Fresno County Economic Development Corporation, the Greater Fresno Area Chamber of Commerce, The Regional Jobs Initiative, Fresno Compact and the Workforce Investment Board.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Dr. Thomas Crow upon his retirement from the State Center Community College District. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Dr. Crow many years of continued success.