

Newspaper editorials throughout South Carolina have condemned the President's unilateral move. Last year, the Charleston Post and Courier blasted the President's decision as "breath-takingly irresponsible."

The Aiken Standard from February 17 says that the "president's lack of faith in using Yucca Mountain for nuclear waste sends a mixed signal to Americans."

The Greenville News on February 21 said that "the Obama administration has broken a long-standing Federal promise to deal with the Nation's nuclear waste."

And in the Lexington County Chronicle on March 4, Mark Bellune editorialized, "liberals would stick us with nuclear waste."

I urge Congress and the administration to put politics aside on this issue that has serious implications for America's energy future and national security from terrorist attacks.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

NASA STOPPING DREAMS FROM BECOMING A REALITY

(Mr. BISHOP of Utah asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Madam Speaker, NASA recently announced and unveiled a new interactive computer simulation that allows kids to pretend to be going to the space station, the Moon, Mars and beyond. They said it would excite young people.

Sometimes, though, our new NASA administrators are too shy. What they failed to announce is that also the preliminary design review on Constellation was finished successfully, which means that after exhaustive scientific and technical review, there are no technical issues that can stop Constellation from doing that for which it was designed, to replace the space shuttle with a flight capacity that is 10 times safer than the space shuttle.

You see, Madam Speaker, it is nice to come up with computer games to inspire kids, but it is also cruel to stop the only programs that can make those dreams a reality. There is nothing technically that can stop Constellation from fulfilling its mission, except politics. Thanks, NASA.

HONORING U.S. ARMY SPECIALIST ALAN N. DIKCIS

(Mr. LEE of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LEE of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise this afternoon to honor a true American hero, U.S. Army Specialist Alan N. Dikcis, a native of Wheatfield, New York. Sadly, on March 5, while serving his second tour of duty, Specialist Dikcis lost his life when he was struck by a roadside bomb in Afghanistan.

Specialist Dikcis enlisted in the Army shortly after graduating from Niagara-Wheatfield High School in 2006 and had hoped to spend his career serving his country.

He enjoyed spending time outside, whether it was going for a hike or riding on his motorcycle or his four-wheeler, and he enjoyed spending time with those he loved, his family and his friends. As Specialist Dikcis' step-mother recently said, "Alan loved being in the Army. He was proud of his work. He made us proud. He made his daughter proud."

I ask that the House join me in thanking Specialist Dikcis for his honorable service to our great Nation, and I extend our condolences to his family and friends, who had Alan taken from them far too soon.

TIME FOR CONGRESS TO LISTEN TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

(Mr. BROUN of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Madam Speaker, the 111th Congress is starting its 10th week of this session, and what have we done to help the American family and our small business men and women? Absolutely nothing, Madam Speaker. Absolutely nothing.

We have not passed any legislation that would create jobs, that would lower health care costs, or jump-start our struggling economy. Instead, congressional leaders continue to show their arrogance, ignorance, and incompetence by ramming through job-killing legislation that will increase taxes and increase uncertainty for families and businesses.

Madam Speaker, 15 million Americans are without jobs. Yet Democratic leaders are still forcing their unpopular and unconstitutional health care mandates, and implementing policies that will actually discourage job growth.

The American people want Washington to start over. It is time for congressional leaders to listen to the American people and work on real issues and real solutions.

AMERICAN PEOPLE DON'T WANT CURRENT HEALTH CARE BILL

(Mr. ROE of Tennessee asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, Democrats are once again rushing to meet an artificial deadline to pass their government takeover of our Nation's health care system, and it is clear that the majority of the American people don't want this bill.

Republicans have been clear about why reforms being proposed should be scrapped. This proposal will increase costs, decrease quality, and decrease access to care for the vast majority of Americans. I can say this unequivocally

as a physician and as a Tennessee resident who has experienced TennCare, our State Medicaid program, firsthand. Small businesses that are dealing with the worst recession in decades will have to lay off workers and cut back on wages to deal with the new mandates.

The end result is what we are dealing with in Tennessee right now: rationed care. To meet its budget, the State is limiting TennCare patients to eight visits per year to a physician and \$10,000 paid to providers, no matter what the costs.

While we can't make our State Medicaid program work as is, Democrats in Congress want to expand it. In the end, what is happening in Tennessee will happen to everyone in America, and that is the wrong solution.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Recorded votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

NATIONAL ROBOTICS WEEK

Mr. BAIRD. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1055), supporting the designation of National Robotics Week as an annual event.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1055

Whereas the United States has the largest number of academic and research organizations with dedicated programs focused on the advancement of robotics technology;

Whereas robotics has matured into an all-encompassing and enabling technology that, as a pillar of 21st century American innovation, is positioned to fuel a broad array of next generation products and applications, transform our society, and become as ubiquitous over the next several decades as desktop and mobile computing technology is today;

Whereas the emerging market for service robotics in various sectors, including healthcare, national defense, homeland security, energy, manufacturing, logistics, transportation, agriculture, education, consumer goods, and others, is expected to grow at a compound annual growth rate of nearly 20 percent over the next few years to become a worldwide \$27 billion industry;

Whereas robotics is a critical technology capable in the near term of contributing to the economic recovery by creating new jobs, increasing productivity, improving quality, and increasing worker safety, and equally capable over time of addressing the longer term labor and healthcare issues expected to result from the 40 percent increase in number of the Nation's elderly over the next 20 years;

Whereas robotics technology holds tremendous potential for reducing the cost of healthcare delivery, stimulating the discovery and development of new procedures and treatments for a wide variety of diseases and disorders, improving the standard and accessibility of care, providing individuals with disabilities, especially injured veterans, with greater independence and dignity, and enhancing overall patient health outcomes;

Whereas robotics technology is proving essential to our national defense and homeland security by enabling the ongoing development and fielding of unmanned air, ground, and maritime systems that today help keep our Nation's war-fighters and protectors out of harm's way, and in the long run will serve as a highly effective force multiplier;

Whereas robotics is a key transformative technology that can revolutionize American manufacturing by enabling small and mid-sized companies to cost effectively combine highly skilled workers and highly adaptable, precise, and reliable equipment to create and make high value products in high-stakes industries;

Whereas robotics is rapidly proving to be one of the most effective, compelling, and engaging means for teaching and reinforcing fundamental science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) concepts as well as inspiring the Nation's youth to pursue STEM-related careers thereby helping to create a highly-skilled, 21st century American workforce;

Whereas America's ability to maintain its leadership position and be both globally competitive and cooperative in a wide range of rapidly emerging markets is being currently challenged by other regions, including the European Union, Korea, and Japan, who have committed to making multi-billion dollar, long-term investments in further developing and commercializing robotics technology;

Whereas there is a strong need to recognize America's leadership in robotics technology, educate the public on robotics technology's broad potential, growing importance, and future impact on American society, underscore the need for increased investment in robotics technology research and development, and inspire the Nation's youth to pursue careers in robotics and other STEM-related fields; and

Whereas the second week in April each year is designated as "National Robotics Week", recognizing the accomplishments of Isaac Asimov, who immigrated to America, taught science, wrote science books for children and adults, first used the term robotics, developed the Three Laws of Robotics, and died in April, 1992: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the designation of National Robotics Week (NRW) as an annual event;

(2) encourages institutions of higher education and companies which utilize robotics technology to hold open houses during NRW to help explain the technology and its applications;

(3) encourages science museums to organize events and demonstrations during NRW that help to educate and engage the public on the utility, importance, and impact of robotics technology;

(4) encourages schools, clubs, and organizations to hold open houses, organize local competitions, and demonstrate student activities relating to the field of robotics technology;

(5) encourages activities that advance the use of robotics to revolutionize the way fundamental science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) concepts are taught in the classroom and that highlight the success that robotics competitions orga-

nized by groups such as For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) are having at inspiring students to pursue STEM-related careers; and

(6) affirms the growing importance of robotics technology and supports all other efforts to increase national awareness of the technology and its impact on the future of the Nation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. BAIRD) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HALL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BAIRD. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H. Res. 1055, the resolution now under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Washington?

There was no objection.

Mr. BAIRD. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 1055, a resolution supporting the designation of National Robotics Week as an annual event.

National Robotics Week is observed the second week of April. Its purpose is to celebrate the United States as a leader in robotics technology development, to educate the public about how robotics technology impacts our society, and to inspire students of all ages to pursue careers in robotics and other science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields.

Robotics technology is an increasingly important technology for United States innovation and competitiveness, helping to create new jobs and increase productivity. It has potentially transformative implications for a broad range of sectors, including health care, national defense, homeland security, energy, manufacturing, transportation, and agriculture.

At the same time, as the United States struggles to maintain a highly skilled STEM workforce, robotics technology has the ability to inspire young people and get them excited about science and technology. It is precisely this kind of enthusiasm that robotics technology and robotics competitions offer to our children that will encourage them to consider careers in STEM-related fields.

I particularly want to thank and acknowledge the hard work of Representatives MIKE DOYLE from Pennsylvania and PHIL GINGREY from Georgia for introducing this bipartisan resolution. Representatives DOYLE and GINGREY are the co-chairs of the Congressional Robotics Caucus, and they have made it a priority to educate Members of Congress about robotics technology and the important role that it plays in our competitiveness.

I would urge support of this resolution.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 1055, supporting the goals and ideals of National Robotics Week, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

National Robotics Week, which annually occurs during the second full week of April, recognizes the transformative role of robotics technology, the ability of robotics to inspire and educate, and the need to underscore education at all levels. This event celebrates the U.S. as a leader in robotics technology, which becomes more prevalent in our lives with each passing year.

The mission of National Robotics Week is to educate the public about the social and cultural impacts of robotics technology and to inspire students of all ages to pursue careers in robotics and other science, technology, engineering, and mathematics-related fields.

Events are scheduled around the country for this purpose. For those who cannot attend in person, the National Robotics Week Web site provides other ways for parents and teachers to get involved.

Affecting numerous sectors of our economy, including national defense, robotics will continue to be an emerging market, with substantial growth expected. As such it is important for us to recognize the many aspects of the specialized field.

Despite the projected growth, the United States is facing a shortage of graduates in STEM-related fields. National Robotics Week is yet another tool to help parents and teachers motivate and inspire our children to learn about the exciting role robotics plays in our everyday world. Somewhere out there, the next Isaac Asimov is receiving inspiration. Perhaps it is at a National Robotics Week event.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BAIRD. Madam Speaker, I would just mention, as my dear friend from Texas pointed out, that anybody who has had the opportunity to visit some of these nationwide competitions and see the enthusiasm of these young people as their robots compete in everything from pushing balls around to try to score goals in robotic soccer to mock combat, what you really see is people who have really put their hearts and minds into something, an enthusiastic learning experience that, as Mr. HALL pointed out, will really inspire these people to careers in science, technology, engineering, and math.

We need more of these folks, and this legislation helps champion that idea. I again urge its passage.

I have no further requests for time, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DOYLE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1055, legislation to support the designation of National Robotics Week as an annual event.

I introduced this legislation because the increase in the number of emerging and potential applications for robotics is astounding, and

I believe Americans should know more about the important role the field of robotics will play in our national security and economic health in the coming decades.

Robotics has come a long way in the last 20 years, but most Americans still think of real-life robots as confined to the assembly line. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Recently, we've seen advanced next-generation robotics playing an important role in our military for our national defense. Unmanned aerial vehicles today provide life-saving reconnaissance support for our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the rocket-armed Predator UAV is reportedly the most effective tool we have for attacking the Al-Qaeda and Taliban leadership and infrastructure. In addition, our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan have benefited greatly from the development and deployment of mobile robots that detect and disarm IEDs—the improvised explosive devices that have posed the greatest threat to our troops on the ground in those countries.

Robotics is growing in economic importance as well. Robots are now being used to perform surgeries, fill prescriptions, and deliver supplies and materials, in addition to the role they've filled for many years working on the assembly line. The Robotics Industry Association estimates that nearly 200,000 robots are now used in the United States, and it's estimated that more than one million robots are being used worldwide. Even during the current economic downturn, orders for robotic technology in the pharmaceutical, biomedical, and food and consumer goods sectors rose significantly.

The emerging market for robotics in various sectors, including health care, national defense, homeland security, energy, manufacturing, logistics, transportation, agriculture, education, and consumer goods, is expected to grow at an annual rate of nearly 20 percent over the next few years to become a \$27 billion industry worldwide, and one new study predicts that the personal robotics market for products like the Aibo, the iSobot, the Looj, and the Roomba will be worth \$15 billion by 2015.

It's clear to me that robotics technology will drive much of the growth in the world economy in the coming decades, much as computer technology did over the last 30 years, and I want America to be the world leader in this exciting technology.

I'm proud to note that the Congressional District I have the honor of representing is already a world leader in researching and developing robotics technology. In 1999, in fact, the Wall Street Journal nicknamed Pittsburgh "Roboburgh."

Carnegie Mellon University has been leading the world in integrating robotic technologies into everyday life for over 30 years. Carnegie Mellon's Robotics Institute has nearly 350 full and part-time employees conducting research in a number of robotics-related fields, including space robotics, medical robotics, computer vision, and artificial intelligence, to name a few. All told, the Robotics Institute has about 100 research projects and an annual research budget of \$55 million. Current projects include a lunar prospector robot for NASA and two USDA programs applying robotic technologies to agricultural production.

Pittsburgh is home to first generation companies like Bombardier Transportation and McKesson; and second generation companies

such as RedZone, Seegrid, Aethon and RE Squared.

Pittsburgh is also the long-time home of one of the giants of the robotics industry, Red Whitaker, distinguished professor of robotics at Carnegie Mellon University and the leader of the CMU team that won the 2007 DARPA Grand Challenge, a cross-country long-distance race for robotic cars.

At the state-level, Pennsylvania has a total of 45 robotics companies with over 2,000 employees. Nationwide, the figures are even larger and growing dramatically. That is why the Congressional Robotics Caucus was established—and why we're discussing National Robotics Week here today.

National Robotics Week is the brainchild of a number of universities and companies working to promote the development and adoption of robotics technology. The consortium works closely with the House Robotics Caucus, which Representative GINGREY and I have the honor of co-chairing.

The Robotics Caucus focuses on key issues facing the nation's traditional industrial robotics industry and, perhaps even more importantly, those issues critical to newly forming companies, markets, and industries based on advances in technology that enable robots to perform functions beyond traditional assembly line tasks and operate in environments beyond the factory floor. Our goals include: Increasing general awareness of robotics industry challenges and issues among Members of Congress and policy analysts in federal government; educating Members of Congress and congressional staff on current and future research, development, and utilization initiatives regarding robotics; serving as a forum where robotics-related policy issues can be exchanged, debated, and discussed; and ensuring that our nation remains globally competitive as the robotics industry rapidly expands and begins to exert a profound effect on the way our citizens live their lives.

Representative WAMP and I established the Caucus in 2007. Today, the Caucus has over 30 members from across the country.

About a year ago, the group of universities and businesses that serve on the advisory committee for the Robotics Caucus completed a national "road map" to promote robotics technology.

One of the steps contained in the road map was to raise public awareness of the potential robotics holds for our nation's growth in the coming years and encourage young people to pursue science, technology, engineering, and math educations essential for maintaining U.S. leadership in this important field. The road map identified the establishment of an annual national robotics week as a good way to help achieve that goal. The week of April 10th to 18th this year will be the first of these annual events to raise national awareness of robotics technology and its potential impact on the future of the Nation.

Over the course of that week, robotics companies, museums, schools, and universities will hold events to educate the public and get young people interested in pursuing careers in fields associated with robotics. In Pittsburgh, for example, Carnegie Mellon University and the Carnegie Science Center will be holding open houses and other events for the public, and there will be a demonstration of an unmanned helicopter by SkEye's Unlimited, a local robotics company.

I introduced H. Res. 1055 earlier this year to recognize the observation of National Robotics Week. It's my hope that this Congressional resolution will help give National Robotics Week—and the important goals it seeks to promote—a higher profile.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 1055, a resolution supporting the designation of the 2nd week of April as National Robotics Week. As co-chair of the Congressional Robotics Caucus and lead Republican sponsor of this resolution, I would like to commend my colleague from Pennsylvania, Mr. DOYLE, for his leadership in robotics and as the chief author of this legislation.

Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, STEM, education is instrumental to our ability to stay at the cutting edge of the global economy. Yet, the United States is falling behind the rest of the world in the number of students that are graduating from STEM fields.

Madam Speaker, according to a 2006 Association of American Universities study, 50 percent of students in China receive their undergraduate degrees in natural science or engineering; in Singapore, that number is 67 percent, and 38 percent of South Korea's graduates fall into these fields. Unfortunately, the United States is lagging behind with a staggering 15 percent of graduates in natural science or engineering.

H. Res. 1055 reflects the support and understanding that the promotion of robotics will help inspire current and future students to pursue careers in robotics and other various STEM-related fields. In addition to simply supporting the designation of National Robotics Week, this resolution encourages schools, universities, and other robotics companies to use that week as a way to demonstrate the impressive and ongoing technological advancements in the field of robotics.

Madam Speaker, as a graduate of Georgia Tech with a degree in chemistry, STEM education is an issue that is near and dear to me, and I am very happy to see this body consider a resolution that supports National Robotics Week. Robotics technology gives students a "hands on" learning experience and can provide them with the tools to keep them engaged in STEM fields with the hope that those students will pursue higher education opportunities and careers in those cutting edge fields.

I urge all of my colleagues to support H. Res. 1055.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 1055, "Supporting the designation of National Robotics Week as an annual event," introduced by my distinguished colleague from Pennsylvania, Representative DOYLE.

Robotics was a term first used by Isaac Asimov, who immigrated to America, wrote science books for children and adults and developed the Three Laws of Robotics. Robotics is rapidly proving to be one of the more effective, compelling, and engaging means for teaching and reinforcing fundamental science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, STEM, concepts. It is also a major vehicle for influencing the Nation's youth to pursue STEM-related careers, which is helping to create a highly-skilled 21st century workforce. Robotics is a key transformative technology

that can revolutionize American manufacturing by enabling small and mid-sized companies to cost effectively combine highly skilled workers and highly adaptable, precise, and reliable equipment to create and make high value products in high-stakes industries.

Robotics technology is essential to our national defense and homeland security in that it enables the ongoing development and fielding of unmanned air, ground, and maritime systems that today keep our Nation's war-fighters and protectors out of harm's way, and in the long run will serve as a highly effective force multiplier. Robotics technology holds tremendous potential for reducing the cost of health care delivery, stimulating the discovery and development of new procedures and treatments for a variety of diseases and disorders, improving the standard and accessibility of care, providing individuals with disabilities, especially injured veterans, with greater independence and dignity, thus enhancing overall patient outcomes. Robotics is a critical technology capable in the near term of contributing to the economic recovery by creating new jobs, increasing productivity, improving quality, and increasing worker safety.

The emerging market for service robotics in various sectors, including health care, national defense, homeland security, energy, manufacturing, logistics, transportation, agriculture, education, consumer goods, and others, is expected to grow at a compound annual growth rate of nearly 20 percent over the next few years, to become a worldwide \$27 billion industry. Robotics has matured into an all-encompassing and enabling technology that, as a pillar of 21st century American innovation, is positioned to fuel a broad array of next generation products and applications, transform our society and become as ubiquitous over the next several decades as desktop and mobile computing technology today. The United States has the largest number of academic and research organizations with dedicated programs focused on the advancement of robotics technology.

I believe that supporting the designation of National Robotics Week, NRW, as an annual event will encourage all institutions of higher education and companies which utilize robotics technology to hold open houses during NRW to help explain the technology and its related applications. The week will allow schools, clubs, and organizations to organize local competitions, and demonstrate student activities relating to the field of robotics technology, and provide science museums the opportunity to organize demonstrations that help educate and engage the public. NRW will ultimately increase the national awareness of this particular type of technology and its impact on the future of the Nation. The way that fundamental STEM-concepts are taught in the classroom and how they highlight the success that robotics competitions are organized by groups such as For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology, or FIRST, are inspiring students to pursue STEM-related careers.

□ 1430

Mr. HALL of Texas. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BAIRD. I would urge passage, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentleman from Washington (Mr. BAIRD) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1055.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONGRATULATING WINNERS OF NOBEL PRIZE IN PHYSICS

Mr. BAIRD. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1069) congratulating Willard S. Boyle and George E. Smith for being awarded the Nobel Prize in physics.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1069

Whereas breakthroughs in scientific research are the building blocks of a productive, competitive, and healthy society;

Whereas the Nobel Prize is a prestigious international award administered annually by the Nobel Foundation in Stockholm, Sweden, and has since 1901 recognized the world's most outstanding achievements in physics;

Whereas, on December 10, 2009, in Stockholm, Sweden, Willard S. Boyle and George E. Smith from Bell Laboratories in Murray Hill, New Jersey, were awarded the Nobel prize for physics for their invention of an imaging semiconductor circuit, the charge-coupled device (CCD), in addition to Charles K. Kao from Standard Telecommunication Laboratories in Harlow, United Kingdom, and the Chinese University of Hong Kong in Hong Kong, China, for his work concerning the transmission of light in fibers for optical communication;

Whereas Bell Laboratories in Murray Hill, New Jersey, is an internationally renowned research organization founded in 1925 by the American Telephone & Telegraph company (AT&T);

Whereas a total of seven Nobel Prizes for physics have been awarded for work completed at Bell Laboratories;

Whereas work at Bell Laboratories has led to the invention or advancement of such groundbreaking technologies as the transistor, photovoltaic cells, the laser, the UNIX operating system, and the CCD sensor;

Whereas scientific leadership in the United States is made possible by robust investments in scientific research programs in both the public and private sectors;

Whereas continued support of science research programs is indispensable to maintaining the Nation's position as the global leader in technology and innovation; and

Whereas the accomplishments of these scientists are significant achievements in the field of scientific research and further promote the United States among the world leaders in science: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) congratulates Willard S. Boyle and George E. Smith for being awarded the Nobel Prize in physics; and

(2) recognizes Bell Laboratories in Murray Hill, New Jersey, as a contributor to leadership in scientific research and innovation in the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from

Washington (Mr. BAIRD) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HALL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BAIRD. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H. Res. 1069, the resolution now under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Washington?

There was no objection.

Mr. BAIRD. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am very pleased today to be honoring the two Nobel Prize-winning physicists on their remarkable achievement. Willard S. Boyle and George E. Smith, of Bell Labs, were recipients of the 2009 Nobel Prize in physics, along with Dr. Charles K. Kao. Drs. Boyle and Smith won the prize for their invention of an imaging semiconductor circuit, the charge-coupled device, or CCD. If this sounds familiar, it may be because it is the device that makes digital cameras work. The digital camera is already ubiquitous in consumer usage, but people may not realize the device also has been instrumental to scientific endeavors as well. The field of astronomy was revolutionized by the integration of these devices into telescopes to capture details of the cosmos in even greater detail. CCDs have also greatly aided our ability to look inward at the tiniest particles with their adaptation into microscopes.

Today, we also honor Bell Laboratories of Murray Hill, New Jersey. Bell Labs is a renowned research organization whose name is synonymous with innovation. In addition to CCDs, work at Bell Labs has led to the development of the transistor, photovoltaic cells, the laser, and the UNIX operating system. For all of these accomplishments, a total of seven Nobel Prizes for physics have been awarded for the work done at Bell Labs.

I want to thank the sponsor of this resolution, Mr. LANCE of New Jersey, for recognizing these great scientific achievements. It's vitally important as we work to try and maintain America's competitiveness in the global economy that we celebrate scientific achievement and encourage young people to pursue careers in technical fields. We are quick in this body to recognize sports accomplishments. It is only fitting that we also recognize intellectual accomplishments of this caliber, particularly when they have such a dramatic impact on all of our lives. If we want as a society to do better in these areas of endeavor, it only makes sense for Congress to recognize great intellectual achievement when it happens; and these gentlemen are certainly deserving of that recognition.

So, once again, I want to thank my colleagues, and I urge passage.