

Security. In our July 2009 Joint Statement on Nuclear Cooperation, Russian President Medvedev and I acknowledged the shared vision between the United States and Russia of the growth of clean, safe, and secure nuclear energy for peaceful purposes and committed to work together to bring into force the agreement for nuclear cooperation to achieve this end. The Russian government has indicated its support for a new United Nations Security Council Resolution on Iran and has begun to engage on specific resolution elements with P5 members in New York. On April 8, 2010, the United States and Russia signed an historic New START Treaty significantly reducing the number of strategic nuclear weapons both countries may deploy. On April 13, both sides signed the Protocol to amend the 2000 U.S.-Russian Plutonium Management and Disposition Agreement, which is an essential step toward fulfilling each country's commitment to effectively and transparently dispose of at least 34 metric tons of excess weapon-grade plutonium, enough for about 17,000 nuclear weapons, with more envisioned to be disposed in the future. Russia recently established an international nuclear fuel reserve in Angarsk to provide an incentive to other nations not to acquire sensitive uranium enrichment technologies. Joint U.S. and Russian leadership continue to successfully guide the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism as it becomes a durable international institution. The United States believes these events demonstrate significant progress in the U.S.-Russia nuclear nonproliferation relationship and that it is now appropriate to move forward with this Agreement for cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

The proposed Agreement has been negotiated in accordance with the Act and other applicable laws. In my judgment, it meets all applicable statutory requirements and will advance the nonproliferation and other foreign policy interests of the United States.

The proposed Agreement provides a comprehensive framework for peaceful nuclear cooperation with Russia based on a mutual commitment to nuclear nonproliferation. It has a term of 30 years, and permits the transfer, subject to subsequent U.S. licensing decisions, of technology, material, equipment (including reactors), and components for nuclear research and nuclear power production. It does not permit transfers of Restricted Data. Transfers of sensitive nuclear technology, sensitive nuclear facilities, and major critical components of such facilities may only occur if the Agreement is amended to cover such transfers. In the event of termination, key nonproliferation conditions and controls continue with respect to material, equipment, and components subject to the Agreement.

The Russian Federation is a nuclear weapon state party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

(NPT). Like the United States, it has a "voluntary offer" safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). That agreement gives the IAEA the right to apply safeguards on all source or special fissionable material at peaceful-use nuclear facilities on a list provided by Russia. The Russian Federation is also a party to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, which establishes international standards of physical protection for the use, storage, and transport of nuclear material. It is also a member of the Nuclear Suppliers Group, whose non-legally binding guidelines set forth standards for the responsible export of nuclear commodities for peaceful use. A more detailed discussion of Russia's domestic civil nuclear program and its nuclear nonproliferation policies and practices, including its nuclear export policies and practices, is provided in the NPAS and in the classified annexes to the NPAS submitted to the Congress separately.

This transmittal shall constitute a submittal for purposes of both sections 123 b. and 123 d. of the Act. My Administration is prepared to immediately begin the consultations with the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations and House Committee on Foreign Affairs as provided in section 123 b. Upon completion of the 30-day continuous session period provided for in section 123 b., the 60-day continuous session period provided for in section 123 d. shall commence.

BARACK OBAMA,
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 10, 2010.

HONORING DALLAS BRADEN FOR PITCHING A PERFECT GAME

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

Mr. McNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to congratulate Oakland A's pitcher and Stockton resident Dallas Braden on pitching a perfect game on May 9, 2010. On Mother's Day, Dallas accomplished a feat that few ever have, going nine innings without allowing a single batter to reach first base. Dallas made history by pitching the 19th perfect game in Major League history.

Dallas has been playing baseball his entire life. He grew up in Stockton and played baseball at Stagg High. He was drafted by the A's in 2004 and made his Major League debut in 2007. Dallas is known for his community service in Stockton. And let me tell you, Dallas, you've made our city proud.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dallas Braden on pitching a perfect game.

TOWN OF SURFSIDE'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate one of the beach communities in my district, the historic town of Surfside, which will be celebrating its 75th anniversary on May 16.

I have the great pleasure of representing this unique town, which has had an important and historic part in the growth of south Florida from its early days as a beach resort. Surfside's roots stretch back to 1930, when 100 beachgoers formed their own club at 90th Street, beyond the Miami Beach city limits. Surf Club members persuaded local residents to incorporate Surfside and lent the town its first year's operating budget in 1935.

Among the historic figures who stayed at the Surf Club was Winston Churchill, who enjoyed painting by the ocean. Today, Surfside is known for its diverse population and low-rise residential homes in a quiet, peaceful, and relaxed neighborhood setting.

I am proud to salute the 5,000 residents of Surfside, who will be celebrating their anniversary with a parade and beach barbecue this Sunday, including Mayor Daniel Dietch and grand marshal and former mayor Marion Portman. Congratulations to Surfside.

□ 2000

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SCHAUER). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. POE of Texas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

BREAKING THE BARRIERS OF AN UNFAIR TAX CODE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, last month most Americans filled out what is probably the most complicated and lengthy Federal income tax return in our history. Most everyone agrees that our Nation's tax system is totally flawed and in need of considerable reform. The Tax Code is so complex that more than 80 percent of individual taxpayers either use an accountant or a computer-based program to prepare their tax returns.

The IRS estimates that Americans spend 6.6 billion hours and \$194 billion each year to comply with a Tax Code that has far too many complicated provisions which require special paperwork and detailed record keeping.

Our Tax Code has become more and more a complex, burdensome, and expensive drag on the economy which we can ill afford in the middle of a severe economic downturn. It also harms America's businesses' ability to compete in the global marketplace by discouraging saving, by discouraging investing, by discouraging risk taking.

American workers are now asked to work for 3 full months to pay for their annual Federal, State, and local taxes. It is totally unacceptable to require already-stressed families to give up at least a quarter of their income to prop up an expanding Federal bureaucracy while everyone else is making significant sacrifices.

Instead of searching for a way to provide tax relief to American households, some administration officials have proposed new tax schemes that will further burden small businesses and consumers. One of the worst of these is the European-style value-added tax, VAT, which would levy a complicated tax at each stage of manufacturing, thereby adding a hidden cost to the finished product. This is damaging not only to the consumer, but also to many industries involved in manufacturing which have been hard hit during this recession.

Instead of adding new taxes, Congress should be focused on reforming the current tax structure.

I join many of my colleagues in the House who have asked the chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN), to schedule hearings on Tax Code simplification. The last major reform of the Tax Code took place almost a quarter century ago in 1986, and while far from perfect, helped reduce the harm inflicted on the economy in many ways.

The guiding principles of the 1986 reform were that it must not increase the total tax burden, while lowering individual and corporate income tax rates.

Tax reform must not be used as a subterfuge for increasing taxes, as it needlessly complicates an already difficult issue with controversial questions about whether the combined tax burden should be higher or lower.

Mr. Speaker, businesses and families need a stable and uncomplicated Tax Code. Businesses need to know how high their taxes will be in future years to make decisions now about hiring and expanding. Families need to know how high their taxes will be before they make decisions about large expenditures. A constantly changing Tax Code makes it difficult for businesses and families to make these decisions.

The Tax Code has become sufficiently complex and harmful that a major rewrite is in order, and if Congress passes tax reform, it should consider making a commitment to keep the reformed Tax Code in place for as many years as possible.

Congress must remember the sacrifices made by all of America's fami-

lies. The American people need action that will break the barriers of an unfair and complicated tax system, and Congress must respond because the future health of the U.S. economy demands it.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. WOOLSEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

AMERICA COMPETES REAUTHORIZATION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. SUTTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. SUTTON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise as a proud cosponsor in strong support of the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act. As we recover from this recession, we must remain committed to ensuring that our students are properly educated in math and science to strengthen our Nation's economic competitiveness.

With the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act, we will make targeted investments in science, technology, engineering, and math education and groundbreaking research. Research leads to innovation. Innovation leads to manufacturing new products, and manufacturing leads to good-paying jobs.

According to the Alliance for American Manufacturing, every manufacturing job in our country directly supports four additional jobs. This bill will support our manufacturers, many of which are small businesses, by improving access to credit with innovative technology Federal loan guarantees.

This bill improves the Manufacturing Extension Partnership program by reducing the local cost share, allowing Manufacturing Extension Partnership program centers like MAGNET in Ohio to leverage more funds. MAGNET, which is based out of Cleveland, has leveraged Manufacturing Extension Partnership funds to generate nearly \$10 million in new investment and has created or retained over 400 jobs in my congressional district alone between 2005 and 2009.

Manufacturing Extension Partnership centers will help rejuvenate our Nation's manufacturing base by informing local community colleges of the skill sets local manufacturers seek. Our workers must have the necessary job training to secure good-paying jobs. We must invest in our students, our workers, our small businesses, and our short-, mid-, and long-term economic competitiveness, and that is exactly what our bill does.

For these reasons, I am proud to cosponsor the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act, and when the bill is called up for a vote tomorrow, I urge a "yes" vote.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

IN HONOR OF BRIAN MAHAFFEY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JOHNSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with sadness to recognize fallen Rockdale County Sheriff's Deputy Brian Mahaffey.

On May 8, Deputy Mahaffey was shot and killed in the line of duty while executing a search warrant in Conyers, Georgia. Deputy Mahaffey was shot. Although he was wearing a bulletproof vest, this bullet entered at an unusual angle and, as a result, he received a fatal gunshot wound. Deputy Mahaffey was only 28 years old.

Deputy Mahaffey served his community courageously and honorably. Brian was not only a sheriff's deputy, but he was a husband, he was a father, he was a brother, and he was a son. He loved to fish and he loved to work on cars. His friends often described him as a kindhearted, genuine, sincere, loving person.

It is difficult to see a life cut short, Mr. Speaker, by such a reprehensible act, but the people of the 4th District of Georgia are thankful for his love of serving others and protecting the community.

I am deeply saddened at the loss of our fallen sheriff's deputy, Brian Mahaffey, and my thoughts and prayers are with him and his family—his wife, Diana; 2-year-old son Trenton; almost 3-month-old daughter Anniston; his brother, Christopher; and his parents, Terry and Cindy. I pray that they find comfort in this unimaginably difficult time.

When a law enforcement officer is killed in the line of duty, it's a loss that is felt by all Georgians. We are a family, and we have just lost a son.

Brian Mahaffey was a hero. I am humbled by his service and his sacrifice. Deputy Mahaffey's duty was to protect and serve the citizens of Rockdale County. Thanks to law enforcement officers like Brian, our Nation is more secure. He routinely put his life on the line to defend those in Rockdale County, and his bravery resulted in his death.

The 4th District has lost a dedicated deputy, a public servant, role model, and family man. We must honor his memory with an unwillingness to surrender to crime and to lawlessness, and we must maintain our determination to bring justice to those who make us unsafe.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. KOSMAS) is recognized for 5 minutes.