

multiyear procurement contract for F/A-18E/F/G aircraft, which would save the Navy and taxpayers almost \$600 million. The Navy plans to buy 124 of these aircraft between now and 2013.

This bill would make no changes to the quantity to be procured. Rather, the Navy has a choice between buying these aircraft in four 1-year increments or spend nearly \$600 million less by using one 4-year contract.

□ 1500

Basically you are just getting a volume discount. The Congress already gave the Navy the authority to use the multiyear contract in the fiscal year 2010 National Authorization Act. But the Department of Defense was late in submitting a required report to Congress regarding the terms of the contract. It was due in March, and the Navy submitted the report in May. Due to the Department's delay, unless we provide a one-time fix or extension of this due date, the authority to sign the multiyear contract will expire by the end of the month. This is the correction that was made by the 2011 defense authorization bill passed by the House, also captured by H.R. 6102.

It is true that the Department of Defense was slow to embrace the F/A-18 multiyear contract, but it eventually saw the wisdom in entering into this 4-year contract for 124 of the Navy fighter planes. The House Armed Services Committee has been pushing the Navy to consider this contracting strategy for nearly 3 years. In 2008, I inserted language into the 2009 Defense Authorization Act requiring the Department of Defense to report to Congress on the potential cost savings of a multiyear contract for F/A-18s. Last year, I successfully added an amendment to the Defense Authorization Act giving the Navy the authority to enter into a multiyear contract for F/A-18s. This year, I added an amendment to the House-passed Defense Authorization Act adding eight additional F/A-18s to help address the Navy's looming fighter shortfall.

Although this bill would not have been necessary had Secretary Gates embraced this cost-savings measure from the outset, I am nonetheless pleased to see that his eleventh hour efforts to secure approval for the multiyear contract are in keeping with his well-publicized position on reducing wasteful defense spending. Likewise, I am hopeful that the Secretary will remain consistent with his new and positive stance on savings and competition as the Armed Services Committee considers additional ways in which to maximize taxpayer dollars.

In conclusion, Madam Speaker, this bill will save over half a billion dollars in taxpayer money while providing vital stability to the fine Americans who build these planes in St. Louis and across the country. I want to thank Congressman TAYLOR for his leadership and support on this issue, and I urge the Senate to pass this bill quickly.

I yield back the balance of my time. Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. TAYLOR) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6102.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONGRATULATING MIAMI DADE COLLEGE ON 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1571) acknowledging and congratulating Miami Dade College on the occasion of its 50th anniversary of service to the students and residents of the State of Florida, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1571

Whereas Miami Dade College opened its doors in 1960 as an institute of higher learning for the residents of Miami-Dade County, Florida;

Whereas the College became the first integrated junior college in the State of Florida, leading the way for other institutions to adopt policies of offering a higher education to persons of all races and ethnicities;

Whereas the College has the most diverse student populations in the United States with students from 178 countries, speaking 86 languages;

Whereas the College has one of the largest enrollments of all colleges and universities in the United States;

Whereas the College offers more than 300 major areas of study, providing educational and workforce opportunities for students seeking associate and bachelor's degrees, as well as short-term certifications in critical areas of study;

Whereas the College provides an affordable, comprehensive higher education to individuals of all incomes and backgrounds;

Whereas 55 percent of students attending the College receive Pell Grants;

Whereas 52 percent of students are the first in their families to attend college;

Whereas the College ranks first in the United States in the amount of Pell Grant funds awarded to public colleges and universities;

Whereas the College is one of only 40 community colleges nationwide to be named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll;

Whereas the College is a leader in cultural programming;

Whereas the College's Miami International Book Fair is the largest literary event in the United States;

Whereas the College's Miami International Film Festival is world renowned;

Whereas the College is the home of the National Historic landmark Freedom Tower;

Whereas the College adheres to its guiding principle to change lives through the opportunity of education; and

Whereas 2010 marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment of Miami Dade College: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives acknowledges and congratulates Miami Dade College on the occasion of its 50th anniversary of academic excellence and service to the residents of the State of Florida.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend their remarks, and insert extraneous material on House Resolution 1571 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1571, which celebrates Miami Dade College on the occasion of their 50 years of service in higher education to the residents of the State of Florida.

In 1960, Miami Dade first opened its doors under the name Dade County Junior College. By 1967, the college was the largest institution of higher education in the State of Florida. Today, Miami Dade College boasts eight campuses and the largest public institution of higher education in the Nation, welcoming nearly 170,000 students annually. The college offers more than 300 major areas of study to its students, and as of 2003, began offering bachelor's degrees in addition to associate's degrees. Miami Dade College has awarded more associate's degrees than any college in the United States.

Miami Dade College also has a rich history of diversity. The college became the first integrated junior college in the State of Florida, and now has students from 178 countries speaking 86 languages. The college ranks first in the United States among public colleges and universities for the number of Pell Grant recipients in attendance. At Miami Dade College, 61 percent of students are from low-income families, and 52 percent are the first in their families to attend college. The college also contributes to the region's cultural landscape via the nationally acclaimed Cultura del Lobo Performance Series and the Miami International Film Festival, both of which provide student artists with unique learning opportunities.

Additionally, the annual Miami Dade International Book Fair is the largest literary event in the United States. Does this have something to do with the college? Not clear from the name.

Furthermore, Miami Dade College has consistently worked to produce students with skills in high demand by local and regional employers. The Emerging Technologies Center of the

Americas at Miami Dade College works to prepare students for careers in information technology and telecommunications. This center's state-of-the-art 40,000-square-foot facility at the Wolfson campus houses 19 multimedia classrooms and labs equipped with high-end computers, specialized equipment, and simulation workstations.

The students, faculty, and staff at Miami Dade College have much to be proud of as they remember and celebrate the rich cultural and academic history of their institution over the past half-century. I once again express my support for House Resolution 1571 and congratulate Miami Dade College on its 50th anniversary. I thank Representative ROS-LEHTINEN for bringing this resolution forward.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Madam Speaker, before I give my comments on this particular resolution, I wish to yield such time as she may consume to the sponsor of this resolution, as well as probably the most famous alumnus from Miami Dade College, the gentle lady from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN).

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. I thank the gentleman for the time, and I also want to thank Ambassador WATSON for her comments on this wonderful institution.

□ 1510

Madam Speaker, as a former Florida certified teacher, as a former educator and as an alum of Miami Dade College, I am so proud to be here on the floor, congratulating Miami Dade College on its 50th anniversary. I am proud to say that my father and my brother are also graduates of this fine institution. I am infinitely grateful for the education that I received from the excellent professors at Miami Dade College, and I am sure that I would not be in the same position here tonight were it not for this excellent education.

Miami Dade College has been an essential part of South Florida for so many years—for 50 years since it was first established in 1960. By 1967, Madam Speaker, the college had become the largest institution of higher education in the State of Florida. It built upon this foundation, and it is now the largest institution of higher education in the United States, serving nearly 170,000 students every year. That is just phenomenal. It has enrolled more than 2 million students to date, and it employs more than 6,000 faculty and staff. Half of the students have been the first in their families to attend college.

Madam Speaker, you can imagine how proud those family members are at every graduation that they can say that someone from their family has graduated college.

Not surprisingly, it is home to one of the most diverse student populations, with students from 178 countries, speaking 86 different languages. Miami Dade College has managed to do all of this while maintaining an affordable

and accessible course of study for students of all incomes, and it has been instrumental in the development and success of so many in our community and throughout the United States.

Equally impressive, Madam Speaker, is the fact that more than a third of its students are nontraditional. That is, they are older. They are working adults who are looking to further their education or to, perhaps, retrain for the jobs that are in demand now and in the future.

The college is an icon. It is central to the educational, economic, social, and cultural fabric that is exciting South Florida, including hosting the Nation's largest literary gathering, the Miami Book Fair International. It also hosts the Miami International Film Festival, and is home to the national historic landmark, the Miami Freedom Tower, and to many programs that serve as the region's arts anchor.

A large part of Miami Dade College's success is due to its dynamic president, Dr. Eduardo J. Padron, who is also a graduate of Miami Dade College. Dr. Padron is widely recognized as one of the top educational leaders in the world. His time with Miami Dade College has been defined by growth, trailblazing academic and cultural programs, greater access, and student success. He has produced impressive results in student access, retention, graduation, and overall achievement. President Padron has truly made a positive difference in the lives of so many individuals, and we must commend him for all that he continues to do in support of his college, our college, as this college is a part of our community and our Nation.

So, Madam Speaker, with that, I urge all Members to please vote in favor of this legislation, congratulating one of America's finest academic institutions, Miami Dade College, for its 50th year of providing quality education for all.

Thank you for the time, the gentleman from Utah, and thank you as well, Madam Ambassador, for sponsoring this bill.

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise to support House Resolution 1571, acknowledging and congratulating Miami Dade College on the occasion of its 50th anniversary of service to the students and residents of Florida.

Miami Dade College was founded in 1960, 50 years ago. Only half a decade later, the college had increased its enrollment by 300 percent. As has been mentioned, as the first racially integrated junior college in Florida, Miami Dade College provided an education to all area residents who wanted to better their lives and further their education. Today, almost 100,000 students are enrolled on the eight campuses year round, and if you count part-time students, it increases that number significantly. MDC is now the largest institu-

tion in the Florida college system, and it works to educate a diverse student population by offering 300 majors and by providing an affordable education to students from all backgrounds.

The college holds several annual events that benefit both students and members of the community. The Miami Dade College's Miami International Book Fair and the Miami International Film Festival are two such events that are nationally and internationally renowned.

I congratulate Miami Dade College for 50 years of excellence in higher education, and I wish all of its faculty, staff, students, and alumni continued success.

I ask my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Miami-Dade College on the occasion of its 50th anniversary. Since opening its doors in 1960, it has served as an exemplary institution of higher learning for the residents of Miami-Dade County. A leader among Florida's institutions, it became the first integrated junior college giving students of all races and ethnicities the opportunity to seek a higher education. Since implementing these policies, it has maintained its commitment to diversity, boasting a student population hailing from 178 countries.

Miami-Dade College's diversity extends to its broad areas of studies offering more than 300 major areas of study and a variety of degrees. Offering students associate, bachelor's degrees, and short term certificates, the Miami-Dade College has the largest enrollment of any college or university in the United States, and has awarded more associate degrees than any other college.

Miami-Dade College also stands out by offering an affordable, comprehensive, education to individuals of all incomes as well as backgrounds. Thirty-nine percent of its student body, lives below the Federal poverty level and 61 are defined as low income. Speaking to Miami-Dade College's commitment to students in low-income families, it currently receives the highest number of Pell Grant awards. South Florida, which, I am honored to represent, owes a debt to Miami-Dade College for providing quality affordable education to our community. It is an honor to represent Miami-Dade College and again I congratulate it on its 50th anniversary.

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, I wanted to join others in extending my congratulations to Miami Dade College on its 50th anniversary.

For half a century, Miami Dade has been providing outstanding opportunities in education to the students of the State of Florida. As a 1965 graduate of Miami Dade College, I am proud to recognize the service and accomplishments of this great institution of higher learning.

Since opening its doors in 1960, Miami Dade College has helped make affordable quality education to the residents of Florida. We salute the past successful 50 years and the faculty and staff that make this a great educational institution.

At the Federal, State and local levels, we must remain committed in our support of higher education, especially at our colleges and universities in Florida.

Miami Dade College has made dreams come true for its graduates, many whom are the first in their families to attend college. Miami Dade has helped thousands achieve success in all walks of life. Having the largest enrollment of any college or university in the United States, the college has granted more associate degrees than any other college in the United States. Miami Dade College is also the premier college in providing education underserved minorities and low income families.

As a proud alumnus, I look forward to a bright future for my alma mater, Miami Dade College. I know it will be a leader in education for many future generations.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, I urge the House to support House Resolution 1571. It is a fine piece of legislation. Again, I would like to congratulate Miami Dade College on its 50th anniversary.

With that, Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1571, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

CONGRATULATING MICHIGAN TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY ON ITS 125TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. SABLAN. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1564) commending and congratulating Michigan Technological University on the occasion of its 125th anniversary.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1564

Whereas Michigan Technological University located in Houghton, Michigan, on the beautiful shores of Lake Superior on the spectacular Keweenaw Peninsula is celebrating its 125th anniversary in 2010;

Whereas Michigan Technological University was first chartered as the Michigan School of Mines in 1885;

Whereas due to the significant and growing contribution to the State of Michigan and the Nation, the school was renamed the Michigan College of Mining and Technology with the added responsibility "to promote the welfare of the industries of the State" in 1927;

Whereas the college continued its exceptional educational mission;

Whereas in 1963, the new constitution of the State of Michigan included the renaming to the Michigan College of Science and Tech-

nology and in 1964, with the present designation of Michigan Technological University with the continued responsibility of promoting the welfare of the industries of the State of Michigan;

Whereas in 1990, Michigan Technological University's A.E. Seaman Mineralogical Museum was designated as the official "mineralogical museum" of Michigan with the second largest holdings of any university mineralogical museum in the Nation;

Whereas Michigan Technological University's mission is to create the future with the vision of continued growth as a premier technological research university of international stature, delivering education, new knowledge, and innovation for the needs of the world;

Whereas today, Michigan Technological University now hosts more than 7,000 students who pursue baccalaureate, master, and doctoral degrees;

Whereas Michigan Technological University is nationally ranked as a high research university by the Carnegie Foundation, with research expenditures of some \$55,000,000 annually doing world class cutting edge basic and exceptional applied research;

Whereas Michigan Technological University provides an exceptionally high quality of education in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields, graduating 83 percent of students in those disciplines from across the State, Nation, and around the world;

Whereas the State of Michigan and the Nation benefit from the influx of such outstanding graduates for the purpose of economic development, innovation, and entrepreneurship;

Whereas Michigan Technological University's athletic programs are highly successful competitively as well as academically;

Whereas Michigan Technological University's student athletes are consistently among the top in the Nation with the highest grade point averages, while simultaneously performing exceptionally well in their respective sports led by the successes of the women's basketball team, which for the last two years has been in the NCAA Division II Elite Eight, underscoring the importance of being student athletes; and

Whereas 2010 marks the 125th anniversary of the founding of Michigan Technological University; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives honors the students, alumni, faculty, staff, and board of control of Michigan Technological University on its 125th anniversary and commends the institution's status as a leading public university that excels in high quality education, research, and quality of life for students and the contributions to the State of Michigan, the Nation, and society with the exceptional graduates that will create the future.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLAN) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SABLAN. Madam Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on House Resolution 1564 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands?

There was no objection.

Mr. SABLAN. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1564, which celebrates Michigan Technological University for 125 years of leadership and service in higher education.

Michigan Technological University was originally chartered as the Michigan School of Mines in 1885 and was later renamed the Michigan College of Mining and Technology. The college was founded in response to the needs of the copper industry in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. In 1964, as the school continued to expand its academic programs and student body, it became Michigan Technological University.

Michigan Tech students and alumni hail from all 50 States and from over 100 countries. It offers 110 majors in 56 fields of study, and 83 percent of its students graduate in the high-demand fields of science, technology, engineering, and math. With over 7,000 students seeking baccalaureate, master and doctoral degrees and a budget of \$55 million for applied research expenditures, the school has furnished vital resources for education, expertise and innovation to the State of Michigan and the Great Lakes region.

□ 1520

Michigan Tech boasts several innovative programs to help their students prepare for careers in their chosen fields. One of these is known as the Enterprise Program. Founded in 2000, the Enterprise Program allows teams of students from different disciplines to work together to function as a professional company. Participating students work with local industry leaders to solve real-world problems, including the research and development of new technologies. Several programs have gone on to receive Federal grants and win international design competitions. Such programs, in addition to earning a "high research university" designation from the Carnegie Foundation, speak to Michigan Tech's commitment to institutional excellence.

Michigan Tech students also enjoy a number of extracurricular activities. The campus has over 200 student organizations, a Division I men's hockey team and 12 Division II varsity sports teams. The college's women's basketball team has made the NCAA Division II Elite Eight each of the past 2 years.

The graduates of Michigan Tech have long benefited the State of Michigan and the Nation and persistently advance economic development and entrepreneurship in their communities.

Once again, I express my support for House Resolution 1564 and congratulate Michigan Technological University on its 125th year anniversary. I thank Representative STUPAK for bringing this resolution forward.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.