

Rimer of Rochester; SPC Luis Rodriguez Contreras of Allentown; PO1 Gary Rovinski of Wilkes-Barre.

CPL Luke Runyan of Spring Grove; PFC Aaron Rusin of Johnstown; SGT Matthew Sandri of Shamokin; 1LT Neil Santoriello of Verona; 1LT Robert Seidel, III of Gettysburg; CAPT Christopher Seifert of Bethlehem; SA Joshua Seitz of Sinking Springs; SGT Edward Shaffer of Mont Alto; SGT Jason Shaffer of Derry; SFC Michael Shannon of Canadensis; LTC Anthony Sherman of Pottstown; CAPT Todd Siebert of Baden; SGT Eric Siebodnik of Greenfield; CWO Michael Siebodnik of Gibsonia; PFC Corey Small of East Berlin; SSG Marc Small of Collegeville; SPC Michael Smith of Media; SFC Scott Smith of Punxsutawney; SPC Tristan Smith of Bryn Athyn; PFC Stephen Snowberger, III of Lopez.

SSG Glen Stivison, Jr. of Blairsville; LCpl Travis Stottlemeyer of Hatfield; SGT Francis Straub, Jr. of Philadelphia; CPL Sascha Struble of Philadelphia; SPC William Sturges, Jr. of Spring Church; PFC Brandon Styer of Lancaster; SFC Shawn Suzch of Hilltown; SGT Brett Swank of Northumberland; SSG Paul Sweeney of Lakeville; LCpl Steven Szydek of Warfordsburg; MSgt Sean Thomas of Harrisburg; PFC Nils Thompson of Confluence; SSG Richard Tieman of Waynesboro; MAJ Jeffery Toczylowski of Ambler; CPL John Todd, III of Bridgeport; SGT Nicholas Tomko of McKees Rocks; SSG Steven Tudor of Dunmore; SFC Michael Tully of Falls Creek; LCpl Robert Ulmer of Landisville; 1LT Colby Umbrell of Doylestown.

LCpl Brandon Van Parys of New Tripoli; SGT Thomas Vandling, Jr. of Pittsburgh; SGT Timothy Vanorman of Port Matilda; LCpl Dennis Veater of Jessup; SSG William Vile of Philadelphia; SSG Kimberly Voelz of Carlisle; SPC Ross Vogel, III of Red Lion; SGT David Wallace, III of Sharpsville; SGT Jonathan Walls of West Lawn; PFC Joshua Waltenbaugh of Ford City; SGT Douglas Weismantle of Pittsburgh; SGT Lonny Wells of Vandergrift; CAPT Jason West of Pittsburgh; SPC Lee Wiegand of Hallstead; SSG David Wieger of North Huntingdon; CAPT Bryan Willard of Hummelstown; CPL Anthony Williams of Oxford; PVT Wesley Williams of Philadelphia; SPC James Yohn, Sr. of Highspire; SPC Nicholas Zangara of Philadelphia; PFC Kenneth Zeigler, II of Dillsburg; and PFC Travis Zimmerman of New Berlinville.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. LEIBERMAN. Mr. President, I rise to offer my support for H.R. 4899, the Disaster Relief and Summer Jobs Act. I would like to begin first by explaining why I voted for this measure—although I did so reluctantly and with strong reservations, since I firmly believe that it is past time for us to end our reliance on emergency supplemental appropriations, which undermine our fiscal discipline and exacerbate our skyrocketing deficit.

I supported this measure because the funds it appropriates are critical to the first and most fundamental purpose of our government—keeping America safe.

The money appropriated in the bill will be used, in large part, to support our troops in Afghanistan and Iraq who are fighting against the enemy who attacked our homeland on September 11,

2001. We went to war in Afghanistan because the 9/11 attacks were a direct consequence of the safe haven given to al-Qaida in that country under the Taliban government that ruled there. We remain at war because a resurgent Taliban, still allied with al-Qaida, is trying to restore its brutal regime and reestablish that country as a terrorist safe haven.

A large portion of the funds appropriated in this bill will be used to deploy the surge of additional troops that our commander on the ground in Afghanistan, GEN Stanley McChrystal, has said is essential to turning the tide there. I agree with President Obama that the war in Afghanistan is “a war of necessity,” and as such, we must fund our efforts there to the full measure necessary.

Allowing the Taliban to return to power would represent a major victory for Islamist extremist forces throughout the world, tilting the balance of power in South Asia in their favor and directly endangering America’s homeland security from terrorists trained there. As we were reminded just a few weeks ago, in the wake of the attempted terrorist bombing in Times Square by an individual who received terrorism training in Pakistan, the Afghanistan-Pakistan border remains the central front of the global war on terror. If we fail there, the ramifications will be devastating.

I also believe it is imperative that we continue to provide the necessary resources to ensure a successful outcome in Iraq, which faces a window of heightened instability and danger. In particular, it is essential that we provide the necessary funding for the Iraqi Security Forces so that—as our own troops draw down—our Iraqi counterparts are capable of maintaining the hard-fought security gains that we have achieved together.

Because this bill is essential for our national security, I voted for it.

However, as I said, I strongly oppose our continued reliance on the emergency supplemental appropriations bills to fund our military efforts abroad. I agree with President Obama that this method of spending has obscured the costs and budgetary consequences of our ongoing military operations. I believe we must end the practice of labeling our long-term military costs as “emergency funds,” which allows us to avoid our own self-imposed spending limits. This practice has also significantly reduced our ability to exercise effective congressional oversight.

A sound budgeting process, by contrast—which would factor future military costs into the annual budget—will allow for a more precise, honest, and fiscally responsible estimate of Federal spending and will force us to grapple with and pay for the true costs of our policy choices.

Simply put, we must change the way we do business in Washington. We cannot continue to ask our children and

grandchildren to pay for the policy choices of today. For this reason, it is imperative that 2010 be the last year that we use an emergency supplemental for initiatives that are not truly “emergencies.” After all, our ballooning Federal debt and out-of-control deficits are not only a threat to our economic health—they are also a threat to our national security.

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton argued in testimony before Congress earlier this year that as America relies increasingly on foreign lenders to fund our government, we compromise our national security. Let’s not forget that each year, we are paying almost \$200 billion in interest on public debt, a significant percentage of which goes to nations whose political interests may not always be aligned with our own. Today, nearly half of our publicly held debt is in foreign holdings, compared to nineteen percent twenty years ago. This is dangerous to America’s financial autonomy and long-term national security.

In Congress, we are motivated by good intentions—each of us wants to govern well and make it easier for our constituents to live, work, and prosper—but those good intentions often have serious and adverse consequences for our long term economic health and our vitality as a nation when we ignore their economic consequences. Unfortunately, if we do not act quickly and decisively to address our mounting debt and continuing deficit spending, we will soon face a fiscal crisis that will dwarf the financial turmoil we have experienced in the past several months.

We are all concerned about the deficit, but unless we actually stop passing bills that we are not paid for, we will not make the progress that we must in reining in deficits.

We all know what the answer to this problem is: The United States of America must begin to live within our means again. Responsible American families and businesses do this—it is time for the U.S. Congress to do the same.

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I rise in support of an amendment that was filed by Chairman BINGAMAN, Ranking Member MURKOWSKI and myself that would help create jobs in communities across the country and help us transition to a clean energy economy.

When Congress passed the Recovery Act last year, it recognized the challenges that many developers of alternative energy and other clean energy projects are facing in obtaining financing by expanding the Department of Energy’s loan guarantee program.

This program, known as the 1705 program, is helping developers to finance their projects, create jobs and spur the development of innovative clean energy technologies across the country, including New Hampshire.

Our amendment would expand the 1705 program further to include loan guarantees for energy efficiency technologies, including making buildings energy efficient.

And that is what I want to talk about today.

I see enormous potential in reducing our Nation's energy consumption by simply investing in energy efficiency, especially through renovating existing buildings. Renovating our existing buildings is a tremendous opportunity for us to cut energy use, save money and create jobs.

According to the Energy Information Administration, buildings account for more than 48 percent of total energy consumption in the United States. That is more than the transportation sector and more than the industrial sector. More than 70 percent of the commercial buildings in this country are older than 20 years and these buildings are significantly less efficient than buildings built today. Improvements to these types of buildings can improve efficiency by 20 to 40 percent using widely available technologies and the payback period can be as little as 5 years.

Updating buildings with modern energy efficiency technologies not only saves money on energy costs, it also creates jobs. Jobs in the construction industry. Jobs in the manufacturing industry. Jobs in the retail sector of the economy. These jobs can't be outsourced and they are jobs that can serve as an important part of our clean, alternative energy economy.

Yet despite all this potential, there is actually very little of this energy efficient renovation taking place because of the financial barriers. Lenders typically will not accept projected energy savings—even if guaranteed by an energy services company as sufficient collateral.

That's why I am working with Chairman BINGAMAN and Ranking Member MURKOWSKI to use the DOE loan guarantee program to help unlock private capital and encourage investment in building retrofit projects and programs.

I am also working with Senator MARY LANDRIEU to develop legislation to further expand the DOE loan guarantee program to cover large building in the commercial sector, in schools and universities, and hospitals so that they can also be renovated to be more energy efficient.

There is so much potential that exists here and I think we need to put existing programs to work, like the loan guarantee program, to unlock private capital and reap the benefits that will come from making these buildings more energy efficient.

We have the opportunity to create jobs, support our continued economic recovery and save money by making these investments in energy efficiency.

While it is unfortunate that we could not get the amendment added to the supplemental appropriations bill, I look forward to working with my colleagues to pass this important provision this year.

HAITI

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, it has been more than 4 months since an earthquake struck Haiti, devastating not only its citizens, but also the support infrastructure—government, NGO and international—that is critical in responding to such emergencies. The U.S. and the international community rallied to Haiti's aid. Americans put their concerns to action, whether by writing to elected officials in support of greater assistance to Haiti, as so many of my constituents have done, or by contributing their own time and resources. Although it might seem to the people of Haiti, that along with the original flurry of media attention, the support of the American people has now dissipated, this is not the case.

I continue to hear regularly from the people of Wisconsin, who write not only to express their thoughts and prayers for the Haitian people, but who also request that their government do everything in its power to provide continuously needed relief and to encourage close collaboration with the Haitian people to support long-term recovery and rebuilding efforts. I was pleased to support Senator KERRY's Haiti Empowerment, Assistance, and Rebuilding Act of 2010, as amended, out of committee earlier this week and appreciate the signal it sends about our ongoing dedication to helping the people of Haiti get back on their feet in this time of great need.

While we work towards recovery and reconstruction, we must not lose focus on the immediate needs of the Haitian people—who remain in a suspended state of normalcy. More than 1 million people reside in camps, both official and informal, for the displaced. Major challenges remain in the areas of drainage, sanitation, food distribution, water, and coordination. Communicable diseases such as tetanus, malaria, and typhoid are on the rise. I especially share the concerns my constituents have raised about physical security for vulnerable populations, particularly women and children, who have suffered unacceptably from sexual violence, as well as for the disabled. Such populations are often the most severely affected by a lack of security and difficulties in accessing resources.

I am encouraged to see funding for many of these issues and areas in the supplemental request, but, as always, the devil is in the details. We must make sure our effort to provide timely and expedited assistance is not done at the expense of doing it right. We must make sure we are coordinating with all actors working in Haiti, including the Haitian government, international donors and organizations and the people of Haiti themselves. We can better understand the needs of the Haitian people and ensure we are addressing them effectively if we make sure to incorporate their voices into the planning process. To overlook the voices of the very individuals who are experiencing such devastation would be a severe in-

justice and yet it appears we may be doing just that.

I am troubled by reports from Haitian civil society of the obstacles to their full participation. We must not ignore the invaluable experience and insight of leaders on the ground by favoring large international NGOs over smaller grassroots organizations. We must make sure all relevant actors are at the table as we seek to implement a pragmatic and efficient plan for recovery. As Senator KERRY's bill notes, "when the people and other civil society actors in an affected country play a significant role in the design and execution of the rebuilding efforts, the efforts are often more sustainable and more in line with the needs and aspirations of local populations." We must therefore facilitate the participation of civil society and the Haitian people as well as their collaboration with the international community and their government as we continue relief and transition to recovery and rebuilding.

The damage done by the January 12 earthquake was all the more destructive because Haiti, the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, was still recovering from the devastating hurricane season of 2008, and still struggling with poverty and stability. Prior to the earthquake, the U.N. and the U.S. Government, along with many domestic and international partners, had been working alongside the Haitian people to strengthen their country. Now more than ever, we must redouble our efforts to ensure that priorities and needs do not go unmet and that in relief and recovery we give the Haitian people, and through them our own citizens and constituents, the biggest possible returns.

GULF OF MEXICO FISHERIES

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, I filed two amendments to the emergency supplemental bill that focused on the desperate need for gulf fisheries data in the wake of the Deepwater Horizon spill.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration knows our oceans and has responsibilities under several Federal laws to analyze the impacts of oil and gas production on sea life. My first amendment would have added \$22 million in funding to support baseline environmental monitoring and assessments of the Gulf of Mexico's fisheries. \$5 million of that funding would have gone to cooperative research grants that would have allowed fishermen to get out on the water and help collect this data.

These funds are needed so that NOAA can do this valuable research throughout the gulf before the oil hits and then again while the spill moves. Like my colleague from New Jersey, Senator LAUTENBERG, I am committed to ensuring that those responsible bear the costs of this incident. And so my amendment would have required that