

Congressman GREEN's and my bill do all the same things as S. 911. It allocates the D-Block free of charge to public safety and establishes a framework for the deployment of a nationwide, interoperable, wireless broadband network for public safety. The bill also establishes a funding mechanism to ensure the construction, maintenance, and upgrade of this network. It has been nearly 10 years since 9/11, and Congressman GREEN and I find it disgraceful that public safety has neither sufficient spectrum nor a national interoperable network to use. Our bill will remedy that and help public safety better protect American lives.

The one important difference between our bill and its Senate companion is that ours builds in stricter conditions and requirements for a voluntary incentive auction of broadcaster spectrum. Our bill, like S. 911, seeks to tackle the Nation's growing need for wireless spectrum, but ours makes explicit that the Commission may conduct only one incentive auction, that broadcasters not be coerced into relinquishing spectrum, and that broadcasters be fully compensated for costs associated with repacking. Congressman GREEN and I have sought answers from the Federal Communications Commission about the effects of broad incentive auction authority on broadcasters and consumers. The Commission has provided us little assurance that these effects will not be far-reaching and negative, so Congressman GREEN and I feel compelled to include more rigid protections in our bill.

Mr. Speaker, this is a strong bill and one worthy of the entire House's support. I would note that this bill has been endorsed by many stakeholders, including the Communications Workers of America (CWA), the Public Safety Alliance (PSA), APCO, the National Association of Sheriffs (NSA), and the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB). I urge my colleagues to join with Congressman GREEN and me in supporting public safety and addressing our country's critical spectrum needs by co-sponsoring the Public Safety Spectrum and Wireless Innovation Act.

A TRIBUTE TO PATROLMAN WILL PHILLIPS

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2011

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the life of Patrolman William Edward (Will) Phillips III of Greenfield, Indiana who died on September 20, 2010 while serving the city of Greenfield.

Will's life was one dedicated to duty. After graduating from Elwood Community High School in 1996, he promptly joined the United States Marine Corps, where he served from 1996–2000. Upon his return, he entered the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy, graduating 5th out of 163 students. Will served with the McCordsville Police Department before joining the Greenfield Police Department, where he served on both the Bike Patrol and SWAT Team, dedicating himself to the force for the past 4½ years. Will's commitment for this community is something we can all be proud of.

On September 30, 2010 Officer Phillips and two other members of the bike patrol team

had just finished their shift and were conducting a training ride on department-issued bicycles. While riding westbound on U.S. 40, at approximately 12:45 am, Will was struck from behind by a vehicle, which then fled the scene. Although all of the officers took the proper safety measures, Will sadly lost his life.

This past weekend, during the 6th Annual Indiana Fallen Heroes Memorial Ride in Indianapolis, Hoosiers came out to honor our fallen Police, Firefighters, Military and emergency first responders. Fellow Officers were in attendance to honor Will and keep his memory alive. He will be deeply missed, but the strength of his character and the courage he demonstrated through his service will live on.

Patrolman Will Phillips, husband of 7 years, father of two, and U.S. Marine Corps Veteran was and forever will be an All-American hero whose dedication to the force, determination and selflessness continue to serve our country and inspire our hearts. Today, we salute you.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2354) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes:

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Chair, I would like to express my appreciation to the Chair and Ranking Member of the Energy and Water Development Subcommittee for the work they and the subcommittee staff have done in developing the FY12 Energy and Water Appropriations bill.

It is impossible to make everyone happy when the fiscal reality requires reductions, but at a time when we borrow 40 cents for every dollar we spend we need to be willing to set priorities and make difficult decisions.

The bill before us makes responsible investments in energy research and development and it funds critical waterway infrastructure improvements, but it does it in a responsible and sustainable manner. One of the lessons that we all should have learned over the past several years is that it is in nobody's interest to expand budgets at an unsustainable rate. We are now faced with the unpleasant task of trimming back the budget to remove the excesses of the past several years so that we can get back to a responsible baseline.

The Energy and Water Development Appropriations Subcommittee has always worked in a bipartisan basis to address the energy and infrastructure challenges facing our nation, and I believe that this product is better for the cooperative and problem-solving approach of both the staff and subcommittee members. It is an honor for me to be able to serve on this subcommittee, and I am pleased to be able to support this bill.

I would also like to speak directly to the Administration and NRC Chairman Gregory Jaczko. I'm deeply concerned that Chairman

Jaczko has allowed politics to influence the NRC's decisions, and in my opinion, in order to restore public confidence in the NRC, the Chairman should step aside. Absent that, the President and Chairman Jaczko should take note that the bill we are passing contains funding to continue with the Yucca Mountain repository and the associated licensing activities in the NRC.

Congress is making a statement here: continuing funding of Yucca is the fiscally responsible thing to do to prevent billions of dollars in future liability and to ensure that the \$15 billion already invested has not been wasted.

Again, I want to express my appreciation for Chairman FRELINGHUYSEN, Ranking Member VISCLOSKEY, and the subcommittee staff for the fine work they have done this year.

HONORING DR. ELLEN C. WEAVER

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2011

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Ellen C. Weaver who passed away May 14, 2011. Dr. Weaver was a modern-day Renaissance woman who was a world-class scientist as well as an artist, musician, environmentalist, skier, cook, and beloved wife and mother.

Dr. Weaver received her BA in Chemistry from Flora Stone Mather College at Western Reserve University in 1945 and worked as an analytical chemist for the Manhattan Project where she joined her physicist husband, Harry Weaver after their marriage in 1946. After World War II, the couple moved west to attend Stanford University, where she earned her MS in Chemistry followed by a Ph.D. in genetics from U.C. Berkeley. She had a life-long career as a research plant physiologist, including a collaboration with Jacques Cousteau at NASA Ames Research Center helping to map the photosynthetic productivity of fishing areas off the South American coast.

Joining the faculty of San Jose State University, Dr. Weaver taught plant physiology, served as Director of the San Jose State University Foundation and as Interim Executive Vice President. Retiring from teaching in 1991, she held the position for two years of Associate Dean for Development for the University. She also served on the boards of many professional societies and tirelessly promoted the advancement of women in science.

As a political liberal and dedicated environmentalist with a passion for preservation of redwoods, Dr. Weaver was active as Chairman of the Board for Sempervirens Fund and was a member of the science advisory committee for the Save the Redwoods League.

With her husband Harry and their three children—Lynne, Mark, and Tom—Dr. Weaver lived in Portola Valley, CA, for most of her life before retiring to San Rafael in 2000.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating Dr. Ellen Weaver's full and rich life which touched countless people.

HONORING THE GULLETT FAMILY

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2011

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation.

Whereas, Jim Gullett, Sr., was born in Camden, Alabama between 1850 and 1852 in slavery, his life has blessed us with descendants that have helped to shape our nation; and

Whereas, the Gullett Family has produced many well respected citizens and their patriarchs and patriarchs of the family are pillars of strength not only for their families, but for our nation as well; and

Whereas, in our beloved Fourth Congressional District of Georgia, we are honored to have many members of the Gullett family, including Mrs. Adrienne Clark one of our most beloved citizens in our District who resides in Lithonia, Georgia; and

Whereas, family is one of the most honored and cherished institutions in the world, we take pride in knowing that families such as the Gullett family have set aside this time to fellowship with each other, honor one another and to pass along history to each other by meeting at this year's family reunion in Lithonia, Georgia; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize the Gullett family in our District;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR. do hereby proclaim Friday, July 15, 2011 as Gullett Family Reunion Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 15th day of July, 2011.

HONORING JAVIER COLON, WINNER OF THE FIRST SEASON OF "THE VOICE"

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2011

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with the greatest pride that I rise today to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Stratford, Connecticut's native son, Javier Colon, the winner of the first season of television's "The Voice." Javier has an extraordinary talent and I am honored to join his hometown community of Stratford in congratulating him on his success.

Those who knew Javier as he was growing up in Stratford knew that he was destined for success. As a student at Bunnell High School, he was known as a performer—acting in many school plays and standing out in the choir. He pursued his dream as a singer-songwriter, attending the Hart Music School in West Hartford, Connecticut and playing locally—solo at Starbucks in Bishop's Corner and fronting EmcQ at the Arch Street Tavern. He even self-produced an album last year. Javier took a risk when he auditioned for "The Voice"—taking time off from the job he was holding to support his family—but it was a risk he had to take to realize his dream.

In its first season "The Voice," the NBC vocal competition, invited talent from across the country to compete on live television for a

chance at a cash prize and recording contract. Javier was one of thousands who chose to audition and he battled his way through three additional stages of competition and in the end, his unique style and renditions of Cyndi Lauper's "Time After Time," Ben E. King's "Stand by Me," and Coldplay's "Fix You" won the hearts of the shows judges and the American public to become "America's Voice."

Throughout the competition, Javier said that his inspiration was his two girls—that he was doing it for them, so that they could have a better life. As they grow older, they will certainly be proud of all that he has achieved. Javier has made us all proud. In fact, in Connecticut, week after week, hundreds would gather in bars, restaurants, and living rooms to cheer him on. His dedication to his singing and his commitment to the hard work it takes to succeed has inspired countless people, not only in Connecticut, but across the country to pursue their own dreams. Today, the Stratford community will gather to welcome him home and wish him well as he enjoys this remarkable achievement.

I am honored to stand today to extend my sincere congratulations to Javier Colon, his parents, Migdalea and Pablo, as well as his wife, Maureen, and two daughters, Solana and Amaia. I can only imagine what a special time this must be for them and I wish them all the best for many more years of health, happiness, and success.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2219) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes:

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to this bill.

I thank the majority for allowing the House to work its will in a completely open fashion on this bill. It was a refreshing change. I only wish the outcome had been a bill that reflected better the international security and economic realities we are facing today.

To be sure, there are many things in this bill that I strongly support. The 1.6 percent pay increase for our troops is important and necessary. The additional \$1.5 billion for Guard and Reserve equipment modernization is badly needed. The \$2.3 billion for family support and advocacy programs will help military families cope while their loved ones are away and help our troops reintegrate when they come home. And the bill also includes a critical suicide prevention amendment I offered.

My amendment would give the Defense Department \$20 million to initiate suicide prevention and counseling calls to help prevent these reservists from taking their own lives, as Coleman Bean, my constituent, tragically did in September 2008. For reservists like Coleman Bean of East Brunswick, New Jersey—those in the IRR, Individual Mobilization Augmentees, and Inactive National Guard members—

there remains no dedicated suicide prevention programs to help them cope with the war-time experiences. These reservists need our help, and I'm pleased my amendment was accepted.

Unfortunately, the good provisions in this bill are vastly outweighed by the absolute failure of the majority to make the Pentagon subject to the same kind of budget reductions they are so eagerly imposing on every other federal agency.

Since the year began, we've heard constantly from the majority that our debt is the greatest threat to our national security. If they really believed that, they would have supported the \$70 billion in cuts to the budget that I voted for during the debate on this bill. Instead, the only true cut they supported to this bloated, \$650 billion defense budget is a \$125 million reduction in funding for military bands.

The majority's message is clear: we will continue down the path of trying to balance the budget on the backs of the poor, the disabled, school children, and seniors. The Pentagon budget—which now funds a weakly justified war in Libya, a continued occupation of Iraq, and a military quagmire in Afghanistan—remains as the great sacred cow in the federal budget. There is no greater example today of our upside-down priorities than this budget.

This bill will provide nearly \$13 billion for an Afghan security force that is riddled with corruption, Taliban sympathizers, and drug traffickers. The bill continues to fund our presence in Iraq—tens of thousands of American troops remain in that country, and as we've seen they remain targets, with still more killed and wounded this year.

So much of this bill continues to be devoted to spending tens of billions of dollars on weapons systems that were designed to meet a Soviet threat that vanished 20 years ago. This week, a colleague from Vermont, Mr. WELCH, offered an amendment to this bill that would have eliminated funding for a next-generation nuclear bomber, a bomber to replace the B-2. Why in the world do we need such a platform in the first place? It was not a B-2 bomber that killed Osama bin Laden, but a U.S. Special Operations Forces team working with our intelligence community that eliminated the al Qaeda leader. Buying new nuclear bombers would simply be a form of defense-sector corporate welfare to protect against a threat that does not exist. Yet Mr. WELCH's amendment was defeated, and so we will continue to fund the development of an airplane we don't need.

I offered an amendment with several of my colleagues that would have simply cut the rate of increase in Pentagon spending. Instead of allowing a \$17 billion increase over last year's Pentagon budget, it would cap the increase at \$8.5 billion without impacting military pay or benefits. That amendment was also defeated—and its defeat only proved what I suspected: the majority is not serious about reigning in government spending.

Most of the attention this week was directed toward spending more for the military than we even have, spending more than the rest of the world—all together—and more than we can afford, even as so many people are calling for austerity measures to cut college aid, bridges and trains, environmental protection, and even Medicare. Yet the majority did not hesitate to deny training to military chaplains for implementing the repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell", or to prevent the Defense Department from