

Israel's right to exist. This position is in keeping with current American policy, including statutory requirements for U.S. funding to the Palestinian Authority.

I believe strongly in the need to protect the lives of innocent civilians on both sides of the conflict, including the need to recognize and promptly address the dire humanitarian needs of Palestinians living in the Gaza strip. I strongly condemn the actions of Hamas, which has embedded its fighters and leaders in private homes and mosques as they use Palestinian civilians as human shields, target Israeli civilians, and force Israel to take decisive action in the Gaza Strip to protect its population living under the daily threat of rocket attacks. The United States should continue to pressure Hamas to abandon its reckless endangerment of both the Palestinian and the Israeli people, and to fully renounce violence so that humanitarian aid to Gaza can continue and true peace talks can proceed. It is only through such peace talks that the two countries will be able to reach a negotiated settlement that will bring peace, security, and stability to the Israelis and Palestinians.

BETTER USE OF LIGHT BULBS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2011

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 2417, the so-called Better Use of Light Bulbs (BULB) Act.

H.R. 2417 would repeal the lighting energy efficiency standards set in the Energy Independence Security Act (EISA) of 2007. This would be a major setback in improving energy efficiency in homes and buildings across the country. Commercial and residential lighting consume over 20 percent of all electricity generated in the United States. The new lighting standards will help to ensure that more energy efficient light bulbs, including incandescents and LEDs, are available to consumers in order to reduce energy use.

The BULB Act would also repeal California's state standards on lighting efficiency that went into effect earlier this year. In a letter from California Senator Darrell Steinberg, President pro Tempore, Senator Alex Padilla, Chair of the Senate Committee on Energy, Utilities and Communications, and Senator Fran Pavley, Chair of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Water, opposing H.R. 2417, they note that the state's standards could save California consumers \$35.6 million in electrical costs.

Mr. Speaker, the current lighting standard has generated domestic jobs as companies have created new and innovative lighting options for consumers. For example, Philips Lumileds Lighting Company has a manufacturing facility that makes LEDs for energy efficient LED light bulbs in San Jose, California. This facility creates hundreds of local jobs, while traditional incandescent light bulbs are mainly manufactured abroad. The EISA energy efficiency standard is an opportunity for the United States to build a domestic manufacturing industry, generating jobs and economic activity.

H.R. 2417 is a job killer, and I urge my colleagues to join me in voting no on H.R. 2417.

HONORING THE TOWN OF EXETER

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2011

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the families who petitioned the General Court in Boston on February 16, 1811, to incorporate the town of Exeter in the state of Maine. On July 23, 2011, Exeter officially celebrates its bicentennial.

At the time of the 1810 Census, Exeter was home to 140 people comprising 40 different families. Working together to settle and clear the land, a thriving community was established. In only the second official town meeting, the community voted to raise \$200 for the purpose of building schools. The town went on to become famous for its apple orchards and its saw and grist mills, as well as the Exeter Fair, which occurred every September from 1867 to 1950, drawing families from all over New England.

Today, the people of Exeter celebrate the bicentennial of their town filled with the same local spirit and sense of common purpose that filled the founding 40 families as they petitioned to have their community recognized. These individuals embody the hardworking people of Maine who throughout our history have embraced the challenges and opportunities of living in our state.

It is an honor and a privilege to represent the people of Exeter, and I am pleased to have the opportunity to help this community celebrate its 200th anniversary.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in wishing all the citizens of Exeter well on this joyous occasion.

HONORING ELLIS COGDILL

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2011

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the life of a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and veteran Ellis Cogdill.

Ellis Cogdill passed away Sunday, June 26th at the Alexander Cohen Hospice House in Hughson, CA after a devastating, albeit blessedly brief battle with cancer. Ellis was born in Stanberry, Missouri. He and his family lived and farmed in the area until Ellis enlisted in the U.S. Navy at age 17. He served 4 years as a radioman before being discharged from active duty in 1949. Ellis then returned home, where he met the love of his life, Viola Cruse, his soon to be devoted wife of over 61 years. A few months later, Ellis was called to serve again, during the Korean conflict, a duty that would last another 16 months and send him to China and the South Pacific.

In 1957 the family moved to California, settling in San Bernardino, where Ellis worked as a union meat cutter for Stater Bros. Markets for 33 years. In 1962 he was called to be a Deacon at Immanuel Baptist Church, where he diligently served the Lord for many years.

After retirement Ellis and Vi moved to Madera, and were active at the First So. Baptist Church. In 2005 Ellis and Vi moved to Modesto, living at Friendly Village MHP, and attending first, Orangeburg Ave. Baptist Church, then, the North Modesto Church of God.

Ellis loved to travel, spend time with his family and friends, help those in need, or do just about anything that was productive. Not one to play, he valued work, and never shirked a duty or a task. Those that knew him, knew his word was his bond, and as good as gold.

Ellis is preceded in death by his parents, Ellis Sr. and Mary Cogdill, and brother Tom Cogdill. He is survived by his wife and sons, Dave and Jim, and daughter Diana; daughters-in-law, Stephanie and Lisa; grandchildren David and Carrie, Meghan and Mike, Ryan and Brandon, Karma, Lauren, Joel and Moneshay; and great-grandchildren Connor, Kathleen, Xiomara, Christian, and Ashton.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Ellis Cogdill for his service to United States of America and his example of excellence to those who knew him.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2011

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, July 8, 2011 I was unable to be in Washington, DC and thus missed several roll-call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Nos. 528, 532, 533 and "nay" on Nos. 525, 526, 527, 529, 530, and 531.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2011

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained during the votes on July 7, 2011. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 503, the Lee amendment to reduce funding for combat operations in Afghanistan.

HONORING THE TOWN OF GREENVILLE, MAINE

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2011

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the town of Greenville, Maine as it celebrates its 175th anniversary on August 27, 2011.

Nestled along the edge of the largest mountain lake in the eastern United States, the Greenville community's history in Maine precedes the establishment of the State itself. Its land, originally just 6 square miles, was granted by the Massachusetts General Court to Saco Academy in 1812. After acquiring the Academy in 1824, Nathaniel Haskell joined

with Oliver Young and John Smith in clearing trees near Wilson pond. It was just over a decade later that Henry Gower built the Seboomook House, and Greenville was incorporated from the Haskell Plantation.

In many ways, the history of Greenville stands in line with much of the State. Its residents have been farmers, lumbermen and mill workers. But somewhere between the cascades of Wilson's stream and the breathtaking vistas atop Indian Hill, the town puts forth its own unique identity. As the gateway to Moosehead and the Northern Woods, Greenville attracts thousands of visitors every year to witness the International Seaplane Fly-in, to ride the "Kate" up the lake or to camp in Maine's storied forests.

On August 27, this small town will celebrate its birthday with a week full of events and festivities commemorating this special milestone. I am pleased to share in the celebration as Greenville looks back on 175 years of rich and varied history.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in wishing all the citizens of Greenville, Maine, well on this joyous occasion.

IN MEMORY OF LEONARD EARL
ROBERTS, SR.

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2011

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit a tribute commemorating the life of Leonard Earl Roberts, Sr., a great husband, father, staff sergeant, and engineer. Mr. Roberts passed away last week, leaving a legacy of service to his family, friends, faith, community, and country. I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Roberts and his lovely wife Mrs. Dessie Roberts during a visit to Washington a few years ago. I know that all who were close to him reflect on his memory with respect, admiration, and pride. While I did not know Mr. Roberts for an extended time, his grandson Marcus Mason is a great friend; I might add that his great-granddaughter Taelor served as an intern in my office for several summers. Mr. Roberts epitomized the Greatest Generation and a life well lived. I would like to submit the following heartfelt obituary for Mr. Roberts, written by his family.

THE LEGACY

"I hope you don't mind if we put down in words, how wonderful life has been with you in the world."

December 30, 1925—Leonard Earl Roberts, Sr. entered the world at the height of the Harlem Renaissance. Born to Mary Queen Dorsey in Vidalia, Louisiana, Leonard Sr. was the eldest of five. Two brothers and one sister have preceded him in death. He attended and completed his secondary school education at Madison Parish Training School in Tallulah, Louisiana where he was an academic high achiever. He began demonstrating his engineering acuity by creating a hand carved, functioning orchestra that remained on display in the sandbox for several years following his graduation.

Leonard Sr. was no stranger to meeting and overcoming adversity. In his desire to serve his country he joined the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) at the young age of sixteen, where he participated in the efforts to rebuild our nation's infrastructure, sup-

porting the economic recovery efforts from the Great Depression of the 1930s. Later that year, Leonard Sr. answered the call of his personal conviction and love of country and voluntarily enlisted in the US Army. Leonard Sr. stepped forward to defend our country following the events of Pearl Harbor, despite being under age. He quickly advanced to the rank of Staff Sergeant. Leonard Sr. was in the first wave to land on Omaha Beach during the Normandy invasion on June 6, 1944 as part of Operation Overlord, coined D-Day by the world. He successfully led his platoon on many battles until his honorable discharge on December 7, 1945 at the close of the war. His entire outfit received the Bronze Indian Arrowhead for Assault Trooper, the Cor-De-Guerre, France's highest military honor, and several other medals and honors.

Upon his return home, he quickly sought, found and married his childhood sweetheart, and life-long love and soul mate, Dessie. Leonard Sr. and Dessie began to build their family while also engaging in his academic pursuits. Leonard Sr. moved to Boston, Massachusetts, taking advantage of the GI Bill, made available to WWII veterans, where he attended Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and received his Engineering degree. Leonard Sr. began his family while in Las Vegas, NV and became father to Donna, Janet and Leonard Jr.

Leonard Sr. moved his family to Los Angeles, California, where Jacqueline and Keith were born, to begin his lifelong career in the aerospace industry. He designed a four axis machine for specialized production of precision oversized aircraft parts which revolutionized the industry. In 1972, Leonard Sr. established Roberts Aerospace Manufacturing Engineering Corporation (RAMEC) and continued to receive coveted government contracts as a result of his expertise in precision manufacturing for nearly four decades until the time of his passing. He was well known in the industry as a man of integrity.

After supporting his wife's philanthropic pursuits in Christianity and community service for over fifty years, Leonard Sr. or "Mr. Honey" as he was often referred to by members of the sororities Order of the Eastern Star and Top Ladies of Distinction, joined First African Methodist Episcopal Church in 1998 where he attended faithfully. Leonard Sr. valued God, Country and family above all else, demonstrated by his marriage to Dessie for sixty-five years and his commitment to his children Donna, Janet, Leonard, Jr., Jacqueline and Keith. His love will live forever in the hearts of his grandchildren Allen Talbert, Kellie Clay (deceased), Chanel Troy-Thompson, Danielle Benoit-Williams, Natalie Roberts, Raquel Roberts-Richards and Bridgette Craddock and great-grandchildren Taelor Chanel Mason, Jeraud, Jeremiah Jr. and Jehman Williams, Carl Quincy Clay, II, Lauren, Sydney and Brandon Talbert, and Rameses Earl Roberts Richards.

Leonard Sr. will be lovingly remembered by his sister Dottie, his nieces Cheri, Donna and Shanel along with a host of other relatives and friends.

He recently imparted the profound statement to his loved ones, a motto which he lived by, "Everything is manageable in a family." Leonard Sr. lived his life by anticipating the outcome of an effort before beginning the task.

On Tuesday, July 5th God descended to call him home. It mattered not how straight the gate or how charged with punishment the scroll, Leonard Sr. was the master of his fate, he was the captain of his soul.

BETTER USE OF LIGHT BULBS
ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2011

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to oppose the BULB Act. Plain and simple—this bill will hurt our competitive advantage against China.

As my colleagues on the other side of the aisle bring this bill to the floor to take a step backwards & repeal light bulb efficiency, China gets it and they're leaping forward. This year China is spending over a billion dollars to make energy efficient lighting. China knows they can save consumers money while putting their country on track to create the largest LED industry in the world.

With efficiency requirements, we can compete. We can create American jobs making better light bulbs that meet the new standards. More than 2,000 jobs have already been created at factories around the country. In the U.S., there are between 12,000 to 14,000 jobs related to lighting.

I do not want to send those jobs to China by handing over the next generation lighting industry to them. The light bulb has been a symbol of American ingenuity since the late 1800s. When Thomas Edison invented the light bulb, it revolutionized our economy and electricity around the world. If America wants to lead, we need to become more efficient. That is the way of the future. Already, the new standards are prompting manufacturers to build new plants and create jobs making more energy efficient lighting here. In my Congressional District, Veeco has done just that. Veeco's employee count on Long Island has doubled from 150–300 from 2009 to 2011.

Lighting manufacturers have invested millions of dollars to develop new lighting technologies and improve old ones so they're 30 percent more efficient by the end of this year.

Efficiency isn't about saving energy. It's about saving money and giving consumers a solid return on their investment. The BULB Act does nothing to save our constituents money.

Current standards would save the average American family \$100 on their electricity bills. I know my constituents want that \$100 in their pockets.

That is why I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing this bill to help save money and energy while supporting U.S. manufacturing.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MAKING
WORK AND MARRIAGE PAY ACT

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2011

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing the Making Work and Marriage Pay Act of 2011. This legislation will establish a bipartisan commission to study the negative impact that high effective marginal rates can have on families as they attempt to improve their circumstances through work or marriage. The National Commission on Effective Marginal Tax Rates for Low-Income Families would provide an important opportunity for removing the