

sake of global nuclear security, and the cuts to naval reactors in this bill directly threaten our future national security.

Mr. Chair, our Nation is facing too many challenges at home and abroad to afford such cuts to critical investments in our energy future and important nuclear deterrent programs, while at the same time increasing funding for the Fossil Energy Research and Development program. I urge my colleagues to oppose this bill and reinvest in those programs that look to our future, rather than relying on outdated technologies of our past.

HONORING CHIEF PAUL
HARTSTEIN FOR HIS DEDICA-
TION TO THE CAMDEN COUNTY
FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 15, 2011

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Paul Hartstein, Fire Marshall for the Camden County Fire Department. Chief Hartstein will be retiring after decades of exemplary service to his community. His dedication is an extraordinary example for the entire South Jersey community.

Chief Hartstein, a native of Camden County, created a career serving his community. Prior to his appointment as Fire Marshall, he served as Fire Chief for the city of Audubon. Later, he worked as Vice President of the Audubon Fire Department and as a New Jersey Fire Commissioner. Try as he might, the chief can not fully retire; he will be acting as a part-time code official for the cities of Audubon and Haddonfield.

Chief Hartstein has been honored on several occasions, demonstrating his enduring commitment to South Jersey. He recently received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Greater Philadelphia Burn Foundation. Previously, the International Association of Arson Investigators honored Chief Hartstein with both the President's Award and the Investigator of the Year award. These decorations exemplify his dedication and ability as a firefighter.

Married for 29 years, Chief Hartstein and his wife are the proud parents of a daughter, who is studying in Boston, and a son who is following in his father's footsteps as a firefighter with the Cherry Hill Fire Company.

Firefighters are essential members of every community. Chief Hartstein has demonstrated the dedication, bravery, leadership, and sacrifice necessary to excel at this noble calling. I thank him for his decades of service to Camden County and wish him the best in his semi-retirement.

HONORING ROSEMARY WAHLBERG

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 15, 2011

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rosemary Wahlberg, a loving mother, wife and long-time community advocate, who recently celebrated her 80th birthday on May 18, 2011.

Rosemary has dedicated her life to the service of the less-fortunate, inspired by her short time as a resident of public housing in the Quincy neighborhood of Germantown in the late 1950s and early 1960s. A mother herself, she was distraught by the plights of numerous widows and single mothers struggling to hold their families together. Never a woman to be deterred, Rosemary began her own personal "war on poverty" campaign, beginning as an employee of a recently-enacted federally-funded nutrition program. It did not take long for both her employers and those she served to understand the merit of her work ethic, passion and dedication.

For 25 years, Rosemary served as Executive Director of Quincy Community Action Programs, where she and her colleagues provided indispensable services from adult education and workforce development training, to food and nutrition services to housing assistance programs. With Rosemary at the helm, no fight on behalf of those families was lost, no goal left unattained.

Rosemary is known throughout Massachusetts as a fighter for the underprivileged, and a champion for the rights of all residents of the Commonwealth. She commands respect and admiration from law enforcement officials and local and federal government officials alike. To reflect on her work for our community is to reflect on a life of selflessness, devotion, drive and, above all, care for her fellow man.

The City of Quincy and surrounding communities are a better place thanks to Rosemary's patience, values and unrelenting strength. She is truly a modern-day hero of community activism, and one whose legacy will not soon be forgotten. Congratulations, Rosemary, on your 80th birthday and best wishes on many more years of fulfillment.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOP-
MENT AND RELATED AGENCIES
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

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. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, today's FY 2012 Energy and Water Appropriations bill continues the majority's record of missed opportunities and misguided priorities when it comes to our Federal budget.

First and foremost, thoughtful Americans from across the political spectrum agree that we need to end our current dependence on foreign oil and replace it with affordable, reliable, homegrown clean energy. Yet this bill slashes funding for energy efficiency and renewable energy research programs by 40 percent below President Obama's request—and it decimates the game-changing work being done by the Advanced Research Projects Agency—Energy (ARPA-E) with a proposed 80 percent cut below the President's recommended level.

The health of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed and the rest of our Nation's waterways often rely on the Army Corps of Engineers. But today's legislation actually blocks the Corps from clarifying which waterways are covered by Clean Water Act protections.

Finally, this bill shortchanges nuclear non-proliferation and environmental cleanup efforts, reducing our ability to secure nuclear materials around the world and mitigate the impact of more than a half century's worth of national security-related nuclear activity here at home.

I urge a no vote.

IN RECOGNITION OF BUNA
VESTIRE ROMANIAN ORTHODOX
CATHEDRAL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 15, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Buna Vestire Romanian Orthodox Cathedral as it celebrates 75 years of service to the Cleveland orthodox community this September.

The original Buna Vestire Orthodox Cathedral was founded on September 2, 1936 on Detroit Avenue in Cleveland. Since then, the church has relocated several times and today it is located on Wooster Road in Rocky River. Throughout the past 75 years the congregation has been deeply involved in the community. Parishioners have organized festivals, picnics, and bake sales to help promote and celebrate Romanian culture and traditions including traditional food and Romanian folk dance. Since its inception, the Church has celebrated both its Orthodox traditions and Romanian heritage. Additionally, the Church and its priests have actively promoted a "good Faith relationship" amongst pastors and communities of other denominations.

On September 10 and 11, 2011, Buna Vestire Romanian Orthodox Cathedral will celebrate its 75th anniversary of service to the orthodox community of the greater Cleveland area. Recently, the church has experienced an increase in attendance and has plans to build a new church and Romanian Cultural Center in Olmsted Township. The Church intends to continue to promote and enhance their mission amongst the community.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Buna Vestire Romanian Orthodox Church as it celebrates 75 years of service. I extend my sincere congratulations to all members of the Buna Vestire congregation.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE
OF DAVIS-BACON PREVAILING
WAGE REQUIREMENTS

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 15, 2011

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, today I voted against an amendment, offered by Representative GOSAR, that sought to prohibit funding in the Energy and Water Appropriations bill from being used to enforce Davis-Bacon prevailing

wage requirements for federal contracts. Throughout the appropriations process for the upcoming fiscal year, I have voted against other similar amendments that seek to give federal contractors the ability to undercut the local wage levels on contracts valued at more than \$2,000.

The Davis-Bacon Act has been law since 1930, and simply requires that federal contractors, performing work for the government valued at more than \$2,000, must be paid at least the local prevailing wage and fringe benefits in the area. This ensures that any workers that are working on a federal contract receive the same compensation as the work done by their neighbors. In a time of great economic difficulty and uncertainty for so many working families in our country, I will staunchly oppose efforts to undermine or weaken common-sense protections like those put in place by the Davis-Bacon Act.

RECOGNIZING THE NEW YORK STATE SISTER CITIES CONFERENCE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 15, 2011

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the New York State Sister Cities Conference being held today in Cheektowaga, New York.

For the first time in over a decade, New York State Sister Cities will be holding a conference to connect all interested parties to share their mutual visions and plans to continue to bring together community leaders and motivated citizens in an effort to improve their community and the world.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower created the organization in 1956 to develop international bonds between communities in the United States and abroad while working with ordinary citizens to build relationships that transcend politics and promote world peace. Sister Cities now represents more than 700 US communities and nearly 2,500 partnerships with sister communities in 134 nations.

Sister Cities International is a leader for local community development and volunteer action. It fosters the development of partnerships between municipalities in the United States and similar jurisdictions in other nations. These long-term friendships allow citizens to experience and explore other cultures, implement and strengthen economic and community development, and stimulate environments through which communities collaboratively solve problems through reciprocal cultural, educational, municipal, business, professional, and technical exchanges.

This conference will give citizens the opportunity to network, share proven practices, and discuss recent trends in diplomacy leaving everyone prepared to connect communities and strengthen partnerships worldwide.

The mission of this program is to promote peace through mutual respect, understanding and cooperation—one individual, one community at a time. And never has there been a time when organizations like Sister Cities have been more vital to promoting peace, cooperation, and the ideal of the United States than there has been now.

My district benefits tremendously through Sister Cities' partnerships with communities in nations such as Ghana, China, Germany, Israel, and Poland. I fully support the efforts of this beneficial program to continue to promote transparency between communities and cultures.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride I stand today to recognize the 2011 New York State Sister Cities Conference. I also call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding the great work that it is doing every day.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JEFF FLAKE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 15, 2011

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 573, I mistakenly voted nay instead of yea. It had been my intention to support final passage of H.R. 2018, the Clean Water Cooperative Federalism Act of 2011. While I am aware that a vote may not be changed after a rollcall vote has been closed, I would like the Record to reflect this error and to reiterate my support for H.R. 2018.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF PAUL H. PROTZENKO

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 15, 2011

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to honor Paul H. Protzenko of Enfield, Connecticut. Paul was killed on July 9, 2011, when his vehicle was attacked by small arms fire in Afghanistan, where he was training local officers on crime scene investigation techniques and police tactics.

Born in Agawam, Massachusetts, Paul had been a proud resident of Enfield of many years. Paul served as a Sergeant in the U.S. Army for 6 years and went on to serve for 22 years as a Connecticut State Trooper First Class. After retiring from the force in 2009, Paul selflessly decided to serve his country in Afghanistan by employing his talents and expertise in law enforcement to help local officers protect their communities and take charge of their future.

Paul's life can only be described as a life of service to others. His passionate love for his country and community afforded him two lifesaving medals as a trooper and an additional medal while serving in the military.

In Enfield, Paul was a communicant of St. Adalbert Church. Outside of his professional life, he stayed active as an avid martial artist, marksman, and skier. Neighbors and friends remember Paul as a standout figure in the community who—whether in uniform or not—always sought to keep the people around him safe.

Above all, he was devoted to his family. Paul will be deeply missed by his wife, Lyse; his three children Jennifer, Anthony, and Matthew; his parents; and his grandchildren. We must always remember those who dedicate their lives to serving this great country. Paul

made the ultimate sacrifice for us and we will always remember and honor him for it. My thoughts and prayers are with his family, his neighbors, and his brothers on the state police force. I ask my colleagues to join me in mourning the loss and honoring the life of this courageous man, Paul H. Protzenko.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 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. MICHAUD. Madam Chair, I rise today in opposition of the McClintock amendment to H.R. 2354, the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act of 2012.

This amendment would eliminate regional economic development commissions, and I believe that it comes at exactly the wrong time for thousands of communities throughout the United States.

Regional development commissions have a successful track record of spurring much needed investment into the economic development of distressed communities. They should be preserved and expanded, not eliminated.

One of these commissions directly contributes to the economy in my home State of Maine. The Northern Border Regional Commission, NBRC, is charged with investing in the economic development of the most distressed areas of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and northern New York.

By working directly with each state and existing economic development districts, the NBRC is in a unique position to address our region's shared challenges and obstacles in a coordinated way that cuts across state lines.

Since fiscal year 2010, the NBRC has been funded at \$1.5 million. Despite these limited resources, it has already awarded \$1.3 million to meaningful projects throughout the region.

For example, last September, the NBRC made its first investments in Maine, including an expansion of the Port of Eastport, which is part of a project that will result in the retention of 18 jobs and the creation of 26 new ones.

The NBRC is now preparing to accept applications for a second round of projects, which will spur additional investment and job creation through our region.

If Congress eliminates funding for the NBRC, it cannot build on the progress that has already been made. The NBRC and other commissions like it would not be able to continue their mission of creating and protecting job opportunities in some of the most economically disadvantaged parts of our country.

Madam Chair, during tough economic times it is unacceptable to shut down these commissions, which share a common mission of partnering with states and local communities to create jobs and further economic development.