

our nation's future. Between 2007 and 2010, the Democratic House majority repeatedly passed FAA reauthorization legislation—with my strong support—to modernize America's outdated air traffic control system, improve airline safety for the traveling public, and create jobs by improving our nation's infrastructure. After years of negotiation, the Senate passed a bipartisan reauthorization bill in February 2011 that meets these criteria.

Unfortunately, the House Republican majority chose not to bring the bipartisan Senate legislation to a vote today. Instead, House Republicans introduced H.R. 658, a different version of the FAA authorization that slashes \$4 billion from needed aviation infrastructure investments. The \$4 billion cut to aviation infrastructure funding would wreak havoc on our nation's aviation industry, which accounts for nearly 11 million jobs and \$1.2 trillion in annual economic activity. Economist Mark Zandi—Senator McCain's economic advisor during the 2008 Presidential campaign—estimates that the cuts made in H.R. 658 to aviation infrastructure will result in the loss of 700,000 American jobs.

In addition to the threat of massive job losses, H.R. 658 includes provisions that roll back worker rights and undermine airline safety. One of these provisions would change existing union election laws for aviation and rail workers so that employees who choose not to vote are counted as “no” votes. Needless to say, if these rules were applied to congressional elections, not a single sitting Member of the House or Senate would have won election. Some House Republicans have joined Democrats in rejecting this anti-democratic policy. Republican Congressman STEVE LATOURETTE offered a bipartisan amendment with Democratic Representative JERRY COSTELLO to maintain union election rules within the National Mediation Board that uphold a very basic democratic principle: the majority of those who vote will determine the outcome of an election. I voted for this amendment and was extremely disappointed it failed due to strong opposition from the Republican caucus.

Another amendment, offered by Representative BILL SHUSTER, eliminates the common-sense proposal by the FAA to set a single standard for the aviation industry regulating how many hours pilots can fly before they are required to rest. This standard is the result of extensive scientific testing. Rep. SHUSTER's amendment would abandon the scientific basis for pilot rest requirements and instead create different levels of safety depending on the segment of the aviation industry. Fatigue affects pilots the same, regardless of the plane they fly or the cargo they carry. I opposed the Shuster amendment but unfortunately it passed despite unanimous opposition from Democratic Members of the House.

Mr. Speaker, Congress must pass a long-term authorization of the Federal Aviation Administration that will improve safety for passengers and pilots, make critical infrastructure upgrades, and modernize this essential sector of our nation's economy. I am disappointed that the House will not vote on such a bill today. Once again, Republican leaders in the House have decided that scoring political points and protecting special interests is more important than our nation's future.

President Obama has said he will veto any bill that does not protect railroad and airline workers' right to a fair election or one that

erodes the safety and efficiency of our air traffic. Unfortunately, this bill fails on both counts, and I cannot support it.

JACK TROETSCHTEL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 8, 2011*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jack Troetschel for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Jack Troetschel is an 8th grader at Drake Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jack Troetschel is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jack Troetschel for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all his future accomplishments.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF EXTENSION HOME ECONOMICS IN ALABAMA

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 8, 2011*

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Extension Home Economics in the State of Alabama and the important educational role played by home demonstration and county agents throughout our state. Generations of families in Alabama have led better and more self-sufficient lives as a result of home economics programs, which are based on a foundation of teaching consumer and decision making skills that last a lifetime.

The roots of Extension home economics education in Alabama can be traced to the founding of the first Girls' Tomato Clubs in Pike and Walker counties in 1911. The spread of similar clubs demonstrated the great need for homemaker education. Those modest beginnings provided fertile soil for the creation of a statewide Alabama Cooperative Extension Service, which was established as part of the land grant college system. The original staff included a state home demonstration agent.

The Alabama Cooperative Extension Service is known for a number of impressive firsts, including the development of a model program to teach low-income young homemakers and the appointment of the first Negro demonstration agent in Alabama in 1915. Extension workers and citizens in Alabama participated in the “food for defense” program during World War II and their memorable mattress campaign resulted in the completion of more than 500,000 mattresses and 200,000 comforters to support the campaign for liberty.

A hallmark of home economics education in Alabama has been its responsiveness to changing economic and cultural needs. During the challenging years of the Great Depression, instruction in conservation and wise management of scarce resources helped to tide over many families during difficult times. The post-war years brought a new emphasis on consumer education and sound decision making as women entered the workforce in greater numbers. More recently, lifestyle, health, and technology education has assumed heightened importance. In our complex society, home economics now encompasses everything from health, nutrition, and family life to financial, consumer, and employment matters. The end goal remains the same: creating a wise consumer, a strong family unit, and productive citizens in our communities.

The State of Alabama is fortunate to have an extensive network of cooperative extension agents, university professionals, and elementary and secondary educators dedicated to the well-being of our families. Working seamlessly together, they provide an unparalleled service to the State of Alabama that enhances the quality of family life daily. On the occasion of the special celebratory luncheon being held in Montgomery on April 19 to salute the mission of home economics, it is a pleasure to recognize 100 years of achievement and look forward to a second century of service.

CONGRATULATING MATT HOWARD

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 8, 2011*

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Matt Howard and the rest of the Butler University men's basketball team. America watched as the Bulldogs demonstrated hard work and personal sacrifice throughout the NCAA tournament and achieved what many said was impossible. The Dawgs epitomize what the word “team” is all about, and although they did not take home the trophy, they made their state and fellow Bulldogs across the nation proud. As Andrew Carnegie said, “teamwork is the fuel that allows common people to obtain uncommon results.”

Matt is one of the Bulldogs I am proud to say is from my district. After leading the state in rebounding his senior year at Connersville high school, Matt chose to attend Butler University. Matt's work-ethic and tenacity on the hardwood translated into the classroom as well where he was named to the Capitol One Academic All-America Team for a school-record 3 years. He was also named NCAA 2010–2011 Division 1 Academic All-American of the year, and he recently received the prestigious Elite 88 Award for the second consecutive year. Matt is a three-time all Horizon League First-Team player, and in 2008–2009 was named Horizon League Player of the Year. He's been named to the Horizon League All-Tournament team for three consecutive years including the tournament's Most Valuable Player in 2010. There is no doubt Matt's talent helped advance the Dawgs to the final game of the NCAA tournament.

What many may not know is the incredible support that Matt Howard has received not

only from his family, but from his community. As one of ten children, Matt grew up in a strong and loving family. When word spread that the Howard family would not be able to attend the Final 4 in Houston, their friends and neighbors donated money to pay for the family's travel expenses. The town raised over \$17,000 and the entire Howard family was able to watch Matt play in-person. Acts of kindness like this from a small East-Central Indiana town never cease to amaze me.

Today I echo the pride of Hoosiers across the state on Butler's strong performance. And I especially congratulate Matt for his leadership and strength of character throughout the tournament.

IN RECOGNITION OF COLONEL  
STEPHANIE E. DAWSON SERVICE  
AS BRIGADE COMMANDER OF  
THE 369TH SUSTAINMENT HAR-  
LEM HELLFIGHTERS UNIT

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 8, 2011*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Colonel Stephanie E. Dawson Service as Brigade Commander of the 369th Sustainment Harlem Hellfighters Unit. Col. Stephanie Dawson is the first female officer in New York National Guard history to command a brigade level unit.

Col. Dawson became the Commander of the 369th Sustainment Brigade on October 1st, 2008. Prior to that time, she was the Deputy Commander of the 369th Sustainment Brigade, a position she held for two years. As a Lieutenant Colonel, she commanded the 27th Rear Area Operations Center. Dawson's unit was one of the first New York Army National Guard units to be mobilized in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in February 2003 and returned in April 2004.

Colonel Dawson also served as Battalion Executive Officer; Support Operations officer; Ammunition Officer; Maintenance Officer; Tank/Automotive Officer; Material Maintenance Management Officer; 42nd Division, Material Management Center; Commander, Headquarters & Light Maintenance Company; Operations Readiness Platoon Leader; and Automotive Maintenance Platoon Leader.

As executive officer for the 369th Corps Support Battalion during the unit's 9-11 activation, she helped spearhead battalion relief, security, supply, transportation, and other logistics support missions for initial Ground Zero operations. Colonel Dawson was credited and acknowledged by her colleagues and company commanders for her quick and decisive response during the 9-11 attacks on the World Trade Center and their aftermath.

Dawson is a 2007 graduate of the Army War College, as well as the Army's Command and General Staff College and the Combined Arms and Services School. She also completed the Support Operations Course; the Senior Transportation Officer Advanced Qualification Course; the Ordnance Advanced Officer Course; the Ordnance Basic Officer Course; and the Academy of Health Sciences (AMEDD) Officer Basic Course.

Colonel Stephanie Dawson's military honors and awards include the Bronze Star, the Meri-

torious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, and the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal.

In civilian life she is a certified Project Management Professional (PMP) and works for the Chief Operating Officer for the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey where she is the Chief of Staff of Operations, and has previously served as the Assistant Director of Capital Programs; General Manager and Program Manager for Security Systems at the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey.

Prior to joining the Port Authority, she was an Operations Manager in banking and then held a number of positions at the Department of General Services in New York City. Col. Dawson's civilian education includes a Masters in Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College, a Masters Degree in Public Administration from Marist College, and a Bachelors of Arts in Economics from Cornell University. Dawson is also a life member of her local Veterans of Foreign Wars Post and 369th Historical Society.

Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, April 10 at 1300 hours, Colonel Stephanie E. Dawson will conclude her service as Brigade Commander of the 369th Sustainment Harlem Hellfighters Unit during the Change of Command Ceremony taking place at the 369th Harlem Hellfighters Armory in my 15th Congressional District. Please join me and a very grateful nation in a special House of Representatives salute and thank you to Brigade Commander Colonel Stephanie E. Dawson for her continued distinguished service to the New York Army National Guard and the United States of America.

The 369th Sustainment Brigade is one of nine such support units in the Army National Guard. A Sustainment Brigade provides command and control for combat service and combat service support units which enable the Army's combat teams to fight by providing fuel, ammunition, medical supplies, repair parts, and medical and other services. A Sustainment Brigade can support from one to 10 brigade combat teams depending on the number of service and support units it controls.

The 369th traces its heritage back to the 15th Infantry Regiment of the New York National Guard, an all African-American unit organized in 1916. In 1917 the regiment was sent to France and renumbered as the 369th Infantry, but because American Army officers maintained segregated combat formations, the Soldiers were initially used for supply duties. The French Army, though, was more than happy to have these Soldiers fight for them and in May 1918 the 369th went into the trenches.

Corporal Henry Johnson, a railroad porter from Albany, New York became the first American to win the French Croix de Guerre, when he fought off a German attack on his listening post. During this hand-to-hand combat, Johnson saved another soldier from capture. In tough fighting in France the 369th unit won a regimental Croix de Guerre from the French Army, and 200 individual Croix de Guerre were awarded. The unit also sustained 1,500 casualties and won itself the nickname "Harlem Hell fighters" and the respect of the German opponents and French allies. The 369th saw more frontline service than any other American unit in World War I.

In World War II the unit served as the 369th Anti-aircraft Artillery Regiment, and in the Gulf War of 1991 it served as the 369th Transportation Battalion.

CONGRATULATING CHASE  
STIGALL

**HON. MIKE PENCE**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 8, 2011*

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Chase Stigall and the rest of the Butler University men's basketball team. America watched as the Bulldogs demonstrated hard work and personal sacrifice throughout the NCAA tournament and achieved what many said was impossible. The Dawgs epitomize what the word "team" is all about, and although they did not take home the trophy, they made their state and Bulldog fans across the nation extremely proud. As Andrew Carnegie said, "teamwork is the fuel that allows common people to obtain uncommon results."

I am proud to say that many of the Bulldog players hail from my district. One such young man is Chase Stigall. He was a star player at Chrysler High School in New Castle, and he helped lead his team to victory in the Indiana Class 3A state championship. There is no doubt that his talent also helped advance the Dawgs to the final game of the NCAA tournament. I echo the pride of Hoosiers across the state on Butler's strong performance. And I especially congratulate Chase for his leadership and strength of character throughout the tournament.

REMARKS OF CONGRESSMAN JIM  
MORAN AT HIS 20-YEAR GALA  
CELEBRATION

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 8, 2011*

Mr. HOYER. My friend and colleague JIM MORAN gave these insightful remarks at his 20-Year Gala Celebration on March 29th.

CONGRESSMAN JIM MORAN'S SPEECH AT HIS 20-YEAR GALA CELEBRATION—MARCH 29, 2011

I have the best job in the world—representing the best educated, most diverse workforce in the strongest economy in the country.

Of course, there's always going to be a gap between what business can produce and what government can provide. In Northern Virginia much of that gap is filled with the personal generosity of most of you in this room. So, on behalf of the beneficiaries of your generosity, let me thank you again for your unselfishness.

After 65 years of life and 30 years in politics, I've come to realize some things that may have not been as apparent when I started out. First of all, the tragedy of so many lives I've come into contact with, didn't occur when they drew their last breath, but rather when they dreamt their last dream. The tragedy of life is what we let die inside us while we live.

Societies have many of the same organic qualities as individuals and what strikes me