

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

**HON. LAURA RICHARDSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 31, 2012*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5325) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes:

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Chair, I rise today in reluctant opposition to H.R. 5325, the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act. This bill provides \$32.1 billion, an \$88 million increase from Fiscal Year 2012 levels but \$965 million below the President's Fiscal Year 2013 request.

The purpose of the annual energy and water spending bill is to provide the funding necessary to ensure that the nation's energy and water resources are sufficient to address the nation's needs. This year's spending bill, H.R. 5325, provides funding for critical national priorities such as Army Corps of Engineers, Department of the Energy, Department of the Interior, and independent agencies that provide research and development of future energy industries, job training, and health care.

Mr. Chair, I thank Chairman FRELINGHUYSEN and Ranking Member PETER J. VISCOSKY for shepherding this bill to the floor. I appreciate the way they worked together and with my office to accommodate several of my legislative priorities regarding energy and water development programs.

Although this bill provides adequate funding for some programs that I support, it also includes numerous other provisions that are unacceptable. On balance, these unpalatable provisions outweigh the positive aspects of the bill.

This bill substantially underfunds key priorities like science and innovation which are critical to the recovery of our economy and rebuilding our waterways and ports. The bill only provides \$1.45 billion for energy efficiency and renewable energy research programs, which is \$374 million below Fiscal Year 2012 and \$886 million below the President's request.

The bill only provides \$200 million for the Advanced Research Projects Agency—Energy (ARPA-E), which is \$75 million below Fiscal Year 2012 levels and \$150 million below the President's request. ARPA-E supports breakthrough of domestic clean energy innovations.

Mr. Chair, the bill before us dramatically cuts funding for energy efficiency and renewable energy research programs by 39 percent and reduces funding for several other energy innovation programs:

Solar energy research funding is cut by nearly 50 percent from Fiscal Year 2012;

Wind energy development research is underfunded at only \$70 million, \$24 million below the Fiscal Year 2012 and \$25 million below the President's request;

Building technologies research funding is cut by more than 50 percent from fiscal year 2012 and \$185 million below the President's request. These funds are used to research en-

ergy-efficient technologies in buildings, which account for roughly 40 percent of all U.S. energy use.

This bill does not stop there. It also contains provisions that weaken energy reduction targets in new and renovated federal buildings. Buildings account for almost 40 percent of U.S. energy consumption, and as the largest consumer of energy in the U.S., the federal government should lead the way in designing and building facilities that use less energy to spur the development of new materials and technologies and to show that these reductions are practical, achievable, and cost-effective.

Section 110 of the bill would stop an Administration effort to provide clarity on which water bodies are covered by Clean Water Act (CWA). The existing regulations were the subject of two Supreme Court cases in 2001 and 2006, in which the Court indicated the need for greater regulatory clarity on the scope of CA jurisdiction.

Mr. Chair, for many of these same reasons the President has put the Congress on notice that he will "veto" H.R. 5325 if it is presented to him for signature in its present form. It makes no sense to pass a bad bill that has no chance of becoming law. We should instead be working together across the aisle to craft a bill that can win and be worthy of bipartisan and bicameral support. The bill before us does not meet this standard.

For these reasons, I will vote no on H.R. 5325 on final passage. I urge my colleagues to join me.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE HARVEY HOUSE

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 7, 2012*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Santa Lucia Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution and the historic Harvey House in Salinas, California. The Harvey House was built in 1868 by the first Mayor of Salinas, Isaac Julian Harvey. It has served, among other functions, as the principal Salinas Valley meeting location for the Santa Lucia Chapter for the last seventy five years. Mayor Harvey's daughter, Mabel Harvey, helped to found the Santa Lucia chapter and opened the Harvey House for the chapter's first meeting on October 31, 1938. Mabel's daughter Helen Currie, in turn served as the Santa Lucia Chapter's organizing Regent. On June 9, 2012, the Santa Lucia Chapter will place a plaque commemorating its longstanding relationship with this historic property, and in so doing commemorate the important place that the Salinas Valley holds in the history of California, and indeed, the nation.

The Daughters of the American Revolution, founded in 1890 and headquartered in Washington, D.C., is a non-profit, non-political volunteer women's service organization dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and securing America's future through better education for children. DAR members volunteer more than 250,000 hours annually to veteran patients, award thousands of dollars in scholarships and finan-

cial aid each year to students, and support schools for underserved children with annual donations exceeding one million dollars. As one of the most inclusive genealogical societies in the country, DAR boasts 170,000 members in 3,000 chapters across the United States and internationally.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I want to thank the Santa Lucia Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution for its work and for honoring this important landmark of Salinas history.

H.R. 5651, THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION REFORM ACT OF 2012

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 7, 2012*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, the very mechanism dictated by the Prescription Drug User Fee Act and the Medical Device User Fee Act is flawed. It is an inherent conflict of interest for drug and medical device manufacturers to pay millions of dollars in fees to the FDA that are designed to speed up regulatory approval, when the FDA is charged with making sure those drugs are safe and effective. H.R. 5651, the Food and Drug Administration Reform Act, perpetuates that flawed model.

At the same time, we have a shortage of affordable, and in some cases life saving drugs that must be addressed immediately. Currently, while the pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturers are allowed to pay to expedite approval, no such privilege exists for generic drugs. Such a competitive disadvantage has the result of keeping much less expensive and equally effective drugs off the market while boosting profits for pharmaceutical manufacturers. Our seniors deserve better than to have to split pills because pharmaceutical companies have an exclusive right to manipulate the market to pad their already massive profit margins at the expense of those in need to pharmaceuticals. This bill corrects that imbalance. This bill also begins to address the increasingly prevalent sudden episodes of shortages of drugs that are life-supporting or life-sustaining. Such episodes are immediately life-threatening if caregivers are not given sufficient notice to identify alternative supplies or treatments.

I support the Food and Drug Administration Reform Act of 2012 and will continue to work for FDA reform.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MARTIN HEINRICH**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 7, 2012*

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. Speaker, I unfortunately missed three votes today, which included rollcall votes 297, 298 and 299.

If I had been present, I would have voted against rollcall vote 297, the Previous Question on the Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 5743, H.R. 5854, H.R. 5325, and H.R. 5855.

If I had been present, I would have voted against rollcall vote 298, H. Res. 667—Rule

providing for consideration of four bills—H.R. 5743—Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013, H.R. 5854—Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2013, H.R. 5325—Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2013, and H.R. 5855—Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2013.

Lastly, I would have voted against rollcall vote 299, Representative FRANKS' (AZ-2) bill, H.R. 3541.

**CONGRATULATING JEFF RICE ON  
OVER THIRTY-ONE YEARS OF  
SERVICE AT DOLLAR GENERAL**

**HON. DIANE BLACK**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 7, 2012*

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, in today's America, it can be difficult to find employees who truly exemplify service, loyalty, integrity and commitment. Today, it is my honor to recognize Jeff Rice for his thirty-one years of service at Dollar General. Jeff first joined Dollar General as a part time employee in 1981 and began working full time on May 7, 1984.

Beginning as an order puller at the Scottsville Distribution Center in Kentucky, Jeff grew his career and his influence through his hard work and dedication to excellence to eventually become the Vice President of Human Resources for the company. The length of Jeff's tenure has only been matched by the depth of his commitment to the Dollar General family and its success.

What is truly inspirational about Jeff is the positive impact he has had on the employees at Dollar General and his community. When he retires in July, his easy smile, passion for doing the right thing, and deeply rooted values will be hard for Dollar General to replace. I congratulate Jeff on an exceptional career and wish him well in what surely will be an exceptional retirement that will undoubtedly be filled with continued service to others.

**IN HONOR OF THE FRIENDSHIP  
CIRCLE OF CLEVELAND**

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 7, 2012*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Friendship Circle of Cleveland, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing Jewish children who have special needs with a full range of social recreational and Judaic experiences; providing their parents with respite and support; and enriching, inspiring and motivating Jewish teens through sharing of themselves with others.

Led by co-executive directors, Rabbi Yossi Marozov and Mrs. Estie Marozov, the Friendship Circle offers a wide-array of programs for the children they serve. The services provided include after-school programs, volunteer opportunities, at-home assistance, and cooking classes. The Friendship Circle provides almost all of its services to special needs children by pairing them with teen volunteers.

Last fall, the Friendship Circle moved to a new 12,000 square-foot space in Pepper Pike. The new building is twice the size of their former facility in South Euclid and was retrofitted especially to accommodate the needs of special needs children.

On Thursday, June 7, 2012, the Friendship Circle will be hosting "The Art of Friendship" event. The celebration will recognize the 2011-2012 teen volunteers. It will feature a tribute to leading autism awareness advocates Shari and Michael Goldberg and a presentation by chalk artist and speaker Richard Hight.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the Friendship Circle of Cleveland, a life-changing organization for thousands of area Jewish children with special needs.

**HONORING UNIFIED GROCERS ON  
THEIR 90TH ANNIVERSARY**

**HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 7, 2012*

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Unified Grocers, headquartered in my congressional district, on their 90th year of successful serving independent grocery retailers in the state of California.

Unified Grocers was formed in 1922 by a group of 15 grocers who came together to pool their resources in order to effectively compete in the marketplace. With headquarters in the city of Commerce, California, Unified Grocers operates a milk processing plant, bakery and six major distribution centers across the country. Unified Grocers is committed to helping its members build successful long-term businesses as well as remain competitive and grow in today's economy.

Unified Grocers runs an innovative, efficient, and sophisticated distribution chain that allows its members to stock their stores with items that are needed in their individual communities. They are responsive to a changing market and dedicated to the effective operation of facilities that are right-sized, well maintained and optimally located.

I once again congratulate Unified Grocers on the celebration of their 90th anniversary. I thank them for continuing to provide quality jobs in the 34th congressional district and throughout California and for giving back to our community to make it stronger.

**IN HONOR OF MS. BETH MOONEY**

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 7, 2012*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Ms. Beth Mooney, who is being honored as the fifth recipient of the Notre Dame College Medal.

Born and raised in Midland, Michigan, Ms. Mooney's family relocated to Texas prior to her senior year of high school. She studied history at the University of Texas where she graduated summa cum laude in 1977. Following graduation, Ms. Mooney took on jobs at

First City National Bank of Houston and Republic Bank in Dallas. While working with Republic Bank, she earned an MBA from Southern Methodist University in 1983.

After more than 30 years of experience in banking, which includes serving as Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer for AmSouth Bancorporation, Ms. Mooney joined KeyCorp in 2006 as Vice Chair of Key Community Banking. Just a few years later, Ms. Mooney was made the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of KeyCorp, becoming the first woman to head one of the 20 largest independent banks in the United States.

In addition to serving as the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of KeyCorp, Ms. Mooney is a dedicated member of the Greater Cleveland community. She is a trustee and treasurer of the board of the Musical Arts Association/The Cleveland Orchestra, a trustee of The Cleveland Clinic Foundation, a trustee of United Way of Greater Cleveland, a member of The Financial Services Roundtable and board chair of Neighborhood Progress, Inc.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in congratulating Ms. Beth Mooney, the recipient of the 2012 Notre Dame College Medal.

**PERSONAL EXPLANATION**

**HON. NIKI TSONGAS**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 7, 2012*

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, I missed votes on the day of June 1, 2012, because I was unavoidably detained at a family funeral. Had I been present, I would have voted against amendments to the FY 2013 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act that sought to reduce funding for renewable energy and energy efficiency programs. I would have instead supported amendments that support and expand renewable energy and energy efficiency programs, and also increase funding for weatherization assistance and state energy programs.

Finally, I would have voted for an amendment to strike language undermining Clean Water Act protections for streams, wetlands, and other waterways. The underlying bill strikes protections that help safeguard drinking water sources from pollution, protect lives and property from flooding, and ensures the viability of economically beneficial fish and wildlife habitat.

**IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT  
OF BOOKER THOMAS**

**HON. ANDRÉ CARSON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 7, 2012*

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Booker Thomas, who has capably served as President and CEO of HealthNet, Inc. for well over a decade, on his well-deserved retirement.

Mr. Thomas has devoted his entire distinguished career to public health and public safety in predominantly poor and urban neighborhoods in cities across the Midwest. As