

have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BILL TO CONSOLIDATE PROGRAMS AT THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND ENACT THE CAMPUS SAFETY ACT OF 2011

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 7, 2012

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to consolidate programs at the Department of Justice in order to create an offset for the costs in another bill I previously introduced this Congress, the Center to Advance, Monitor and Preserve University Security, "CAMPUS," Safety Act. This consolidation bill is intended to allay the concerns some of my colleagues have expressed about the lack of an offset in the CAMPUS Safety Act. This bill will offset a majority of the costs of the the CAMPUS Safety Act, using the same offsets used in the Senate companion to the CAMPUS Safety Act, S. 1749, as introduced by Senator MARK WARNER. When the CAMPUS Safety Act is considered, we will merge the two bills together for consideration.

In order to alleviate a majority of the costs of the CAMPUS Safety Act, this bill requires that the Office of Dispute Resolution of the Department of Justice and the jurisdiction and employees of that office be transferred to the Office of Legal Policy at the Department and funded through the general administration appropriation of the Office of Legal Policy. This was proposed in the President's 2012 budget and also by Senator COBURN in his "Back in Black" report. This bill also requires the Attorney General to implement policies that will result in at least \$1 million in savings through consolidating ineffective or duplicative programs.

This bill is important because it helps to pay for the CAMPUS Safety Act, which is vitally important to our Nation's institutions of higher education. The CAMPUS Safety Act will create a National Center of Campus Public Safety, "Center," which will be administered through the Department of Justice. The Center will train campus public safety agencies, encourage research to strengthen college safety and security, and serve as a clearinghouse for the dissemination of relevant campus public safety information. By having this information in one central location, institutions of higher education will be able to easily obtain the best information available on ways to keep campuses safe and secure and how to respond in the event of a campus emergency. This bill was introduced in the House in the 110th and 111th Congresses and passed both times by voice vote.

As Ranking Member of the Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security and a Member of the Education and Workforce Committee, I strongly urge my colleagues to sign on to the CAMPUS Safety Act to help schools keep their campuses safe and free from violence.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 658, FAA REAUTHORIZATION AND REFORM ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 658, the FAA Air Transportation Modernization and Safety Improvement Act.

Mr. Speaker, we are considering this multiyear authorization after twenty-three temporary FAA extensions since 2007. The men and women who keep our skies safe deserve a long-term authorization. The American people deserve a long-term authorization. But I cannot support the long-term authorization that the conference committee has brought to us today.

There are good provisions included in this conference agreement. This agreement contains language I wrote to support service disabled veteran-owned small businesses in the Airport Improvement Program. I am also pleased that this agreement includes funding for Essential Air Service and Next Generation air traffic control systems, and that it requires airlines to implement emergency contingency plans for passengers who are subject to extended tarmac delays. It also ensures a fair collective bargaining process for our Nation's air traffic controllers.

However, the bill has a number of provisions that are serious problems, and thus I oppose the bill. For example, the bill fails to fundamentally address the transportation of lithium batteries on airplanes. Further, the bill attacks collective bargaining for other aviation employees. This conference agreement dramatically revises a 75-year-old statute that was crafted by labor-management cooperation and should not be changed without the agreement of both employer and employee representatives.

There is no reason for these provisions to be included in this bill other than the majority's desire to attack American workers' right to organize at every opportunity they get. This bill should not seek to change three-quarters of a century's worth of labor protections. The FAA reauthorization is not the place to rewrite federal labor law. And I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing it.

HONORING CHERYL McCLENNEY-BROOKER AT THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 7, 2012

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, the Philadelphia arts community is losing a highly talented administrator and dedicated advocate with the retirement in February of Cheryl McClenney-Brooker as Director of External Affairs for the Philadelphia Museum of Art after a remarkable 28 years of service.

Ms. McClenney-Brooker, born, raised, and educated in Chicago, has worked in the cultural field and the museum profession for

more than 40 years. Her professional involvement with arts and culture began in New York City as Curatorial Coordinator at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum from 1970 to 1974, then two year stints as Assistant Director of the Museums Collaborative Cultural Voucher Program and Assistant Commissioner of the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. She moved to Washington D.C. to serve for five years as Director of Humanities Projects in Museums and Historical Organizations at the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Then in 1983 Ms. McClenney-Brooker arrived on the scene of Philadelphia, the city of Brotherly Love and Sisterly Affection, to begin this most notable stage of her career at the Philadelphia Museum of Art—and seemingly everywhere in the cultural community. She has shown a special gift for leadership and inspiration in African American and Multicultural arts and culture, both in Philadelphia and as a roving ambassador around the world.

Here's just a sampling: Ms. McClenney-Brooker is a member of the boards of directors of Citizens for the Arts in Pennsylvania, African American Museum in Philadelphia, Multicultural Affairs Congress of the Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau, Philadelphia Commission on African and Caribbean Immigrant Affairs, and The Jonathan Phillip Ford Memorial Foundation for Bipolar Disorder Awareness. She was Co-Founder and, from 1990 to 2005, Chair of the City-wide Philadelphia World AIDS Day/Day Without Art observance. She has served on federal, State and municipal funding panels, corporate and foundation funding committees, and works with several national, State, and local professional and community groups.

Ms. McClenney-Brooker's honors include: a National Scholastic Art Magazine scholarship to the School of the Art Institute of Chicago; International Council of Museums' travel grant to Europe; Partners of the Americas' museum travel grant to Brazil; Leadership Pennsylvania Certificate; African American Women of Achievement Award from the African American Museum in Philadelphia; Individual Achievement Award for Arts Administration from the Pennsylvania Federation of Museums and Historical Organizations; and the Share the Heritage Award from the Multicultural Affairs Congress of the Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau.

One thing we know for sure about this tireless and selfless lady: As she transitions to "official" retirement with her husband, artist and art professor Moe Brooker, with the love of daughters Misha and Musa Brooker, she will simply have more time and energy to devote to the arts and culture projects that have consumed her life. I ask my colleagues in this House to join me in wishing good health, good times, and a productive "retirement" to Cheryl McClenney-Brooker.

RECOGNIZING MR. JAMES P. FALCONE FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 7, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. James P. Falcone of

Centreville, Virginia, on the occasion of his retirement at the end of February after 38 years of public service with the Internal Revenue Service.

Throughout his tenure with the IRS, Mr. Falcone provided an example of model leadership through his work in both tax administration and later in support operations. He served in various roles such as Director of Facilities and Operations, Director of Real Estate and Facilities Management, IRS Human Capital Officer, and the first acting Chief of Mission Assurance. During his career, Mr. Falcone assisted with many successful initiatives, including the reorganization of the IRS following the passage of the Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998. He also played a role in establishing the Mission Assurance organization following the September 11th terrorist attacks. That effort instituted new safeguards for the tax administration and assured the safety of its employees, facilities, and information systems. In addition, Mr. Falcone assisted in reducing the size of the IRS' real estate portfolio to realize operation efficiencies.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Mr. Falcone for his lifelong service to our constituents. His distinguished career and accomplishments serve as a reminder of the great value of public service to our country, and I congratulate him on his retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. MARY
ELLEN WEBER

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 7, 2012

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable woman, Dr. Mary Ellen Weber. She is a veteran Astronaut, an instrument-rated pilot, a world-class skydiver, and Vice President of Government Affairs and Policy at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas.

As a NASA Astronaut for ten years, Dr. Weber inspired and awed our nation by completing two Space Shuttle flights, 297 earth orbits, and traveling 7.8 million miles. Among the youngest Astronauts ever to venture into space, she served as a pioneer for space exploration by flying aboard the Atlantis on mission STS-101. The mission was a critical early construction project for the International Space Station, in which she spent over eighteen days in space. She helped launch \$200 million communications satellite into Earth orbit when she flew aboard Discovery in 1995 on mission STS-70. After holding prestigious positions relaying reports to NASA's highest directors, she was awarded the NASA Exceptional Service Medal.

Not only is she a veteran in space, but she is an avid skydiver and pilot. She shares a world record for the largest freefall formation with 300 skydivers. She has logged over 4,000 skydives, and received twelve silver and bronze medals from the U.S. National Skydiving Championships. In addition, she is an instrument-rated pilot with over 600 hours in NASA's jet aircraft.

Dr. Weber was destined to share her knowledge of science. She received an M.B.A. from Southern Methodist University, a Ph.D. in

physical chemistry from the University of California at Berkeley, and a B.S. in chemical engineering from Purdue University. She published eight scientific papers and received one patent. In 2003, she became Vice President of Government Affairs and Policy at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. UT Southwestern Medical Center is one highest acclaimed medical school, research, and hospital complex in Dallas, Texas.

I was sworn in as a Member of Congress in 2003 and that is how I met Dr. Weber in her role with UT Southwestern Medical Center. With her support and leadership, we were able to create a Health Care Fellowship between my office and UT Southwestern Medical Center. This successful program has provided what has become a very well regarded opportunity for Medical Doctors to have a front row seat in Congress to participate in the health care policy process. We have also partnered with UT Southwestern Medical Center on several joint events on their campus in Dallas. The Fellowship and events could not have been successfully executed without the guidance provided by Dr. Weber and the leadership at UT Southwestern.

On February 8, 2012, Dr. Weber will be leaving UT Southwestern after nine years in government affairs. Her contribution to the NASA's space program and UT Southwestern Medical Center has been unprecedented and her departure will soon leave a void in many hearts. It is my great privilege to recognize Dr. Mary Ellen Weber for the ingenuity and commitment she has shown to the people of UT Southwestern, NASA, and our Nation.

TO EXTEND THE PAY LIMITATION
FOR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS
AND FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2012

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I don't think there is anyone in this country who supports increasing pay for Members of Congress. I certainly don't, which is why I voted in favor of H.R. 3835 on Wednesday. Throughout my tenure in this body, I have continually voted to cut, freeze, and otherwise limit pay for Members. With so many folks across Virginia's First District and the nation struggling to feed their families or find a job, Congress has got to lead by example and show that it is serious about tackling this country's economic woes in a responsible manner.

An important part of being responsible, however, is the ability to be fair, and I fear that H.R. 3835 sets an unfair precedent by targeting a particular group of public servants who are already tasked to do so much for their country: federal employees. Government workers have been under a pay freeze since December of 2010, and this legislation would extend that freeze through 2013. These hard-working patriots serve our nation on a daily basis, whether it be keeping our skies safe for travelers with the FAA or supporting our troops on the front lines of the war on terror with the CIA. From the lowest GS-1 to the highest GS-15, the federal workforce is full of dedicated and committed citizens who exem-

plify patriotism in everything they do. There is no question that changing the unsustainable trajectory of this nation will take sacrifice from us all, but continually singling out federal employees is an ineffective and unjustified response to the nation's fiscal struggles.

Although I have serious concerns with the federal employee pay freeze, I ultimately voted for this legislation because Congress must lead by example and freeze our own pay first. I would like to remind my colleagues that long after we are all gone, federal employees will continue to selflessly serve this nation, as they have since its inception. Repeatedly singling them out is no way to thank them for their dedicated contributions. I am hopeful that future deficit reduction efforts in this body will focus on more realistic methods of savings that truly address the drivers of our debt so that we can foster an environment of job creation and prosperity in this country.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF OFFICER STEVEN DION GREEN, SR.

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 7, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the service of a fallen hero, Officer Steven Green of the Mobile, Alabama Police Department, who recently gave his life in the line of duty.

On February 3, 2012, Officer Green, age 36, was fatally wounded while transporting a robbery suspect. Mobile feels the deep pain of the loss of this young, dedicated protector of the peace. His untimely death has deeply saddened our community and even moved others from around the nation to add their many voices to the long list of those offering condolences to his family.

Officer Green dutifully served the Mobile Police Department and the people of Mobile since May 2010. He was stationed to the Department in the First Precinct and was on assignment in the Fifth Precinct at the time of his death.

A native of Mobile, Officer Green was a graduate of Blount High School where he distinguished himself as an outstanding athlete and member of the Varsity Football team. After high school, he contributed his considerable athletic talents and love of sports to the service of young people by coaching Little League Football.

Mr. Speaker, there is a special calling for those who would lay down their lives to guarantee the safety of others. Those who answer this call to serve with courage and conviction often don't seek the limelight or reward . . . they do what they do because they know it is right. Officer Steven Green was just such a person.

Officer Green is survived by a very large and loving family, including his dear wife, Valerie, and their lovely children, Jasmine, Tariyah, and Steven, Jr.

On behalf of the people of Mobile and South Alabama, I offer my deepest condolences to each of them and to all of Officer Green's many family, friends and fellow officers. You will never be far from our hearts as we all reflect upon the devoted service of Officer Green. May God bless you all.