

"no" on rollcall 221, the Blackburn Amendment, which sought to make indiscriminate, across the board cuts of 1 percent throughout the bill.

"no" on rollcall 222, the Broun (GA) Amendment, which sought to make draconian cuts to most of the agencies within the bill.

"no" on rollcall 223, the Southerland Amendment, which unwisely prohibits the use of funds to develop, approve, or implement fishing catch shares programs in certain areas. Catch shares have been shown to be a successful tool for managing fisheries, one we should not rule out.

RECOGNIZING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ISRAEL AND THE UNITED STATES

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2012

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to once again reaffirm my interest in maintaining a strong working relationship with Israel. Unrest in the Middle East has once again brought national security concerns to their doorstep.

Our two unwavering democracies in the United States and Israel have held firm together against outside threats for more than 60 years. As a close ally and trading partner, it is imperative that we provide training and materials for their military for years to come.

The nations surrounding Israel continue to seek nuclear weapons, an action that directly compromises the United States' security and interests. We must work together to ensure that Israel is able to defend themselves if such an event occurs. With the passing of H.R. 4133, I am pleased to see our nation again confirm its support for Israel's right to self-defense. This security cooperation will provide Israel with necessary aircraft and weaponry against the ever-present threat of attack.

The continued violence against the Israeli people must be condemned. However, as there is no immediate end in sight, the United States must stand up and continue to support Israel as they look to enhance their national security.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF DR. CHRISTOPHER T. JONES

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to honor Christopher T. Jones as he retires from the Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) in Anniston, Alabama.

Dr. Jones joined the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as Superintendent for the CDP on August 3, 2008.

He began his public service career with the Department of the Army Medical Command,

following successful completion of active duty as a U.S. Naval Medical Service Corps officer. Dr. Jones then served as Deputy Under-Secretary of Defense (Environmental Security) liaison to the U.S. Public Health Service's Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, where he worked collaboratively with Federal and State agencies addressing high-risk public health issues arising from releases of military compounds, to include weapons of mass destruction components and military munitions.

Dr. Jones earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Health Sciences from Fairmont State College and a Master of Science degree in Occupational Health from West Virginia University. Additionally, he holds an MBA from Florida Institute of Technology, with an emphasis in federal procurement and earned a Doctorate of Education from George Washington University's Executive Leadership Program. He graduated in 2010 from the Executive Leadership Program, Center for Homeland Defense and Security at the Naval Postgraduate School. He's a member of the Academy of Management and a recipient of The Surgeon General of the Army Commander's Award for Civilian Service.

As Superintendent for the CDP, Dr. Jones brought leadership to workforce, operational and contracting challenges. Dr. Jones greatly helped in achieving the mission of the National Training Program and institutionalizing the CDP as the Nation's premier first responder training center in the United States. A native West Virginian, Dr. Jones is married with three children.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my congratulations to Dr. Jones and thank him for his outstanding service to our community and our Nation.

HONORING THE 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE SAINTS PETER AND PAUL BASEBALL CLUB

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2012

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Saints Peter and Paul Baseball Club for one hundred years of service to Chicago's McKinley Park community. This year, the club will celebrate a century of quality athletics and social outreach by hosting the Centennial Celebration and Annual Dinner Dance. The Saints Peter and Paul Baseball Club has been a valuable asset to the community for many years, and I thank all those involved in the club and the current president, Mr. William Gonerka, for their dedication to our community.

The club was founded in 1912 by a group of parishioners from Saints Peter and Paul Church who realized the need for a community organization that could provide both athletic and social outlets for youth in the area. Growing with the community, the club soon expanded its sponsorship to other sports such as basketball, softball, and touch football and broadened its fundraising efforts for parishes and local schools. For the last twenty years, the club has continued its stewardship to the neighborhood by hosting communion breakfasts, trips to White Sox and Bears games,

and other parish social events. Although Saints Peter and Paul Church has since joined with St. Maurice and Our Lady of Good Counsel to form the Blessed Sacrament Parish, members of the club have continued to hold events under their original name.

For the last one hundred years, the Saints Peter and Paul Baseball Club has worked to form healthy relationships and camaraderie among the people of McKinley Park. In supporting numerous athletic programs and acting as a social organization, the club has created a safe and productive outlet for many members of the local community. The work of this organization has helped members of the community develop vital leadership skills, appreciate the value of teamwork, and cultivate self discipline. I am grateful for the Saints Peter and Paul Baseball Club's outstanding one hundred years of service and am proud of the members who keep the club active.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF FLORENCE LARIVIERE

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary woman, an environmentalist before the term was invented, one who has taught generations the value of wetlands and forests, mountains and oceans, and who learned and taught so many how to protect and preserve these immeasurably valuable resources. A gentle giant of a woman; a quiet roar of a voice; a tiny footstep with a huge footprint . . . Florence LaRiviere has righted many wrongs and prevented many environmental tragedies by the sheer force of her knowledge, determination, advocacy, participation, and persuasive talents.

Florence LaRiviere recognized the devastation that development was creating in San Francisco Bay long before others did. She saw the need for a National Wildlife Refuge and working closely with many others, she persuaded Congressman Don Edwards, despite opposition from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, to introduce legislation creating the Refuge. President Nixon signed the legislation creating it in 1972.

One of my proudest moments as a Member of Congress was the 1998 inclusion of the 1600 acres of Bair Island in the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge. Florence worked closely with me on this project, tirelessly promoting it, working with the Citizens committee, challenging the owners of the property and using many creative means to move public opinion.

Mr. Speaker, I'm very proud to have my Bay Area colleagues—Rep. ZOE LOFGREN; Rep. MIKE THOMPSON; Rep. MIKE HONDA; Rep. JERRY MCNERNEY, and Rep. JACKIE SPEIER join me in honoring this great and good woman, our dear friend of many years, as she is honored with the 2012 National Wetlands Award. This is an honor she has earned and richly deserves. We ask the entire House of Representatives to join us in thanking Florence LaRiviere for her decades of invaluable service. She is a national treasure and it is a high privilege to represent her.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2012

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I missed the following eleven rollcall votes. Had I been present I would have voted:

1. Aye—Peters (D-MI)—Page 3, Line 10—Adds \$9 million for International Trade Administration offset by cuts to Cross Agency Support—NASA.

2. Nay—Broun (R-GA)—Page 3, Line 10—3% cut to Salaries and Expenses/Administrative Accounts, \$847 million, and puts the savings into the Spending Reduction Account.

3. Nay—McClintock (R-CA)—Page 3, Line 10—Cuts \$277.8 million from the International Trade Administration and puts the savings into the Spending Reduction Account.

4. Aye—Michaud (D-ME)—Page 5, Line 17—Adds \$38 million Economic Development Administration, offset: Census Account.

5. Nay—Pompeo (R-KS)—Amendment No. 3—Cuts funding for the Economic Development Administration, \$219.5 million, and puts the savings in the Spending Reduction Account.

6. Nay—Scalise (R-LA)—Page 6, Line 7—Reduces spending and overhead of Economic Development Administration and the Department of Commerce to FY08 levels and reduces the Deficit by \$18.2 million.

7. Nay—Quayle (R-AZ)—Page 11, Line 18—Eliminates funding for Advanced Manufacturing Technology Consortia, \$21 million, and puts the savings into the Spending Reduction Account.

8. Nay—Harris (R-MD)—Amendment No. 10—Strikes \$542,000 increase from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Climate Website and puts the savings into the Spending Reduction Account.

9. Aye—Grimm (R-NY)—Page 13, Line 2—Adds \$18 million for Regional Information Sharing Systems, offset: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Climate Services.

10. Nay—Broun (R-GA)—Page 15, Line 13—Cuts \$15 million from the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery account and puts the savings into the Spending Reduction Account.

11. Aye—Runyan (R-NJ)—Page 21, Line 23—Transfers \$22.4 million from Department of Justice General Administrative Expenses to the Byrne Memorial Justice Program.

TO COMMEND THE HURLEY ELEMENTARY SCIENCE BOWL TEAM FOR REACHING THE NATIONAL SCIENCE BOWL

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2012

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Alfredo Guzman, Ulises Trejo, Vanessa Campos and Alondra Arciga of Hurley Elementary School, and their coaches Ms. Jazmine Smith-Falicetti, Ms. Roxana Del Real, and Ms. Shellie Affolter for earning the opportunity to compete in the 2012 National Science Bowl.

Two weeks ago, I had the opportunity to meet with these outstanding students and con-

gratulate them and their teachers on their success. They clearly represent our country's bright future. Their confidence, intellect, and respectfulness will take them far, and I encouraged them to pursue studies in science, engineering, and math.

The National Science Bowl is a nationwide academic competition that tests students' knowledge of mathematics and science. This competition was launched by the Department of Energy as a new way to encourage students' interest in math and science career opportunities. During the bowl, competitors participate in a fast paced question-and-answer quiz, as well as attend science seminars and workshops. Middle school teams also compete in the Lithium-Ion Battery-Powered Model Car Challenge. This challenge stimulates creativity and fosters engineering skills as students compete to design, build, and race model cars.

Since the beginning of January, regional tournaments have been held across the country narrowing the competition to the best and the brightest in the nation. Hurley Elementary was the only school from the Midway Network of the Chicago Public School system that qualified to compete in the Chicago Regional Science Bowl. Likewise, the national competition was extremely tough this year as only 44 middle school teams earned the opportunity to compete in the final rounds in Washington, D.C.

As a team of sixth graders competing against students up to two years older, it has been an amazing accomplishment for Hurley to make it to the national competition. Although they did not bring home any awards this year, I am proud that they advanced as far as they did. Their hard work coupled with natural talent will take them far in life. I commend Ms. Smith-Falicetti, Ms. Del Real, and Ms. Affolter, for motivating these excellent young minds as well. Their leadership and guidance has been an invaluable asset to this team. I am proud of these bright students and I look forward to seeing what they accomplish in the future.

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK
REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2072, the "Securing American Jobs Through Exports Act of 2011." This legislation reauthorizes for three years the charter and lending authority of the Export-Import Bank of the United States. In addition, the legislation contains several financial reforms that will help ensure the "Ex-Im Bank" remains fiscally sound so it may continue its outstanding record supporting American business increase export sales, which is perhaps the best way to preserve and increase high value manufacturing and service jobs.

As the representative of the congressional district that adjoins the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles, the largest port complex in the nation, I know first-hand the important role the Ex-Im Bank plays for U.S. exporters, and the thousands of jobs created by increased international trade.

The Ex-Im Bank is the official export credit agency of the United States and provides financial assistance for the export of American goods and services to international markets. In Fiscal Year 2011 alone the Bank supported 290,000 export-related American jobs by providing more than \$32 billion in financing to facilitate more than \$40 billion in export sales by more than 3,600 American businesses.

Since 1934, the Ex-Im Bank has served as the principal government agency responsible for aiding the export of American goods and services, thereby creating and sustaining U.S. jobs. With its 75 year track-record, the Ex-Im Bank is projected to inject \$900 million into the U.S. Treasury by facilitating the sale abroad of hundreds of billions of dollars of American made goods, which in turn will create or preserve hundreds of thousands of American jobs. In 2011 alone, the Ex-Im Bank facilitated sales supported 290,000 American jobs.

The United States must stay competitive in the emerging and competitive global market. The Ex-Im Bank assists U.S. manufacturers, small and large, in selling their products abroad. The Bank facilitates financing for foreign buyers who wish to purchase American manufactured goods, thus increasing sales, which translates into more good-paying American jobs.

Reauthorization of the Ex-Im Bank's charter will have a positive impact on job preservation and creation in the United States, and in the 37th Congressional District in California which I represent. My district is home to more than a dozen companies that export millions of dollars of products annually.

Mr. Speaker, exporters in my congressional district include a diverse group of small and large businesses as well as businesses that are minority or women owned. In the aggregate they generate about \$100 million dollars in export sales annually. I ask unanimous consent to include in the record a list of local businesses in California's 37th Congressional District that have directly benefited from financing by the Ex-Im Bank.

The Ex-Im Bank is self-sustaining and does not cost taxpayers a dime. Rather, the money it generates is returned to the U.S. Treasury, nearly \$2 billion over the past five years, and helps reduce the deficit. Moreover, since its inception, less than 2 percent of the Bank's loans have ever defaulted, and even in those cases, loss is minimized because the borrower's manufactured goods are pledged as part of the collateral for the loan.

Mr. Speaker, exports are increasingly critical to the economic growth and job creation, economy and job recovery. The Ex-Im Bank is an indispensable tool in the national effort to increase export sales. That is why I am a proud and enthusiastic supporter of H.R. 2072, which enjoys broad support from business and labor and the Obama Administration.

I urge my colleagues to join me in voting to pass this important legislation.

TRIBUTE TO SUSAN BLACK
ELWELL**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2012

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Susan Black Elwell, a constituent and a woman of strength, courage,