

HONORING DR. JAMES DEEGAN
FOR HIS 28 YEARS OF SERVICE
TO ECKERD COLLEGE

HON. C. W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Dr. James Deegan, the Vice President and Dean of Special Programs at Eckerd College, upon his retirement after 28 years of service to the college's students, faculty and staff.

Dr. Deegan is a nationally recognized advocate and expert in the field of lifelong learning and was an architect in developing a unique program called Eckerd College's Senior College. Now known as the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Eckerd College, the program has provided a series of noncredit, continuing education courses for our local residents. Senior College was the third program at Eckerd targeted toward retirees, but each offers something different. Elderhostel is marketed nationally and provides short-term residential learning programs for people from all over the country. The Academy of Senior Professionals at Eckerd College (ASPEC)—started in the early 1980s and incorporated into Special Programs in 2002—offers the intense connections of a close, almost familial, membership group that meets together regularly. ASPEC members are also more integrated into Eckerd's residential program, working with faculty, hosting a freshman picnic, mentoring African American students, and sponsoring lectures for the community. Senior College, in contrast, offers classes, tours, and discussion groups for local residents who come and go according to their interests and schedules. They tend to be younger retirees who want to meet a wide range of people and be more active.

Upon arriving at Eckerd College in June 1984 as the third Dean of Special Programs, Jim has told me that he was immediately impressed with the variety of programs that took seriously the concept of lifelong learning, with programs for young children through retirees. Under Jim's direction, Eckerd's Special Programs now stand out nationally.

Among the other programs developed under Jim's direction is the Leadership Development Institute, which was established in 1980. Its original offering was the intensive, five-day Leadership Development Program in affiliation with the Center for Creative Leadership in Greensboro, North Carolina. This leadership course is offered worldwide by CCL and has probably been attended by more people than any other leadership program.

Special Programs expanded under Jim's leadership with the creation of the Center for Conflict Dynamics. The idea grew out of a request from the Center for Creative Leadership for an original assessment instrument on conflict. Special Programs met the request by contracting with some of Eckerd's psychology faculty to develop the Conflict Development Profile. The successful tool solidified the college's relationship with the Center for Creative Leadership and became the foundation for an expanding range of services for corporations and government agencies seeking to improve their "conflict competence." The Profile has since been translated into multiple languages and is sold worldwide, and the Center for Con-

flict Dynamics is now working with clients in Germany, Brazil, and China.

The Leadership Development Institute has also expanded its services during Jim's tenure. In addition to the core Leadership Development Program, the institute has added other CCL-affiliated courses, developed original open-enrollment courses, and added customized leadership training taught on-site at companies. Since 1980, LDI has taught more than 450 5-day Leadership Development courses to more than 7,500 students and served another 3,000 students in other courses.

Mr. Speaker, it is a true honor to salute Jim Deegan's contributions to Eckerd College and our community over the past 28 years. Under his stewardship, Eckerd is one of the few undergraduate institutions of its size to have a continuing education program the size of Special Programs. It has generated significant revenue for the college and it has transformed lives—from the graduates who never thought they'd earn a diploma to retirees who needed a sense of belonging, from international students finding their way in a new country to countless Eckerd employees who learned to believe in themselves. I would ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Dr. James Deegan for a job well done and in wishing him all the best in his retirement.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF
AMERICA'S VETERANS ON THE
50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
VIETNAM WAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th Anniversary of the start of the Vietnam War. It is with a profound sense of gratitude that I honor the service and sacrifice of our nation's Vietnam veterans; the commitment and determination of our Armed Forces in the battle for freedom; the unique contributions made on the home front by the people of the United States during the war; and the crucial contributions made by our allies to stem the spread of tyranny.

By the time John F. Kennedy was elected President in 1960, the United States and the Soviet Union had already been locked in a bitter ideological, political and military struggle for more than a decade over the essential question of whether human beings are truly endowed by their Creator with the unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Soviet aggression had already spread across Eastern Europe, Asia and the Middle East; and Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev had famously declared to the West, "We will bury you." In his inaugural address, President Kennedy pledged to "pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, and oppose any foe, in order to assure the survival and success of liberty." It was in that spirit, in 1962, that the President sent U.S. military advisors to assist the people of South Vietnam to resist the aggression of the communist forces of the North.

Over the course of the next 13 years, more than two-and-a-half million American soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and Coast Guards-

men would serve in Vietnam. Allied nations such as South Korea, Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines, and Thailand all contributed forces and materiel to the effort as well. U.S. forces sent to Vietnam were the most educated of all of America's previously deployed military forces. Nearly eighty percent had a high school degree or better when they entered military service. The average infantryman in Vietnam saw about 240 days of combat in one year due to the enhanced mobility made possible by the helicopter. By way of comparison, the average infantryman in the South Pacific during World War II saw about 40 days of combat in four years. Of those who served in Vietnam, over 150,000 were wounded, more than 2,500 would become prisoners of war and over 58,000 would make the ultimate sacrifice for defense of freedom and service to our nation.

On the home front, Americans were, for the first time, able to tune in on their televisions and see the war in living color. This technology allowed newscasters such as Edward R. Murrow and Walter Cronkite to bring daily updates on the war to the American public in their own living rooms. The war became the inspiration for popular music, movies, and novels. America's experience in Vietnam led to the replacement of the military draft with an all-volunteer force, the reduction of the voting age to 18, and the passage of the War Powers Act. Americans developed a more pragmatic view of their relationship with the government, and the war renewed in many Americans a belief in the necessity of active involvement in the political process. In 1962, no one could possibly have predicted the profound cultural impact the war would have on generations of Americans; but Vietnam's lasting legacy on the American psyche cannot be denied.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is my honor to recognize the service and sacrifice of those Americans who served in our nation's Armed Forces during the Vietnam War. Their dedication to duty, their service to country, and their enormous contribution to halting the spread of tyranny around the world bear testament to the strength of the American spirit. My wife Vicki joins me in saluting our nation's Vietnam War veterans, and we wish them all the best.

IN OPPOSITION TO H.R. 5326 "COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013"

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 5326, which makes appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013. Although the bill provides adequate funding levels for many programs that I support, they are far outweighed by the unpalatable provisions in the bill. That is why I will vote no on final passage.

Let me list some of the more objectionable provisions of this bill.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

The bill reduces funding by \$93 million for National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). I also oppose the \$92 million reduction from the President's FY 2013 Budget request for the Census Bureau. A cut of this magnitude threatens the Bureau's ability to implement Economic Census data collection activities that peak in FY 2013, hindering the successful development of critical benchmarks for Gross Domestic Product estimates.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

I strongly oppose the level of funding provided in the bill as reported by the Committee for the Community Oriented Policing Services Hiring Grants Program, which is \$217 million below the President's FY 2013 Budget request. This reduced funding level would result in the loss of approximately 1,200 police hires/rehires, including veterans. In addition, some communities seriously impacted by crime would not be able to support enough police officers to effectively respond.

The Regional Information Sharing Systems (RISS) Program offers local, state, federal and tribal law enforcement access to intelligence databases, investigative support and research, equipment loans, training and publications, and field staff support, among other services. RISS is a proven, trusted and cost-effective program that has contributed to 52,350 arrests and yielded \$857 million in narcotics, property and case seizures. This represents a 223 percent return on federal investment. Today, state and local law enforcement agencies are experiencing reductions in funding and resources and are turning to RISS to cope. Nevertheless, RISS funding was severely decreased from \$45 million in FY2011 to \$27 million in FY2012 and a recommended \$27 million in FY2013. I requested an additional \$18 million for this program to return funding back to \$45 million.

Mr. Speaker, the purpose of State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) is to reimburse municipalities for the costs incurred incarcerating undocumented immigrants convicted of crimes. This program is vitally important to my home state of California. In 2009, California received \$159 million in SCAAP funds, representing over 40 Percent of the funds allocated nationwide. These funds are an important contribution towards California's cost of incarcerating undocumented immigrants, which is over \$1 billion annually. The Committee recommended federal funding for SCAAP at \$165 million, which is a cut from FY2012 levels by \$75 million and which falls below my request by \$785 million.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION (EEOC)

I also believe strongly that the Committee's funding level for EEOC, which is \$7 million less than the FY 2013 Budget request is inadequate. As the Administration points out in its Statement of Administration Policy, funding at this level would prevent EEOC from filling critical investigator positions lost through attrition, which would increase EEOC's backlog and weaken its ability to enforce Federal laws that protect individuals from discrimination based on their race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability or genetic information.

LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION (LSC)

I also strongly oppose the level of funding provided in the bill for the Legal Services Corporation (LSC), which is \$74 million below the FY 2013 Budget request. At this funding level,

tens of thousands of low-income Americans, including many military families and veterans, would be denied assistance with civil legal problems, impacting their ability to receive fair treatment in the courts.

Now Mr. Speaker, as a representative of the 37th Congressional District of California, I understand the importance of supporting emerging businesses and manufacturers. 30,000 of my constituents are employed in the manufacturing sector, and nearly 45 percent of all U.S. imports travel through the district's neighborhoods. The 37th district also includes three universities and five medical facilities, all of which benefit from funding directed at science and research.

The programs covered in this bill have a direct impact on lives across the country, and I am deeply committed to ensuring that commercial, legal and research facilities in my district are able to continue their important work. I would note briefly the provisions in the bill as amended that I do support:

1. U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA): The EDA is the only federal agency focused on private sector job creation. It provides infrastructure grants, strategic planning assistance, business development capital, and technical assistance in economically distressed areas. The Committee approved funding at \$219.5 million, or 92.2 percent of my funding request.

2. Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) Program: MEP is the only public-private program dedicated to providing technical support to small and medium sized manufacturers to improve efficiency, productivity and profitability. In FY2009 alone, MEP projects created or retained 52,948 jobs, generated more than \$9.1 billion in sales and provided cost savings of more than \$1.41 billion. The Committee met my request for funding at \$128 million.

3. Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA): MBDA works to foster the growth and competitiveness of minority-owned U.S. businesses. Minority firms currently provide nearly 5.8 million jobs but have the potential to create 17.5 million jobs, leading to stronger communities and a bolstered economy. The Committee designated \$28,689,000 for the agency, 94.2 percent of my request.

4. Department of Justice Youth Mentoring Grants: This account is the sole remaining source of federal funding to support mentoring for at-risk youth. The account provides grants to non-profit organizations that reduce youth interaction with the juvenile justice system, which proves to be a cost-effective method for reducing the likelihood of drug and alcohol use while improving academic performance and family relations. The Committee exceeded my request and FY2012 funding by allocating \$90 million.

5. National Science Foundation (NSF): This funding will allow NSF and universities to sustain and expand their vital research and education programs, which range from improving science education to developing multimedia technologies to improve telemedicine. This significant investment will support technological advancement here at home and properly train the country's next generation of scientists and engineers. Funding for FY2013 is \$7.3 billion, which is 97 percent of my request.

6. Services, Training, Officers, Prosecutors (STOP) Formula Grant Program: As the cornerstone of VAWA, STOP awards funds to every state and territory to create and sustain

coordinated community responses and trainings for law enforcement, prosecutors, judicial personnel, and victim advocates. This coordinated response has been proven effective in helping hundreds of thousands of victims find safety and holds perpetrators accountable for their actions. The Committee recommends funding at \$189 million, 92.2 percent of my request.

7. VAWA Transitional Housing Assistance Grants Program: After fleeing dangerous and abusive situations, survivors must rebuild their shattered lives. The VAWA Transitional Housing Program provides an essential continuum between emergency shelter and independent living, helping victims move from crisis to stability. The Committee met my funding request of \$25 million.

8. Victims of Trafficking Grant Program: There are currently 40 task forces nationwide that integrate federal, state and local law enforcement with prosecutorial and victim service organizations to prevent and prosecute human trafficking and to protect the victims of trafficking and slavery. I supported the continuation of this task force program, and the Committee has set funding at \$13.5 million, 90 percent of my request.

9. Community Relations Services: CRS provides resources and tools to address community conflicts that arise from racial and ethnic tensions. The Committee recommended \$11,456,000 for these services, or 95.1 percent of my request.

10. Trade Adjustment Assistance for Firms: The TAAF program is the only trade adjustment assistance program that works with economically distressed U.S. manufacturers impacted by international trade agreements, offering technical assistance to help them remain employers in their communities. Its continuation is critical to the sustainability and growth of domestic manufacturing, and the Committee met my request of \$15.8 million.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the decision of the Appropriations Committee to fund the programs I have described at a level consistent with my requests and want to express my thanks to Chairman WOLF and Ranking Member FATTAH for their responsiveness. It is my hope that the more problematic provisions of the bill will be corrected as the process goes forward so that the final version of the bill can be signed by the president and worthy of my support.

6TH ANNUAL DC LATINO PRIDE

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the 6th annual DC Latino Pride, the national capital region's celebration of our Latino lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community.

The Washington, D.C. metropolitan area has had an identifiable Latino LGBT community since the early 1960s. However, the community remained largely invisible until the first LGBT March on Washington in 1987. DC Latino Pride's parent organization, the Latino Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender History Project, began in 2000. The organization