

For Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grants, nearly 400,000 fewer women and children would be served by these block grants that go to the State to provide the essential services in the local communities. And so the ripple effect down our State and throughout our communities would be so tremendous because these services provide a wide range of health care and they allow the expansion of certain quality health care programs for children, for example, with disabilities.

In California, we would be facing, should sequestration happen, 2,000 fewer women having access to breast and cervical screenings, the preventive services that keep cancer full-blown from occurring in these women's lives, so costly to them personally, to their families, but also taxpayers, and nearly a million dollars—and this is what I want to close by focusing on, because we don't stop and think when we cut a million dollars from the Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education Program, in sequestration a million dollars would be cut just for these training programs in California. That program makes sure that we have enough resources necessary to train the next generation of pediatric physicians, people who are there on the front line with families to pull them through what they face in life.

I met the real-life impact of this program when a remarkable young man came to Capitol Hill from California last year, Max Page. Now, you may not remember his name, but you probably remember if you watched the Super Bowl in 2011 little Darth Vader in the ad, the popular Volkswagen Super Bowl commercial. He's a real young child. He's only 7 years old. And I came to meet him here on Capitol Hill last year. He was born with a congenital heart defect—not uncommon. But it has required numerous surgeries during the 7 years of his short life.

□ 1520

He is being treated at Children's Hospital in Los Angeles, which my colleagues from California know very well as an outstanding medical facility serving a wide region in the Southwest.

Last year, when Max came to Washington with his parents and little brother, he came to tell Members of Congress his own story and how important it is that we continue to invest in preparing new doctors to care for our children. I know it's every parent's worst fear what will happen if their child becomes sick, not just a runny nose or a sore throat, but seriously ill with perhaps a life-threatening or a chronic condition that needs lifelong treating. We owe it to every parent in America to do what we can to make sure that every child has access to the best health care available if they need it. We don't want them to be concerned that there is not going to be that trained pediatrician, that hospital to send their sick child to should that happen, and it's because we couldn't

get our act together and avoid the sequestration.

So I'm so pleased that you took the time to organize this hour of sharing with the American people the impact of sequestration, that it would have such a profound effect on our lives when we think about ensuring that every child in America gets a healthy start to life. We take it for granted that every small child needs and deserves this right in this country that we are proud to live in, the United States of America.

So we need to come together now on behalf of our Nation's children and their mothers and their families to stop these sequestration cuts, to ensure that we have a balanced approach to reducing our debt, and to continue to support our communities and the frontline services that they provide to our families, because our smallest, our most vulnerable and their families, they're depending on us now in this hour.

So again, I thank you for bringing us together, my colleague from Illinois, and for focusing us on the real-life impact of what we're facing here with the cliff.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Let me also just underscore the point you made about training pediatricians and pediatric specialists. That would affect, across the board, everyone who seeks—this is not just for vulnerable communities or individuals, but all of us with small children want to make sure that the doctors are there when our kids may need them. So this is very important. I'm glad you brought them up. Thank you.

Mrs. CAPPS. Thank you for this opportunity.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. I want to just mention another cost-effective reason that we should avoid cuts. For example, we have immunization programs that decrease our future health care costs, and let me just give you the actual dollar numbers.

Every dollar we spend on the childhood vaccine series through this program saves our health care system \$16.50 in future medical costs. By anybody's estimation, that's a really good return on investment, \$16.50 back for every dollar that we spend on childhood vaccines.

Another aspect of sequestration cuts that would really hurt everyone are the cuts for research into the health challenges facing our country. The proposed cuts to the National Institutes of Health of almost \$2.5 billion will cause irreparable harm to our research infrastructure and our ability to treat and cure diseases. Eliminating funding for almost 2,400 research projects will decrease our ability to identify new methods to prevent and combat health challenges such as cancer and diabetes, impede our ability to remain the world leader in biomedical research, eliminate jobs in local communities throughout this country, and hinder our ability to train and develop the fu-

ture leaders of our biomedical sciences workforce. Research into costly diseases affecting mothers and babies will be especially harmed by these cuts.

The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, which is responsible for conducting and funding research into these diseases, has the lowest percentage of grant applications funded of all the NIH institutes. The \$106 million cut to the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development will likely worsen this trend and dampen our hopes of finding innovative treatments and cures for conditions that are affecting mothers and babies. These are just some of the examples of the devastating effect of sequestration cuts to maternal and child health programs and research. We can't afford these cuts.

So I just want to end this hour by saying that all of us want to make sure that we do put our fiscal house in order. But the real question is, at what cost are we going to do it to certain people? Who is actually going to pay? I think we all have an interest in making sure that we keep our children, our mothers, and our families healthy, well fed, and make sure that we raise productive children in this country.

I yield back the balance of my time.

HONORING MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PLATTS). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, today we honor seven Members of Congress from California who have honorably served in the United States House of Representatives. The combined experience, knowledge, and expertise of my departing colleagues will be sorely missed.

I have been joined by some of my California Members who will be coming in and out; they may wish to speak and we will be happy to yield to them. But first we have a good friend from North Dakota who is also departing, U.S. Representative RICK BERG, and I will yield to him.

Mr. BERG. I want to thank the gentleman from California.

It's been a distinct honor for me to represent the people of North Dakota in this Congress, the 112th Congress.

I ran for Congress because I believed that we needed to continue to have an economic environment, an economic climate that has stability and encourages growth and encourages jobs. And I'm sure we can all agree that there is more work that needs to be done. But I'm hopeful in the days, the weeks, the months, and the year ahead that we can finally come together, not as Democrats and not as Republicans, but as Americans who are concerned about the future and concerned about that next generation. In doing so, I know

that we will tackle the challenges that our country faces.

I'm always proud to tell the people I meet that I represent North Dakota. Down here in Washington, we are the envy of the Nation. We have the lowest unemployment in the country, a budget surplus, we are seeing unprecedented economic growth, and one of the brightest futures ahead.

To the great people of the State of North Dakota, I want to express my deepest gratitude for giving me the opportunity to be North Dakota's voice, a voice here in the U.S. House of Representatives for the last 2 years. I would also like to thank my staff for their hard work. I've put them through some long hours serving the people of North Dakota, and I know the people of North Dakota appreciated the hard work and the dedication that they brought forward.

My faith in the democratic process is unwavering, and I truly believe that America's brightest days are ahead. Serving the people of North Dakota in Congress was an adventure and an experience of a lifetime. It's something that I will always look back at with pride and appreciation. Personally, I'm not sure what lies ahead, but I'll say this: it will be great spending a lot more time in the great State of North Dakota. Thank you, and may God bless.

Mr. CALVERT. I thank you for your service.

Mr. Speaker, we have a number of people coming shortly, but first I'd like to say some words about the dean of our California delegation, JERRY LEWIS.

JERRY was first elected in 1978 to the United States House of Representatives. We're losing a great man with the retirement of a good friend to all of us, and certainly a mentor to me, JERRY LEWIS.

□ 1530

From his early days in Congress, JERRY LEWIS has worked tirelessly for the good of the Nation and for the well-being of his constituents. Whether it was securing water supplies for southern California, rebuilding our defense programs, supporting the nascent unmanned aerial vehicle, eliminating wasteful spending, or improving the quality of life for thousands of Inland Empire residents, JERRY LEWIS has been the definition of a leader and a patriot.

His great depth of knowledge will be sorely missed by the entire House and especially the House Appropriations Committee, where he served as the chairman and ranking member. I know all of us are grateful for JERRY's years of service to our country, and we'll miss his vision, his leadership, his sense of humor, and certainly his intellect.

I congratulate JERRY on his retirement. And while he will be deeply missed in Washington, D.C., he has much to look forward to as he enjoys

retired life with his wonderful wife, Arlene, his children, and his grandchildren.

Next I would like to take a moment to say a few words about the former California attorney general, Congressman DAN LUNGREN. Congressman LUNGREN was first elected to Congress in 1978, where his legal background was instrumental in his leadership on judiciary, criminal justice, and immigration issues. He was called back to State service in 1989 and successfully ran for attorney general, where he served from 1991 to 1999.

As attorney general, Congressman LUNGREN helped author, and later defended in court, California's landmark Three Strikes and You're Out law. During his tenure and due to his tough on crime policies, crime plunged 30 percent to historic lows in California.

After a few years in the private sector and the aftermath of September 11, 2001, Congressman LUNGREN decided to return to Congress and was reelected in 2004. Since his return, Congressman LUNGREN has used his time and talents as a member of the Judiciary and the Homeland Security Committees.

Throughout his career, Congressman LUNGREN has been supported by his wonderful wife, Bobbi, and their family.

Thank you, Congressman LUNGREN. Your contributions to both California and our country will be long remembered. And I know you're very proud of your alma mater, Notre Dame, as they head toward another national championship.

Now I would like to return to California again with DAVID DREIER, who is the current chairman of our California Republican delegation. DAVID was elected as part of the Reagan revolution in 1980. He has remained true to the principles of free markets, free trade, limited government, strong national defense, and personal freedom during his 31 years of service.

Congressman DREIER holds the distinction of being the youngest chairman of the House Rules Committee and the first from California. As chairman of the Rules Committee, Congressman DREIER has been instrumental in restoring regular order to the House, ensuring Members' voices are heard on legislation, and supporting the ideals of civil debate in the House.

Congressman DREIER has also been a leader in reforming Congress to increase transparency, demand accountability, and ensure dignity of the United States House of Representatives.

In 2001, Mr. DREIER was unanimously selected by his California colleagues to chair the State's Republican congressional delegation, where he leads California's House Republicans on critical statewide issues. Congressman DREIER's leadership, especially as chairman of the House Rules Committee, will be sorely missed.

Next is someone I have also worked with for many years. We had worked

together to address California water supply issues and reform the Endangered Species Act, Congressman WALLY HERGER.

WALLY has been a tremendous asset to his constituents and certainly to this body. During his time in Congress, Congressman HERGER has been a vocal and active supporter of efforts to enhance and improve flood control and water storage infrastructure to meet the public health and safety needs of growing communities in northern California. He's also been a strong supporter of improved forest management to protect communities from catastrophic wildfire and provide local economic development opportunities. Accordingly, he has been a champion of several pieces of commonsense forest health legislation, including the Herger-Feinstein Quincy Library Group Forest Recovery Act of 1998 and the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000.

Congressman HERGER was instrumental in the reauthorization expansion of the 1996 welfare reform law. The reauthorization measure enacted in 2006 strengthened the 1996 law to help even more parents on welfare go to work and further strengthened their families.

In the 112th Congress, Congressman HERGER was selected chairman of the House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Health and was a leader in fighting the government takeover of health care.

In addition to many accomplishments in Congress, Congressman HERGER and his wife, Pamela, are proud parents and grandparents of 9 children and 12 grandchildren. Congressman HERGER's spirit, tenacity, intelligence, and leadership have been the hallmark of a distinguished career, and we certainly salute him as he retires.

And I'm now happy to yield to Mr. HERGER.

Mr. HERGER. I thank my good friend from California (Mr. CALVERT) for those kind remarks and your great friendship over the years and great leadership that you have offered.

I was deeply honored and humbled when the good people of northern California elected me 26 years ago to be their Representative. I came to Washington as President Ronald Reagan, one of my personal heroes, was wrapping up the final years of his second term. That was more than a quarter century ago, and yet the years have moved by at a breathtaking pace.

Time does not permit me to even begin to recount the memories. There have been incredible highs and incredible lows, but I always treasure the time I was allowed to serve in this amazing institution that was forged by the wisdom of our Founding Fathers.

I have mixed feelings today. I will deeply miss the company of dedicated colleagues who have become my good friends. I value and treasure the members of my staff who have literally become a second family, and I know I will

feel a sense of loss when we say good-bye. I know that when I pick up the morning newspaper next January and I read about the enormously important issues that are being put to a vote, a part of me will wish I could still be here to fight the battle.

And yet I look forward to the next phase of my life. I want to see more of those 12 grandchildren. I get to have more time with my dear wife, Pam, the most supportive spouse any man could hope and pray for. And I know that when I step down, a host of deeply committed patriotic colleagues will do everything in their power to advance the cause of liberty.

I am greatly encouraged by the dedication and passion of the large class of Republican Members who were swept into office in the historic election of 2010. I am also very gratified that northern California will be represented next year by a Republican freshman who knows what it is like to drive a tractor and get mud on his boots. I have confidence in this new generation of leaders.

I cannot leave this Congress without saying a few words about the wonderful people of northern California. In my rural district, you will find farmers with rough hands and sunburned faces. You will find tough timber fallers and mill workers. The people of rural northern California have that old-fashioned and refreshing patriotism that leads them to post this kind of sign at the county line: "Where we honor veterans."

In my two decades of service, the thing that has always struck me the most about my constituents is that what they really want most from the Federal Government is simply to be left alone. They do not want a new program. They want to run their small businesses, their farms, and their mills without being wrapped up in 15 yards of red tape. They want to compete. They want to prosper.

They understand the premise of this country: personal liberty; the freedom to pursue a dream; the concept of risk and reward. That's not too much to ask. For their sake and for the sake of all Americans, I ask my colleagues to get back to the roots of our Nation, to freshly embrace our heritage, to trust the ingenuity of the American people to thrive and prosper if we will simply get out of their way.

I have deeply appreciated the opportunity to serve with you, and I extend my deepest thanks to the constituents of northern California for allowing me the extraordinary privilege of fighting for them in the United States House of Representatives.

□ 1540

Mr. CALVERT. I thank the gentleman. I want you to know how much of a privilege and an honor it has been for me to serve with you for the last 20 years. I'm grateful.

Mr. HERGER. I thank my good friend.

Mr. CALVERT. Next, I yield to DAN LUNGREN, one of our senior Members, a former attorney general from the State of California. I have to point out he is a great fan and alumnus of Notre Dame.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. I thank my friend for yielding, and I must say that I very much appreciate the time that he has taken to recognize those of us who are leaving this institution who hail from the State of California.

Twenty-four years ago, in 1988, I stood on this floor during this month to say good-bye to the House for the first time. I was privileged to be elected in 1978, just before Ronald Reagan came to Washington, D.C. I was proud to be one of the first seven Members of Congress to endorse him for President in 1979 and to travel with him at that time. I recall that whenever he was campaigning east of the Mississippi, he asked those of us Members of Congress who supported him to attend his political press conferences with him. What we would do is basically stand behind him and use ourselves as a backdrop to show that Ronald Reagan had some connection with Washington, D.C. It was a proud moment for me.

It was even a greater experience for me to serve for 8 years in the Congress while he was President of the United States. He, in fact, showed that you can change a country and you can change a world through the power of your ideas. It was wonderful to be a foot soldier in the army of Ronald Reagan as we transformed this House, as we transformed this Congress, as we transformed this Nation, and as we allowed liberty to ring much louder than it had before.

One of my proudest moments in the House of Representatives is being a member of the House Administration Committee that accepted the statue of Ronald Reagan from the State of California to be one of the two official statues here in the House Chamber. I was privileged to write the legislation which officially accepted it. If you look at that legislation, it permanently places the Ronald Reagan statue in the rotunda of the United States. So it will take a positive vote of the Congress to ever remove it. That is probably appropriate.

When people look at that statue of Ronald Reagan, they should see the crack along the base, and those cracks are there because that is a piece of the Berlin Wall with Ronald Reagan standing above it. Our belief at the time was that this would allow for generations in the future, children in the future, when they're accompanied by their parents, to ask their parents why they would put a statue here honoring a President that's cracked at its base, and it will allow those parents and others to explain to those children the story of the defeat of communism and the victory of freedom.

For 10 years, I was able to work here in the House. I went home 2 years later

and ran for attorney general. I was lucky enough to be attorney general of California for 8 years. Following an unsuccessful attempt to be Governor, I thought that I was finished with public service, but I happened to be here in Washington, D.C. on 9/11. I happened to be one of those not here in the Capitol, but in an office building downtown, one of those which was evacuated. We stood on the street corner for hours until we were allowed back in the building.

I recall that while it was a terrifying moment, it was a unifying moment because people that you didn't know, black, white, Hispanic, and Asian, were all coming up to one another and asking who was attacking us. It was a threat, but it was also unifying in that we felt they were attacking us. It didn't matter what our color was. It didn't matter what our religious belief happened to be. It was that we were all Americans.

I was joining a law firm at the time, and I was going to have an office here in Washington, D.C., and I had the copies of the Constitution of the United States and the Bill of Rights that had been made off the original copies and given to those of us as Members of Congress on the bicentennial of the Constitution. After I went back to the office, I got a hammer and some nails, and I tacked it up to the wall because I was trying to make a statement that no matter who it was that was attacking this Nation and us, they weren't going to succeed and they weren't going to destroy this country and they weren't going to destroy this constitutional democracy. I vowed at that time if I had the opportunity, I would seek public office again to see if I could add something to the fight against terrorism.

So I've been privileged to be a member of the Homeland Security Committee for 8 years, and I've been privileged to be a member of the Judiciary Committee where we've worked on FISA, the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, and we worked on other acts that were extremely important like the PATRIOT Act, where on the one hand we ensured that the civil liberties of this country would not be trampled upon, but we also ensured that this Nation would not be destroyed by those who wish us ill and wish to destroy us.

I've been privileged to serve as chairman of the House Administration Committee and served before that as the ranking member in attempting to try and make this House function better and attempting to help Members become better Members in servicing their constituents, and to try and provide a modicum of security for this House to ensure that this institution is not attacked physically or through the cyberworld, or in other ways.

I have to say when you are lucky enough to be one of the less than 11,000 people in the history of this Nation to be a Member of this House, to be a Member of the Congress, you realize how lucky you are, you realize what a

privilege it is, and you realize that this institution was here before you were, will be here after you leave; and if you can put a mark on it that helps it maintain its integrity and allows it to be the symbol of freedom that it has been, that you will have achieved something.

One of the things I attempted to do, and was successful in, was making sure that the national motto “In God We Trust” is not only here over the rostrum, but as people come to the new entry way to the Congress of the United States, the CVC, the Capitol Visitors Center, the first thing they see are the words “In God We Trust” illuminated in stone. So in a funny way you can say I left my mark on this place. One would not think it would be controversial; but believe it or not, we were sued for putting that up there. But it is there, and it will be there as long as this institution remains.

I would just say thank you to those who have elected me. I was privileged to serve from southern California and northern California. I was privileged to represent the entire State. I was privileged to have my children on the floor with me as I was sworn in and have my grandchildren on the floor with me when I was sworn in in my second tour. Not many men and women get that opportunity. So I thank the people of my State.

I thank my colleagues from all over the country, but particularly those from California. We are a band of brothers and sisters. We’ve worked together over the years. We have worked, I think, with integrity, with honesty, and hopefully with a modicum of humility, understanding how important this place is and understanding that as long as you consider what you do important and yourself not so important, you will succeed.

So I thank my friend from California, and I thank my colleagues from California for this opportunity to at least say another good-bye.

□ 1550

Mr. CALVERT. I thank the gentleman. I certainly wish you well, and I know Notre Dame will do very well in the coming days and weeks.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Will the gentleman yield for just one moment?

Mr. CALVERT. I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. It was 24 years ago that I left this House, I went to the LA Coliseum, I saw Notre Dame beat SC, and then I went on to see them win the national championship. Last Saturday, I went to the LA Coliseum, and I saw Notre Dame beat SC. In 6 weeks, I’m going to go to the national championship game and see Notre Dame win again. I don’t know whether I’ll have another 24 years, however.

Mr. CALVERT. I thank the gentleman.

We are going to go out of order for a minute, and I yield to our good friend from Illinois (Mr. DOLD).

Mr. DOLD. I want to thank my good friend for yielding, and I certainly want to thank my colleague Mr. LUNGREN, who is the chairman, for his leadership over the course of these many years.

It is, indeed, one of the highest honors and privileges of my life to be able to represent the people of Illinois’ 10th Congressional District in this esteemed body. I’ve always remembered who I work for and what they wanted to see accomplished, and the importance of bringing thoughtful, independent leadership to the Congress.

When I first ran, I saw far too many people—far too many Americans—who were struggling and out of work in a tough economy. As a small business owner, I certainly understand firsthand the pressures that small business owners and family businesses are facing all across the country. I felt that the Federal Government was making it harder and harder for me to put the key in the door and open up my business each and every day. Frankly, they should be doing quite the opposite. We here should be trying to make it easier for businesses to open up their doors, easier for them to hire that next individual.

I’ve talked at length in this Chamber about my Main Street Jobs Agenda. With its focus on pro-growth tax reform, increasing exports and manufacturing, access to capital for small businesses, making investments in infrastructure, utilizing domestic energy resources, the importance of STEM education, and implementing smarter regulations as opposed to simply more of them, I do believe that this is the best recipe for moving our country forward and for getting our economy back on track. Now, there is certainly much more work to be done in the future, but I do want to recognize two important steps that we have taken in the 112th Congress.

This Chamber has advanced—and I have been proud to support—a framework for tax reform that is focused on economic growth and on providing much-needed tax relief to American families. The realization of this tax reform will be essential in helping our economy reach its full potential in the future.

I am also proud of the work that we have been able to do to promote domestic manufacturing, exports, and jobs created by them. As the second-largest manufacturing district in the Nation, we know how important it is to have trade agreements, which we passed with Colombia, Panama and South Korea, and we are already seeing the positive impact that these agreements are having today on jobs back home.

I would also like to take this time to highlight a number of more locally focused achievements, specifically noteworthy for the people of Illinois’ 10th Congressional District.

For nearly 20 years we’ve been working closely with the local coalition of stakeholders and the Army Corps of

Engineers, with the U.S. EPA and the Illinois EPA to try to clean up Waukegan Harbor and to delist it as an area of concern. For Lake County, it is the gateway to the Great Lakes. I am pleased to say that that cleanup has begun and that we are going to delist that. That did happen under our watch, and it’s something that a number of us are very, very proud of.

Of vital interest to every person in the 10th Congressional District is our transportation system. In this Congress, we passed a 2-year transportation bill, one which I can say is good and fair for our district. I fought hard and, yes, even broke with the party when I felt that the legislation that was drafted would jeopardize our priorities and the people in the district. Fortunately, these concerns were remedied in the final legislation, and I am proud that we were able to come together in a bipartisan fashion to pass a transportation bill.

I also want to highlight the STOCK Act, which included some legislation that I had fought for—my “no pensions for felons” language. This provision strengthened existing Federal law to ensure that taxpayers are not funding congressional pensions for lawmakers convicted of public corruption crimes. As residents of Illinois are all too familiar with our recent Governor, Rod Blagojevich, this provision has special meaning, unfortunately, to the constituents of Illinois. Yet the interests of the people of the 10th District and, I would argue, of our country obviously carry beyond our own borders.

I was proud to lead an early effort in showing a commitment of the House freshmen to make sure that foreign aid in this early budgetary crisis would not be jeopardized for our one true ally in the Middle East, the State of Israel. This included showing some support for what has now become widely known as the Iron Dome rocket defense system, but our focus in the Middle East certainly has not stopped there.

We have gone to great lengths in this Congress to zero in on what I believe is the greatest threat we have to our own national security, and that is a nuclear armed Iran. I’ve been pleased to team with Representative TED DEUTCH and Senator KIRK on a number of bills to confront this threat. Our actions have ranged from strengthening sanctions on Iran’s energy sector to promoting human rights and democracy inside Iran and much more. In fact, one of our most important accomplishments in this Congress will have been a strong sanctions package, which passed both Houses this summer and which included these provisions that we authored.

Finally, I would like to highlight the ongoing work to pass a bipartisan budget agreement. This is an initiative that I have been proud to advance, starting with a bipartisan letter that urges the supercommittee to go big—to put everything on the table—with a debt reduction agreement that puts literally everything that people don’t

want to talk about out into the open and on the table in order to try to structure a deal that will, in essence, put our economy on a course to fiscal solvency.

I certainly look forward to continuing these bipartisan efforts. Yet again, we find ourselves today at the fiscal cliff. Just today, I had an opportunity to sit down with Erskine Bowles and Alan Simpson and other members of the "brave 38" who voted for the only bipartisan budget to come to the floor in, I guess, a generation. I hope that we can come together and talk about something bigger—bigger solutions, not deals. We want solutions to the problems we face because that's what the American public, I believe, needs.

Governing in a democracy is not easy. It requires compromise, and it requires working together. Yet, as I've often said, putting people before politics and progress before partisanship is the only way that we can truly move this country forward and to have a better future.

Mr. CALVERT. I thank the gentleman for his service.

Next, I would like to recognize our dean, the dean of the California Republican delegation, Congressman JERRY LEWIS.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Thank you very much, my colleague KEN CALVERT, for holding this hour for members of the California delegation and for friends beyond that. Your kind remarks earlier about my work here is much more than I would like to take the time to talk about, but I do very much appreciate your mentioning my bride, Arlene, in all of this because, as you know, she is my partner in all of my work.

In thinking about any remarks that might have been made regarding my years of service here, one of the first things that comes to mind was early on in my career when I experienced a major flood in California, the 1938 flood. I'll never forget dropping a ping-pong ball out my back window. It fell a couple of feet and hit the water and floated out through the back fence. During my years of service here we've had a chance to address questions like that. The Seven Oaks Dam—a huge facility in southern California sponsored by the Corps of Engineers—made it possible to assure that such a flood will never occur again in the region known as the Inland Empire.

It has been a great privilege of mine, most of all, to recall the fact that the vast percentage of issues that we deal with here in the House have almost nothing to do with partisan politics. It's very, very important that we be willing to recognize that, in working together, we can make a difference on behalf of the American people.

At home, issues like the Proton Therapy Center at Loma Linda University, which provides for a noninvasive cancer treatment that has a dramatic impact upon issues like small tumors

in the human brain, like prostate cancer, even breast cancer—a noninvasive treatment as a result of nonpartisan, bipartisanship support for the kind of medical research that is a part of the National Institutes of Health.

Over the years, probably the greatest privilege I've had is to serve for a short time as the chairman of the full Appropriations Committee, the committee where I've spent my life. During that time, issues like the unmanned aerial vehicle, which has been a part of our work, have, indeed, made a difference for those of us who care about making certain that in the future America continues to be the force for peace in the world.

□ 1600

But most importantly, Congressman CALVERT, I want you to know that as the new chairman of the California Republican delegation, I'm proud of the fact that you are my colleague and friend. In the years ahead, we will continue to work together on behalf of the people of our region.

Mr. CALVERT. I certainly thank the gentleman. Not only has he been a great colleague of all of us in California, but a great friend to every one of us. I'd say we'll miss you, but I know we will be seeing you around both in California and here in Washington, D.C.

Next, I would like to introduce the new dean of the California delegation, the incoming dean next year, DANA ROHRBACHER from Orange County, California.

Mr. ROHRBACHER. I would say that I have big shoes to fill, but I don't think I will ever be able to fill Congressman LEWIS' shoes. He has a list of accomplishments that I just don't know anybody else in this body who has more to be proud of and more over the years who's meant as much to me as JERRY LEWIS.

When he talked about the dam, I happen to represent an area in California, Orange County, California, in which that man, because of what he did, with Mr. CALVERT at his side, has built the Santa Ana River project that protects tens of thousands of homes from flood damage, and it was due to their hard work. I was supporting them, but they were providing the leadership that got that through the Congress.

So today we are saluting JERRY LEWIS, but also saluting the other Members who are not going to be with us next year:

WALLY HERGER, who was here earlier, a man who fought so long and hard for the timber industry and the economic well-being of Northern California;

DAN LUNGREN, who is a highly principled person who we all look to, a man with strong religious and principled positions, you can't help but admire him, and a man who was the attorney general of the State of California as well as then running for Congress twice. I might add that I took DAN LUNGREN's seat when he decided not to run for

Congress and run for higher office in the State of California;

DAVE DREIER, who is one of the best liked people here in the United States Congress—besides JERRY LEWIS. I will have to say, DAVE DREIER is one of the nicest guys. And he has had such authority in his hands, and it is very hard to be as nice as DAVE DREIER is and to hold the authority he has as chairman of the Rules Committee;

BRIAN BILBRAY, he is leaving us as well. BRIAN, from San Diego, I have had a lot of problems with BRIAN because before he was elected, I was the best surfer in the United States Congress. Of course, there were no other surfers at that time, so that accolade really wasn't as important. But then BRIAN comes along and spoils that little bragadocio that I was able to do. BRIAN has been so active on science issues. I have worked closely with him on small modular reactors and on water quality for our coastline;

MARY BONO MACK is perhaps one of the most lovely Members of Congress that I can imagine. She has been hardworking. She came here with her husband. Her husband, as we know, had an accident. She was elected in his seat and has done a terrific job ever since she took office in this very tragic way, but she made the most of it. She has done wonderful things for the Inland Empire in California;

And finally, ELTON GALLEGLY, who represents the area of southern California up in the area where you have the Reagan Library, which is located in his district. ELTON GALLEGLY was a mayor before he came to the House of Representatives. He represents more than just about anybody else here of that promotion, that natural evolution of someone who has been active in their community, was elected to local office, and then came to serve his time in Washington to put those skills to use for his country.

So all of these people have made huge contributions. It's been my honor.

Before I came to work here, for 7 years I worked in the Reagan White House. I worked for President Ronald Reagan. I thought that was going to be the greatest honor of my life, and it was. But I can tell you, right up there alongside that, it's been an honor working with these people I have just described, and Mr. CALVERT as well. But my colleagues like WALLY HERGER, DAN LUNGREN, DAVE DREIER, JERRY LEWIS, BRIAN BILBRAY, MARY BONO MACK, and ELTON GALLEGLY, it has been my honor and the joy of my life to have worked alongside wonderful people like this trying to make our country and our world a better place.

Mr. CALVERT. I thank you, Mr. ROHRBACHER, and I look forward to serving with you for a long time in the future. God bless.

ELTON GALLEGLY was brought up, and I'd like to say something about ELTON. ELTON and I are close friends. We've spent a lot of time together in the automobile going back and forth to the

airport. I don't know what I'm going to do now that ELTON is retiring. ELTON is a person who is universally admired for his fighting spirit and tenacity. He is someone who will fight to the end for the things that he believes in. I've had the honor of working with Congressman GALLEGLY on a number of issues, including E-Verify, invasive species issues, and regional water projects. Congressman GALLEGLY holds the distinction as the only Member of Congress, by the way—and this is an important thing if you're a Member—who can get from the Capitol to Dulles Airport in 30 minutes or less. I think he holds the record.

From the start, Congressman GALLEGLY has been a leader on immigration issues, most recently as the chairman of the Judiciary Committee Subcommittee on Immigration Policy and Enforcement. He understands the nuances of our legal immigration system and the vital importance of secure borders, especially as it relates to his role as vice chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee. Congressman GALLEGLY brought a unique perspective to the Foreign Affairs Committee, having served 8 years on the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and its Terrorism, Human Intelligence, Analysis and Counterintelligence Subcommittee.

In the aftermath of September 11, Congressman GALLEGLY chaired the Subcommittee on International Terrorism, Nonproliferation and Human Rights and held one of the first hearings on the 9/11 Commission's recommendations, a hearing that led to more than 10 provisions that were included in the final bill.

Congressman GALLEGLY's long and distinguished career has been supported by the love and support of his wife, Janice, and their four children and ten grandchildren. Congressman GALLEGLY's dedication to our national security, strong borders, and legal immigration has contributed immensely to the betterment of our Nation, and we certainly thank him for all the years of his service.

Next I want to talk about my friend, BRIAN BILBRAY. Working alongside Congressman GALLEGLY on immigration issues is Congressman BILBRAY, the chairman of the House Immigration Reform Caucus. Anyone who knows Congressman BILBRAY knows his commitment and dedication to his constituents. He is always on the go, never misses an opportunity to meet and discuss issues important to those he represents.

Congressman BILBRAY is a member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, with subcommittee appointments to the Oversight and Investigations, Communications, Technology and the Internet, and Energy and Environment. He is chairman of the House Immigration Reform Caucus, where he works with Members on both sides of the aisle to enact meaningful immigration reform.

In this Congress, Congressman BILBRAY was a leader on policy initiatives that would incentivize companies to return their businesses to the United States, as well as encourage the private sector to hire veterans. I personally worked with him on a number of issues, including making E-Verify mandatory.

Throughout his career, Congressman BILBRAY has been supported by his wonderful wife, Karen, their five children and seven grandchildren. It's been an honor to serve with Congressman BILBRAY, and I would like to extend my gratitude to his many years of dedicated service. We're great friends and will continue to be so.

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Our final departing Member is someone, as all of these Members, someone I have known very closely and consider a very close personal friend and whose leadership will be sorely missed, Congresswoman MARY BONO MACK, California's only Republican woman in the United States House of Representatives. She's been a trailblazer in the House.

Congresswoman BONO MACK's selection as subcommittee chairman of Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade for the 112th Congress was historic, making her the first Republican woman in American history to hold a gavel on the Energy and Commerce Committee, one of the oldest standing committees in the United States House of Representatives. As chairman, Congresswoman BONO MACK has become a national leader on privacy issues, an expert on technology matters, and a global champion of Internet freedom.

In addition to her impressive chairmanship, Congresswoman BONO MACK passed landmark legislation that called for country-of-origin labeling for fresh fruits and vegetables, in addition to several innovative energy-saving bills, rewarding companies for utilizing clean-burning fuel technologies, and increasing the energy efficiency of Federal buildings. The House of Representatives also overwhelmingly passed MARY BONO MACK's SPY ACT, which helps to protect Americans' personal information on the Internet.

Congresswoman BONO MACK is married to fellow Congressman CONNIE MACK, has two children, three stepchildren, and is now a new grandmother. All of us will certainly deeply miss Congresswoman MARY BONO MACK's humor, intellect, compassion, and expertise; and I know we'll see her in town.

On a personal note, I remember shortly after Sonny was killed a number of years ago visiting her along with Congressman JERRY LEWIS. It was a very difficult time, but she stood in the breach and came in, as DANA mentioned, under very tragic circumstances but represented her beloved Coachella Valley in a wonderful way and has been a fantastic member of the California delegation. Again, we will sorely miss her service.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to mention that among the seven departing Members, the House is losing 163 years of experience. The careers of my colleagues have had a positive impact on hundreds of thousands of constituents, Californians and Americans.

Due to schedule changes, not everyone could be here, but I'm sure as we go through the remainder of this session, they will find an opportunity to say their farewells to the House.

With that, I thank you, and I yield back the balance of my time.

DELEGATES' PLEA FOR JUSTICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WOODALL). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) for 30 minutes.

Ms. NORTON. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I come to the floor with other Delegates to make a plea for respect that we are pleased to say that the House has already honored. Mr. Speaker, this House has seen many disagreements on many issues, and that's what the American people expect. We believe and the House has shown that it believes that some matters, however, are beyond dispute. There are some matters where unity is to be expected. These matters go to basic respect for our members of the armed services.

The House, to its great credit, has already demonstrated that respect, and I want first to thank the Delegate whose provision, whose amendment, was chiefly responsible, Delegate GREGORIO SABLÁN from the Mariana Islands, whose amendment has, I believe, twice been put in the House defense authorization bill that requires that when the flags of the 50 States are raised or honored by our Armed Forces that the flags of the Territories and of the District of Columbia also are honored.

I want to also thank House Armed Services Committee Chairman BUCK McKEON and Ranking Member ADAM SMITH for putting this provision in the defense authorization bill that is now pending. This bill will be considered, I suppose, in conference by the House and the Senate. It is in the House bill. We regret that it is not in the Senate bill, and so the Delegates and I have come to the floor to ask that the Senate follow the lead of the House on this matter of common courtesy and respect.

Delegate SABLÁN's provision in the House-passed bill simply requires that the flags of the Territories and of the District of Columbia be respected when the armed services choose to honor the flags of the 50 States. I have, in addition, written a letter to the President asking for a Presidential memorandum directing all Federal agencies including the Armed Services to do the same. I regret to report that the Army alone recognizes the D.C. flag and the flags of the Territories as a matter of policy. I