

by the National Ocean Policy. I fail to see why my colleagues on the other side of the aisle oppose smart management of our ocean and coastal resources.

We depend heavily on our oceans. In 2010 alone, maritime economic activities supported 2.7 million jobs and contributed 258 billion dollars to our GDP. But there is increasing competition for the use of our oceans. Offshore energy facilities, commercial fishing, recreation, renewable energy, and shipping are all competing for ocean space and resources.

Yet, despite this complex network of competing interests, our current haphazard system makes planning decisions about each industry individually, rather than looking at the big picture and planning accordingly. Our discussion this week about expanding offshore oil drilling is a perfect example of this piecemeal approach that results in an inefficient use of our ocean resources.

Smart regional planning is one answer to this problem. Planning processes allow us to work together and find the best solutions that offer the most benefits for our oceans and our economies—two systems that we all know are deeply intertwined and highly interdependent. Smart decisions are based on mathematical analyses, ecological assessments, and stakeholder deliberations—not politics. And with the guidance of the National Ocean Policy, these processes will happen at the regional level, which puts ocean management decisions closer to the people on the ground—the industries and jobs that will be impacted by ocean management decisions.

The National Ocean Policy is not a big government initiative, but a mechanism for efficient planning and giving regions and states more control. The amendment in question would disenfranchise states, businesses, and citizens who engage in developing ocean plans.

Mr. Chair, smart ocean planning is the clear way forward to make the most of our ocean resources. The Flores amendment would undercut this process, and I urge my colleagues to oppose it.

## OFFSHORE ENERGY AND JOBS ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 27, 2013*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2231) to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to increase energy exploration and production on the Outer Continental Shelf, provide for equitable revenue sharing for all coastal States, implement the reorganization of the functions of the former Minerals Management Service into distinct and separate agencies, and for other purposes:

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair the Offshore Energy and Jobs Act, which raises several issues important to every Member of the House:

Energy production and independence  
Environmental protection and preservation;  
and

Job creation for minorities and women

Given the importance of these issues, I believe the House would have benefitted from a

bill I introduced during the 111th and the 112th Congress. H.R. 3710—The Deficit Reduction, Job Creation and Energy Security Act of 2011 and of 2012.

My bill proclaimed a placement for the next generation. The introduction of H.R. 3710 indicated a collaborative approach in response of the call from Americans across the U.S., calling for jobs today. H.R. 3710 will do exactly that plus provide huge benefits to our national and local economies, and increase our energy supply and independence from foreign oil.

The energy bill I offered calls for the secretary of interior to increase the total lease acreage set forth in the proposed outer continental shelf oil & gas leasing program for 2012–2017 by an additional 10 percent.

This 10% increase shall be known as the deficit reduction acreage. As such, the secretary shall lease 20% of the deficit reduction acreage each year from 2012–2017. All proceeds from the deficit reduction acreage shall be deposited into the deficit reduction energy security fund.

For 15 years after issuance of the first lease or receipt of the first payment coming from the deficit reduction energy security fund, all proceeds shall be deposited into an interest bearing account for a period of 2 years. Upon expiration of the 2 year period, these proceeds shall be distributed as follows:

The interest gained during 2 year period shall be placed in the Coastal and Ocean Sustainability and Health Fund (COSH);

And the principle from the deficit reduction energy security fund shall be deposited into the U.S. Treasury and applied directly toward deficit reduction.

The cosh fund will establish grants for States (coastal and disaster grant program and) a national grant program for addressing coastal and ocean disasters, restoration, protection, and maintenance of coastal areas and oceans, including research and programs in coordination with State and local agencies.

My bill also establishes an Office of Ocean Energy Employment and Training at the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement, which shall be empowered and directed to oversee the efforts of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement Ocean Energy Planning, permitting and regulatory activities to carry out the purposes, objectives and requirements of this act.

And my bill establishes the Office of Minority and Women Inclusion that will require the Secretary to take affirmative steps to seek diversity in all levels of such department, and to be responsible for all matters of the Department of the Interior relating to diversity in management, employment, and business activities.

As a representative from Houston, Texas, representing the energy capital of America, I realize that energy is the lifeblood of every economy.

I also realize that the oil and gas industry provides many jobs for many of my constituents and opportunities for small businesses in my district.

Therefore, it is critical that while seeking solutions to secure more energy independence within this country, we must strike a balance that will still support an environment for continued growth in the oil and gas industry that creates millions of jobs across the entire country.

My bill guarantees to pay down the deficit, create grant dollars for local government enti-

ties, and creates a job training and employment office for minorities and women at the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement.

Mr. Chair, I ask the Chairman and the Ranking Member to work with me on my bill, H.R. 3710, to create a robust job creation bill that pays down the deficit, creates grant dollars and establishes an office for employment and job training for minorities and women.

H.R. 2231 touches the surface but does not penetrate into the crust of a real offshore job creation bill.

My bill, H.R. 3710 requires the department to utilize its authorities regarding the leasing and development of offshore oil and gas resources to accelerate job creation and economic revitalization to the fullest extent practicable, taking into account the department's responsibilities regarding conservation, safety and protection of the environment; promotes expansion of domestic employment opportunities; responds to the Nations increased need for domestic oil and natural gas resources; and supports the utilization of the outer continental shelf for oil and gas production and transmission.

H.R. 2231, does not provide the key components, in which I propose in H.R. 3710, and for these reasons, I am opposed to the bill and cannot support it.

HONORING JOHN DINGELL

SPEECH OF

**HON. NANCY PELOSI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 27, 2013*

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, on December 8, 1941, a page stood on the House floor as President Franklin Roosevelt spoke of a “date which will live in infamy” and asked the Congress to declare war on Japan.

The son of a Congressman, ready and willing to serve his country, this young man enlisted in the Army in 1944 and fought on distant shores in World War II. In 1955, he followed in the family tradition of public service, ran for his father's seat in Congress, and won.

Today, that page, that young man, is the Dean of the House and the longest-serving Member of Congress in history: JOHN DINGELL.

Over the course of nearly six decades, JOHN DINGELL has had a hand in almost every issue vital to the American people: from the air that we breathe and the water that we drink, to how the government serves its citizens, to essential consumer protections.

Yet, among his countless achievements, none hold greater significance than his contributions to the health of the American people. Indeed, it has been the constant theme of his career.

Health care was the family families—as his father had introduced the first-ever national health care legislation. In 1955, carrying forward that legacy, JOHN DINGELL ran for Congress on the platform of health care for all. In 1965, Medicare became the law of the land with the bang of JOHN DINGELL's gavel.

With each new Congress, he would introduce bills, hold hearings, build momentum for health reform. And in 2010, after half-a-century of fighting for his cause, he sat by President Obama's side to see the Affordable Care

Act signed into law—a dream long overdue, a dream of the Dingell family, a dream finally realized for all Americans.

To work alongside JOHN DINGELL is to be inspired by his strength and passion, by the history of our institution, by the seriousness of our work. This year, we recognize JOHN DINGELL as the longest-serving Member in Congress. But it is not only about the length of his service—it is about the quality of his leadership.

It is an honor to serve with him as a colleague. It is a privilege to know him as a friend. It is a source of pride to work with this living legend in the Congress of the United States.

May we all continue to be moved and strengthened by the dedication, commitment, and conviction of the great JOHN DINGELL.

## OFFSHORE ENERGY AND JOBS ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. SANDER M. LEVIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 27, 2013*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2231) to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to increase energy exploration and production on the Outer Continental Shelf, provide for equitable revenue sharing for all coastal States, implement the reorganization of the functions of the former Minerals Management Service into distinct and separate agencies, and for other purposes:

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Chair, I strongly oppose the offshore drilling bill before the House. Sadly, this legislation is representative of the unbalanced, partisan, and ultimately self-defeating approach that the Republican Majority has taken on energy issues.

H.R. 2231 would mandate lease sales along the east and west coasts and elsewhere with inadequate environmental review and scant attention given to local concerns. In total, leasing would be mandated off the coasts of 14 states, whether they want it or not. If this heavy-handed giveaway to the oil industry seems familiar, that's because it is. Last July, the Republican leadership brought a nearly identical bill before the House. That bill never advanced beyond the House, and this drilling bill won't either. The Senate won't take it up. The President has said he'd veto it, so other than demonstrating the Majority's fealty to Big Oil, why are we again wasting the House's time on this?

We're told that this bill is about making the U.S. more energy independent. Let the record show that domestic energy production is booming under the current Administration's policies. In 2012, American oil production reached a 20-year high. Natural gas production is at an all-time high. The U.S. is expected to surpass Saudi Arabia as the world's top oil producer within seven years.

We're also told that this bill is all about driving down gas prices for American families. What guarantee do we have that the oil and gas production mandated by this legislation would actually stay in the United States? Over the last decade, U.S. exports of petroleum products like gasoline and diesel fuel have nearly tripled. Every day U.S. refineries export

millions of gallons of refined petroleum products, including gasoline and diesel. This is no doubt good for the petroleum industry's bottom line, but it's hard to argue that it helps consumers at the pump.

At the end of the day, the country needs an all-the-above energy strategy, including responsible oil and gas development, increased energy efficiency, support for renewable energy, and investment in advanced energy research and development. Unfortunately, the House Majority remained locked in an oil-above-all policy. The oil drilling bill before the House deserves to be defeated.

## CELEBRATING THE HUNTERDON MEDICAL CENTER

**HON. LEONARD LANCE**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 28, 2013*

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Hunterdon Medical Center for sixty years of excellence in medicine. The Hunterdon Medical Center is a product of community initiative, with county residents petitioning the Hunterdon County Board of Agriculture to build a hospital—the last county in the state without one. In 1953, the medical center opened its doors and has since built an esteemed reputation providing expert care.

The Hunterdon Medical Center attracts excellent doctors from our finest medical schools. They come to practice in Hunterdon and to live and work in one of the most beautiful areas in the country. The Family Practice Residency Program is among the oldest in the Nation, and one of the most respected.

New Jersey is a world leader in medical and biopharmaceutical research and development and the Hunterdon Medical Center is a proud partner in this distinction. I commend the physicians, nurses, support staff and community of the Hunterdon Medical Center for sixty years of fine work.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. VICKY HARTZLER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 28, 2013*

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, June 27, 2013, I was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: on rollcall No. 296, “yea,” on rollcall No. 297, yea, on rollcall No. 298, yea.

HONORING CARL BENNETT, A  
FOUNDING FATHER OF MODERN  
PROFESSIONAL BASKETBALL  
AND THE NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

**HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 28, 2013*

Mrs. BROOKS. Indiana. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Carl Bennett. I was honored to know Carl for over two decades

and will mourn his passing. He passed away on May 15, 2013, at the age of 97½, but his legacy will continue to inspire basketball coaches, players, and fans for generations to come.

Carl Bennett was born in Rockford, Indiana, in 1915. He began his illustrious career first by playing for Fred Zollner's Pistons softball team and later served as the head coach and general manager of the Fort Wayne Pistons professional basketball team, also owned by Zollner. Under his leadership, the Pistons were invited to leave the National Basketball League and become part of the Basketball Association of America. This meeting in Carl's Fort Wayne home led to the merger of the two leagues and, ultimately, to the modern National Basketball Association. As a result of his involvement, Carl served on the NBA's executive committee and is considered one of the founding fathers of professional basketball.

Carl's influence led to many changes in the way basketball, Indiana's favorite game, is played. He encouraged Zollner to buy a team plane, a first for a sports franchise, and his coaching of the Pistons in a 1950 win over the Minneapolis Lakers led to the introduction of the 24-second shot clock. This major change resulted in a dramatic increase in average game scores. One of Carl's foremost contributions to the game was widening the lane from six feet to twelve feet, a change that is still in effect today. He also successfully campaigned for Fred Zollner's enshrinement in the Basketball Hall of Fame.

Carl Bennett was a man of vision and determination. My condolences and well wishes go out to his wife, Mrs. Carol Popp Bennett, his children Kirk and Gary Bennett, Sandra Dodane, Catherine Popp Hoffman, their spouses, his sister Bertha Bennett Christie, his eleven grandchildren, thirty great-grandchildren, and five great-great grandchildren. His loving touch will be missed by everyone who knew him, and he will be always remembered for transforming so many lives through the wonderful sport of basketball.

## INTRODUCTION OF THE INTERSTATE LAND SALES UPDATE ACT OF 2013

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 28, 2013*

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Interstate Land Sales Disclosure Act Update of 2013.

The Interstate Land Sales Disclosure Act was enacted in 1969 to protect consumers from being sold property where the property's description in the contract and related materials was not what was to be delivered to the buyer.

It was intended to protect out-of-state buyers who were sold land that was not what was advertised and provides a right of action to rescind the contract and walk away from the deal. However, Courts have ruled over the years that ISLA applies to condominiums, and developers are required to file redundant paperwork that is unnecessary and out of keeping with modern condominium development.

During the economic downturn, some buyers have used the recording requirements of