

In October 1977, he served as the Officer-In-Charge of the 3rd Force Service Support Group in Iwakuni, Japan. After a year, he returned to the U.S. to serve as the Ship's Detachment Supply Officer, Pacific Ocean Area/Marine Barracks Supply Officer and Barracks Executive Officer at Marine Barracks, North Island, San Diego, California. In June 1982, he reported to Quantico, Virginia for duty as Platoon Commander, Officer Candidate School, and subsequently attended the Amphibious Warfare School.

In May 1983, he became the Supply Officer, Mountain Warfare Training Center, Bridgeport, California and from August 1985 to June 1989, he was assigned to the 3rd Marine Division in Okinawa, Japan as the Assistant Division Supply Officer before attending the Armed Forces Staff College. While serving with the 3rd Marine Division, Lieutenant General Williams deployed as the Logistics Officer, Contingency Marine Air Ground Task Force 3-88 during its Persian Gulf Deployment from May to December 1988.

After completing Armed Forces Staff College, Lieutenant General Williams was assigned to joint duty with the Department of Defense Inspector General's Office in January 1990. From 1993-94 he studied at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces and upon graduation assumed command of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) MEU Service Support Group from September 1994 to September 1996. He then served as the Assistant Chief of Staff G4, 3rd Force Service Support Group. In June 1997, he departed Okinawa for duty with the 1st Force Service Support Group first as the Assistant Chief of Staff, G3 and in 1998, as the Commanding Officer of Brigade Service Support Group 1. In July 2000, he returned to Okinawa, Japan as the Commanding General, Marine Corps Base, Camp Smedley D. Butler until June 2001 and then served as the Commanding General, 3d Force Service Support Group, III MEF until 2003. From October 2003 to May 2005, Lieutenant General Williams served as the Assistant Deputy Commandant, Installations and Logistics (Facilities), Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps.

The Second Congressional District of Georgia gained a respected and compassionate leader when Lieutenant General Williams moved to Albany, Georgia in June 2005 to take command of the Marine Corps Logistics Base, a focal point of the service's worldwide supply chain and equipment maintenance efforts. He became a close friend and confidant as he served in my district for the next four years, throughout the height of the Iraq War and one of the service's busiest periods.

In 2009, Lieutenant General Williams returned to Washington to pin on a third star and ultimately become the Director of Marine Corps Staff. In addition to his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Stillman College, Lieutenant General Williams holds a Master of Arts Degree from National University in San Diego, California and a Master of Science Degree from National Defense University, as well as an Honorary Doctorate of Law from Stillman College, and an Honorary Doctorate of Philosophy from Albany State University.

Lieutenant General Williams' personal awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit with gold star, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, the Navy and Marine

Corps Achievement Medal, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal and the Department of Defense Service Badge.

Lieutenant General Williams has certainly accomplished many things in his life but none of this would have been possible without the love and support of his wife of 40 years, Bobbie, and their late daughter, Yolanda, who sadly passed away in 2008.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife, Vivian, and the nearly 700,000 people in Georgia's 2nd Congressional District, and all Americans, in extending our sincerest appreciation to Lieutenant General Willie Williams, an innovative leader who, in addition to his selfless service and instrumental role in supporting operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, has the respect, admiration, and affection of his fellow Marines and leaves behind an outstanding legacy of service and leadership in the Marine Corps of the United States of America.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 9, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2609) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Chair, I rise in strong opposition to this Energy and Water Appropriations bill, which is a poster child for why this House needs to get serious about replacing the sequester with a balanced, long-term budget agreement that keeps faith with our values and funds critical to national priorities.

According to data compiled by Bloomberg New Energy Finance for the Pew Charitable Trusts, China overtook the United States in the 21st century's clean energy race last year, attracting \$65.1 billion in clean energy investment compared to just \$35.6 billion in the U.S. Rather than responding aggressively to this challenge, today's legislation effectively proposes to throw in the towel and slashes clean energy funding by 60 percent. As a result, America's families and businesses will be forced to pay more than they otherwise would on their utility bills as fewer homes are weatherized, deployment of cost-effective clean energy technologies is delayed and smart grid modernization is postponed.

The Advanced Research Projects Agency—Energy, or ARPA-E, faces an even more devastating 81 percent cut. This early stage, high-impact program created by the bipartisan America Competes Act has already leveraged more than \$450 million in private sector investment from \$70 million in funding to game-changing opportunities in areas like energy storage, advanced biofuels and smart grid technology. ARPA-E—and the transformational breakthroughs it is driving—would be all but shut down under this legislation.

From basic research at DoE's Office of Science to environmental cleanup at our nation's nuclear defense sites to tackling the current \$60 billion backlog at the Army Corps of Engineers, this legislation shrinks from America's challenges and shortchanges America's future.

We can and should do better.

CELEBRATING BILL GRAY

SPEECH OF

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize former Congressman William H. Gray III, who suddenly passed away last week in London. As politicians, we all have certain people that we looked up to as role models and mentors so that we could carry out our duties in a dignified manner. For myself, I had my father, former Congressman Bill Clay, and Mr. Gray. During my youth, I served as a doorman for the House of Representatives where I had the opportunity to speak with Mr. Gray on numerous occasions. Over time, I had developed profound respect for Mr. Gray. He was a man that had a sincere interest in the concerns of his constituents and a man that fought for minorities across the country during a time when racial tensions were still high.

Mr. Gray was elected to the Congress in 1978, representing Pennsylvania's 2nd Congressional District. Many remember Mr. Gray for his quick rise within the Democratic Party. From 1985 to 1989, Mr. Gray was the chairman of the House Budget Committee—the first African American to do so. He used his power as chairman to influence legislation and economic sanctions against the apartheid regime of South Africa, which sparked a close friendship between him and Nelson Mandela. In 1989, he was the first African American to serve as the Majority Whip and many saw this as his stepping stone to becoming the first African American Speaker of the House.

Aside from the powerful roles that he assumed in Congress, Mr. Gray is remembered most for his contributions to the city of Philadelphia, through his preaching and leadership. Since 1972, Mr. Gray served as the pastor at Bright Hope Baptist Church in Philadelphia. Even while serving in Congress, Mr. Gray never lost sight of his role as the spiritual leader of his community. On numerous occasions, Mr. Gray would say, "First and foremost, I am a Baptist preacher." Through his leadership in Congress, Mr. Gray secured needed funding for Philadelphia's transportation and school systems. His success in Congress was secured by his ability to reach across party lines in order to build strong bipartisan coalitions.

Mr. Gray's story began at Simon Gratz High School in Philadelphia. One day, Mr. Gray's father was invited to speak to the students. Before taking the stage, the principal told Mr. Gray's father, "Don't worry, you can keep it short; these kids aren't going anywhere." His father replied, "I don't know about these other kids, but I know one kid who is going somewhere." His father's intuition proved to be more than accurate. A gifted basketball player,

Mr. Gray accepted a scholarship to play at Franklin and Marshall College. After receiving his bachelor's degree, he went on to receive master's degrees from Drew Theological Seminary and Princeton Theological Seminary as well as spending time abroad studying at Oxford University in England. Education was held in a high regard to Mr. Gray. During the prime of his political career, Mr. Gray resigned from Congress to assume a "higher calling" as president of the United Negro College Fund. While many politicians abruptly resign in light of scandal, Mr. Gray resigned in order to "open the door to higher education for a million more black men and women." During his time as president, Mr. Gray successfully raised over \$2 billion for the UNCF.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my colleagues of the Congressional Black Caucus and on behalf of Congressmen, past and present that were influenced by Mr. Gray's leadership, I would like to express my gratitude for his service to minorities, Congress, and to the United States of America. Thank you.

KAILEY CHAPMAN SPOKANE HIGH SCHOOL TRACK AND FIELD STATE CHAMPION

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2013

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Spokane High School's Kailey Chapman for winning the 300 meter hurdles at the 2013 Missouri Class 2 State Track and Field Championships.

Through her hard work and dedication, Kailey placed first in the 300 meter hurdles with a time of 44.62 seconds. Throughout the season, Kailey worked to perfect her technique and was able to reset four school records from her previous season and was All State in all four of her events. She credits her family, coaches, teammates, Spokane community, and our Heavenly Father for the support that enabled her to complete an outstanding season.

Kailey hopes to come back her senior year to repeat as the 300 meter hurdles champion and become Missouri's 100 meter hurdles champion, as well. Kailey plans to compete in the Junior Olympic Regionals and at the college level, as well as completing a degree in nursing.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Kailey Chapman, winner of the 300 meter hurdles at the Missouri Class 2 State Track and Field Championships.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHN PERCIN, JR.

HON. KURT SCHRADER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2013

Mr. SCHRADER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of John Percin, Jr. one of the 19 Granite Mountain Hotshot firefighters killed June 30th while fighting a wildfire near the town of Yarnell, Arizona. A funeral mass to honor his life will take place, July 12th, for

family, friends, and parishioners at Our Lady of the Lake Church in Lake Oswego, Oregon.

John Percin Jr. grew up in West Linn, Oregon among a community that witnessed a young man active in his school, excelling at numerous sports, and demonstrating a strong compassion for others. After graduating from West Linn High School, Mr. Percin pursued a career with the Granite Mountain Hotshots, an elite firefighting force based in Prescott, Arizona. Hotshots demand only the most physically fit candidates to face the most strenuous firefighting tasks. Through rigorous physical and mental training each Hotshot gains the skills and attributes necessary for this demanding and dangerous work. A Hotshot needs to be a problem solver, able to make difficult decisions in stressful situations, and work as part of a team; I think we witnessed these attributes on display June 30th from Mr. Percin and each of the courageous crewmembers who put their lives on the line to protect others.

John Percin Jr. demonstrated a level of courage and bravery that belies his young age. At only 24 years of age Mr. Percin had the drive and passion to perform the critical work of fighting fires and I am humbled by his commitment to our country. We in Congress express our gratitude to Mr. Percin and convey our deepest respect and sympathy to his family; their son's sacrifice for others will not be forgotten.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT H. AMDT. 227 TO H.R. 1947, THE "FEDERAL AGRICULTURE REFORM AND RISK MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2013"

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2013

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, June 20, 2013, I inadvertently voted against the Pitts-Davis amendment to H.R. 1947, the "Federal Agriculture Reform and Risk Management Act of 2013" which was designed to reform the United States' national sugar policy. However, I rise today to clarify my position concerning this amendment and to state that I fully support the Pitts-Davis amendment and will continue to support and cosponsor H.R. 693, the "Sugar Reform Act of 2013."

It is unfortunate that the failed FARRM Bill proposed reforms for every commodity program except the sugar program, the most intrusive and outdated of them all. Our focus in Congress should be geared toward balancing the needs of all Americans. Instead, our current sugar policy's one-sided approach favors sugar processors and growers over American consumers and businesses. Under current law, the sugar industry is able to reap record profits when domestic sugar supplies are tight because of government restrictions. Yet, the cost of the sugar program is then passed on to taxpayers when surplus sugar burdens the market. As a result, American families have to spend additional money on their grocery bills and American companies are placed at a competitive disadvantage. We must limit these government restrictions and allow for a competitive marketplace that will balance the needs of all Americans.

COMMEMORATING NEOSHO NATIONAL FISH HATCHERY'S 125TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2013

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the Neosho National Fish Hatchery.

Established in 1888, the Neosho National Fish Hatchery is truly one of a kind. It is the oldest operating federal fish hatchery in the United States and has raised over 130 different species of fish since its creation. With a mission to conserve and protect our nation's fishery resources, the Neosho National Fish Hatchery continues to produce high quality fish year after year.

The Neosho National Fish Hatchery is responsible for a long list of various operations to enhance the fish industry. The hatchery is responsible for producing high quality rainbow trout to stock Lake Taneycomo for recreational fishing, helping the local economy. The hatchery also continues to support and protect the conservation of the endangered Ozark Cavefish, and raises Freshwater Drum Fish to serve as host fish for rearing Neosho Mucket Mussels. All of this is done while over 45,000 annual visitors travel to Neosho to tour and learn about America's longest running national fish hatchery.

I am honored to recognize the Neosho National Fish Hatchery for their excellent work over the past 125 years. By working to conserve, protect, and enhance our fishing industry, the Neosho National Fish Hatchery continues to serve for the benefit all Americans.

MINNESOTA LISTENING SESSION ON THE CUTS TO FOOD ASSISTANCE IN HOUSE GOP FARM BILL

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2013

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, on June 10, 2013, Congressman ELLISON and I hosted a listening session at the Minnesota State Capitol. We heard from Minnesotans affected by the House Farm Bill's proposed cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. Below is testimony delivered by Dale Simonson and Patricia Lull.

TESTIMONY FROM DALE SIMONSON, MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Here is a brief overview of the demographics of the SNAP recipients statewide. There are about 554,000 adults and children on SNAP in approximately 259,700 cases. Children make up almost 48% of the SNAP population.

There are 77,417 SNAP family cases.

66% of the family cases reported income from work

Average age of adults with children is 35 years

There are 39,671 senior cases on SNAP.

Average age is 70 years

61% had income from Retirement, Survivors Disabilities Insurance (RSDI)

There are 88,942 disabled cases on SNAP.

There are 62,477 cases that are categorized as "other" adults.