

On rollcall vote No. 315, H.R. 2609, the FY2014 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, I would have voted “no” to reduce Renewable Energy, Energy Reliability, and Efficiency by \$9.8 million and transfer the same amount to the Spending Reduction Account.

On rollcall vote No. 316, H.R. 2609, the FY2014 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, I would have voted “no” to increase Renewable Energy, Energy Reliability, and Efficiency by \$50 million and decrease Weapons Activities by the same amount.

On rollcall vote No. 317, H.R. 2609, the FY2014 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, I would have voted “no” to reduce Renewable Energy, Energy Reliability, and Efficiency by \$4.75 million and transfer the same amount to the Spending Reduction Account.

On rollcall vote No. 318, H.R. 2609, the FY2014 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, I would have voted “yea” to increase Renewable Energy, Energy Reliability, and Efficiency by \$1 million and decrease Departmental Administration by the same amount.

On rollcall vote No. 319, H.R. 2609, the FY2014 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, I would have voted “no” to reduce the Renewable Energy, Energy Reliability, and Efficiency and Fossil Energy Research and Development by \$1.5 billion collectively, and transfer the same amount to the Spending Reduction Account.

On rollcall vote No. 320, H.R. 2609, the FY2014 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, I would have voted “yea” to increase Renewable Energy, Energy Reliability, and Efficiency by \$10 million and decrease Departmental Administration by the same amount.

On rollcall vote No. 321, H.R. 2609, the FY2014 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, I would have voted “no” to increase Renewable Energy, Energy Reliability, and Efficiency by \$15 million and decrease Weapons Activities by the same amount.

On rollcall vote No. 322, H.R. 2609, the FY2014 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, I would have voted “no” to increase Renewable Energy, Energy Reliability, and Efficiency by \$15.5 million and reduce Weapons Activities by the same amount.

On rollcall vote No. 323, H.R. 2609, the FY2014 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, I would have voted “no” to increase Renewable Energy, Energy Reliability, and Efficiency by \$20 million and reduce Weapons Activities by the same amount.

On rollcall vote No. 324, H.R. 2609, the FY2014 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, I would have voted “no” to increase Renewable Energy, Energy Reliability, and Efficiency by \$40 million and reduce Weapons Activities by the same amount.

On rollcall vote No. 325, H.R. 2609, the FY2014 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, I would have voted “no” to decrease Nuclear Energy by \$25 million and increase Office of Science account by the same amount.

On rollcall vote No. 326, H.R. 2609, the FY2014 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, I would have voted “no” to reduce Fossil Energy Research and Development and Weapons Activities by \$127 million collectively and increase Advanced Research Projects Agency—Energy by the same amount.

On rollcall vote No. 327, H.R. 2609, the FY2014 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, I would have voted “no” to increase Office of Science account by \$500 million and decrease Weapons Activities by the same amount.

HONORING HOPE CARROLL

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Hope Carroll, winner of the Stars and Stripes Spectacular essay contest, for her inspiring essay titled “What Freedom Means to Me.” I had the pleasure of listening to Hope read her essay at the annual Stars and Stripes Spectacular on July 4th in Portland, Maine.

One of the best parts of my job as a member of Congress is having the opportunity to witness the great talent and potential of our nation's young people. This rising 6th grader, from Lincoln Middle School, represents the best and brightest among them. I would like to take this opportunity to share Hope Carroll's essay with the House of Representatives.

Freedom is bravery, confidence and love. Bravery is standing up for your freedom, confidence helps you believe in your freedom, confidence helps you believe in your freedom and love takes care of it. Freedom is laughing and crying. When my family laughs together there is not a care in the world and that is freedom. We cry together, it is the way we express our sadness, that is freedom. Freedom is dancing around the room when no is watching because being silly and happy is freedom. Freedom is nature, beautiful trees and lovely pink flowers. Freedom is bravery, confidence, love, laughing, crying, silly, happy and beautiful.

Hope showed bravery and confidence well beyond her years in reading her essay, and I look forward to following her progress as a writer.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Hope Carroll, winner of the Stars and Stripes Spectacular essay contest.

HONORING MARK COVERT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the end of an era. On July 23, 2013, the man who holds the U.S. record—and possibly the world record—for the longest continuous running streak will be hanging up his shoes. Mark Covert, a legend in the world of track and field, has run at least one mile every day for the last 45 years.

In D.C. terms, that means he has run through nine presidential administrations, seven economic recessions and over 20 sessions of Congress. On a personal level, he has laced up his shoes every day through storms, heat waves, illnesses, surgery and even the births of his four children. If you ask him how he did it, he'll tell you it would never have been possible without the full support and encouragement of his wife Debi—especially on the birthdays.

Not only has he run through history, he has made it. In the 1972 U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials, Covert was the first athlete to cross a finish line wearing an unusual pair of shoes with rubber soles that were made on a waffle iron. An entrepreneur by the name of Bill

Bowerman had given him these shoes, which became the basis of a little Oregon-based company we like to call Nike. Although he just missed making the 1972 Olympic team, that run—and the nearly 150,000 miles he's covered during the streak, an average of about 9 miles a day for 45 years—secured Mark's spot as a running icon.

Nevertheless, Covert's true impact has been on the many hundreds of students he's coached over the years. He instilled in them not only the skills needed to be successful athletes, but perhaps more important, the skills needed to be successful in life, especially dedication and perseverance in the face of obstacles.

While few of us will choose to take on the challenge of running every single day for 45 years, we can all strive to learn from and perhaps live by his main principle: Never Miss. He may physically end his streak on July 23, but his dogged determination and commitment to leading by example will carry on.

INTRODUCING THE AIRLINE PILOT PENSION FAIRNESS ACT

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, today, I am proud to introduce the Airline Pilot Pension Fairness Act, legislation that would prevent deep, unfair cuts in pilots' retirement benefits.

Nearly forty years ago, Congress established the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation to insure the pension benefits of American workers. When employers terminate their workers' traditional pension plans, the PBGC takes the plans over and makes monthly payments to plan participants who are retired.

When the PBGC takes over a company's pension plan, the plan participants do not always receive the same benefit they would have received if their plan had not terminated. For example, workers who retire before age 65—which the law considers “normal” retirement age—receive reduced benefits to reflect the longer period that these retirees likely will receive benefits.

This is bad news for many pilots. Until 2007, under Federal Aviation Administration rules, airline pilots were required to retire at age 60. As a result, pilots whose pension plans were terminated—like the pilots at United Airlines and US Airways—wound up taking drastic cuts to their pension benefits because the PBGC treated age 60 as an early retirement age and cut pilots' guaranteed benefits as a result.

This problem was caused because the FAA's mandatory pilot retirement age of 60 and ERISA's normal retirement age of 65 were not aligned. ERISA does not provide a special rule for pilots. Pilots earn every dime of their pension benefits and they didn't choose to retire at age 60. The time to fix this problem is today.

The Airline Pilot Pension Fairness Act would put airline pilots subject to the old FAA rule on equal ground with other workers by requiring the PBGC to treat age 60 as the normal retirement age for these pilots—not as an early retirement age. In other words, these pilots

would receive the maximum PBGC benefit for which they would be eligible if they worked until age 65. If they worked until the age of 57, it would be as if they worked until age 62 and the pilot would receive the appropriate PBGC benefit.

Eight years ago, in a 2005 e-hearing Tom Gardiner, of Bainbridge Island, WA, facing the loss of his retirement nest egg at United Airlines, explained the conundrum facing pilots—

“My name is Tom Gardiner and I am a Captain for United Airlines with a total of 27 years of service. . . . If the PBGC takes over the pilots’ defined benefit plan, I will lose at least 2/3 of my promised pension. . . . [One factor] contributing to this huge hit is the adjustment for “early retirement” mandated by PBGC rules. Of course, I have no choice in the matter; the FAA regulations require me to retire at age 60. The PBGC considers that to be

“early” and takes away 35% of what I would otherwise receive from them. It is a classic “Catch 22”. . . .”

Captain Gardiner is not alone. The Airline Pilot Pension Fairness Act would be a first step to restoring some measure of fairness to these hardworking Americans who have seen promised and hard-earned benefits disappear overnight.