

we should not be surprised that industry will not always support—and rarely ask—to be regulated. History shows that industry groups initially opposed new requirements for seat belts and air bags, limitations on mercury pollution and even restrictions against child labor. In the short-term, narrow private interests often conflict with the broader public interest. Over time, well-designed and consistently-enforced rules often prove to be less costly and more beneficial than originally expected.

Democrats and Republicans should be working together to improve the federal regulatory structure. Our shared focus in Congress should be on reforming regulations to increase results and reduce costs. Partisan attempts to weaken common sense rules and protections will not make our economy—or our country—stronger.

I urge my colleagues to reject H.R. 367 because it undermines public safety and distracts Congress from the urgent task of creating jobs.

ENERGY CONSUMERS RELIEF ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 31, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1582) to protect consumers by prohibiting the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency from promulgating as final certain energy-related rules that are estimated to cost more than \$1 billion and will cause significant adverse effects to the economy, with Ms. Ros-Lehtinen in the chair.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Chair, I rise today in opposition to the Scalise amendment to H.R. 367, the Regulations From the Executive in Need of Scrutiny (REINS) Act. While Mr. Scalise may have the best intentions in trying to prevent the Administration from regulating carbon, the amendment actually subjects any regulation that places a fee, price or levy on pollution to the Congressional approval procedure mandated under the bill.

While some of my colleagues would still definitely support that, there are some unintended consequences to this approach. Take Houston, for example.

Houston has two programs that put a price on nitrogen oxide and volatile organic compound emissions. These market-based programs have been successful in lowering smog levels. Houston has had to have its programs approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as part of the state implementation plan (SIPs) under the Clean Air Act.

Under the Scalise amendment, the EPA cannot approve state programs in SIPs that would put a fee on emissions without an act of Congress. Houston's program could remain in place, but if they ever wanted to strengthen, relax or otherwise modify the program, it appears that the Scalise amendment would prevent that from happening. That would require Houston to find another way to comply with the Clean Air Act, which would likely be less flexible and more burdensome.

I want to be clear that I do not support the Administration devising a carbon control pro-

gram; that is the job of the Congress. That said, this Congress must get to work and pass a bill that deals with carbon with input from Members that represent diverse constituencies nationwide. Cap and Trade legislation will not pass this Congress, but I believe a solution can be found for controlling carbon emissions by using nuclear and natural gas to generate electricity.

I encourage my colleagues to oppose this amendment.

BIPARTISAN STUDENT LOAN CERTAINTY ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 31, 2013

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I oppose H.R. 1911, the Senate bill called the "Bipartisan Student Loan Certainty Act". While some argue the bill is better than the bill the House passed earlier this year, this bill fails to guarantee that students can have affordable loans to go to college. It fails to take interest rates on college loans as low as we could or should, and it allows the rates to grow to truly unacceptable levels.

Wall Street, whose reckless policies caused the greatest fiscal crisis since the Depression, is able to borrow money at 0.75 percent interest, yet under this bill, students will have to pay far more than that to borrow for their studies. Proponents of this bill claim that they are lowering interest rates for students, although they do not lower them as low as the rate we set several years ago and that was in effect until last month. Worse, the bill allows rates to go far higher than the already very high rates that began in July. Why? Why should students pay interest eight, nine, ten times higher than the rate that Wall Street pays. This bill will have some students paying interest rates as high as ten and a quarter percent. Ten and a quarter percent! Maybe not this year, but in future years. Ten and a quarter percent!

This is a very serious issue for our overall economic health. Student loan debt now stands at over \$1 trillion. It is the second highest debt in the nation, only mortgage debt is higher. Furthermore, to help our economy grow we should be encouraging motivated, prepared students to go to college, not making it more expensive and inaccessible for them. The New York Federal Reserve has noted that the tremendous burden of student debt is slowing the economy. People strapped with debt cannot buy a house, they cannot spend money to improve our economy, and they cannot make strides to further improve their quality of life.

The authors of the legislation passed earlier this year and of this bill are stuck on the idea of trying to balance the budget on the backs of students and recent students. Why should they have to pay to restore the economy? They are not in a good financial position to pay for the misdeeds of Wall Street. Why shouldn't those made wealthy by Wall Street's misdeeds pay; they can afford it. In the past year, the federal government has already made more than \$50 billion dollars in profit off student loan interest. Why should we continue to squeeze more revenue for the government out of students and former students?

Senator ELIZABETH WARREN has it right. Her plan would allow students to borrow at the same rate Wall Street does, the discount rate, the low rate that banks pay. Why should Wall Street get to borrow money at the lowest interest rate while college students pay more? They shouldn't. We will saddle with heavy debt the very people we want to go out and build businesses and raise families and work toward the American Dream.

This debate comes down to an important question of domestic policy and priorities. How important is it to us as a country to make college accessible for students so they can improve their lives and improve our country? We do it by making college more affordable—through increasing Pell Grants, by allowing students to borrow money at the same rates that Wall Street banks pay. We do it by not taking money from students to pay for the mess that Wall Street caused in the first place.

IN RECOGNITION OF SHARON WILLIAMS

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the remarkable Sharon Williams, the long-time director of Menlo Park-based JobTrain. Sharon is retiring after forty years of instilling optimism in each JobTrain client and building life skills amongst an entire community. I have watched with amazement over these many years as Sharon has guided the JobTrain organization.

Sharon earned her BA in English from the University of the Pacific in 1965 and her teaching credential from San Francisco State University in 1968. She joined JobTrain in 1973 as a GED teacher. She became Director of Development in 1978 and a short time later took over as Executive Director. Conducting job training classes and connecting people with jobs was very difficult in the late 1970s. Sharon guided JobTrain and its clients through difficult financial times and built a stunningly successful career and job education center.

With Sharon's outstanding leadership, JobTrain has offered cutting-edge and traditional job training, everything from solar panel installation classes to computer repair to culinary arts to laboratory technician training for biotechnology facilities. Knowing that life skills are a large component of the training done by JobTrain, Sharon and her staff insist that clients learn how to show up on time to work, become team members in the modern work environment, and learn how to balance work and the demands of a family.

Mr. Speaker and Members, Sharon Williams has infused JobTrain with the same "can do" attitude that she insists from her clients. I've visited JobTrain on several occasions, most recently in the last few months.

It's a very busy place. JobTrain helps 8,000 persons per year, and 600 of them receive full-time vocational training. At least 85 percent of those who enroll complete their training. 75 percent of those persons are placed in jobs, and 12 months after placement, 84 percent are still working. JobTrain's success is spelled out in these numbers. Sharon's contributions to the Peninsula are not limited to

JobTrain. She currently serves on numerous boards, including the Center for Excellence in Nonprofits, and East Palo Alto Digital Village. She has also previously served on the boards of the East Palo Alto Senior Center, the Boys and Girls Club of the Peninsula, Leadership Mid-Peninsula, and the San Mateo County Workforce Investment Board.

After forty years at the helm of JobTrain, it is time for Sharon Williams to bid her beloved nonprofit goodbye and to head off in new directions. The only thing missing from JobTrain's smorgasbord of classes at the moment is a class on how to make eyeglasses. That's not surprising. Sharon sees quite clearly the need for human dignity through productive work. Why would she believe that anyone else in the community needs glasses when her own sight is both perfect and prescient? Let us give Sharon the highest compliment that any employer can offer an employee. Let us say, "Job well done."

RECOGNIZING THE OLALLA COMMUNITY CLUB AND THE OLALLA BLUEGRASS & BEYOND FESTIVAL IN THE SOUTH KITSAP REGION OF WASHINGTON STATE

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the efforts of the Olalla Community Club for their unwavering support of the Olalla community through the continuation of the Olalla Bluegrass & Beyond Festival into its 22nd year.

In 1906, the Olalla Hall was built to foster community involvement. It was deeded to the Olalla Community Club in 1937 and served the community for 45 years as a site for socials, dances, and meetings. Unfortunately, the hall closed in the 1980's due to disuse and disrepair.

The Olalla Community Club was called to action in 1992 in response to the struggle to save the Banner Forest from residential development. As a result of that victory, the small force of the Olalla Community Club continued its tireless work in an effort to reinvigorate the community by restoring its local hall. The establishment of the Olalla Bluegrass & Beyond Festival in 1992 helped attain this goal. Today, all proceeds from the festival go right back into the Olalla community. This helps to maintain the 107-year old Olalla community hall. Also, the festival supports music programs at South Kitsap and Peninsula High Schools, the Little League, local PTA, two food banks and other local service organizations in the region.

The word "Olalla," derived from the native Chinook word "olallie," loosely translates to "the place with many berries." The community celebrates its roots by hosting the legendary berry pie contest alongside family entertainment, such as local and national bluegrass, folk music, and handmade crafts for all festivalgoers to enjoy. I can say with firsthand knowledge that this is a terrific—and tasty—tradition.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to close by again applauding the dedication of the Olalla Community Club in their effort to preserve and further enrich the community of Olalla. I am

pleased to recognize the work of community members for their ongoing support of the Olalla Bluegrass & Beyond Festival today in the United States Congress.

HONORING JOE'S STONE CRAB'S
100TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOE GARCIA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Mr. GARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a legendary eatery serving the people of South Florida and beyond.

For over 100 years, Joe's Stone Crab has been a prominent institution honored for its unparalleled customer service and quality food. Started by Joseph Weiss in 1913, Joe's Stone Crab was one of the first eating establishments on Collins Avenue in Miami Beach. Over the years, Joe's has hosted a list of the "who's who" of the world including celebrities, politicians, and the like.

The love of food, friends, and family has brought a countless number of people together, making this restaurant a "must" on the list of places to visit in Miami. Joe's Stone Crab is the epitome of top notch restaurant service and food, and is undoubtedly one of our community's most revered culinary institutions.

RECOGNIZING THE UNBREAKABLE
FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE
UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in unwavering support of our nation's great friend and ally, the State of Israel. On July 31, 2013, I voted in favor of H.R. 850, the Nuclear Iran Prevention Act of 2013, which overwhelmingly passed in the House of Representatives by a vote of 400–20. I would like to take this opportunity to commend my colleagues, Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman ED ROYCE and Ranking Member ELIOT ENGEL, for introducing this important legislation, of which I am a proud co-sponsor. The bill targets human rights violators while increasing effective sanctions to prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons capability.

For more than half a century, the United States and Israel have shared the common bonds of democracy, economic vitality, and cultural affinity. These ties remain as strong today as when President Harry Truman first recognized the creation of a Jewish State in 1948. From religious kinships to shared interests, and from military strengths to commercial relations, the enduring friendship between the United States and Israel is unbreakable.

However, Israel continues to face serious regional threats, concerns which are also shared by the United States. A nuclear-armed Iran represents a direct threat to Israel's existence, the stability of the region, and the security of the entire global community. That is why we must stand firmly with Israel in the struggle against the Iranian regime's ongoing pursuit of

nuclear weapons and support for terrorism. Its peace-threatening actions and statements should be taken seriously, and the international community has a responsibility to act.

I have long supported sanctions efforts in Congress, and will continue to do so as long as Iran insists on pursuing its dangerous course of action. Together with the international community, we must increase the pressure on Iran's authoritarian government to give up its nuclear ambitions. Existing United States and European Union measures have already reduced Iran's oil exports by more than half from pre-sanction levels of about 2.2 million barrels per day, bpd. This new round of sanctions cuts that number to near zero within a year, further crippling Tehran's ability to fund its nuclear program.

The United States must work with Iran's neighbors and our allies to hold a hard line against the acquisition of these dangerous, destabilizing weapons. At the same time, we must continue to support the Iranian people's efforts to reform their government to respect the rights of all citizens. Finally, it is essential that the United States remain supportive of Israel's absolute right to defend itself and protect its citizens.

Mr. Speaker, a nuclear-armed Iran is unacceptable. It is my sincere hope that one day all people in the region can live with dignity and freedom in peace. Iran's continued pursuit of nuclear weapons threatens that future.

RECOGNIZING DR. KENNETH
MOSSMAN

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Dr. Kenneth L. Mossman for nomination to membership of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.

Dr. Mossman has served for 23 years as Professor of Health Physics at Arizona State University and is internationally renowned as an expert in the field of ionizing radiation exposure. He has served in an advisory capacity to the National Institutes of Health, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the National Research Council of the National Academies, the Nuclear Energy Agency in Paris, and the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna. Dr. Mossman presently serves as an Administrative Judge for the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board provides a uniquely valuable service to the American people as an independent watchdog over the safety consequences of developments in the Department of Energy's defense nuclear facilities. I can think of no better candidate than Dr. Mossman to advise our nation's leaders of contingencies to protect public health and safety. I am proud that Dr. Mossman represents my alma mater and my district at the highest level of competence and governance in his field.

I have no doubt that Dr. Mossman will faithfully serve the public interest in his role as member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board and I ask my colleagues to join