

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A TRIBUTE TO TYLER WEIG

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Tyler Weig for being named a 2013 Hero of the Heartland by the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa.

Each year, the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa recognizes Heroes of the Heartland by selecting everyday Iowans who have done extraordinary things to help their neighbors and communities. The Iowans honored with this prestigious award displayed selflessness in a variety of courageous, charitable and thoughtful acts. The Heroes of the Heartland program not only showcases the heroes among us, but also helps raise crucial funds to ensure that the American Red Cross is prepared and equipped to assist those that need food, shelter, and comfort during emergencies and difficult times.

To be named a Hero of the Heartland, Tyler Weig took it upon himself to change a life forever by donating his own kidney to a stranger in need. Tyler was inspired to donate by researching the vast need for healthy kidneys and discovering nearly 95,000 people across the country and more than 500 Iowans currently on a waiting list. It's fitting, then, that Mr. Weig's selfless action has started the longest kidney transplant chain in Iowa's history. So far, the chain started by Tyler's lifesaving donation has helped five recipients who were facing a combined waiting list of 12 years. Tyler's commitment to a cause bigger than himself is a life-changing example that our State can be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Weig's actions that earned him the title a "Hero of the Heartland" are a testament to the humble, hardworking and helpful people who make up the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Tyler on a job well done, thanking the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa for their life changing efforts, and wishing all of those involved in the Heroes of the Heartland program continued success for years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF COLONEL
CHRISTOPHER O. MOHAN, USA

HON. ROB BISHOP

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2013

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, for the past two years, Tooele Army Depot, Utah, has been led by an outstanding officer whose record of achievement certainly deserves recognition. Colonel Christopher O. Mohan, USA, assumed command of Tooele Army Depot on July 19, 2011.

From the moment he assumed command, Colonel Mohan's commitment to worker safety became apparent. He implemented solid safety policies and procedures and, as a result, in 2012–2013, the depot achieved more than 350 consecutive days without a loss-time injury. This was the best record in Joint Munitions Command as well as Army Materiel Command, AMC. In 2013, the depot continues to prepare for the Voluntary Protection Program, VPP, Star Status.

In 2013, the Army implemented the Logistics Modernization Program, LMP. Under Colonel Mohan's guidance, the installation continued to succeed with implementation of LMP, which modernizes the systems and processes associated with managing the Army's supply chain at the national and installation levels. LMP also permits the planning, forecasting, and rapid order fulfillment leading to streamlined supply lines, improved distribution, a reduced theater footprint, and a warfighter who is equipped and ready to respond to present and future threats.

Colonel Mohan's leadership led the depot to excel in continuous improvement efforts. In 2011–2012, significant savings were realized through this concerted depot wide effort, with a LLS (\$916K) and Value Engineering (\$1.2) combined total savings and cost avoidance that exceeds \$2.1 million. Considering the depot's \$64 million annual budget, a savings of over \$2 million is a major accomplishment for a small installation with approximately 473 personnel. The realization of these savings was a result to successful partnering with all directorates on the base, and assisting them with their goals and simplifying the process. This year he continued a focus on furthering simple LEAN techniques such as taking "5S" techniques throughout all of Tooele's shops. He also continued to promote Visual Management Boards, which serve as directorate and lower scoreboards.

Tooele Army Depot exceeded the Value Engineering goal last year by 16 percent, and continued that trend this year, exceeding the goal by 23 percent with actual savings of \$1.2 million which is even more remarkable taking place during a difficult time of defense budget cuts and limited dollars for projects and infrastructure.

Colonel Mohan's guidance was instrumental in continuing to utilize simplified acquisition procedures that maximize the use of standard commercial items and services procured using combined solicitation and synopsis. Tooele Army Depot has promoted the use of the Government Purchase Card to the maximum extent practicable. Usage for FY12 was 11,003 purchase card transactions and Tooele's percentage of purchase card orders placed was 99 percent, exceeding the Army goal of 90 percent.

In 2012, Tooele Army Depot shipped approximately 34,892 tons of conventional ammunition and received 36,328 tons of conventional ammunition. Colonel Mohan supported the Ammunition community in demilitarizing 3460 tons of outdated ammunition.

During Colonel Mohan's command, the Garrison Office exceeded the Joint Munitions Command, JMC, Commanding General's goal of reducing energy consumption by 10 percent with a total energy consumption reduction of 15 percent. In addition, Tooele has reduced energy consumption 96.68 percent from its Army Energy and Water Reporting System, AEWRS, 2003 base year. Tooele's wind turbine produced approximately 2.051 MW of power during 2012.

Colonel Mohan contributed to the organization and planning of the 1.5MW Stirling solar electrical generation project. A groundbreaking for this planned and funded alternative energy project occurred in August 2012, and will lead to the eventual installation of 430 power dishes over 30 acres of depot property. In recognition of the importance of this project, Colonel Mohan was privileged to host a visit by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Dempsey, as well as top Army officials and State and Local government officials, to this groundbreaking event.

Colonel Mohan's guidance and leadership led the depot to excel in financial management. During 2012, the planned revenue was \$60 million, but actually received \$74.5 million. Planned direct labor hours were 441K and actual labor hours used as 464.7K. 2012 was the third consecutive year that Tooele Army depot execution rate was reduced.

Colonel Mohan's command of Tooele Army Depot will conclude on July 10, 2013, as he will assume another assignment of leadership within the Army Materiel Command.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I join with all of the Utah Congressional Delegation in thanking Colonel Christopher Mohan for his distinguished service to Tooele Army Depot, to the State of Utah, to the United States Army, and to the Nation. He leaves behind an admirable record of dedicated leadership that is to be commended, and we wish him and his family the best in their new endeavors.

CYBER INTELLIGENCE SHARING AND PROTECTION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 624) to provide for the sharing of certain cyber threat intelligence and cyber threat information between the intelligence community and cybersecurity entities, and for other purposes:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Chair, every day cyber-networks in this country are attacked. These attacks cause substantial disruption to our networks and drain billions of dollars from our economy each year. Today we consider a bill designed to strengthen our protections against cyber threats by encouraging private entities to share information and intelligence

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

among themselves and with the government. I certainly support that goal. However, I cannot support this bill in its current form because I believe it does not sufficiently protect the privacy of Americans. Specifically, the bill does not include sufficient protections against the disclosure of sensitive personal information.

Under the bill, companies are not required to extract personal information from the data they collect and share. Sharing un-scrubbed personal information with other companies or with government agencies can potentially put the civil liberties of Americans at risk if the data is misused or handled improperly. The bill also grants companies excessively broad immunities from legal responsibility for the disclosure or misuse of this data.

Many of the amendments accepted on the floor this week provide increased protections for information once it is received by the government, but that is no substitute for protecting it when it is initially collected by companies or when they share the data with each other. The White House has threatened to veto this bill if these issues are not adequately addressed.

I opposed this bill last year for similar reasons. I welcome the changes made to the bill this year to address some of those concerns. For example, no longer can receiving government agencies use information for national security purposes. Additionally, increased protections for personal data have been added for the information when it is placed in government hands. These changes improve the bill, but they do not go far enough to prevent the unwarranted and unnecessary disclosure of private information.

I believe that the cyber threats we face in this country are real, present and destructive. However, I believe that we can address these cyber threats without opening the door to unnecessary disclosure of private information. The companies who collect sensitive data about Americans should be required to safeguard that data to the fullest extent of their ability. The shortcomings of this bill can be easily addressed and I hope the Senate will make these necessary changes. I look forward to supporting a future bill that achieves that goal.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
OF H.R. 1549, HELPING SICK
AMERICANS NOW ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 24, 2013

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to the rule on H.R. 1549, the so-called "Helping Sick Americans Act."

This ill-conceived and misguided legislation takes funds from the Prevention and Public Health Fund to increase financing of the Pre-Existing Condition Insurance Program, PCIP. This sounds laudable but the facts are that this bill hurts an important program that our nation needs. The rule for the bill does not address the problems with this legislation.

Cutting funding from public health funds is a risky move. We know from countless studies

that money invested in public health is a solid investment. It improves the lives of thousands of Americans, especially our most vulnerable members: the elderly, the young, the sick, the disabled and the poor.

In March 2010, Congress passed and President Obama signed the historic health reform law, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. In addition to extending life-saving health insurance coverage to 31 million by 2019, the law includes a suite of provisions that have the potential to substantially reform our nation's health care system.

One of these provisions is the establishment of the Prevention and Public Health Fund. This is the nation's first dedicated mandatory federal funding stream for public health and prevention activities.

The Prevention Fund was created to increase the nation's investment in prevention in order to improve health outcomes and decrease health care costs.

In the first two years of its existence, 2010 and 2011, the Fund provided \$1.25 billion for critical programs that prevent tobacco use, decrease HIV rates, increase physical activity and healthy eating, increase immunization rates, and many other activities.

States and communities across the nation are already implementing and benefiting from these programs.

Public health is an essential component of the U.S. health system: its infrastructure and prevention-based programs wrap around clinical health systems to improve population health and reduce health care costs.

Local health departments work with a wide range of community partners to create conditions and policies that help people make healthy choices, such as avoiding tobacco use, becoming more physically active, and eating healthier foods. All these proactive measures contribute to the prevention of chronic diseases and associated risk factors like obesity and smoking.

For all of these reasons, I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing this rule.

RECOGNIZING THE ARMENIAN
GENOCIDE

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2013

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the memory of the innocents that perished in 1915 during the Armenian Genocide.

With a systematic barbarism visited upon them, countless Armenians made their way to Syria seeking refuge from persecution. Today, the world is aghast at the horrific violence engulfing Syria and the Armenian people are once again threatened with upheaval and displacement.

Each year, the United States Congress has the opportunity to stand with justice and recognize the Armenian Genocide. Such action would fortify America's moral standing in the family of nations and send a strong message to our NATO ally Turkey that it must examine the dark chapters of its past and the discriminatory impulses of its present.

Turkey has repeatedly thwarted efforts by Congress and successive administrations to recognize the Armenian Genocide by threatening all manner of retaliation should recognition be accorded. I submit that we do no favors to Turkey by acquiescing in its cynical campaign. Turkey's path to the European Union, its abysmal relations with its ethnic and religious minorities, particularly its violent conflict with the Kurdish people, would all improve if the Armenian Genocide was addressed openly and honestly.

As we approach the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide in 2015, it is time for the United States to formally recognize this tragic chapter in world history and to bring some measure of peace and healing to those of Armenian descent.

CELEBRATING "LITTLE WALTER"
AND THE INAUGURAL LITTLE
WALTER MUSIC FESTIVAL

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2013

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebrating "Little Walter" and the inaugural Little Walter Music Festival which will strike a chord in Alexandria, LA, on Saturday, May 4, 2013. Additionally, I would like to call attention to this much-anticipated festival for enhancing economic development and quality of life by unifying and celebrating Louisiana's interests.

The festival, honoring Rock & Roll Hall of Famer, Blues sideman and bandleader Little Walter, will take place on the Red River. Headlining the event is the "Louisiana Music Hall of Fame, LMHOF, Little Walter Legends." Multiple Louisiana Blues harp artists, LMHOF member Henry Gray, who played with Little Walter in Chicago, and a cast of Louisiana Blues All Stars will help usher "Little Walter" into The Louisiana Music Hall of Fame with a presentation from LMHOF President Mike Shepherd. Closing the event is a jam session featuring Lady Liz Neville, former lead vocalist in the Hotel Bentley's Mirror Room, along with the LMHOF "Legends" band on Little Walter's classic hits, "Juke" and "My Babe."

Little Walter, born Marion Walter Jacobs near what is now Spring Bayou Road in the small town of Marksville, LA, revolutionized the sound of the Blues harmonica through amplification just by clamping a microphone to the harmonica as he played. He spent several years in Alexandria before making his way to Chicago to eventually become a member of Muddy Waters band, where he began recording his unique style of Blues. According to his 2008 Rock & Roll Hall of Fame induction, Little Walter "could make a harmonica moan and roar like a full horn section or produce an unearthly, haunting wail."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing the Little Walter Music Festival the best of luck, and for its part in retaining the charm and spirit of our region. Lastly, I rise in celebration of Little Walter and his accomplishments making the Blues sound what it is today.