

the nation. I strongly support this program and any federal efforts to support and expand these services. Therefore, I strongly urge my colleagues to support the Autism CARES Act of 2014.

**LOWERING GASOLINE PRICES TO
FUEL AN AMERICA THAT WORKS
ACT OF 2014**

SPEECH OF

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 25, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4899) to lower gasoline prices for the American family by increasing domestic onshore and offshore energy exploration and production, to streamline and improve onshore and offshore energy permitting and administration, and for other purposes:

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 4899, the Lowering Gasoline Prices to Fuel an America That Works Act of 2014, to move the process forward and support U.S. energy independence and security, although I remain strongly opposed to one provision included in this bill.

This concerning provision was drawn from an amendment to H.R. 1965, the Federal Lands, Jobs, and Energy Security Act, which I opposed, and would call for the Secretary of the Interior to develop plans to allow for the construction of new power lines "across Federal lands to ensure that energy produced can be distributed to areas of need." Some may consider this to be noncontroversial, but I have fought the impact of similar language for a number of years. I am privileged to represent Virginia's "hallowed grounds," where so many important events and battles in American history took place, and I simply cannot support efforts to construct new power lines through our area—particularly power lines that would ship energy to other parts of the country. That's why I opposed PATH and why I opposed TrAIL. Cedar Creek and Bell Grove National Historic Park and Manassas National Battlefield Park are just a few areas in our region that could be impacted by this provision.

While my vote reflects my support for the other elements in this energy security bill, I will not be able to support any conferenced final bill if it contains this troubling provision.

**LOWERING GASOLINE PRICES TO
FUEL AN AMERICA THAT WORKS
ACT OF 2014**

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 25, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4899) to lower gasoline prices for the American family by increasing domestic onshore and offshore energy exploration and production, to streamline and improve onshore and offshore energy permitting and administration, and for other purposes:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, in the absence of fresh ideas for the American people, the Republican majority is turning back to old ones and repackaging legislation that has already passed the House for another vote. It may have a nice name, but this bill contains the same unnecessary, irresponsible giveaways to Big Oil at the expense of American taxpayers.

Today's bill would dramatically expand drilling on public lands and offshore, limiting public input into those lease sales and prioritizing drilling above all other uses, including hunting, fishing, and recreation. It undermines the existing procedures that ensure safe and responsible operations, effectively giving oil companies a blank check without appropriate safeguards.

This bill is unnecessary. Oil production in the United States is already at a 25-year high and net oil imports are at a 29-year low. We are already the world's top natural gas producer. This bill will not reduce energy prices or increase energy security. We should not give away our taxpayer-owned natural resources to already-profitable big oil companies. I urge a no vote.

**HONORING THE TOWN OF
NEWPORT, MAINE**

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Town of Newport, Maine, as it celebrates its 200th anniversary.

Located on the western boundary of Penobscot County, Newport is a town steeped in the history of Maine and known best for the bounty of its farms and fields. First known as East Pond Plantation, Newport was settled in 1800 and incorporated as the 208th town in the District of Maine on June 14, 1814. Like many Maine towns, it grew from a small farming village into a prospering mill town by harnessing the power of the east branch of the Sebasticook River, and aided by the extension of the Maine Central Railroad.

On Monday, the people of Newport will begin a week-long celebration of the bicentennial of their town, filled with the same local spirit and sense of common purpose that filled those first residents who first petitioned to have their community recognized. The residents of Newport embody the values of the hardworking people of Maine and can take great pride in the rich heritage they have created over the past 200 years.

It is an honor and a privilege to represent the people of Newport in Congress and I am pleased to have this opportunity to help the Town celebrate its 200th anniversary.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the people of Newport and wishing them well on this joyous occasion.

**H.R. 4902, THE MIDDLE CLASS
CHANCE ACT**

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight H.R. 4902, the Middle Class CHANCE Act, which I was proud to introduce last week.

As a Pell Grant recipient myself, I know that every dollar counts when you're trying to put yourself through college.

In our changing economy, today's college student is not necessarily full-time, living on campus, or between the ages of 18 and 22. Today's student is struggling to finish in four years, and today's student is averaging nearly \$30,000 in student loan debt.

That is why I am proud to have introduced the Middle Class CHANCE Act which will increase access to higher education for all our students by restoring the strength and length of the Pell Grant.

We argue that sensible solutions to our economic difficulties are essential to prevent this burden from passing on to our future generations. But let's take a look around; our future generations have already inherited the burden.

We cannot rebuild our economy when we do so at the expense of our future generations and the American dream of completing a post-secondary education.

I urge my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring the Middle Class CHANCE Act and make college more affordable and accessible for today's student.

**CONGRATULATING KAREN L.
PALLANSCH**

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Karen L. Pallansch, Chief Executive Officer of Alexandria Renew Enterprises, on her election as President of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA). Alexandria Renew is an independent government agency providing wastewater treatment services to the City of Alexandria and portions of Fairfax County, Virginia.

Beyond her wealth of environmental and engineering experience, I commend Ms. Pallansch for embracing a collaborative approach to watershed-based solutions that have garnered broad support among the public, business, elected officials, regulators and policymakers.

Ms. Pallansch is also a staunch and effective advocate for investing in our nation's aging and often deteriorating water infrastructure—investments that convey both environmental and economic benefits and help communities across our great nation to grow and thrive. Ms. Pallansch believes—as I do—that great communities need and deserve great water infrastructure and great quality water.

As the Chief Executive Officer of the former Alexandria Sanitation Authority (ASA)—the precursor to Alexandria Renew—Karen presided over the completion of the Authority's

awarding-winning Advanced Wastewater Treatment Facility that led the way in meeting the gold standard for removing nitrogen—one of the culprits behind the declining health of the Chesapeake Bay. Always seeking to be a good neighbor, ASA put much of the facility underground so as not to detract from the City's beauty and bring an Old Town look to the business of water protection.

When more stringent federal rules came along, Ms. Pallansch, working closely with her dedicated Board and staff, embarked on a massive State-of-the-Art Nitrogen Upgrade Program (SANUP) from which emerged the reimagining of what a wastewater treatment facility could be.

More than having cutting-edge technology, the facility she manages offers community-friendly features, including a regulation soccer field open to the public on top of an 18 million gallon treatment system. Alexandria Renew is moving down a bold new path to greater sustainability, helping to build greener, more sustainable communities, and creating in her agency "a utility of the future."

To reflect this broader enterprise, on Earth Day 2012, Ms. Pallansch announced that the Alexandria Sanitation Authority would be rebranded as Alexandria Renew Enterprises—the community's resource recovery center. The promise and synergy of this change are already being seen in a successful public-developer partnership that will create a vibrant new neighborhood from a dusty industrial area that was once an unregulated landfill for the City.

Ms. Pallansch has a long and distinguished career in the water reclamation field. She began as a staff engineer, rising to several senior positions before accepting position of CEO where she is now responsible for a \$40 million operating budget and a \$220 million capital improvement plan.

Mr. Speaker, once again, let me congratulate Karen Pallansch on her election as President of NACWA. As with Alexandria Renew Enterprises, I am sure she will lead the organization down a road marked by innovation, collaboration, progress and success. I wish her and NACWA the very best in their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING DALE MORRIS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Dale Morris, Regional Director for American/American Eagle Airlines. Mr. Morris served a total of 27 years at American Airlines, including his early years as a protégé to former Chairman, President and CEO of American Airlines, Gerard J. Arpey. As he enters retirement, it is fitting that this body honors Mr. Morris and his illustrious career, given his personal and professional successes.

Mr. Morris was raised in Fresno, California, where he studied Journalism and Public Relations at Fresno State University. He maintained a firm connection to his roots as past president and current special advisor to the Fresno State Track & Field Commission. Among his various accolades, he is a member

of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Epsilon Beta 311 Chapter.

In his role at American Airlines, Mr. Morris had the ability to navigate various legislative and regulatory obstacles to effectively advocate for American Airlines, thereby keeping American citizens and American skies safe. Over several decades, he has worked extensively with members of Congress, the White House, and the Department of State, always with the utmost integrity and trustworthiness.

Mr. Speaker, with Mr. Morris' leadership, officials at all levels of government made critical policy decisions that have improved the Nation's airports and many Americans' traveling experiences. I recognize Mr. Morris as a great American who has devoted his career to assisting those in public service and congratulate him on his retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE HONORABLE TRACEY L. PINSON

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and pleasure to extend my personal congratulations and best wishes to a great friend and outstanding servant of humankind, the Honorable Tracey L. Pinson, Director for the Office of Small Business Programs in the Office of the Secretary of the Army, and the highest-ranking female civilian in the Army acquisition career field. Ms. Pinson has excelled at this position since her first day as director in May 1995. She will be retiring on Monday, June 30, 2014.

A Washington, D.C. native, Ms. Pinson earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Howard University in 1978 and a Juris Doctor from Georgetown University Law Center in 1982. Her career began on Capitol Hill on the House Committee on Small Business under Chairman Parren Mitchell. Rep. Mitchell, of Maryland's Seventh Congressional District, was known as the "godfather" of minority business expansion and development efforts.

In 1986, Ms. Pinson was named as Assistant to the Director of the Office of Small Business Programs for the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

In 1995, Ms. Pinson was appointed the Director of Small Business Programs in the Office of the Secretary of the Army. She manages the largest small business program in the federal government in terms of dollars. Under her leadership, the Army has awarded over \$300 billion in contracts to small businesses.

Ms. Pinson manages the Army Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority Serving Institutions Program and ensures these institutions are afforded an opportunity to participate in Army-funded programs. Under her leadership, over \$100 billion in Army awards have gone to HBCUs/MIs. She also headed an initiative to hire wounded warriors in her office. With their help, she has been able to steer over \$50 billion to veteran-owned businesses. She has also worked to secure contract awards for women-owned businesses, companies located in areas of economic distress, and small businesses in disaster relief efforts.

Throughout her career, Ms. Pinson has received numerous awards and accolades, including the Department of the Army Award—Decoration for Exceptional Civilian Service in 1998; the Presidential Rank Award for Meritorious Executive in 2002 and for Distinguished Executive in 2009; and the Department of the Army Award for Meritorious Civilian Service in 2014.

Ms. Pinson's distinguished civil service has been mirrored by her extensive involvement in her community. In conjunction with her professional accomplishments in government, Ms. Pinson has served on a number of boards and commissions, most notably on the Board of Directors of the African American Federal Executive Association.

Ms. Pinson has dedicated her career to advocating for disadvantaged small business owners. Because of her efforts, thousands of these small business owners have received contract awards to stimulate their businesses, create jobs and contribute to the economy. Indeed, Ms. Pinson has been a champion for small businesses across the nation and I am so grateful for the role she has played in upholding the American dream for thousands of Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our sincerest appreciation and best wishes to the Honorable Tracey L. Pinson upon the occasion of her retirement from a stellar career of 32 years of service in the federal government and nearly 20 years as Director for the Office of Small Business Programs for the Secretary of the Army.

TRIBUTE TO DAN WALTERS

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of the Inland Empire are exceptional. My district has been fortunate to have dynamic and devoted community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent to make their communities a better place to live and work. Dan Walters is one of these individuals. Today I would like to recognize Dan Walters, who will be retiring from the position of District Director of The National Exchange Club after fifteen years of continuous volunteer service to the California and Nevada districts.

The National Exchange Club holds three core values dear to their mission of service: a commitment to family, a commitment to the community, and a commitment to country. Dan has embodied these three attributes during his fifteen years of service to his organization, and as a dynamic and effective leader, he has encouraged many others to do so as well.

Some of Dan's primary work with the National Exchange Club has involved working to prevent child abuse through education and fundraising activities nationwide. Among other important roles, The National Exchange Club recognizes those who uphold the ideals and institutions of their community; including law enforcement and fire department officers, school teachers, and students of the month, to name a few. Dan and his organization have also championed the installation of Freedom