

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HOWARD P. "BUCK" MCKEON NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL T. McCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4435) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 4435, the 2015 National Defense Authorization Act. I especially want to thank Chairman MCKEON for working with my staff and I to include section 1072 in his Manager Amendment.

As we draw down our presence in Iraq and Afghanistan, military equipment used in theater can be used to enhance border security at home, and in the process, save taxpayer dollars.

Section 1072 modifies current law, last updated in 1996 before the creation of the Department of Homeland Security, which guides the transfer of excess military equipment to provide preference for "border security activities."

This change puts border security, and the Department of Homeland Security, on equal footing with the Department of Justice and the Office of National Drug Control Policy so the Department's border security components can readily tap into excess military equipment on a preferential basis.

In the past, United States Customs and Border Protection has missed out on thousands of articles of DoD excess gear because the equipment is distributed on a first-come first-serve basis, notwithstanding statutory preference in under current law.

Section 1072 will bring the law up to date and will allow the operators on the ground protecting our border to more effectively complete their mission.

Again, I want to thank Chairman MCKEON and the staff of the Armed Services Committee for working with me to include this important provision in this year's NDAA.

TRIBUTE TO KUDER, INC.

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2014

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Kuder, Inc. of Adel, Iowa for being named a 2014 recipient of the President's "E" Award by the United States Department of Commerce.

On December 5, 1961, the prestigious "E" Award program was created by President

Kennedy through Executive Order to properly recognize American citizens and organizations who significantly contribute to increasing United States exports. United States exports are a crucial part of our economy and support nearly 10 million jobs across the country.

Kuder, Inc. is a growing career and education planning company with an increasing focus on evidence-based career guidance overseas. From Adel, Iowa, Kuder has acquired multiple government contracts in the Middle East and Asia as well as fostering collaboration with private organizations and government agencies in Europe, South America, Asia, and Africa. In total, Kuder has helped more than 150 million people discover their career aspirations. In addition to Kuder, Inc.'s national recognition for its outstanding efforts, Kuder was also recently selected as the Iowa Small Business Exporter of the Year for 2014 by the U.S. Small Business Administration for their outstanding leadership in our state's business community. It is clear that Iowa's own Kuder, Inc. truly represents the spirit of American business and the renowned Iowa work ethic.

Mr. Speaker, the great work done every day by the men and women of the Kuder, Inc. provides a crucial service to their community and our nation as a whole. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Kuder, Inc. for receiving this coveted award and thanking them for their invaluable efforts. It is an honor to represent the people who comprise this leading organization in the United States Congress, and I look forward to many more years of Kuder's innovative and positive impact in Iowa.

HONORING MATTHEW HARTMANN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Matthew Hartmann. Matt is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 175, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Matt has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Matt has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Matt has earned the rank of Firebuilder in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say and led his troop as the Assistant Senior Patrol Leader. Matt has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Matt led a team in designing and constructing 30 new signs and replacing 28 burlap targets at the James A. Reed Conservation Area archery range in Lee's Summit, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Matthew Hartmann for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CAPTAIN KYNNIE MARTIN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Captain Kynnie Martin for her service to our country.

Captain Martin served in the United States Army from December 2002 to December 2010. She was assigned to the 3rd Infantry Division Artillery at Ft. Stewart, Georgia, as the Assistant Intelligence Officer. She was subsequently deployed in support of Iraqi Freedom as the 3rd Infantry Division's first Shadow Tactical Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Company Executive Officer and Platoon Leader, Camp Taji, Iraq, and as Battalion Intelligence Officer for 703rd Forward Support Battalion, 4th Brigade.

Captain Martin continues her work on behalf of veterans in her civilian career as Senior Recruiter for Veterans and Diversity for Xcel Energy and as Treasurer on the Board of Directors for Women Veterans of Colorado.

Through her courageous service, Captain Martin charted the path for future generations of women to serve in the military. I extend my deepest appreciation to Captain Kynnie Martin for her dedication, integrity and outstanding service to the United States of America.

WATER RESOURCES REFORM AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the conference report for H.R. 3080, the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014.

Today is a monumental occasion for our nation's economy, for the creation of good-paying jobs, and for the health of our natural environment.

Thanks to the leadership of Chairman SHUSTER and Ranking Member RAHALL, we present this Chamber with a thoughtful, reasonable, and optimistic bill that renews this Congress' commitment to our Nation's water-related infrastructure.

In that light, I would like to personally thank our Chairman, our Ranking Member, and the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Water Resources, Mr. GIBBS, for the open and inclusive process with which our Committee conducted negotiations with the other body on WRRDA,

• 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.

and for their leadership in returning our Committee to its long-standing traditions of bipartisanship and collaboration—as exemplified in the Chairmanships of the gentleman from Pennsylvania's father, the former Chairman Shuster, as well as the late-Chairman of this Committee, Chairman Oberstar.

These former Committee leaders knew that a successful outcome can only come from the valuable input from Members on both sides of the aisle, from constructive negotiation, and from mutual respect. That is what we have seen return to this Committee under our current Chairman, and if the final vote tally for this Conference report is as I expect, then this bill ought to serve as a model for how this Congress conducts the American people's business.

Today is also a monumental day, because while this bill is about many things, most importantly, it is about job creation—not only those good construction jobs that will come with the authorization of 34 Chiefs Reports contained in the bill, but also the jobs that rely on a robust network of large and small ports and inland waterways to move goods throughout the United States.

I am especially pleased that this Conference report provides a reasonable path forward to the challenges facing the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund.

This legislation provides that, within 10 years, 100 percent of the fund proceeds are used for their intended purposes—harbor maintenance—while ensuring that any increase in harbor maintenance does not come at the expense of other critical Corps' programs. I am also thankful that this conference report recognizes the critical importance of our Nation's small ports to our regional and local economies in establishing future funding priorities.

Unfortunately, we could not solve all of the financial challenges facing the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund, or the Inland Waterways Trust Fund. That will have to come from continued Congressional attention and future legislative efforts. However, today is a good first step in addressing the most pressing challenges facing each of these funds, and should be supported.

Mr. Speaker, today is also a monumental day because this new WRRDA creates a reasonable and workable process, developed by this chamber, to address the ongoing navigation, flood damage reduction, and environmental restoration challenges facing each of our Congressional districts. For the past few years, this Congress has, unfortunately, ceded our constitutional and representative duties to the Executive branch in deciding what is in the best interests of our Congressional districts. This Conference report rightly restores our Congressional discretion in establishing these priorities, as well as the balance between the Congress and the Executive branch in meeting the local challenges of our districts.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, today is a monumental day because, at long last, this WRRDA restores the Federal commitment to our other remaining water infrastructure challenges—our failing sewage and drinking water infrastructure.

First, this Conference Report includes legislation that has eluded this Congress for almost three decades—the reauthorization of the Clean Water State Revolving Fund. For decades, this critical, and widely-popular program

has been the leading source of Federal funding to States and communities to address their ongoing water quality challenges. Today, we recommit to this program, and provide additional tools to our States and to our communities to address local water quality challenges in a flexible, cost-effective, and environmentally sustainable manner. I am pleased that much of this language is modeled after legislation (H.R. 1877) that I have introduced over the last few Congresses, and thank the Chairman and Ranking Member for their willingness to include this language in the Conference Report.

Finally, this Conference report adopts a modified version of the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (or WIFIA) that was approved by the other body. Many of the modifications made to this authority were to address a concern that I had raised about the potential impact of this new authority on the existing Clean Water SRF program. I am confident that these modifications send a clear message of Congressional support for both the existing SRF program, as well as for testing this new WIFIA pilot program, and commit that our Committee will need to revisit this issue in the near future.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased at the progress we have made together on improving water infrastructure in the United States. Again, I thank the leadership of our Chairman and our Ranking Member for getting us to this point today.

I urge my colleagues to support the Conference Report to H.R. 3080.

HONORING THETA PHI SIGMA
CHRISTIAN SORORITY, INC.

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2014

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, since 2009, Theta Phi Sigma Christian Sorority, Inc., has been and continues to be a worthy instrument for good; and

Whereas, the 2014 "Theta Phi Sigma Christian Sorority, Inc., Proverbs Alpha Kingdom Celebration Weekend," is being held this year in Lithonia, Georgia; and

Whereas, Theta Phi Sigma Christian Sorority, Inc., was founded by Dr. Jessica Martin, in Montgomery, Alabama, to promote Christian standards, values and the creative and artistic ideals of the modern woman; and

Whereas, its members give of themselves tirelessly and unconditionally to serve our community through projects such as voter registration, health walks, mentorships and scholarships; and

Whereas, the lives of many in our district are touched by the leadership and service given by the ladies of Theta Phi Sigma Christian Sorority, Inc., our nation and the world is a better place due to their commitment to excellence in all of their endeavors; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize their outstanding service to our District; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim January 18, 2014 as Theta Phi Sigma Christian Sorority, Inc., Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 18th day of January, 2014.

HONORING REVEREND CLAUDE E.
WILSON

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2014

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Reverend Claude E. Wilson. Known as a prominent leader in our community and as a devoted husband, father and friend, Reverend Wilson has left an indelible mark on our community. With his passing on May 9, 2014, we look to Reverend Wilson's personal legacy of spiritual service, the joy he inspired and the outstanding quality of his life's work.

Born on June 11, 1932 in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, Reverend Wilson moved to Seattle, Washington with his family at the age of eight. After graduating from Simpson College in San Francisco in 1956, Reverend Wilson went to pursue his Master's degree at the Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in Mill Valley. He obtained a Masters of Religious Education and a Masters of Divinity. In 1980, Reverend Wilson completed his Doctor of Ministry at the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley.

Throughout the 1960s, Reverend Claude Wilson served as a minister of Christian education and assistant to the pastor at McGee Avenue Baptist Church. In 1969, he became the pastor at Havenscourt Community Church, where he served his community for over 44 years. In addition, Reverend Wilson instructed at different institutes and universities, including the Bible Fellowship Institute, Fuller Seminary, and he was a Professor of Pastoral Care for Patten University.

Among Reverend Wilson's many accomplishments, he was also an active community leader and organizer. He served as the President of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of the East Bay, one of the oldest Black ministerial alliances in Northern California. Reverend Wilson also served as the President of the Northern California Council of Churches. In addition, he was a member of Pastors of Oakland and Love Fellowship of Churches, and was the Intern Chaplain at San Quentin Prison.

Reverend Claude Wilson has left a lasting imprint on our society and communities of faith. Reverend Wilson dedicated more than half of his life to ministry and will be remembered for his wisdom and compassion. In recognition for all of his achievements, a groundbreaking ceremony was held in Monrovia, Liberia naming a building after him: The Doctor Claude E. Wilson Academy.

On a personal note, I will always remember the confidence Reverend Wilson had in me when he endorsed me during my first campaign in 1989 for the California Assembly. He encouraged me and helped me win election after election. I was so proud to list him on my literature as a supporter. More importantly, however, I was proud to call him my friend. Reverend Wilson's smile, his kind words and his prayers reassured me to keep fighting the good fight. He was always there for me and for that, I am forever grateful.

Today, California's 13th Congressional District salutes and honors an outstanding community leader and individual, Reverend Claude