

they learned that early detection can be key to survival. When breast cancer is detected at the localized stage—confined to the primary site—the five year relative survival rate is 98.6%. As the stage of the cancer progresses, the relative survival rate drops.

This knowledge led the girls to film a public service announcement (PSA) urging mothers everywhere to have mammograms done—if not for themselves, for their daughters. The PSA has played for several months on several TV channels, and the girls have appeared on shows like *Good Day New York* to spread their message. Through their campaign, the girls of Troop 1701 are educating us all—men and women—about the importance of early detection.

I hosted the girls in my office after they reached out to me about the project. Let me tell you, these are impressive young citizens. They are incredibly passionate and smart, and they truly are making a difference, both in our home state of New Jersey and across the county. The girls have already heard from dozens of mothers—and others—who have scheduled their mammograms after seeing the PSA. A number of organizations, both national and local—the American Cancer Society and Meridian Health of New Jersey, to name a couple—have joined the girls on the initiative.

The girls have implemented their campaign in a number of creative ways. They held the inaugural “Jam for the Exam” Health Fair at their school, attracting 400 attendees who were able to meet with health professionals and learn valuable health tips. It was there that they launched their “Pinkie Promise” campaign, having mothers sign a banner, making a pinkie promise to their daughters that they will get their mammograms done.

The girls were recently honored at the annual Girl Scouts delegate meeting where—after presenting their PSA and receiving a standing ovation—they received their Bronze Award in front of the New Jersey Delegates. It is the highest honor a Junior Girl Scout can achieve. As a fellow scout—a boy scout and Eagle Scout—I know that these girls exemplify the scout traits of courage, confidence, character, and citizenship.

This coming March, the girls will receive a further honor when they receive The Girl Scouts of the Jersey Shore’s first-ever Junior Women of Distinction Award. The Woman of Distinction Award was traditionally reserved for adult women in the state and local community for making a positive impact.

The award is certainly well deserved, and these girls are just getting started. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking the girls of Girl Scout Troop 1701—Michelle Coyoti-Varela, Joyce Falotico, Morgan Fuerbacher, Jacqueline Hennessy, Adriana Poznanski, and Francesca Poznanski—for their truly impressive efforts in the fight against breast cancer. They are an inspiration to us all.

SPACE LAUNCH LIABILITY INDEMNIFICATION EXTENSION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2014

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Consolidated Appropriations Act

for fiscal year 2014. Like the budget compromise Congress approved last month, this bill takes an important step toward rolling back the devastating sequestration cuts that continue to hurt our constituents and have kept our economy from fully recovering. I applaud the House and Senate Appropriations Committees for their hard work in reaching a compromise on a spending bill that reinvests in some very important priorities that have recently been squeezed too tightly.

This bill fixes the ill-advised provision of the budget resolution that reduced cost of living adjustments for medically-retired military personnel. That’s a positive step and upholds our solemn commitment to those veterans, who have sacrificed for our security. I am also pleased that Federal Public Defenders will see a significant increase over last year’s budget. I will continue to work with my colleagues to ensure that these essential public servants have the resources they need to uphold the Sixth Amendment’s guarantee of counsel in a criminal trial. This bill also reinvests in Head Start, some nutrition assistance programs, the safety of our food and drug supply, and transportation infrastructure—all very important to building and supporting strong families and strong local economies.

As with any compromise legislation, there are also provisions in this bill that I do not support. Among other things, this bill seriously underfunds medical research by the NIH, environmental protection by the EPA, and legal aid programs, and it does not include reimbursements to rural counties under the PILT program. The bill also continues to infringe on the rights of women to control their own health care, and undermines public education through a voucher program.

Despite these shortcomings, this bill is the result of good-faith, bipartisan negotiations and it moves our economy forward. This collaborative process must become the norm in Congress, not the exception. I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this compromise legislation.

CONGRATULATING BEVERLY ROBERTSON ON RECEIVING THE 2014 BE THE DREAM MLK LEGACY AWARD

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 16, 2014

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Beverly Robertson on receiving the 2014 Be the Dream MLK Legacy Award. This special award is given to those individuals whose lives have “embodied the spirit and legacy of service, sacrifice and hope” that characterized the work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. As the President of the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, Tennessee for the past 17 years, it is fitting that this award be bestowed upon Beverly Robertson in recognition of her accomplishments and contributions.

Beverly Robertson attended Memphis State University where she earned her BA degree in 1973. While there, she was active in the student body and became a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, an organization well known for academic excellence, commitment

to service, and providing assistance and support in local communities throughout the world. In 2013, the College of Education, Health and Human Services Alumni Chapter inducted her into its Hall of Fame.

For 19 years, Mrs. Robertson worked in corporate America before starting a successful business with her husband, Howard. In 1997, she was selected to be president of the National Civil Rights Museum, which is housed in the transformed Lorraine Motel—the location of Dr. King’s tragic assassination. While she expressed concerns about her qualification for such a prestigious position, she pushed any doubts aside and said that she knows “how to treat people” and “how to manage a business.” With these and other skills will in hand, the museum, its visitors and the city of Memphis have been well-served under her leadership.

Under her 17-year tenure as president, from which she is now preparing for a much deserved retirement, Beverly was instrumental in elevating the museum to new heights. She oversaw two major renovation projects, which included a 12,800-square-foot addition dedicated to the examination of Dr. King’s assassination and the continuing struggle for civil rights, and a \$27 million renovation that is scheduled to open in March of 2014 and will add new exhibit space, more automation, state-of the art interactivity, an educational and cultural center, and a redesigned lobby. She has overseen 16 Freedom Awards programs honoring iconic leaders such as U.S. Presidents Bill Clinton and Jimmy Carter as well as other notable figures including Rosa Parks, the Dalai Lama, Oprah Winfrey, Elie Wiesel, and Nelson Mandela. As a result of her dedication, the museum is a strong, fiscally sound and national recognized organization.

Beverly Robertson has been a true visionary at the National Civil Rights Museum and while I congratulate her on her upcoming retirement, her presence at the museum will be missed. There is no doubt that her work is worthy of this award named after Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating Beverly Robertson on being awarded the 2014 Be the Dream MLK Legacy Award.

CONGRATULATING JACKSON FINE

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 16, 2014

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Jackson Fine, a talented young man from Thousand Oaks, California, who was awarded a U.S. patent for his 3D imaging system. With only one percent of U.S. patents awarded to students 18 years or under, Jackson Fine is among a select group of young inventors who is already making a big impact in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM).

Jackson’s invention, which has come to be known as the “Iron Man” patent, is a system that allows for easy guidance and manipulation of holographic tools and objects within a 3D sensor grid. His invention can be used to conduct remote medical procedures, repair equipment on orbiting spacecraft, and enhance gaming and next generation computing.

Jackson hopes that his invention will significantly enhance the quality of human lives.

Although Jackson acknowledges many entities as his source of inspiration, he attributes much of his motivation to his family, particularly his maternal grandfather. Jackson's grandfather had lost his arm as a teenager while working at a lumber camp. Despite the difficulties and challenges that he faced, his grandfather taught himself the trade of engineering and built and maintained several radio stations that he operated with his one hand. Similarly to his grandfather, Jackson is self-taught for the most part, but also recognizes his teachers and advisors—Mr. Jim Altizer, Mr. Jeff Morrow, Mr. Kenn Gorman, Mr. Matt Northrup, and Mr. Tim Fenderson—at Oaks Christian School for their nurturing advice and flexibility to work with his academic priorities while consistently encouraging him in his technology studies.

In addition to being a talented student, Jackson is also a celebrated athlete. As a member on the Oaks Christian Varsity Baseball team, Jackson received Perfect Game's USA All-American Honorable Mention team selection and was recently named an Under Armour 2014 Pre-Season All-American.

After completing his senior year at Oaks Christian School, Jackson plans to attend a university where he will pursue a degree in business and entrepreneurship while playing college baseball. I have no doubt that he will be just as accomplished in his adult life as he has been during his years at Oaks Christian School.

With such an impressive resume already, I look forward to seeing Jackson succeed in all of his future academic and professional endeavors. I join with Jackson's family, friends, and mentors in congratulating Jackson on such a momentous achievement.

REBUTTAL OF GENERAL ODIERNO'S NATIONAL GUARD COMMENTS

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 16, 2014

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, this past Saturday I had the pleasure of welcoming home the soldiers of the 1/214th Field Artillery Division located in Elberton, Georgia. The Georgia National Guard unit deployed to Afghanistan for a year, fighting for the freedoms we enjoy.

While speaking before the audience of recently returned veterans, I never made a distinction between National Guard and Active Duty. What I lauded these soldiers for was putting their lives on the line in defense of their nation. The flag they wear on their right shoulder, signifies them as a fighting force on behalf of the United States.

That flag doesn't distinguish whether they are National Guard or Active Duty.

So I was very disheartened three days ago when I heard reports that U.S. Army Chief of Staff, General Odierno said, "the capabilities are not interchangeable," referring to the National Guard and Active Duty.

It appears to me the National Guard's capabilities have been interchangeable as they have defended the nation during its 13 year war on terrorism.

The members of the 1/214th Field Artillery capabilities were interchangeable as they served with distinction during their year in Afghanistan. They executed 724 missions, conducted 9,300 vehicle searches, and were awarded numerous Purple Hearts and Bronze Star Medals. The 1/214th was awarded the Army's Meritorious Unit Citation which is given only to units whose performance is considered to be outstanding, heroic and actions valorous in nature.

It is hurtful to me as a Reservist, and the Guard members in my state, to say their skills are not interchangeable even though it is well known the Guard does the same job as Active duty with fewer resources. And yes, the Guard traditionally trains only 39 days a year, but yet, still fights for a year straight when deployed.

In addition to a year deployed, National Guard and Reservist are sent to mobilization stations for three months prior to deployment.

These mobilization stations are the last stop prior to being deployed. So a Guardsman, citizen soldiers as they are often called, is actually away from their families for a total of fifteen months.

For General Odierno to say Active Duty and National Guard are not interchangeable is disingenuous. The National Guard has to train to the same standards and adheres to the same doctrinal fighting form as Active Duty units.

In addition to fighting the foes of our nation, the National Guard is called up at a moment's notice to respond to hurricanes, tornadoes, chemical spills, and all manners of man-made and natural disasters. National Guard only trains for 39 days, when there isn't a state emergency.

As of recent, between Hurricane Sandy to the chemical spill in West Virginia, the Guard has been activated to serve the citizens of their state.

The members of the 1/214th Field Artillery would be disheartened to learn that their chief of staff doesn't think they are as capable as an Active Duty unit. I know, they know, that they can function in every terrain, weather condition, and operational environment as any other combat unit, why doesn't General Odierno?

CONGRATULATING LINDA ALWEISS

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 16, 2014

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize a local hero, Linda Alweiss, from Camarillo, California.

On December 30, 2013, Linda and her family were aboard a flight from Des Moines, Iowa to Denver, Colorado, when only twenty minutes into the flight, a call for medical assistance came over the intercom. Unbeknownst to Linda, the man in distress was the pilot of their flight. As Linda and another nurse, Amy Sorensen from Wyoming, were brought to the cockpit by flight attendants to assist in the medical emergency, they realized the gravity of the situation. The pilot, who seemed to be suffering from a blood clot or heart attack, was hunched over in his seat; his face was pale, his lips were blue and both nurses could barely get a pulse. They quickly realized that their pilot could no longer fly the Boeing 737 that

carried 154 passengers. With the help of Linda's husband and another passenger, they moved the pilot to the galley where they hooked up an IV and set up a diagnostic defibrillator.

Without hesitation, Linda rose to the occasion and quickly began to administer medical attention to the pilot. Although they were 30,000 feet in the air, Linda acted with poise, professionalism and valor. Her selfless actions aboard that flight saved the life of the pilot and the safety of all passengers and crew members. As the plane conducted an emergency landing in Omaha, Nebraska, Linda and Amy stayed with the pilot until he was transported and taken into emergency care.

Linda does not call herself a hero, but rather, someone who just did what she was trained to do. She is quick to give credit and attention to the other individuals who assisted; this shows her moral character and modest demeanor.

Linda's background as a nurse is extensive and proved to be the saving grace that day. Linda earned her baccalaureate of science in nursing from the University of Iowa in 1983 and worked as a registered nurse at the University of Iowa Hospital and Clinics. In 1984, Linda moved from Des Moines, Iowa to Southern California where she has worked as a charge nurse at Saddleback Community Hospital and later, as a charge nurse for the pediatric intensive care unit at Long Beach Memorial Medical Center. In 1990, Linda made the decision to focus her career on being an in-house Legal Nurse Consultant. For the next twenty years, she worked for the law firm of Magana, Catchcart, & McCarthy. Today, Linda is currently employed as a home health nurse for Buena Vista Home Health Care.

Aside from her duties as a nurse, Linda is also a dedicated mother, wife and community leader. When her daughter, Sarah, attended elementary school, Linda was involved in the Parent Faculty Organization (PFO) for the Mesa Union School District, where she served as the President and Chairperson of the allocations committee for 7 years. Linda is an exemplary role model and citizen. She continues to be active in the community and provides pro-bono legal nurse consulting and actively raises funds for charities, including the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer.

For her selfless and heroic actions, I want to recognize and thank Linda Alweiss. She is a true hero in the hearts and minds of those on the flight, especially in the eyes of her family and community.

CONGRATULATING DR. JAMES L. NETTERS, SR. ON RECEIVING THE 2014 BE THE DREAM MLK LEGACY AWARD

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 16, 2014

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. James L. Netters, Sr. on receiving the 2014 Be the Dream MLK Legacy Award. This special award is given to those individuals whose lives have "embodied the spirit and legacy of service, sacrifice and hope" that characterized the work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. As a pastor, a public official and a leader in the Civil Rights Movement,