

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

HONORING HARRY SERAYDARIAN

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2015

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Harry Seraydarian, who is retiring this year from his position as the Executive Director of the North Bay Watershed Association (NBWA) in Corte Madera, California. Mr. Seraydarian has worked tirelessly throughout his long and productive career to protect watershed resources and natural spaces in our region, both with the NBWA and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

A lifelong advocate for the environment, Mr. Seraydarian spent most of his working years in government. In his decades of service with the EPA, Mr. Seraydarian distinguished himself as a Director of the Water Management Division, Director of Toxics & Waste Management, and an Associate Regional Administrator in the EPA's Region 9. In his final role, he served as an in-house "neutral," using his extensive problem solving skills and technical knowledge to resolve disputes.

If there's a challenge unsuited to Mr. Seraydarian, it may be retirement. Following a 33-year federal career, he retired in 2002, but quickly reentered the workforce in 2004 as the NBWA's Executive Director. Under his leadership, the NBWA has funded 36 projects the North Bay, totaling nearly one million dollars. The Association, a consortium of 16 regional and local public agencies in Marin, Sonoma, and Napa counties, has encouraged collaboration across different levels of government, and, in no small part to Mr. Seraydarian's efforts, has enhanced stewardship efforts in the North Bay watershed.

Mr. Seraydarian's varied and significant talents, particularly in environmental mediation and conflict resolution, will not soon be forgotten. Our local environment is a better place today thanks to his technical abilities, managerial experience, and dedication to results-driven conservation.

Mr. Speaker, Harry Seraydarian's enduring commitment to improving our watersheds and environment is admirable and worthy of our recognition. I urge my colleagues to join me in extending our congratulations to him on his retirement and our best wishes to him on his next adventure.

NORTH AMERICAN ENERGY SECURITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 2, 2015

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 8) to modernize

energy infrastructure, build a 21st century energy and manufacturing workforce, bolster America's energy security and diplomacy, and promote energy efficiency and government accountability, and for other purposes:

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the crude oil export amendment.

In the past 10 years, the United States has undergone an energy revolution.

But due to our success in places like Texas, North Dakota and Colorado the price of oil has fallen from \$100 per barrel to \$40.

Gasoline prices have fallen from almost \$4 per gallon to less than \$2.

All of this has benefitted our economy and the consumer.

I support crude oil exports.

But I want to protect our domestic manufacturing jobs, including refining.

We have the resource, we should use as much as possible here at home and sell what is left.

The crude oil export ban has been in place since 1975.

In the 1970s, the United States put the ban in place to protect our national interests.

That's more than 40 years of legislative history.

Before we do away with that history, we should make sure we have a policy that will make sense for the next 40 years and perhaps beyond.

Crude oil is a valuable national resource and the government should have some oversight as to where and when we send crude overseas.

I was hoping we could craft language that would create a process at the Bureau of Industry and Security, within the Department of Commerce, that would establish an authorization and reporting requirements for crude oil.

We should have some basic requirements at the Department of Commerce to oversee crude.

Unlike LNG, crude is a raw commodity and raw crude doesn't have value added.

If exporting crude is the right policy, then let's do it correctly.

Let's maximize the benefits for the United States.

Let's make sure U.S. crude doesn't end up in the hands of North Korea or any of our other foes.

The Department of Commerce has approved every application to export oil in the last five years.

Now, I agree that the Department could approve permits more efficiently but that's something we can legislate.

That's a "fix" I can support and believe would help our upstream producers.

Unfortunately, we were unable to find that compromise.

I do not want to oppose this language but without changes it is not in the best interest of our country.

The time to address exports is now but we cannot just open the tap and hope for the best.

I do not want the United States to become a resource nation.

I look forward to working on this issue again and hope that a reasonable, commonsense approach can be reached.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 1177,
STUDENT SUCCESS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 2, 2015

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), which seeks to replace the broken No Child Left Behind law. While I still have concerns with some provisions in this legislation, I believe this bill will serve our children better than the status quo. For example, the current waiver system has allowed states to ignore schools that are failing students. That is unacceptable and cannot continue.

I am concerned by the lack of federal oversight in implementing and enforcing many provisions of this bill. For example, states are left to determine how and when to intervene in schools that are failing children. We must guarantee that there is substantial federal role in ensuring states meet their obligations. Further, we must guarantee state and district implementation boards are inclusive, diverse, and adequately represent students of all needs and circumstances.

Despite shortcomings in the bill, I was pleased to see that states will now be required to collect and report data on incidences of bullying and harassment in school—an issue I have been working on for many years. It is a small, but powerful step in ensuring all children feel safe at school.

I voted for this bill because No Child Left Behind is simply not working. In four years, I look forward to revisiting reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act to achieve an even more effective long-term policy.

IN HONOR OF THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE IMMIGRANT WELCOME CENTER

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2015

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. I rise today to honor the Immigrant Welcome Center, whose tireless work over the past ten years has blessed countless Hoosiers in my hometown of Indianapolis.

The Immigrant Welcome Center was founded in 2005 by Mayor Bart Peterson and First Lady Amy Minick Peterson who sought to discover ways the City of Indianapolis could be more welcoming to its newest residents. Serving as a trusted liaison between newcomers and the community at large, the Immigrant Welcome Center provides a strong and positive voice for the foreign-born newcomers who represent 120 different nationalities and speak more than 90 languages. Today the organization continues to build connections between immigrants and the city's social, cultural and business communities, making Indianapolis a more diverse and innovative place for all residents.

The Immigrant Welcome Center is built on a model of empowerment that trains immigrants

and refugees as Natural Helpers in understanding the resources and opportunities available in our community. These Natural Helpers then help their fellow foreign-born brothers and sisters navigate the maze of available services and connect them to people, places and resources necessary to build successful lives. The organization has also helped make Indianapolis a leader among welcoming cities across the United States as part of the national Welcoming America Initiative's programs and outreach.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Immigrant Welcome Center for its efforts to strengthen and integrate our growing foreign-born community, helping make Indianapolis a more welcoming and vibrant international city.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK TAKAI

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2015

Mr. TAKAI. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, December 2, I was absent from the House due to illness. Due to my absence, I am not recorded on any legislative measures for the day. I would like to reflect how I would have voted had I been present for legislative business.

Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on Roll Call 653, the previous question providing for consideration of the North American Energy Security and Infrastructure Act of 2015.

I would have voted "no" on Roll Call 654, the rule providing for consideration of the North American Energy Security and Infrastructure Act of 2015.

I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call 655, the Democratic Motion to Instruct Conferees on the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015.

I would have voted "no" on Roll Call 656, the Upton of Michigan Amendment No. 1 to the North American Energy Security and Infrastructure Act of 2015.

I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call 657, the Tonko of New York Amendment No. 2 to the North American Energy Security and Infrastructure Act of 2015.

I would have voted "no" on Roll Call 658, the Gene Green of Texas Amendment No. 14 to the North American Energy Security and Infrastructure Act of 2015.

I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call 659, the Beyer of Virginia Amendment No. 17 to the North American Energy Security and Infrastructure Act of 2015.

I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call 660, the Schakowsky of Illinois Amendment No. 19 to the North American Energy Security and Infrastructure Act of 2015.

I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call 661, the Tonko of New York Amendment No. 22 to the North American Energy Security and Infrastructure Act of 2015.

I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call 662, the Schakowsky of Illinois Amendment No. 19 to the North American Energy Security and Infrastructure Act of 2015.

I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call 663, the Castor of Florida Amendment No. 23 to the North American Energy Security and Infrastructure Act of 2015.

I would have voted "no" on Roll Call 664, the Barton of Texas Amendment No. 25 to the North American Energy Security and Infrastructure Act of 2015.

I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call 665, agreeing to the Conference Report to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

CONGRATULATING TURKEY FOR
HOSTING THE ANNUAL G20
LEADERS SUMMIT IN ANTALYA,
NOVEMBER 15-16, 2015

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2015

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the Republic of Turkey for hosting the successful annual G20 Leader's Summit in Antalya, November 15-16, 2015.

While Syria and the fight against terrorists was already on the agenda, the Paris terrorist attacks by ISIS ensured that these issues remained in the forefront. Ultimately, the G20 countries issued a strong statement condemning the heinous terrorist attacks, uniting to combat them, remain committed to fighting the financial tools used, and supporting a comprehensive approach to one of the international community's greatest challenges in this century.

The G20 was established on September 26, 1999 when the Finance Ministers of the G7 countries (Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States) came together after the Asian financial crisis. The inaugural meeting was held in Berlin in December 1999.

The G20 countries are Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States, and the European Union. The economies of the countries combined account for 85% of the global economic output, 80% of world trade, and 65% of the world's population.

When the group met for the first time in Washington, DC represented by world leaders in 2008, they discussed ways to respond collectively to the 2008-09 crisis to restore growth, strengthen the global financial system, and reform international financial institutions.

Turkey officially took over the presidency of the G20 from Australia in December 1, 2014 and China will preside over the organization in 2016.

The other three key objectives of the 2015 G20 Leader's Summit in Antalya were strengthening the global recovery, enhancing resilience, and buttressing sustainability.

Turkey's growing economy is significant because Turkey's companies are expanding and trading with not only traditional markets such as neighboring countries or the European Union, but Turkish firms are also increasingly looking to invest in the United States, including Indian country.

I am proud to have sponsored legislation which facilitated the investment from not only Turkey, but all WTO countries in native lands.

As a member of Congress who has long championed US-Turkish relations and eco-

nomics integration, I congratulate Turkey on hosting this important summit at a challenging time.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH
BIRTHDAY OF CHARLES W. MARSH

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2015

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Charles W. Marsh, who celebrates his 100th birthday on December 6th in Hanson, Massachusetts.

Mr. Marsh embodies the quintessential American story. Born in Massachusetts in 1915 to a mother who came to the United States from Ireland with his older sister, Olive, Mr. Marsh lived in the town of Weymouth with his family until he joined the U.S. Army.

After serving overseas in Germany, he returned to the United States and continued to support his country through the critical work of the Quincy Shipyard. Following this time, Mr. Marsh remained in Quincy and began his long and dedicated career as an auto body worker.

A gifted marksman with rifle and bow, Mr. Marsh was an outdoorsman at heart. He was so renowned for his knowledge of New England's beaches and coastline that, during the blizzard of 1978, he was called upon by the U.S. Coast Guard to assist in search and rescue operations.

During his time working in Quincy, Mr. Marsh and his wife, Miriam, built a house on Gurnet Point in Plymouth, Massachusetts. For 16 years, they were the first year-round residents on this small historic peninsula, named by the Pilgrims in the 1600s for its resemblance to headlands in the English Channel where gurnett fish were plentiful. Deciding that a change of scenery was in order, the Marshes then moved north to the picturesque shores of Lake Winnepesaukee in Alton, New Hampshire.

Mr. Marsh will be celebrating his centennial birthday surrounded by four generations of loving family, which has grown to include three children, eight grandchildren, eleven great grandchildren and three great, great grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Charles W. Marsh on his 100th birthday. I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing him many more years of health and happiness.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2015

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, December 2, 2015 I was inadvertently detained on roll call vote 656, the Manager's Amendment. I was on a very important phone call with my constituents. Had I been present to vote I would have voted 'aye.'