

learning to read and write at the age of 10. Fong dedicated his young life to helping others. In 2014 he was elected by his peers to lead the H.M.O.N.G youth program—a program designed to help at-risk youth by teaching and encouraging other young students the importance of volunteerism and preserving the Hmong culture. He organized a local class to teach Hmong youth how to read and write in Hmong, and also organized and led the Qhuas Peb Lub Npe Hmoob Zoo, a cultural event planned entirely by the Hmong youth for the community.

In addition to his leadership position, Mr. Moua has spent countless hours bettering the community through mentoring and volunteering at local organizations such as the Hmong American Center, Inc., where he assisted with the Hmong New Year celebration, and Dream Big: 2056 Scholarship Fundraiser that provides opportunities for Hmong students to pursue an education.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in congratulating Mr. Moua on his volunteer accomplishments and being named the youth Paul Bunyan Award winner. His selfless demeanor in which he answers the call to serve in our district is truly valued.

A BILL TO ESTABLISH AN ELECTRONIC SYSTEM FOR TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION FOR THE GUAM CNMI VISA WAIVER PROGRAM

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2016

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce legislation that would authorize and establish an Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA) for the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program, and direct revenue from the established system to fund CEP operations and staffing needs for ports of entry in Guam and the CNMI.

The regional Guam-CNMI VWP recognizes Guam's unique location in Asia, and the need to be more competitive for tourists from other Asian nations. With Guam's primary source of economic revenue being tourism from Asia, my legislation would address several issues that have hampered the industry and that continues to cost CBP millions of dollars annually in processing costs. The majority of foreign arrivals at Guam International Airport are those traveling under the Guam-CNMI VWP, and long immigration lines are a recurring issue due to limited staffing capacity when arrivals peak at Guam International Airport. At their peak—sometimes 1,200 passengers arrive when multiple flights arrive nearly simultaneously—the wait times at immigration can be as long as two and a half hours.

I recognize that there are complaints about long wait lines at other international ports of entries including Guam. However, many of our visitors come from Japan and South Korea. In fact, some Japan television shows and radio programs have mocked the long lines and wait times at Guam International Airport. The flight from Japan or South Korea is a little over 3 hours and, sadly, some of these visitors have waited about as long in line. That is unacceptable and runs counter to the President's goal of improving the arrivals process for inter-

national travelers arriving in the United States, as outlined in a memorandum to heads of executive departments and agencies on May 22, 2014. My legislation would work to address the problems that are occurring with long wait times at our respective port of entries. Tourism is critical to the economies of the region, and we cannot let an antiquated visitor entry system and inadequate staffing harm our economy.

Establishing an ESTA specific to the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program would help to address several issues faced by visitors arriving at Guam International Airport. First, the current process relies on a paper-based system which is cumbersome and only adds to the delays when arriving. The bill would allow CBP to automate that process and, as a result, save an estimated \$4 million annually that is used by CBP to process and file the paper forms. This is a common sense reform that will save the federal government money and improve the customer experience at Guam International Airport and ports of entry in the CNMI.

Admittedly, CBP has the authority to create an ESTA system for the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program; however, they do not have the authority to direct revenues collected from this automated process towards staffing at ports of entry in Guam and CNMI. As such, it is the consensus of tourism industry leaders and other stakeholders that there is an ultimate need for this legislation. I am informed that staffing has not increased in Guam since after the 9/11 attacks. The CBP staffing pattern was sufficient, but as the number of tourists grows on Guam the lines have also grown and the staffing has not kept up with demand. Making the visitor entry process into ports of entry in Guam and CNMI electronic is part of the solution, but additional staffing is still required especially since nearly 50% of our visitors are first-time visitors and cannot avail themselves of Automated Passport Control (APC) systems.

Earlier this month, Guam once again hosted the Electric Island Festival (EIF), a two-day event which brings together DJs from the Asia-Pacific region. Nearly 4,000 visitors attended EIF last year. I am both proud and humbled at the innovative programming that brings people from all over the world to Guam. Further, in late May and early June Guam hosted the Festival of the Pacific Arts (FestPac) a once every four years major regional cultural event, and is the largest gathering in which Pacific peoples unite to enhance their respect and appreciation of one another. A significant number of visitors came to Guam to participate in FestPac, and I appreciate the commitment of Commissioner R. Gil Kerlikowske to ensure there was adequate staffing at Guam International Airport. But that additional staffing was accomplished by approving extra overtime for employees which is a costly endeavor. Events like FestPac and EIF show the maturation and growth of Guam's tourism industry. Improving the processes and capabilities of our ports of entry to ensure a pleasant experience for our visitors is a top priority, and the solutions must be long-standing and sustainable. We cannot simply rely on overtime of employees to meet the current and emerging demands at our main international port of entry.

An ESTA for the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program is an innovative, sustainable, com-

mon-sense, and cost-saving solution that would not only save the federal government millions and increase resources to improve CBP capabilities. More importantly, it would ultimately modernize and improve a Visa Waiver Program that continues to benefit the people of Guam and CNMI. My bill would help ensure that federal policy enhances economic opportunities and development in our region instead of being an impediment.

HONORING MR. HERB LAMB

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Herb Lamb, whom the Napa County Farm Bureau posthumously named the 2016 Agriculturalist of the Year. Herb passed away on December 10, 2014, after 64 remarkable years.

A native of Vallejo, California, Herb moved with his family to Napa when he was eight. After graduating with a degree in Soil Science from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, he returned to Napa and started a vineyard consulting business. Herb and his business partner, Dennis Hansen, opened the Napa Valley Ag Supply in 1983, one of the first agricultural chemical businesses in the Napa Valley.

Herb knew Napa vineyards like the back of his hand. In his 35 years of work in agriculture, he became acquainted with nearly every vineyard manager and winery owner in our Napa community. From large landowners developing vineyard properties to local homeowners wanting a secret weapon to kill a backyard orchard pest, Herb offered everyone the same knowledgeable consideration and interest.

Herb volunteered his time often, and our community remembers him for his kindness coupled with a sincere desire to help. He was a supporter of the local 4-H and Future Farmers of America, a former member of the St. Helena Rotary, a Native Son of the Golden West, and served on the board of the Napa Valley Grapegrowers.

Mr. Speaker, Herb Lamb was known as a legend for his knowledge of the Napa Valley and commitment to our wine community, as well as his gentle and jovial spirit. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

BRIGADIER GENERAL JESSIE
"ROY" ROBINSON

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2016

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Brigadier General Jessie "Roy" Robinson, the retiring Director, Joint Staff, Joint Force Headquarters of the Mississippi National Guard. Through General Robinson's role as Director, Joint Staff, he provides oversight and strategic planning to ensure the overall readiness of the Mississippi National Guard. This vital position entails not only personal readiness, but maintaining readiness of facilities, equipment, supplies, funds, and supporting services.

General Robinson was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant, Infantry, on May 11, 1985, through the Reserve Officers' Training Corps at the University of Southern Mississippi. He served as Commander of 890th Engineer Battalion, Commander of the 150th Engineer Battalion, Deputy Commander of the 168th Engineer Brigade, and Commander of the Camp McCain Training Site, Mississippi Army National Guard. He has also served as the Chief of Staff, Joint Force Headquarters, Mississippi Army National Guard, and as Assistant Adjutant General—Army, Joint Force Headquarters, Mississippi National Guard.

I was privileged to serve with Brigadier General Robinson during a combat deployment to Iraq in 2005. At the time, Lieutenant Colonel Robinson commanded the 150th Engineer Battalion at Forward Operating Base Dogwood in Iraq, which was on the Euphrates River in the corner of Al Anbar Province right across the river from Babil Province. During Lieutenant Colonel Robinson's command, the 150th Combat Engineer Battalion performed at an extremely high level while performing combat operations in a very high intensity area. Lieutenant Colonel Robinson displayed courage, leadership, and mentored the officers and noncommissioned officers of the 150th Engineer Battalion.

I have served with Brigadier General Robinson since our return, and he is a trusted mentor, respected by soldiers across the ranks of the Mississippi Army National Guard. As Director of the National Guard Association of Mississippi, he has been a champion for soldiers at the state and national level. I am privileged to consider Brigadier General Robinson a friend and mentor.

As Brigadier General Robinson retires from his military career, I wish him the best in his future endeavors. I know he will continue to be a leader for Mississippi's soldiers in his role as Executive Director of the National Guard Association of Mississippi.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2016

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for certain votes taken yesterday, Wednesday, July 13. If present, I would have voted as follows:

Roll Call Vote Number 453 (Passage of H. AMDT. 1342 to H.R. 5538 offered by Rep. GARY PALMER): NO.

Roll Call Vote Number 454 (Passage of H. AMDT. 1344 to H.R. 5538 offered by Rep. PAUL GOSAR): NO.

SUPPORTING H.R. 1655, THE COMMUNITY ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY ACT

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2016

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1655, the Community Economic Opportunity Act.

In 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson introduced America to the War on Poverty. Since then, Washington has created many anti-poverty programs, spent trillions of dollars, and made promises that failed to achieve well-intentioned goals. However, we realize it is just as difficult to lift people and families out of the poverty cycle today. It is not enough to speak of change in Washington; we must invite and support new ideas and open up our system to collaboration with those on the front lines in the fight against poverty. To that end, I proudly support H.R. 1655, the Community Economic Opportunity Act, which reauthorizes the Community Service Block Grant program that was last reauthorized in 1998. This program is currently present in 99 percent of US counties, and supports important programs that bring people out of the grip of poverty, improves the quality of our communities, and benefits our country and economy for the better. Together, we can help guide our nation into a new era of success and prosperity.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE PUTTING MAIN STREET FIRST ACT: FINISHING IRRESPONSIBLE RECKLESS SPECULATIVE TRADING

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2016

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I introduced H.R. 5745, The Putting Main Street FIRST Act: Finishing Irresponsible Reckless Speculative Trading.

The bill would levy a miniscule 0.03 percent tax on stocks, bonds and derivatives, which will discourage irresponsible high-speed trades that have no intrinsic value and that destabilize the market, which were the driving factors of the 2008 financial crisis and the 2010 flash crash.

How much does a 0.03 percent tax cost per trade? It amounts to 3 pennies on a \$100 trade.

How much does it raise? The Joint Tax Committee estimates the tax would raise \$417 billion over ten years.

These funds can be used to fund national priorities like free higher education so college students aren't stuck in never-ending debt. It can be used for job-creating infrastructure investments, or other national priorities.

Raising much-needed revenue to help average Americans is a big plus, but my primary reason for my bill is to end unhealthy speculation in the market and bring it back into balance. My goal is to stop Wall Street from gambling with Main Street's money.

Opponents of a financial transaction tax have already rolled out their same tired arguments: American retail investors and retirees would get hit with higher administrative fees as brokerages pass the cost of the tax down to them.

The opponents haven't read my bill, or if they have, they are ignoring what's in it.

The fear-mongers have always said a transaction tax will destroy the market. The truth is the U.S. had a transaction tax from 1914 until 1966. In 1932, the transaction tax was raised. When the increase in the tax was proposed, various newspaper headlines screamed our

markets would fail. Here are just two: "Stocks Tax Called Peril to Exchange" and "Panic Threat Seen in Taxes."

In 1932 the Dow Jones was at a low point of 41. In 1966, the Dow Jones was at nearly 1000 points. The sky did not fall.

The point is the large majority of trades today are made by computers with algorithms whose sole purpose is to execute thousands of trades in milliseconds to turn a quick buck.

Flash boys and high-frequency traders go so far as to locate their servers as close to an exchange as possible—all to gain a nano-second head start of a trade price. How can average Americans compete with that? They can't.

It's time to stop irresponsible trading, time to level the playing field, and it's time to put Main Street FIRST.

ENHANCING TREASURY'S ANTI-TERROR TOOLS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2016

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to thank Chairman HENSARLING, Ranking Member WATERS, Chairman FITZPATRICK and Ranking Member LYNCH for the thoughtful and inclusive process that produced this set of bills. I would also like to thank Mr. PITTENGER and Mr. LYNCH for introducing this particular bill, Enhancing Treasury's Anti-Terror Tools Act (H.R. 5607).

I am especially appreciative that the bill includes language to help address the remittances crisis facing Somalia. I am fortunate to represent the largest Somali diaspora in our nation. I have heard from my constituents that they are unable to send funds to their loved ones back home. They can't send money for school fees or for medicine. They can't send funds to help a loved one start a business. Banks have stopped providing bank accounts to money services businesses that send funds to Somalia. Very few banks still provide wire transfers to the people of Somalia. As remittances from abroad are critical to the economy of this fragile nation, we are creating a humanitarian crisis which is also a national security problem.

We need to address this crisis. Money is going to flow: either in the system or outside of it. It is in everyone's best interest to provide Somali Americans the ability to safely and transparently send money to loved ones in their home nation.

This pilot program idea grew out of my frustration with finding a solution. I would like to see financial institutions and their regulators act proactively to keep the remittances pipeline open and safe. That's why I so appreciate Mr. PITTENGER and Mr. LYNCH including language I suggested requiring the Treasury Department to study the potential impact of a pilot program for humanitarian funds to Somalia.

Somalia is improving; it recently passed an Anti-Money Laundering Law and appointed an ambassador to the U.S. The U.S. has acknowledged the government of Somalia and for the first time in decades, has an ambassador to that nation. The need to address the