

previously planned production ramp rate. I am delighted that this bill appropriates \$11 billion (an estimated \$1 billion more than requested) for the procurement of 74 new F-35 planes, including 48 F-35s for the USAF, 18 F-35Bs for the USMC, and eight F-35As for the USN. This bill also provides funding for research and development and modifications to existing aircraft. This will help the United States to continue decreasing aircraft flyaway costs and to field capabilities necessary to meet global threats in the 21st century.

Marietta is well-known for being the place where the C-130 Hercules was first designed. Since the C-130 was first produced in Georgia in 1956 it has become our military's primary cargo and personnel transport plane. Over the past six decades more than 2,500 C-130s have been sold in the United States and 60 countries. Various variants of the C-130s are used for many types of missions, including airlift support, Arctic ice resupply, medical missions, firefighting, natural disaster relief missions, and humanitarian relief missions in the United States and abroad. One such variant, the C-130J, is the most modern military tactical transport plane in service today, and is used by the USAF, USMC, US Coast Guard (USCG), and 16 international customers. Last year I recommended for the procurement of three additional G-130Js, one USCG HC-130J to continue USCG fleet recapitalization, and supported language directing the USAF to develop a C-130J recapitalization plan for the Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve. This bill appropriates \$1.3 billion for 17 C, KC, HC and MC-130J aircraft consistent with my recommendations, supporting jobs and industry in Georgia and contributing to our country's security.

Last year I also supported continued funding for the AH-64 Apache Helicopter and UH-60M Black Hawk Helicopter programs, both of which are important to Georgia's industry. It is great to see that this bill makes \$1.1 billion (\$330 million above the budget request) for 72 new UH-60M multiuse Black Hawks for the Army and National Guard. The bill also provides over \$1 billion of funding for new Apache attack helicopters and upgrades to 52 existing aircraft. The upgrades will include modifications that will protect against friendly-fire incidents, thereby protecting servicemembers that operate these world-class helicopters.

The 116th Air Control Wing, a unit of Georgia's Air National Guard which is stationed at Robins Air Force Base, Georgia, is the only Air National Guard unit that operates the E-8C Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System (JSTAR). Last year this Georgia-based unit contributed personnel and resources to assist with debris clearance in the aftermath of Hurricane Matthew. JSTARS are essential for this Georgia-based unit and last year I supported funding recapitalization of the program. I am delighted to see that this bill, in line with the budget request, makes \$128,019,000 available for the next generation of JSTARS.

This bill also makes funding available for nationwide defense programs that are critical to our national security. For example, following Russia's annexation of Crimea in March 2014, the FY2015 Defense Authorization prohibited using the Russian-built RD-180 rocket engine except when a waiver is granted on the basis of national security or cost considerations.

Russia's interference in our elections in 2016 only increases the importance of decreasing our dependence on that country, especially when it involves issues critical to our national security. It is great to see that this bill appropriates \$1.3 billion for the US Air Force's Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle (EELV) program, which will help us retire the use of Russian-made engines as quickly as possible.

Last year I also supported President Obama's budget request for a variety of defense programs including the C-5 Galaxy Modernization, CH-53K Heavy Lift Replacement, Combat Rescue Helicopter Program, F-22 Raptor, F-35 Lighting II (Joint Strike Fighter), MH-60R/S Naval Hawk Helicopter Programs, Advanced Pilot Training, and UH-1N Replacement Programs. By and large, this bill funds these programs at or close to the amount in the previous President's budget request.

Mr. Speaker, having previously served on the House Armed Services' Committee and for years pushed for greater investment in HBCUs, I am delighted to see that this bill provides a much higher number than was included in the budget request. I believe that this funding will be well-used and will yield high returns on our investment. I am delighted that military bases in Georgia, which are critical to our national security, are immune from closure, and that this bill continues to provide funding for servicemembers who are based in and programs produced in Georgia, both of which contribute to making our armed forces first-class.

IN RECOGNITION OF PATROLMAN
MILAN BARBER, INDUCTEE TO
THE NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT
OFFICERS MEMORIAL

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2017

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Patrolman Milan Barber of the Minersville, Pennsylvania Police Department. Patrolman Barber will be formally inducted to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C. on May 13 at the 29th Annual Candlelight Vigil during National Police Week.

A veteran of World War II, Milan served in the Navy before becoming a law enforcement officer. Patrolman Barber served the borough of Minersville in Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania. His watch ended on Friday, June 19, 1970 after he suffered a fatal heart attack while on duty. Patrolman Barber and another officer attempted to apprehend an individual suspected of committing theft of a vehicle. The two officers struggled to contain the suspect as he resisted arrest. During the altercation, Patrolman Barber collapsed abruptly. The subject fled the scene while the other officer tended to Patrolman Barber. The suspect was eventually taken into custody and charged with manslaughter, larceny, and resisting arrest. Patrolman Barber was survived by his wife and four children.

The loss of Patrolman Milan Barber was a great tragedy for the people of Minersville. His sacrifice and the sacrifice of all fallen police officers will not be forgotten. Our nation owes

a great debt of gratitude to brave individuals like Patrolman Barber for protecting our communities. May he be remembered by all whose lives he touched and made better as he rests in peace.

HONORING VAIL TOWN MANAGER
STAN ZEMLER

HON. JARED POLIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2017

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise before this body of Congress and this nation today to recognize Mr. Stan Zemler of Vail, Colorado who is leaving local government after having served the public for over thirty years in the State of Colorado.

Mr. Zemler has served the Town of Vail as Town Manager for the past thirteen years, the City of Boulder as Acting and Deputy City Manager, the Boulder Urban Renewal Authority as Executive Director, as well as the Boulder Chamber of Commerce as CEO, with a career that has produced positive impacts for both residents and visitors of Colorado.

Zemler's leadership is about community partnering and consensus building, an approach that has helped foster public and private relationships in an effort to achieve the best outcomes for the communities he served, including such partnering for the Billion Dollar Economic Renewal effort in Vail, the completion of numerous public safety infrastructure improvements, and the launch of numerous environmental and forest health initiatives.

During his tenure serving local governments, Zemler has worked with various agencies, including both the federal and state government branches, and closely with the U.S. Forest Service and the Colorado Department of Transportation. The collaborative work has enhanced Vail's local community, international guest services and amenities and strengthened its economic position as a sustainable international resort. The outcomes have included federal legislation and cost sharing with the USFS in protecting forest lands surrounding the Vail Valley as well as the implementation of the Interstate 70 Vail Underpass Project, federal-state-municipal-cost-shared project, which benefits many guests and residents of Vail.

Zemler's longstanding commitment to the State of Colorado is represented by his efforts to showcase and protect its natural and beautiful environment and balance that with an economy that supports tourism and recreation in the Rocky Mountains. His support of the Congressional legislation that expanded recreational uses on forest service lands has allowed for the debut of Epic Discovery on Vail Mountain, an offering of enhanced recreational opportunities. And the Vail community's support of an initiative that was developed because of Vail's surrounding public lands was used as the inspiration for declaration of Colorado Public Lands Day to be celebrated on the third Saturday in May. This acknowledged day recognizes the significant contributions that national, state and local public lands within Colorado make to wildlife, recreation, the economy, and to Coloradans' quality of life.

Zemler has also been very active and influential in his roles serving both the 1-70 Coalition and Colorado Association of Ski Towns,

leading these two prominent Colorado organizations that are often heard on topics related to improvements for the 1–70 highway corridor and the future positioning of ski resorts located in municipalities, having served as both Boards' Presidents.

Zemler has been successful in working with his elected officials and community to strategically achieve results that speak to their vision of 1) growing a balanced community; 2) enhancing the town's economy; and 3) elevating the resort experience; all of which have a direct impact on the people who live, work and play in the area, and has resulted in Vail's success in becoming North America's Premier International Mountain Resort Community.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Stan Zemler on behalf of the residents of the 2nd Congressional District and myself. His distinguished service and contributions to the Town of Vail and municipal governments in the State of Colorado will remain his legacy for many years to come.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2017

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Paperwork Reduction Act, to eliminate the wasteful congressional review process for legislation passed by the District of Columbia Council and to align longtime congressional practice and the law. The congressional review process for D.C. bills is almost entirely ignored by Congress, providing it no benefit, but imposes substantial costs, in time and money, on the District. Congress has almost always used the appropriations process rather than the disapproval process to block or nullify D.C.'s legislation, and entirely abandoned the congressional review process as its mechanism for nullifying D.C. legislation 24 years ago, having only used it three times before then. Yet Congress still requires the D.C. Council to use Kafkaesque make-work procedures to comply with the abandoned congressional review process established by the Home Rule Act of 1973.

Our bill would eliminate the congressional review process for legislation passed by the D.C. Council. However, Congress would lose no authority it currently exercises because, even upon enactment of this bill, Congress would retain its authority under clause 17 of section 8 of article I of the U.S. Constitution to amend or overturn any D.C. legislation at any time.

The congressional review process, 30 days for civil bills and 60 days for criminal bills, includes those days when either house of Congress is in session, delaying D.C. bills from becoming law often for many months. The delay forces the D.C. Council to pass most bills several times, using a cumbersome and complicated process to ensure that the operations of this large and rapidly changing city continue uninterrupted, avoiding a lapse of the bill before it becomes final. The congressional calendar means that a 30-day period usually lasts a couple of months and often much longer because of congressional recesses.

The congressional review period for a bill that changed the word handicap to disability lasted nine months. The Council estimates that 50 to 65 percent of the bills it passes could be eliminated if the review period did not exist. To ensure that a bill becomes law, the Council often must pass the same legislation in three forms: emergency (in effect for 90 days), temporary (in effect for 225 days) and permanent. Moreover, the Council has to carefully track the days the House and Senate are in session for each D.C. bill it passes to avoid gaps and to determine when the bills have taken effect. The Council estimates that it could save 5,000 employee-hours and 160,000 sheets of paper per two-year Council period if the review period were eliminated. House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy addressed the issue of saving such resources by eliminating the amount of paperwork sent to Congress when he proposed a cut in the number of reports that federal agencies are required to submit to Congress. Our bill is a perfect candidate because it eliminates a paperwork process that repeats itself without interruption.

My bill would do no more than align the Home Rule Act with congressional practice over the last 24 years. Of the more than 5,000 legislative acts transmitted to Congress since the Home Rule Act, only three resolutions disapproving D.C. legislation have been enacted (in 1979, 1981, and 1991) and two of those mistakenly involved federal interests, one in the Height Act and the other in the location of chanceries. Placing a congressional hold on 5,000 D.C. bills has not only proven unnecessary, but has imposed costs on the D.C. government, residents and businesses. District residents and businesses are also placed on hold because they have no certainty when D.C. bills, from taxes to regulations, will take effect, making it difficult to plan. Instead of using the congressional review process to nullify D.C. legislation, Congress has preferred to use riders to appropriations bills. Therefore, it is particularly unfair to require the D.C. Council to engage in this labor-intensive and costly process. My bill would only eliminate the automatic hold placed on D.C. legislation and the need for the D.C. Council to comply with a process initially created for the convenience of Congress, but that is now rarely used. This bill would promote efficiency and cost savings for Congress, the District, its residents, and businesses without reducing congressional oversight, and would carry out a policy stressed by Congress of eliminating needless paperwork and make-work redundancy.

I urge my colleagues to support this good-government measure.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN JENKINS

OF KANSAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2017

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I was absent for roll call votes 129 through 132 on the evening of March 8, 2017. I would have voted in favor of both votes which would provide for consideration of H.R. 725, the Innocent Party Protection Act. I would have also voted in favor of H. Res. 174 on ordering the previous question and providing for consideration of H.R. 1301, the Department of Defense

Appropriations Act of 2017. Lastly, I would have voted against the motion to adjourn.

Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 129, YEA on Roll Call No. 130, YEA on Roll Call No. 131, and NAY on Roll Call No. 132.

RECOGNIZING MRS. NAOMI COLWELL

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2017

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to recognize the long career and dedicated public service of Mrs. Naomi Colwell, recently selected as the new President and CEO of the Greater Brighton Chamber of Commerce, in Brighton, Colorado.

Naomi is an accomplished executive-level business development professional with over 18 years of chamber of commerce and visitor bureau experience. She has been serving with the Aurora Chamber of Commerce where she successfully ran the Visitors Promotion Advisory Board, and has been responsible for starting 'Our Young Professionals', and 'Women in Business' programs. Her extensive knowledge and background brings essential leadership and guidance to take the Greater Brighton Chamber of Commerce to the next level and to provide the services and programs that will work to assist all of its members.

It is my honor to congratulate Naomi Colwell today, and I take pride in recognizing a great American and public servant.

TRIBUTE TO MR. MARK S. DAVIS

HON. TODD ROKITA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2017

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a prominent Hoosier leader and my dear friend, Mr. Mark S. Davis, who passed away on March 4, 2017 surrounded by his loving family.

Mark was born in Kansas City, Missouri before moving to West Lafayette as a child. He graduated from West Lafayette High School and earned his law degree from the Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law. He began his career working in economic development in Indianapolis, Greater Lafayette, and Flint, Michigan before opening law practice in Lafayette.

Mark cared deeply for our community and it showed in what he was able to help the community thrive. He was one of many of a dedicated team to convince Subaru of Indiana Automotive to locate in Tippecanoe County nearly 30 years ago. This effort led to the creation of thousands of jobs and an incredible impact to our economy Mark was a vocal proponent of the Hoosier Heartland Corridor, the 36-mile highway upgrade which has improved access and safety while bolstering economic development in several Central Indiana counties.

Mark was a man of high character and integrity. He had a servant's heart for his fellow