

Scorecard, Congress is committed to the successful implementation and oversight of FITARA.

In working with GAO and OMB on FITARA implementation, we have found that there are areas of FITARA that would benefit from an extension of their original sunset date. These areas include the provisions on federal data center consolidation, transparency and risk management of major IT systems (IT Dashboard), and IT portfolio, program, and resource reviews (PortfolioStat).

Very simply, the federal data center problem is bigger than we initially thought. In 2009, when Federal Chief Information Officer Vivek Kundra directed agencies to determine how many data centers they had and begin to consolidate those centers, the government estimated it had roughly 1,100 data centers. That estimate grew to 11,700 by 2015.

As GAO has recommended, we are potentially leaving money on the table when it comes to data center consolidation if we allow FITARA's data center reporting and planning requirements to expire in 2018. Twenty-three agencies have reported roughly \$656 million collectively in planned savings for fiscal years 2016 through 2018. This is \$3.3 billion less than the estimated \$4.0 billion in planned savings for fiscal years 2016 through 2018 that agencies reported to GAO in November 2015. As of April 2017, 23 of 24 agencies have submitted a strategic plan for data center consolidation. Of the 23 plans, only 7 included all required information. The remaining plans either partially met or did not meet the requirements.

We need to let agencies know that they are not going to be able to run out the clock on FITARA's transparency and reporting requirements. A limited extension of the data center provisions of FITARA, scheduled to sunset October 1, 2018, could help us do that.

Additionally, the IT Dashboard and PortfolioStat provisions of FITARA have allowed OMB to evaluate the efficiencies and risk of IT investments and would benefit from a permanent extension of the current December 1, 2019 sunset. These are valuable oversight tools, and we should continue to use them to reform federal IT procurement.

The federal government invests roughly \$100 billion in IT each year. I look forward to continued bipartisan collaboration on FITARA implementation to ensure these investments are efficient, effective, and in the best interest of the taxpayer.

I want to thank the Chairman and Ranking Member for working with me on this amendment.

KATELYNNE RIGGINS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 13, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Katelynne Riggins for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Katelynne Riggins is a student at Warren Tech North and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Katelynne Riggins is exemplary of the type of achieve-

ment that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Katelynne Riggins for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

SPEECH OF

HON. MAC THORNBERRY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2017

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2810) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 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. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chair, I ask that the following exchange of letters be included in the RECORD on H.R. 2810:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE,

Washington, DC, July 3, 2017.

Hon. WILLIAM M. "MAC" THORNBERRY, Chairman, Committee on Armed Services, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN THORNBERRY: I write to you concerning H.R. 2810, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018, which contains provisions within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence ("the Committee"). The Committee recognizes the need for proceeding expeditiously to Floor consideration of this important bill. Therefore, I do not intend to request a sequential referral.

This waiver is conditional on our mutual understanding that my decision to forego Committee consideration of this legislation does not diminish or otherwise affect any future claim over the matters in the bill which fall within the Committee's jurisdiction, and that a copy of this letter and your response acknowledging the Committee's jurisdictional interest will be included in the committee report accompanying H.R. 2810 and submitted into the Congressional Record during consideration of this bill on the House Floor.

I also intend to seek the appointment of Committee Members to any House-Senate conference on this legislation and request your support if such a request is made. Thank you for the cooperative spirit in which you have worked regarding this and other matters between our respective committees.

Sincerely,

DEVIN NUNES,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,

Washington, DC, July 5, 2017.

Hon. DEVIN NUNES, Chairman, Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 2810, the National De-

fense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018. I agree that the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence has valid jurisdictional claims to certain provisions in this important legislation, and I am most appreciative of your decision not to request a referral in the interest of expediting consideration of the bill. I agree that by foregoing a sequential referral, the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence is not waiving its jurisdiction. Further, this exchange of letters will be included in the committee report on the bill.

Sincerely,
WILLIAM M. "MAC" THORNBERRY,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND
TECHNOLOGY,

Washington, DC, July 6, 2017.

Hon. WILLIAM M. "MAC" THORNBERRY, Chairman, Committee on Armed Services, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am writing concerning H.R. 2810, the "National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018," which your Committee ordered reported on June 28, 2017.

H.R. 2810 contains provisions within the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology's Rule X jurisdiction. As a result of your having consulted with the Committee and in order to expedite this bill for floor consideration, the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology will forego action on the bill. This is being done on the basis of our mutual understanding that doing so will in no way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology with respect to the appointment of conferees, or to any future jurisdictional claim over the subject matters contained in the bill or similar legislation.

I would appreciate your response to this letter confirming this understanding, and would request that you include a copy of this letter and your response in the Congressional Record during the floor consideration of this bill. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,
LAMAR SMITH,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,
Washington, DC, July 11, 2017.

Hon. LAMAR SMITH, Chairman, Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 2810, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018. I agree that the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology has valid jurisdictional claims to certain provisions in this important legislation, and I am most appreciative of your decision not to request a referral in the interest of expediting consideration of the bill. I agree that by foregoing a sequential referral, the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology is not waiving its jurisdiction. Further, this exchange of letters will be included in the Congressional Record.

Sincerely,
WILLIAM M. "MAC" THORNBERRY,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS,
Washington, DC, June 27, 2017.

Hon. WILLIAM M. "MAC" THORNBERRY, Chairman, Committee on Armed Services, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I write to confirm our mutual understanding regarding H.R. 2810,

the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018. This legislation contains subject matter within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Small Business. However, in order to expedite floor consideration of this important legislation, the committee waives consideration of the bill.

The Committee on Small Business takes this action only with the understanding that the committee's jurisdictional interests over this and similar legislation are in no way diminished or altered.

The committee also reserves the right to seek appointment to any House-Senate conference on this legislation and requests your support if such a request is made. Finally, I would appreciate your including this letter in the Congressional Record during consideration of H.R. 2810 on the House Floor. Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Sincerely,

STEVE CHABOT,
Chairman, Committee on Small Business.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,
Washington, DC, July 5, 2017.

Hon. STEVE CHABOT,
Chairman, Committee on Small Business, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 2810, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018. I agree that the Committee on Small Business has valid jurisdictional claims to certain provisions in this important legislation, and I am most appreciative of your decision not to request a referral in the interest of expediting consideration of the bill. I agree that by foregoing a sequential referral, the Committee on Small Business is not waiving its jurisdiction. Further, this exchange of letters will be included in the committee report on the bill.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM M. "MAC" THORNBERRY,
Chairman.

LILLIAN SLIGHT

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 13, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Lillian Slight for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Lillian Slight is a student at Oberon Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Lillian Slight is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Lillian Slight for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING
KRYCZKOWSKI, DEBBIE
PRESIDENT, DEPARTMENT OF
NEW YORK AMERICAN LEGION
AUXILIARY

HON. CLAUDIA TENNEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 13, 2017

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Debbie Kryczkowski, who was elected Department (State) President of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of New York at the 96th annual convention in Binghamton, NY. Debbie is a 33-year member of Lee Unit 1794 of Oneida County, a past unit president, and life member. Debbie remains very active in her Unit, presently serving as Secretary. Debbie continues volunteering for various unit functions.

Debbie has chaired many committees on the county level and county offices, and is currently serving as Constitution & Bylaws Chair. Debbie received department awards as the County Chairman of Leadership, Empire Girls State, Membership and Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation. Debbie served as 5th District President, District Membership Chairman, Sergeant at Arms, and a District representative at Department Conventions and member of two Department Convention Committees.

On the Department level, Debbie served on Junior Activities, Executive Board, Public Relations, National Security, Children & Youth and Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation and is currently the Membership Chairman. Debbie is a graduate of the National American Legion Extension Institute and National American Auxiliary Leadership Correspondence Course. She was the Public Relations Instructor and is an Alumni of the American Legion Auxiliary College. Debbie is a Chapeau Passe' of the Oneida County Salon No. 31.

Debbie is spending the year promoting and raising money for the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors. The Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS) offers compassionate care to all those grieving the death of a loved one serving in our Armed Forces. Since 1994, TAPS has provided comfort and hope 24 hours a day, seven days a week through a national peer support network and connection to grief resources, all at no cost to surviving families and loved ones.

Their National Military Survivor Seminar and Good Grief camp has been held annually since 1994. TAPS also conducts regional Survivor Seminars and Good Grief Camps at locations across the country. The Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS) is a not-for-profit organization and is not part of, or endorsed by, the Department of Defense.

On a personal level, Debbie received her eligibility through her brother, a Vietnam and U.S. Army Veteran Philip Racquet. She has five brothers, who are all Vietnam Veterans, and has three sisters. Her deceased father, Philip E Racquet, was a WWII Army Veteran of the European Theater. Debbie's son is Retired Tech. Sgt. Robert Kryczkowski, Jr. of the United States Air Force. Debbie has five grandsons: Kevin, Nathan, Zachary, Rylan, and Christian. She is a volunteer with the Hemlocks at Rome Hospital and Rome Rotary Club as a Board of Director. Debbie recently retired from M&T Bank to devote her time to her family and her American Legion Family.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 13, 2017

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, on July 12, 2017 during the second vote series of the day, I was unavoidably detained on Roll Call No. 351 and missed the vote. Had I been present, I would have voted Nay.

LARISSA TORRALBA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 13, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Larissa Torralba for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Larissa Torralba is a student at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Larissa Torralba is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Larissa Torralba for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RO KHANNA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 13, 2017

Mr. KHANNA. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present for votes in the House of Representatives yesterday, Wednesday, July 12, 2017, due to the recent birth of my son. Due to the absence, I missed Roll Call votes 347 through 352. Had I been present, I would have voted:

Nay on Roll Call vote 347 (ordering the previous question on the Rule providing for consideration of both H.R. 23, the Gaining Responsibility on Water (GROW) Act of 2017, and H.R. 2810, the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18));

Nay on Roll Call vote 348 (the Rule providing for consideration of both H.R. 23, the GROW Act, and H.R. 2810, the NDAA for FY18);

Aye on Roll Call vote 349 (passage of H.R. 1492, the Medical Controlled Substances Transportation Act);

Aye on Roll Call vote 350 (the DeSaulnier amendment to require the Interior Department to review available and new technologies for capturing municipal wastewater);

Aye on Roll Call vote 351 (the Carbajal motion to recommit H.R. 23 to add an exemption