

Provides Funding for PILT that is vitally important in Idaho for rural counties that depend on it.

Establishes certainty for biomass which is critical to the landscape of our forests.

Rolls back regulations like the previous Administration's "Waters of the United States" rule.

Provides increased funding to address the \$12 billion backlog in to our National Parks.

Provides \$2.6 billion for the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Loan fund, which states and localities use for water infrastructure projects.

The list goes on, but the underlying point is the Interior and Environment bill is a critical piece of legislation, especially for those of us in western states. I want to reiterate my appreciation to Chairman CALVERT and his staff of Dave LesStrang, Darren Benjamin, Betsy Bina, Jaclyn Kilroy, Kristin Richmond, Ian Foley, and Mac Cloyes. Their late nights and early mornings have produced a product that members of Congress, particularly in the west, should be proud of.

I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2019

SPEECH OF

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 17, 2018

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 6147) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes:

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Chair, I would like to thank Chairman CALVERT for his great work on this bill, and my colleague Mr. OLSON for his support of this amendment.

My amendment would simply reduce the National Recreation and Preservation account by \$20 million, and then increase it by the same amount with the intent of using these funds to increase the budget of the National Maritime Heritage grant program.

This program provides federal funding for local and state operated maritime educational exhibits and preservation projects.

The United States has a rich history of maritime excellence that has played an important role in the U.S. becoming the powerful nation that it is today.

It is important that we preserve these great ships rather than let them fall into disrepair.

It is an insult to their legacy to let them sink rather than help them stay afloat.

For example, right outside my district back in Texas floats the Battleship *Texas*, the last great dreadnought.

But maybe not for long.

Growing up, I always looked forward to visiting the Battleship.

My best friend and I would climb from top to bottom, firing every gun and squeezing down every port hole.

When commissioned in 1914 she was the most powerful war ship the world had ever seen.

She was the first of her kind to mount anti-aircraft guns, use commercial radar, and launch an aircraft.

As the flagship of the U.S. fleet, she battered the Nazi defenses during the D-Day invasion at Normandy and also helped the invasions of Iwo Jima and Okinawa.

Then, at the end of the war, she made three trips to bring American servicemen back home.

Today, she serves as a museum and a reminder of wars long past.

Nearly 70 years after school children used nickels and dimes to pay for her move to her namesake state, here she still floats, but maybe not for long.

The Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife has jurisdiction of the battle wagon, but state funding has been sporadic and federal funding non-existent.

That is where this amendment comes into play.

We owe it to the Texans who served to save the Battleship *Texas*.

This battleship, like so many battlefields and sacred, historical landmarks across our country, is consecrated with the blood of Americans.

Without the *Texas*, things might have gone a little bit differently for us at D-Day or in the Pacific Theater.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING THE HEROIC MOYER
BROTHERS

HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2018

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today to celebrate and commemorate the service of the seven Moyer brothers who fought in World War II. For a single family to send seven members to serve our nation in its time of need, they must have had a great love for America and what it stands for.

Franklin, Charles, Hile, James, Jay, Leonard, and Leslie, the children of Charles and Nina Moyer, were born and raised in Bass Lake Township, Washburn County. The brothers represented Wisconsin in almost every distinct branch of the military, serving in the Navy, Army, Merchant Marines, and Army Air Corps.

It is with great gratitude that I recognize these fine men who have made not only Wisconsin proud, but also the nation as a whole. Seven brothers. Seven stories. Seven immeasurable contributions to freedom, all from Wisconsin's 7th Congressional District.

On behalf of my family and Wisconsinites in every corner of our state, I would like to express my sincerest thanks to the Moyer brothers for their service to our nation when we needed them the most.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DR. MACK
MORRIS ON 50 YEARS OF MIN-
ISTRY

HON. BRADLEY BYRNE

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2018

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Dr. Mack Morris on his 50 years of min-

istry. Dr. Mack Morris currently serves as the Senior Pastor of Woodridge Baptist Church in Mobile, Alabama.

Dr. Morris, a native of Dothan, Alabama, has faithfully served the Lord, our local community, the people of Alabama, and beyond for over half a century. Dr. Morris felt the call of the Lord and surrendered to the ministry at Maple Avenue Baptist Church in Geneva, Alabama in 1967. He was licensed to preach at the White House Baptist Church in Bay Minette, Alabama in 1968.

Within his period of dedicated service, Dr. Morris was called and served faithfully at all the following churches in Alabama: White House Baptist, Bethel Baptist, Tillman's Corner Baptist, Heritage Baptist, Old Spanish Fort Baptist, Jubilee Baptist, and Woodridge Baptist. Dr. Morris has been a supportive, faithful, and loyal advocate for his community throughout his ministry.

Dr. Morris has served on the Alabama State Board of Missions and Executive Board of the Alabama Baptist State Convention, as Moderator of the Mobile Baptist Association, as the first president of the Board of Regents at the University of Mobile, and as a trustee at the University of Mobile for eleven years.

During his 50 years of ministry, Dr. Morris has spread the Word of the Lord and His Saving Grace by officiating over 165 weddings, conducting over 547 funerals, and has seen the salvation and baptism of over 2,500 men, women, and children.

On behalf of Alabama's First Congressional District and the countless people his ministry has impacted, I want to recognize and share my deep gratitude with Dr. Mack Morris for his tireless service to our community.

IN MEMORY OF CHESTER "CHET"
MORGAN

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2018

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a man I have been fortunate enough to call neighbor and friend. Chester "Chet" Morgan, of Vernon, Connecticut, left this earth on Saturday after a lifetime of service to his community, his state and his nation. I'd like to take a few moments to reflect on his generosity and service.

Born in Manchester, CT, Chet Morgan's selfless life was inspired by President John F. Kennedy's 1961 inaugural call to action in which he asked not what our country could do for us, but what we could do for our country. For not only his country, but also his state, town and family, Chet did a great many good works.

In addition to his career with the Connecticut Department of Transportation, Chet served as a sergeant major in the 169th Infantry Battalion of the Connecticut National Guard for 30 years. He spent several of those years as his unit's First Sergeant at Connecticut's National Guard headquarters in Hartford and retired at the rank of sergeant major. It seems this line of work was Chet's true vocation and in 2017 he was inducted into the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame for his years of service in and outside of the Guard.

Chet felt loyalty not only to his country, but to his state. In 1976 he was elected to the

Connecticut State Legislature as the representative from the 56th district, his hometown of Vernon. He served until 1983 and the highlights of his tenure include supporting important legislation that provided a greater quality of life for Connecticut's citizenry through improvements like smoke-free restaurants and free tuition for Connecticut National Guardsman attending state colleges and universities.

Chet was also a staunch advocate for working families during his time in the legislature. In the 1960s he was a member of the International Association of Machinists while employed at Pratt & Whitney Aircraft. He was a courageous leader in a difficult strike in that era, and he and his closest friend, Chuck Harlow, manned the picket lines at the height of the struggles. He enjoyed telling those stories in the later years, particularly after Chuck passed away suddenly in the 1980s.

In 1986 when I launched my first campaign for the legislative seat Chet had held earlier, he generously helped me win that race, which I will never forget. Later as a candidate for the Second Congressional District, Chet volunteered to drive me to political events and offered valuable counsel during the long hours we spent together on the road.

Chet was also very involved in local government and community organizations. He served four terms on the Vernon Town Council and was chairman of the Vernon Planning and Zoning Committee in 2011 and 2012. He was actively involved in the Connecticut State Employees Association Local 2001, the Rockville American Legion Post 14, and the Rockville Lodge of Elks No. 1359, where he was recognized as Veteran Volunteer of the Year by the Elks National Veterans Service Commission.

And while I'm sure this comes as a surprise to no one, Chet was a model family man. He and his wife Sylvia celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary last year. Together they raised three children, Kevin, Daniel and Laura Beth who collectively gifted them with 16 grandchildren and great-grandchildren. It's clear Chet impressed the importance of service upon his children and grandchildren, as several of them have followed in his footsteps of service to this country.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to please join me in honoring Chet Morgan, a man to whom we can all look as a model of leadership and service. Chet's loss will be felt for years to come but his legacy will endure for much longer.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2018

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, for personal reasons, I was unable to vote yesterday, July 17, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted: Yea on Roll Call No. 331; Yea on Roll Call No. 332; Yea on Roll Call No. 333; Yea on Roll Call No. 334; and Yea on Roll Call No. 335.

RUSSIA ENERGY INTERESTS IN EUROPE

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2018

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, control of energy equals national security.

I rise to warn how Russia through hybrid warfare seeks to destabilize and divide our closest European Allies through control of their energy supply. As Americans well know, whoever controls the energy spigot, controls the function of a nation. Russia uses its growing dominance of energy in Europe as its primary pressure point to destabilize the West and our alliances.

That is why I was floored that President Trump inserted himself so haphazardly into Europe's energy debate. Nord Stream II poses new, troubling dependency threats by Russia on Europe's energy security.

It boosts undemocratic Russia's claw hold on the European continent.

Russia is weaponizing energy in countries across Europe, including Germany and Ukraine, creating a dangerous new dependency by recipient nations. The fight for Ukraine's liberty depends on its energy independence in the future. The free world must help Europe and Ukraine to reduce their economic reliance on Russian gas.

Risking alienation of nations that share freedom's values is counterproductive. It aids and abets our enemies.

I include in the RECORD President Trump's and Putin's comments.

EXCERPT OF PRESIDENT TRUMP'S AND PRESIDENT PUTIN'S PRESS CONFERENCE FOLLOWING THEIR SUMMIT IN HELSINKI, JULY 2018

RESPONSES TO A QUESTION ABOUT ENERGY IN EUROPE AND THE NORDSTREAM II PIPELINE PROJECT

Trump: Well, actually I called him a competitor. And a good competitor he is. And I think the word "competitor" is a compliment. I think that we will be completing when you talk about the pipeline. I'm not sure, necessarily, that it's in the best interests of Germany or not, but that was a decision that they made. We'll be competing—as you know, the United States is now—or soon will be, but I think it actually is right now the largest in the oil and gas world.

So we're going to be selling LNG, and we'll have to be competing with the pipeline and I think we'll compete successfully, although there is a little advantage locationally.

So I just wish them luck. I mean, I did. I discussed with Angela Merkel in pretty strong tones. But I also know where they're all coming from and they have a very close source. So we'll see how that all works out.

Putin: We are aware of the stance of President Trump, and I think that we, as a major oil and gas power, and the United States as a major oil and gas power as well, we could work together on regulation of international markets, because neither of us is actually interested in the plummeting of the prices. And the consumers will suffer as well, and the consumers in the United States will suffer as well. And the shale gas production will suffer. Because beyond a sudden price break-up (ph), it's no longer profitable to—to produce gas.

But nor we are interested in driving prices up, because it will drain just as—just as from all other sectors of the economy, from (in-

audible) building (ph), et cetera. So we do have space for cooperation here.

That's the first thing.

Then about the Nord Stream 2, Mr. President voiced his concerns about the possibility of disappearance of transit through Ukraine. And I reassured Mr. President that Russia stands ready to maintain this transit. Moreover, we stand ready to extend this transit contract that's about to expire next year in case—if the dispute between the economic entities—dispute will be settled in the Stockholm arbitration court.

H.R. 3030, H.R. 5480, H.R. 5105, H.R. 4819

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2018

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, yesterday we voted on a number of critical pieces of legislation. One of these, which I supported, was H.R. 3030, the Elie Wiesel Genocide and Atrocities Prevention Act of 2017, sponsored by my friend ANN WAGNER.

This bill will strengthen our efforts to anticipate, prevent, and mitigate genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes.

Our Foreign Service officers are often on the front lines where there is a risk or reality of atrocity crimes. H.R. 3030 will ensure they have the right training to recognize and respond to early warning signs of such crimes. This legislation will also strengthen Congressional oversight by requiring the President to annually report on what is happening on the ground, how the United States has responded, and recommendations for strengthening U.S. response. I was proud to cosponsor this bill and I commend my colleagues for supporting it.

I commend my colleague for naming this bill after the late, iconic Holocaust survivor Elie Wiesel. He spoke so powerfully about the unique, persistent evil of anti-Semitism that generated the Holocaust, warning that "the antisemite is by definition ideologically fanatic and pathologically racist . . . an antisemite is someone who has never met me, never heard of me, yet he hates me."

Mr. Wiesel and I worked together at the historic 2004 Berlin conference of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. There 55 participating governments committed to specific, significant actions to combat anti-Semitism. They were following the parliamentary movement to get the OSCE to fully and forcefully fight anti-Semitism. That movement originated in a Helsinki Commission hearing I chaired in May 2002 and I was proud to lead this movement together with parliamentarians from Germany, the UK, and France.

In his Berlin keynote address, Mr. Wiesel said, "We know . . . that anti-Semitism is dangerous not only to Jews but to countries too, where it is allowed to flourish . . . When a Jew is slapped in the face, humankind itself falls to ground . . . Antisemitism is rooted in hatred; its language is a language of hatred, its doctrine is filled with hatred—and hatred by its nature, always runs overboard, crossing geographical boundaries and ethnic affiliations. It is a contagious disease."

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Wiesel also dedicated his life to the prevention of other genocides, calling for action to prevent genocides in Bosnia,