

amendments attached to what has been a historically bipartisan bill. This amendment would hurt American industries and workers, and it does not belong in the NDAA.

#### PREVENTING RADICAL GREEN NEW DEAL POLICIES IN THE NDAA

(Mr. LANGWORTHY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, we have had a lot of debate on this year's NDAA. Our goal is simple: To strengthen and modernize our military so they can be prepared to meet any national security challenge that this great Nation might face.

Our House majority authored and passed a strong NDAA that prevents the radical Green New Deal policies from weakening our fighting forces. It blocks burdensome requirements on defense contractors, allowing them to focus on delivering critical capabilities to our military.

This legislation also ensures that military ranges in the Gulf of Mexico remain open for necessary training programs, enhancing our troops' readiness. Additionally, it cuts funding for questionable combat vehicle electrification research programs and prohibits funds for DOD advisory committees dealing with environmental justice.

I am proud that we put forward a bill that focuses on the right priorities, safeguarding our national security and guaranteeing the continued defense of our great Nation instead of woke politics.

#### REMEMBERING DETECTIVE DELBERTH PHIPPS, JR.

(Ms. PLASKETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today on behalf of slain Virgin Islands Detective Delberth Phipps, Jr.

Detective Phipps was killed in the line of duty on July 4, 2023. He and his fellow officers rushed to the scene of an active shooting where a gunman, armed with an AR-15 rifle and bullet-proof vest, opened fire. He gave his life in service to his community.

My prayers and deepest condolences go to his family, his son, Demel Phipps, along with his loved ones and fellow Virgin Islands Police Department officers.

According to the Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence, arms trafficking is a major factor as to why the U.S. Virgin Islands, my home, has had a homicide rate nine times higher than on the mainland. The Virgin Islands does not manufacture guns, yet we have one of the highest per capita murder rates in the world.

It is no secret that with open land, there is drug trafficking through our

corridor. The weapons that continue to flood our shores are a byproduct of the lax, if not nonexistent, gun laws throughout the continental U.S., particularly Florida.

The daughter of multiple generations of law enforcement officers, I understand the commitment of not just officers but their families to protect and serve.

I stand with Officer Phipps and all of the Virgin Islands Police Department. You have my commitment to fight for you all.

#### CELEBRATING NATIONAL FOREST WEEK

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, this is National Forest Week across this country. I encourage everybody to partake and enjoy your national forests. Our Nation indeed was blessed by God with some truly inspiring natural beauty. It is our job to preserve it and utilize it for future generations.

Unfortunately, many of our national forests are under threat not from the usual climate change nonsense but actually wildfire caused by overcrowded forests, too many trees.

We haven't been tending to the forests for 50 years. The Federal Government has refused to properly thin and manage our forests, largely because of the lack of funding or, in a lot of cases, frivolous lawsuits—preventing the work that needs to be done—by extreme environmental groups.

They are now overgrown, overcrowded tinderboxes. All it takes is one lightning strike, a cigarette butt, or a spark from a flat tire going down a rural highway. Once they catch fire, they become infernos, such as the million-acre fire I had in my district a couple years ago called the Dixie fire.

A healthy forest has about 40 to 70 adult trees per acre. We have a situation where we have 500 or more trees per acre, a recipe for disaster. We need to do better and manage our forests.

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#### CELEBRATING FRANCISCO SANDOVAL

(Mr. CORREA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to celebrate the service of Francisco Sandoval, a Fullerton educator honored as one of Orange County's Teachers of the Year.

Francisco began teaching at the Orangethorpe Elementary School over 10 years ago, where his students have ranged from kindergarten through sixth grade. He teaches with the belief that each and every student has their own set of strengths and the ability to succeed.

For Francisco, he is both an educator and caregiver for each and every one of his students. He begins every day by checking with his students on a one-to-one basis to ensure that they are doing well both in school and at home.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Francisco for the job he's done for each and every one of our students and for our community as a whole. We congratulate Francisco on being named as one of Orange County's Teachers of the Year.

#### NDAA REMARKS

(Mr. CALVERT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman MIKE ROGERS for his leadership and for including language to improve the safety of U.S. servicemembers in the NDAA.

My provision would establish new Joint Safety Council requirements for each military branch to develop a plan to identify corrective and preventative actions following major accidents and mishaps.

Earlier this year, I introduced the Military Equipment Quality and Safety Reform Act, or MEZR Act, which includes a similar mandate.

My effort to improve safety and transparency in the wake of major accidents is motivated by the tragic death of my constituent and F-16 pilot First Lieutenant David Schmitz, whose call sign was MEZR.

Just over 3 years ago, Lieutenant Schmitz was killed during a training exercise when his ejection seat malfunctioned while he attempted a nighttime landing.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman ROGERS for including this language in the bill and working to protect our men and women in uniform.

#### HONORING NEWARK FIRE-FIGHTERS AUGUSTO "AUGIE" ACABOU AND WAYNE BROOKS, JR.

(Mr. MENENDEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor two Newark firefighters who last week made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.

Firefighters Augusto "Augie" Acabou and Wayne Brooks, Jr., were some of the first responders to an incredibly devastating fire at the Port of Newark in New Jersey.

With the instinct that only the men and women who proudly serve in fire departments across the country have, they went straight to the heart of the battle encountering a scene unlike any they have ever experienced in their careers, but they never hesitated.

They put it all on the line, and they made the ultimate sacrifice. They leave behind their families. They leave

behind their friends. They leave behind their brothers and sisters in the New-ark Fire Department.

We must carry Augie and Wayne with us, carry on their legacies, carry on their memories, and that is what we will do. On behalf of every resident made safer by people like Augie and Wayne, we extend our deepest condolences to their family, friends, and fellow firefighters.

We commit ourselves to protecting our firefighters and ensuring they have everything they need to safely return home to their families. Today, we mourn the loss of these two incredible individuals.

#### EQUINOR IS NOT WELCOME

(Mr. D'ESPOSITO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. D'ESPOSITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in solidarity with thousands of my neighbors in New York's Fourth Congressional District who are united in opposition to a proposed large-scale offshore energy project that, if completed, would drastically alter the landscape of several Nassau County communities.

The development being advanced by the Norwegian energy company, Equinor, would see nearly 150 massive offshore wind turbines constructed within view of land off the coast of Long Beach in my congressional district.

This project would include a landing site in the city of Long Beach where high-voltage cables would make land-fall from the turbines and wind through residential areas to connect with a substation in my hometown, the village of Island Park.

Residents of these communities could play host to an environmental disaster. New York officials are keen to see this project progress, even in the face of local concern. In fact, Governor Hochul even went so far as to enlist the assistance of Brooklyn lawmakers to ram through State legislation to support the project, even as local neighbors raised concerns.

My neighbors rightfully have questions related to the impacts. I will stand with my neighbors and fight for the hardworking south shore communities. We will stand tall in the face of this hostile takeover by Equinor.

Mr. Speaker, Equinor is not welcome in our south shore communities.

#### HONORING ROBB LALLY

(Mr. VARGAS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Robb Lally, a dedicated public servant and volunteer for more than 35 years.

Robb Lally entered the seminary at a young age, and as a deacon, served in a

Catholic parish and later for the Salvation Army.

In 1988, Robb Lally headed to San Diego to work with the Alpha Project, a nonprofit human services organization that serves over 4,000 men, women, and children daily.

Robb carried out Alpha Project's mission to empower individuals, families, and communities by providing work, recovery, and support services to people who are motivated to change their lives and achieve self-sufficiency.

Mr. Lally's years of service were instrumental to the organization's mission and growth by working on and contributing to many critical housing projects.

On June 7, 2023, Robb's life and legacy were honored at a celebration of life in San Diego, California.

On behalf of the residents of California's 52nd Congressional District, I will express my deepest condolences to the family of Mr. Robb Lally. His legacy is felt and his presence will be greatly missed. He was a great man.

#### WORSENING IMPACTS OF EXTREME WEATHER

(Ms. STEVENS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of our collective experience of seeing in real time the impacts of climate change unfold. This past month we have seen temperatures rise and air quality worsen.

The smoke from the recent Canadian wildfires led Michigan to issue their first-ever statewide air quality advisory. Instead of being outside enjoying the Great Lakes, my constituents were filling up emergency rooms in Beaumont of Farmington Hills, struggling to breathe.

These impacts are not just hitting us locally in Michigan. July 3 and 4 saw some of the highest global average temperatures in recorded human history.

This is why last year I worked so hard with my Democratic colleagues to pass the Inflation Reduction Act. The IRA is the single largest investment in combating climate change.

We are already starting to see the benefits coming from these Federal actions. Michigan's clean energy jobs grew by 3.8 percent in 2022 alone.

Mr. Speaker, we can turn this challenge into an opportunity, our 21st century moon shot: create jobs, renovate, address, and be resilient.

#### SAN ANTONIO'S LEGACY OF LABOR STRIKES

(Mr. CASAR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CASAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 110th anniversary of the Alamo Iron Works strike in

San Antonio, Texas. Back then, those organizers were fighting for better wages and working conditions, like workers are today. They started a tradition of labor strikes in the summer in the city of San Antonio.

Mr. Speaker, 20 years later in 1933, the Finck Cigar strike began when 400 young Mexican-American women went on strike for better working conditions and won.

In 1936, garment workers at the Dorothy Frocks Company in San Antonio began striking for higher wages. They went to jail that August of 1936, and still won.

The next summer, in 1937, 80 workers at the San Antonio Laundry Company walked off the job. They demanded a 9-hour workday instead of 14 hours and won.

Remember, when rightwing extremists pass antiworker bills, they are arguing that their bills are trying to take us to the good old days of Texas past. We know the truth: The history of San Antonio and the history of Texas is a history of workers organizing and winning.

#### NDAA REMARKS

(Mr. BLUMENAUER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I was disappointed in the recent debate we had here dealing with the National Defense Authorization Act. It was a culture war instead of national security. The biggest failure was the inability to address our nuclear weapons policy.

We couldn't even eliminate one outmoded bomb. We couldn't allow the re-evaluation of our land-based intercontinental ballistic missile system, even though they have been plagued by rampant corruption, cheating, and drug use.

Sadly, Congress continued to avoid the issue of nuclear deterrence. How many times do we have to destroy a country before they are discouraged in attacking us?

How many billion dollars need to be wasted in piling on additional nuclear weapons that pose threats in and of themselves?

This is a question that the American people deserve Congress to address. Sadly, this legislation continues to ignore the issue.

#### SPOTLIGHTING LIEUTENANT COLONEL JAMES BOND

(Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to spotlight James Bond, a native of Halifax County and the first African American from the North Carolina Army National Guard Aviation Branch to become a lieutenant colonel.